



Australian Government

Department of Social Services

Disability, Mental Health and Carers Programme

Community Mental Health Funding Summary

19 June 2014

Open Selection Funding Round Summary

Disability, Mental Health and Carers – Community Mental Health

Community Mental Health services aim to provide early intervention and other support through community-based initiatives to assist people with mental illness, their families and carers develop their capabilities, increase their well-being and actively participate in community and economic life.

Selection type

This is an open competitive process to select providers of new Family Mental Health Support Services (FMHSS) under the Sub-Activity 'Early intervention support to vulnerable families with children and young people who are showing early signs of, or are at risk of developing, mental illness'.

Eligibility

The Service Providers eligible to apply for a Grant under the Community Mental Health Activity are:

- Incorporated Associations (incorporated under State/Territory legislation, commonly have 'Association' or 'Incorporated' or 'Inc.' in their legal name),
- Incorporated Cooperatives (also incorporated under State/Territory legislation, commonly have 'Cooperative' in their legal name),
- Companies (incorporated under the *Corporations Act 2001* – may be a not-for-profit or for-profit proprietary company (limited by shares or by guarantee) or public companies),
- Aboriginal Corporations (incorporated under the *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006*),
- Organisations established through a specific piece of Commonwealth or State/Territory legislation (public benevolent institutions, churches, universities, unions etc.),
- Partnerships, and/or
- Trustees on behalf of a Trust.

How much?

An amount of \$327.37 million has been allocated over four years from 1 July 2014 for the Community Mental Health Activity. Of this allocation, the total base funding amount available under this selection process from 1 January 2015 to 30 June 2018 is \$56.9 million.

The maximum base funding amount per FMHSS per year is \$361,288 for a non-remote service or \$464,513 for a remote service. The funding is exclusive of GST or indexation that may apply.

Successful organisations may also be eligible to receive funding supplementation due to decisions around the Social, Community, Home Care and Disability Services Industry Award 2010 (SACS Modern Award).

Closing Date and Time

Applications should be submitted by 2:00pm AEST on 23 July 2014.

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Who to contact?

Please email your enquiries to grants@dss.gov.au.

Grant objectives

The objective of the Community Mental Health Activity is to provide early intervention and other support through community-based initiatives to assist people with mental illness and their families and carers to develop their capabilities, increase their wellbeing and actively participate in community and economic life.

The Activity provides accessible, responsive, high-quality and integrated community mental health services that improve the lives of people with severe mental illness, provide support for families and carers of people with a mental illness, and intervene early to assist families with children and young people affected by, or at risk of, mental illness.

The Sub-Activity 'Early intervention support to vulnerable families with children and young people who are showing early signs of, or are at risk of developing, mental illness' includes FMHSS, which provide:

- intensive, long-term, early intervention support, based on a Family Action Plan, specifically for children and young people up to the age of 18, and their families,
- short-term information, referral and assistance for families, and
- community outreach and group work.

Statement of Requirement

Through this selection process, the Department of Social Services (DSS) is seeking organisations to deliver community-based FMHSS that will provide early intervention support to vulnerable families with children and young people up to the age of 18 who are showing early signs of, or are at risk of developing, mental illness.

Services will:

- work with children, young people and families to identify risk factors or issues which may lead to poor mental health outcomes later in life and work with the child, or young person and their family to address these issues, and strengthen protective or positive factors, and
- operate in close cooperation with other family and children's services and with the local network of 'first-to-know' agencies such as schools, early childhood centres and child welfare agencies which are vital in identifying at-risk children or young people.

Each service will provide three levels of support to vulnerable children, young people and their families:

- Intensive, long-term, early interventions (including targeted therapeutic group work) specifically for children and young people, and practical whole-of-family assistance to improve the long-term outcomes for vulnerable children and young people at risk of, or affected by, mental illness,
- Information and referral for families requiring short-term immediate assistance, and
- Community outreach, mental health promotion/education and community development activities to increase local capacity to understand and respond to children or young people and their families/carers.

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FMHSS sites

FMHSS sites are based on the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) Statistical Areas Level 3. Maps showing the boundaries of site coverage areas are available on the [Australian Bureau of Statistics website](#).

Funding is available to establish FMHSS in the sites detailed in the table below. A site's coverage area comprises all of the Statistical Areas Level 3 (SA3s) (SA3s are referred to as 'community areas' in the application form) listed against it in the table below. To apply to deliver a service in a particular site, applicants must select all of the associated SA3s that make up that site, e.g. to apply to deliver services in the Gosnells / Armadale site, applicants must select both 50604 – Gosnells and 50601 – Armadale. Applications that do not include all SA3s relevant to a site, will not be considered in that site (i.e. organisations will not be funded to deliver FMHSS in part of a site only).

