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Community Grants

The 2021 Community Grants Program is now open. Our grants program has connected us to thousands of local organisations doing great work in the community.

[Apply now](#)



2021 Community Grants Program now open

The 2021 Australia Post Community Grants Program provides grants of up to \$10,000 to eligible community-led, local projects that connect individuals and communities to improve mental health and wellbeing.

Being connected and feeling part of a community is vital to maintaining good mental health



Please read the grant [Guidelines \(PDF 1.92MB\)](#) and [FAQs](#) to make sure your organisation and project are eligible before applying.

Applications close: 4 July 2021 (11.59pm AEST)

Announcements: September 2021

[Apply now](#)



Guidelines

Check the eligibility of your organisation and project.

[View the Guidelines \(PDF 1.92MB\)](#)



FAQs

Have a question about the grant program?

[Check the FAQs](#)



[Apply now](#)

2020 Community Grants

In 2020, we awarded grants to 79 community organisations to support projects that help improve connection and mental health and wellbeing in the community.

Listen to their stories below or [read the full list of 2020 Community Grant recipients](#).

Budgerie Hall Co...



Salty Souls Comm...



[Read transcript](#)

[Read transcript](#)

Reclink Australia C...



[Read transcript](#)



Organisation: SCARF

Project: Fostering Friendship

Total Funded: \$10,000

Project Location: Wollongong, NSW

Fostering Friendship is a befriending program that connects volunteers with vulnerable refugees in the Illawarra. The project helps participants create meaningful connections and build a sense of belonging within their community that helps them to enhance wellbeing and stay mentally well.

“Unless you’ve experienced building a new life in an unfamiliar place, it’s hard to imagine the value of a local friend. A Befriender provides the support that friendship offers; a safe person who listens without judgement, is trustworthy and invested in your wellbeing.” Mrs Pippa Rendel, CEO SCARF.



Organisation: Coonalpyn Community Hub

Project: Community Connect

Total Funded: \$10,000

Project Location: Coonalpyn, SA

Community Connect will establish new interest groups for the Coonalpyn community to experience meaningful connections and enhance their mental wellbeing. The Community Connect Project will reinvigorate the community while creating greater community awareness of and access to mental health support services.

“Social isolation and suicide is a real threat in our community. With this project, we will support our community to connect with each other in a safe and healthy environment, develop new friendships and stay involved with their community when times are tough.” Mrs Jane Watson, Project Coordinator Coonalpyn Community Hub.



Organisation: Live Well Tasmania



Engaging Our Community is a series of workshops such as art, yoga and goal setting for economically disadvantaged members of the Waratah-Wynyard community. The workshops will provide a safe, non-judgemental and welcoming environment to encourage peer connections.

“We aim to improve mental health and wellbeing by providing engaging activities, learning circles and capacity building tools that encourage people to learn about themselves, support each other and communicate in an empathic way with other participants.” Dr Robin Krabbe, Project Coordinator Live Well Tasmania.

What we're doing



Supporting mental health

We're working with Beyond Blue to make mental health part of everyday conversations, and to help support people across Australia to stay mentally well.



Supporting communities

Through our programs and partnerships, we're able to support those who need our help and make a difference in their lives.



Previous grant programs

Read about the local organisations we've supported through previous Community Grant programs.

[Find out more](#)

To contact our grants team, email grants@auspost.com.au or call **1300 765 772**.

[Subscribe for community news and updates](#)

Frequently asked questions

About your organisation



Organisations will be eligible to apply only if they meet **all** the requirements below.

Are an incorporated not-for-profit organisation

Organisations are not required to have deductible gift recipient (DGR) status to apply.

Unincorporated entities, individuals, sole traders, government entities and educational institutions are ineligible for this program.

Collaborations and partnerships among different types of organisations are encouraged with the incorporated not-for-profit organisation as the lead partner. However, we do not accept auspice arrangements.

Have an ABN (reflecting the organisation's incorporated not-for-profit status)

Organisation details must be correct and up-to-date on the [Australian Business Register](#) on the date the application was submitted.

It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure its details are correct and up-to-date when the application is submitted.

Organisations will be deemed ineligible if their ABN status on the Australian Business Register does not demonstrate incorporated not-for-profit status on the date the application was submitted.

Have an Australian bank account (corresponding to the ABN)

Are located and provide services within Australia

Do I require a deductible gift recipient (DGR) status to apply for an Australia Post Community Grant?

No. As long as you're an incorporated not-for-profit organisation, you can apply.

