

Suicide Prevention Grants Expression of Interest (EOI)

Opening date	26 February, 2024
Closing date and time	25 March, 2024, at 5pm
EOI enquiries and lodgement	communitygrants@swsphn.com.au
Type of opportunity	Open EOI

1. About the opportunity

The 2022-23 Federal Budget included an investment in targeted regional initiatives for suicide prevention (TRISP) via Primary Health Networks (PHNs). To support the TRISP action plan, which was developed through the findings and recommendations of the South Western Sydney PHN (SWSPHN) Suicide Prevention Co-design, SWSPHN is seeking to engage with organisations to deliver programs and initiatives that:

- Promote social connectedness and reduce loneliness through peer approaches, and/or
- Reduce stigma around suicide and promote help-seeking through increased awareness of suicide and access to relevant local services.

Under this initiative, SWSPHN is inviting non-government and government-funded organisations, community managed organisations or groups, and private entities to apply for grants valued between \$50,000 and \$200,000.00 (exclusive of GST).

2. Terms and conditions

- The applicant, group/organisation must have an ABN or partner with an organisation with an ABN that can manage the grant on its behalf. An auspicing agreement will be required with your application
- Successful applicants will be required to enter into a grant agreement with SWSPHN. Funding will be paid directly into the nominated bank account following the return of the signed grant agreement

- Grant funds must be expensed before 31 December, 2025. Unspent funds at the end of the project must be returned to SWSPHN
- SWSPHN may, at its discretion choose to accept, or not accept all or part of any application.
- All information received will be kept in accordance with the Privacy Act laws
- Applicants must declare to SWSPHN any matter or issue which is or may be perceived to lead to a conflict of interest
- Applicant, group/organisation OR auspicing partner, is required to hold insurance coverage as follows:
 - Public Liability \$20,000,000 per claim
 - Professional Indemnity (if applicable) \$10,000,000 per claim
 - Workers Compensation as required by legislation.

At mid-point and upon completion of the grant activity, successful applicants will need to complete a short summary report describing the outcomes achieved and a final expenditure report. Applicants acknowledge these reports may be used by SWSPHN for auditing, evaluation, or publication purposes.

3. Background

SWSPHN conducted the suicide prevention co-design between June and August 2023 to inform TRISP activities align with a systems-based approach. The co-design findings identified barriers and opportunities to enhance TRISP in our region and improve awareness and accessibility.

Key findings

- Stigma and lack of awareness about suicide and local services were significant barriers
- Culturally appropriate support and social support were amongst the primary key enablers
- Priority areas for achieving improved outcomes included enhancing access to services and providing opportunities for social connection.

Key recommendations

- Provide non-clinical, peer-led, and mentoring services to promote social connectedness
- Establish non-clinical, peer-led support services for people to connect with others with similar experiences of suicidality or suicide bereavement. This creates a supportive and understanding environment to build an informal support system
- Fund public awareness campaigns to encourage help-seeking behaviours by breaking down stigma around suicide and informing the public about the availability of community suicide prevention and aftercare services.

4. Aims

Initiatives delivered under this grant opportunity will engage with individuals and groups from priority populations to reduce their risk of suicide through early interventions to improve mental health, gain a better understanding of suicide, reduce the stigma surrounding suicide and build community resilience within South Western Sydney.

5. Objective

Category 1

To deliver peer-led, early intervention programs that work to reduce the risks of suicide within population groups who are overrepresented in local data. Programs will utilise lived experience and knowledge of suicide to develop an individual's social support networks and capacities through safe and inclusive approaches. Programs will be catered to address the demographic and cultural considerations of targeted participants to meet their unique needs.

Category 2

Deliver public suicide awareness campaigns through various platforms, targeting priority populations within South Western Sydney. Campaigns will address known risk factors of suicide and seek to reduce barriers to care and encourage help-seeking behaviour within priority communities through increased awareness of relevant local services.

6. In-scope activities

Grant activities must align to the aim and objectives of this EOI.