Table: Sites for delivery of FMHSS.

State	Site Name	Site Coverage Area – Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) Statistical Areas Level 3 (SA3s) of:	Annual base funding for site
NSW	Auburn	12501 – Auburn	\$361,288
	Bourke-Cobar-Coonamble (Remote site)	10501 – Bourke-Cobar-Coonamble	\$464,513
	Broken Hill and Far West (Remote site)	10502 – Broken Hill and Far West	\$464,513
	Coffs Harbour	10402 – Coffs Harbour	\$361,288
	Dapto-Port Kembla / Shoalhaven	10701 – Dapto-Port Kembla & 11401 – Shoalhaven	\$361,288
	Great Lakes / Taree-Gloucester	10801 – Great Lakes & 10805 – Taree-Gloucester	\$361,288
	Kempsey-Nambucca	10802 – Kempsey-Nambucca	\$361,288
	Merrylands – Guildford	12503 – Merrylands-Guildford	\$361,288
	Newcastle	11103 – Newcastle	\$361,288
	Richmond Valley-Hinterland	11202 – Richmond Valley-Hinterland	\$361,288
	Tamworth-Gunnedah	11004 – Tamworth-Gunnedah	\$361,288
Vic	Brimbank	21301 – Brimbank	\$361,288
	Frankston	21401 – Frankston	\$361,288
	Melton-Bacchus Marsh	21304 – Melton-Bacchus Marsh	\$361,288

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State	Site Name	Site Coverage Area – Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) Statistical Areas Level 3 (SA3s) of:	Annual base funding for site
	Whittlesea-Wallan	20904 – Whittlesea-Wallan	\$361,288
	Ballarat	20101 – Ballarat	\$361,288
	Wodonga-Alpine	20403 – Wodonga-Alpine	\$361,288
Qld	South Brisbane	30301 – Carindale & 30302 – Holland Park-Yeronga & 30304 – Nathan & 30303 – Mt Gravatt & 30306 – Sunnybank & 30305 – Rocklea-Acacia Ridge	\$361,288
	Bundaberg	31901 – Bundaberg	\$361,288
	Hervey Bay	31904 – Hervey Bay	\$361,288
	Springwood-Kingston / Browns Plains	31106 – Springwood-Kingston & 31103 – Browns Plains	\$361,288
	Cairns South	30602 – Cairns South	\$361,288
	Toowoomba	31701 – Toowoomba	\$361,288
	Townsville	31802 – Townsville	\$361,288
	Burnett	31902 – Burnett	\$361,288
WA	Wanneroo	50503 – Wanneroo	\$361,288
	Mid West / Gascoyne (Remote site)	50805 – Mid West & 50802 – Gascoyne	\$464,513
	Kimberley (Remote site)	50804 – Kimberley	\$464,513
	Gosnells / Armadale	50604 – Gosnells & 50601 – Armadale	\$361,288
	Bunbury	50102 – Bunbury	\$361,288
	Goldfields (Remote site)	50803 – Goldfields	\$464,513
SA	Charles Sturt / Port Adelaide West	40401 – Charles Sturt & 40402 – Port Adelaide West	\$361,288

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State	Site Name	Site Coverage Area – Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) Statistical Areas Level 3 (SA3s) of:	Annual base funding for site
	Port Adelaide East / Tea Tree Gully	40203 – Port Adelaide East & 40205 – Tea Tree Gully	\$361,288
	Limestone Coast	40702 – Limestone Coast	\$361,288
	Murray and Mallee	40703 – Murray and Mallee	\$361,288
NT	Alice Springs / Barkly (<i>Remote site</i>)	70201 – Alice Springs & 70202 – Barkly	\$464,513
	Daly-Tiwi-West Arnhem / Katherine (<i>Remote site</i>)	70203 – Daly-Tiwi-West Arnhem (only SA2 702031059 – Thamarrurr) & 70205 – Katherine	\$464,513
	Darwin Suburbs	70102 – Darwin Suburbs	\$361,288
	Litchfield / Palmerston	70103 – Litchfield & 70104 – Palmerston	\$361,288
Tas	Hobart-North East / Sorell-Dodges Ferry	60102 – Hobart-North East & 60106 – Sorell-Dodges Ferry	\$361,288
	Launceston	60201 – Launceston	\$361,288
ACT	ACT North	80101 – Belconnen & 80104 – Gungahlin & 80105 – North Canberra	\$361,288
	ACT South	80106 – South Canberra & 80107 – Tuggeranong & 80108 – Weston Creek & 80109 – Woden & 80102 – Cotter-Namadgi & 80103 – Fyshwick-Pialligo-Hume & 10102 – Queanbeyan	\$361,288