Will Australia Post fund a government entity?

No, not directly. However, they can be part of the application as a project partner. The application needs to come from, and the project needs to be led by, an incorporated not-for-profit organisation.



We encourage collaborations and partnerships between different types of organisations, where the lead partner is an incorporated not-for-profit organisation.

Teamwork often leads to better results and outcomes, so we encourage you to look at who you engage with carefully.

Will you accept auspice arrangements?

No, but we do accept projects from a meaningful partnership.

About your project

What types of projects are you looking for?

The 2021 Australia Post Community Grants program aims to support community-led, local projects that connect individuals and communities to improve mental health and wellbeing.

While we recognise that everyone has a role to play in maintaining mental health and wellbeing, we are specifically looking for projects that meet **all** of the following criteria:

The primary purpose of the project is to improve mental health and wellbeing outcomes of a community.

The project will help people meaningfully connect in their local community.

The project is locally led and locally delivered, and benefits a community.

We strive for geographic distribution of grant recipients among metro and regional communities and also look to support projects assisting particularly vulnerable groups.

[Read about the projects we've previously funded](#)



We define capital works or improvements as any works that create or improve fixed assets, buildings and/or grounds. This may include construction, renovation, landscaping or other works.

About your application

What makes a good application?

Applications that are clear, concise and provide the reader with a compelling project are more likely to be successful.

Read the Guidelines carefully before applying and consider the assessment and eligibility criteria. We'll be looking for applications that clearly demonstrate:

- the community need your project is addressing
- your project is locally led and / or locally embedded
- the project approach is effective and likely to improve connection and mental health and wellbeing of individuals
- the project can be delivered within the set time frame, and using the funding requested.

Make sure your contact details are correct so we can contact you about your application. SmartyGrants has an inbuilt spellchecker, so you can easily proofread and review your submission.

The Funding Centre has [guides and help sheets](#) for writing grant applications.

We receive many applications. The ones that stand out are projects that have clearly demonstrated how they will help people stay mentally well and which have a concrete plan to engage members of their community.

What supporting documentation do you require?

As part of the application, you will be asked for evidence (such as statistics, council plans, research, news articles) that demonstrates the issue the project addresses will resonate with the community.



Does your application include evidence that your project is needed in the community, and is community-led and locally driven? This can be council plans, meeting minutes or news articles.

Does your application provide a budget, including an income and expenditure summary?

If your project is a partnership or collaboration, have you provided the partner organisation details, including name, organisation description, role in the project and amount of funds or in-kind support contributed?

On request, will your organisation be able to provide supporting documentation, such as proof of incorporation, insurance and/or bank account verification?

Only add attachments that are relevant to your application. Please don't attach general brochures or annual reports.

Do I need to provide quotes?

No, we do not require you to provide or attach quotes for proposed expenditure.

How long does it take to complete an application?

It varies depending on the nature and complexity of your project. We suggest that you allow at least an hour to register and answer the questions online. You'll most likely need to allow further time for research, planning and engaging with other partners before you start applying.

Your application can be saved as you go and you can complete your application in stages as needed. If you need to save and close a submission, simply log back into SmartyGrants and navigate to 'My Submissions' to find your form when you're ready to continue.

When will I know the outcome of my application?

All applicants, whether successful or unsuccessful, will be notified by email in September 2021.



What if I'm having trouble completing my form?

Read the [SmartyGrants Application Help Guide](#) to learn how to submit an application through the SmartyGrants system.

If you're having difficulty completing an online application, please contact us at grants@auspost.com.au or call 1300 765 772.

What happens if I can't finish in one session?

Your application can be saved as you go and you can complete your application in stages as needed. It's a good idea to also save key information (e.g. project description) in a Microsoft Word document so you have a backup.

We strongly recommend that you start your application well before the closing date as late applications will not be accepted.

I started and saved my application, but now I can't find it.

Navigate to the [SmartyGrants](#) site and log in to your SmartyGrants account. Select 'My Submissions' from the top header and from the applications 'In Progress', select your saved application.

How do I reset my password on SmartyGrants?

Passwords can be reset at any time by going to the SmartyGrants log in page and clicking the 'Forgot your password?' link. Follow the instructions to get a new password sent to your email address.

How do I know if my application has been submitted?

Once you've submitted your application, you'll receive a confirmation email with a copy of your application and an application ID, for example APCG210000.

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Get help or get in touch



Australia Post acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we operate, live and gather as employees, and recognise their continuing connection to land, water and community. We pay respect to Elders past, present and emerging.