Activities targeted to priority populations including:

- Men
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples
- Individuals who identify as LGBTQIA+
- Recent refugees
- Individuals from a culturally and/or linguistically diverse background
- Veterans
- People living in semi-rural and rural areas
- Those experiencing financial hardship.

Examples of peer-led activities used to achieve the objectives may include, but are not limited to:

- Activities which promote social connectedness and reduce loneliness
- Activities encouraging help seeking behaviours
- Activities providing mentorship
- Printed and electronic resources promoting initiatives which are made available to the community, health professionals and other relevant organisations
- Hosting of community events focused on suicide prevention
- Delivery of capacity building and training initiatives for participants:
 - Developing strategies to maintain good mental health through self-management strategies (self-care)
 - Reducing the stigma of mental ill-health and seeking help
 - Improving mental health literacy and knowledge of suicide.

Suicide prevention public awareness campaigns should address one or more of the factors that contribute to the stigma around suicide and reduce an individual's likelihood to seek help, such as:

- Shame
- Fear of seeking help
- Gender, and the pressure of gender norms
- Language used about suicide and mental ill-health
- Lack of awareness about the risks of suicide
- Lack of awareness of available support/treatment
- Addressing unique cultural considerations.

Applicants may use various platforms for campaigns. These include, but are not limited to:

- Social media platforms
- Video
- Radio
- Printed materials.

Other types of activities will be considered through evaluation.

7. Out of scope activities

Out of scope activities include:

- Activities delivered outside of the South Western Sydney Region
- Activities not associated with the aim and objectives of the Expression of Interest
- Activities that replicate or duplicate existing activities
- Activities more appropriately funded through other funding bodies
- Activities that generate profit or subsidise commercial activities
- Capital works including purchasing and/or refurbishment of assets (i.e. buildings or vehicles)
- Cost associated with research.

8. Funding amount

The applicant may apply for grants valued between **\$50,000.00** and **\$200,000.00** excl. GST.

- The funding must be used by 31 December 2025
- An itemised budget portioned into applicable financial years is to be completed with your application
- Payment will be made in accordance with an agreed payment schedule
- Funds will be expended in accordance with the indicative cost caps in the table below.

Component	% Cost Cap
Indirect support and administration costs/operating costs including the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• rent, utilities, telecommunications, HR, finance, IT, insurance, banking and audit fees, recruitment, contract management and administration costs.	Up to 8%
Direct service/salary costs	92%
Total	100%

9. Reporting requirements

SWSPHN will seek regular reporting to determine progress of activities that meet the objectives and Key Performance Indicators (KPI) set in the schedule. Reporting requirements will be determined at the time of developing the schedule but may consist of reports such as, but not limited to, narrative based progress report and scorecards detailing number and demographic details of participants engaged in the service as well as experience and outcomes.

10. Funding term

1 June 2024 – 31 December 2025.

Funding will be provided through a formal funding agreement. Funding for project activities are non-recurrent. They will not be continued after the funding term.

11. Evaluation

A response to this EOI does not guarantee the respondent and SWSPHN will enter into a formal funding agreement. Responses will be evaluated to determine submission consistency with project aim, objectives, and value for money. A secondary process for evaluating EOIs may take place. Activities sustainable beyond the funding term will be given priority during the evaluation process.

12. How to apply

Step 1	Review this document
Step 2	Complete the application form available to download on the SWSPHN website
Step 3	Submit your application form to communitygrants@swsphn.com.au before 5pm, Monday 25 March.

All applications will be acknowledged on receipt and notified as to whether their application has been successful or unsuccessful.

13. Timeframes

EOI opens	26 February, 2024
EOI closes	25 March, 2024, at 5pm
Evaluation period	March/April 2024
Successful and unsuccessful applicants notified	April 2024
Grant activities commence	1 June 2024
Grant activities conclude	On or before 31 December 2025

14. Enquiries

Any questions or enquiries related to the EOI can be directed to:
communitygrants@swsphn.com.au