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Selection Criteria

The equally-weighted selection criteria are:

1. Demonstrate your understanding of the need for the funded Activity in the chosen community/communities.
2. Describe how the implementation of your proposal will achieve the Activity objectives for all stakeholders, including value for money within the Grant funding.
3. Demonstrate your experience in effectively developing, delivering, managing and monitoring Activities to achieve Activity objectives for all stakeholders.
4. Demonstrate your organisation's capacity and your staff capability (experience and qualifications) to deliver the Activity objectives in in the chosen community/communities.
5. Demonstrate your connection with relevant service networks and social infrastructure operating in the chosen community/communities.

Multicultural Access and Equity Policy

Australia's Multicultural Access and Equity Policy obliges Australian Government agencies to ensure that cultural and linguistic diversity is not a barrier for people engaging with Government and accessing services to which they are entitled, for example, by providing access to language services where appropriate. Grant applicants should consider whether services, projects, activities or events may require the use of professional translating or interpreting services in order to communicate with non-English speakers. If the Application Form states that a budget is required, costs for translating and interpreting services should be included in the application.

Assessment

The Assessment phase will commence on 4 August 2014 and is expected to finish by 26 September 2014.

The Assessment Team will comprise DSS officers from each State/Territory Office and National Office. Team members will undertake training to ensure consistent assessment of all applications received. The Assessment Team will be bound by the APS Code of Conduct and the Department's Chief Executive Instructions.

Probity

The selection of funding recipients for the Activity must be fair, open and demonstrate the highest level of integrity, consistent with the public interest.

The following probity principles will be applied through all stages of the selection process.

- (a) fairness and impartiality,
- (b) consistency, accountability and transparency of process,
- (c) security and confidentiality of information,
- (d) identification and resolution of conflicts of interest, and
- (e) compliance with legislative obligations and government policy.

These principles are intended to achieve an equitable, justifiable and sound process.

Adherence to the probity principles means that everyone involved with the selection process will act:

- (a) impartially, and
- (b) with integrity, including avoiding actual or perceived conflicts of interest.

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A Probity Adviser has been appointed for the Activity. The role of the Probity Adviser is to assist DSS meet its probity obligations in relation to the Activity by ensuring that the selection processes are defensible and will withstand external and internal scrutiny.

The role of the Probity Adviser is to independently monitor procedural aspects of the selection process to ensure compliance with the published relevant Programme Guidelines and to advise DSS in relation to such matters. The Probity Adviser plays no part in the assessment of applications.

Programme Guidelines and Application Pack materials

The Programme Guidelines provide the key starting point for parties considering whether to participate in the Activity and form the basis for the business relationship between the Department and the funding recipient. Applicants are strongly advised to read the Programme Guidelines and other Application Pack materials prior to completing an Application Form. The Application Pack comprises the following materials:

- Programme Guidelines Overview
- Funding Round Summary
- Application Form
- DSS Streamlined Grant Agreement template - General Grant Conditions
- Questions and Answers
- Operational Guidelines

How to Apply

Applications must be lodged electronically, using the Application Form available at the DSS grants webpage which can be found [here](#). Once clicked, the “Submit Application” button at the end of the form will automatically send the completed application to the Department.

Grant Agreement Information

The type of grant agreement you are asked to enter into will be influenced by the nature of the Activity, the assessed Activity risk level, the length of the Activity and the value of the Activity.

In your Application Pack you will receive a draft copy of a grant agreement for information. The grant agreement is a performance-based, legally-enforceable agreement between the Commonwealth (represented by DSS) and the successful applicant that sets out the terms and conditions governing the funding to be provided.

Your executed grant agreement represents the Department’s and your entire agreement in relation to each grant provided within it and the relevant Activity and supersedes all prior representations, communications, agreements, statements and understandings, whether oral or in writing.

Questions and Answers (Q&As)

Q&As can be submitted via email to grants@dss.gov.au.

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Details of Q&As facilities and contact details will be provided on the DSS website at the Activity Information page. Unless already answered in the documents that comprise the Application Pack, responses to emailed questions will be published on this page within five working days of their receipt. DSS will only respond to requests for information that seek clarification of issues to allow applicants a better understanding of the requirements of the Application Form and Programme Guidelines.

DSS will not accept or respond to any applicant's questions, requests for information or correspondence about the status or progress of applications, after 18 July 2014, including during the assessment phase.