

## IN A GOOD PLACE

Open Thursday 7 February to 5pm AEDT Thursday, 14 March, 2019  
for projects commencing late July 2019 onwards

### PROGRAM GUIDELINES FOR APPLICANTS

#### Overview

**In a Good Place** is a five-year partnership established in 2018 between CCI Giving and the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR). The partnership is based on a shared belief in the value and importance of Australia's rural, regional and remote communities and a commitment to strengthening the mental health and wellbeing of those communities.

FRRR is an independent charitable organisation that champions the economic and social strength of Australia's rural, regional and remote communities through partnerships with the private sector, philanthropy and governments.

CCI Giving is a new kind of foundation for the Australian Catholic community from Catholic Church Insurance (CCI). Building on the shared knowledge and spirit that comes from over 100 years of insuring Catholic organisations, and a strong history of giving back to the Catholic community, CCI Giving is CCI's way of extending support to make a difference in the Australian community. By focusing on gaps in current social welfare areas, CCI Giving aims to give back to those overcoming challenges and adversity, and to the most marginalised in society.

Despite the many positive aspects of living in rural, regional and remote communities, there are also distinct challenges associated with distance and isolation which place these communities at greater risk of poorer mental health. CCI Giving and FRRR recognise that maintaining good mental health is a multi-faceted and lifelong process, requiring a range of approaches.

**In a Good Place** is a national grants program, managed by FRRR, with the objective of providing support for community-driven initiatives that **reduce social isolation, increase social participation and connectedness, and increase help-seeking** of members within rural, regional and remote communities who are at risk of, or are experiencing, mental health issues.

#### Program Goals

In a Good Place supports rural, regional and remote communities in their efforts to strengthen the mental health of at-risk and vulnerable members of their communities via projects, services or activities that are preventative or responsive in nature and which are designed to engage those less likely, unable due to distance and isolation, or ineligible to participate in mainstream mental health services. **The program is open primarily to non-clinical approaches which are community-based and accessible at a grassroots level in a range of settings.** Priority will be given to initiatives which:

1. **Are delivered via non-clinical first providers of mental health care**, such as school counsellors and teachers, members of the clergy or pastoral care teams, neighbourhood or community groups, or via technological or other innovative methods.
2. **Improve accessibility and availability of mental health services, tools or support** to areas with limited or no access to the same;
3. **Provide innovative responses** which are inclusive, building social connections that lead to better mental health;
4. **Confront stigma surrounding help-seeking behaviour.**

Grants of up to \$20,000 are available from an annual funding pool of \$200,000. \$100,000 is available this round.

Organisations that receive a grant through the In a Good Place program are asked to participate in an evaluation of the collective outcomes of projects supported through the grants program. This will entail agreeing to:

- Report back on achievements and learnings against the overarching grant program objectives, outcomes and indicators;
- Report back on achievements and learnings against individual project goals and measures, comparing anticipated and actual outcomes. Measures and the methods used will be determined by the applicant, relevant to their community, project scale and approach.
- A follow up meeting (by phone) with FRRR within six months of project completion, and / or project site visits with FRRR and CCI Giving.

## Program Objectives, Outcomes and Indicators

Grant recipients will determine the most appropriate methods of measuring the outcomes of local projects; however, FRRR will monitor all grant recipients against an overarching evaluation framework in which the program's objectives, approaches and outcomes are clearly articulated, as follows:

### Objectives:

1. Reduce social isolation;
2. Increase social participation and connectedness;
3. Increase help-seeking.

### Approaches / change mechanisms (all projects must demonstrate at least one of the following):

1. Providing access to services / activities;
2. Developing knowledge, awareness & skills;
3. Building local capacity (helping organisations to deliver effective supports, services, activities);
4. Investing in equipment / infrastructure to catalyse change.

### Outcomes (all projects must measure against one or more of the following outcomes):

1. Stronger resilience among project beneficiaries;
2. Enhanced community wellbeing;
3. Greater community participation and engagement.

### Indicators (all projects must measure quantitatively and / or qualitatively against one or more of the following indicators which are deemed to lead to demonstration of positive outcomes):

- Tangible improvements in social connectedness, participation, help-seeking, or life outlook / attitude;
- Improved engagement of vulnerable or hard to reach members of the community and / or the outcomes of this engagement, including increased connection to others, engagement with services, or repeated attendance / participation;
- Increased community understanding of mental health issues and reduced stigma for those experiencing mental health issues; related to inclusion and wellbeing;
- Increased skills within the community to respond and support those with or at risk of developing mental health issues;
- Increased or enhanced partnerships within the community that improve access and participation;
- Likelihood of service / activity / event / program continuing beyond the grant.

These indicators can be measured in ways that best fit the project proposed. Methods that could be adopted include pre/post surveys, focus groups, feedback processes, case studies, tracking of referrals and other service-related data such as participation rates. Applicants should be able to clearly measure and report on project outcomes. Please contact FRRR if you would like assistance.

## Who can apply?

- Community groups and not-for-profit organisations with an ABN or Incorporation Certificate. There is no special tax status required.
- Organisations registered as charities with the ACNC are preferred but not essential.
- If your project involves working directly with children / youth under 18 years, your organisation must have policies and procedures around working with children, Working with Children Checks, and the handling of child abuse complaints, or the project may not be funded. See the [Community Group Resources](#) section on our website [www.frrr.org.au](http://www.frrr.org.au) for further information.
- Applicants with outstanding final reports are not eligible to apply unless a time extension has been granted.

## Eligibility

Projects must:

- Be conducted for charitable purposes and consistent with broad public benefit;
- Directly relate to one or more of the objectives of In a Good Place;
- Demonstrate strong community support for the project and involvement of a range of community perspectives;
- Be undertaken within 12 months of receiving the funding, reporting back to FRRR on the outcomes of the project within three months of project completion, with a further follow up phone-based review with FRRR in the following three months.
- **Applicants should contact FRRR to discuss the suitability of their project before starting an application.**

Preference will be given to projects:

- Serving communities with populations under 10,000 in rural, regional and remote communities nationally;
- Run by, and based in, the beneficiary community/ies;
- Responding to specific population mental health and wellbeing issues within a local community;
- Sustainable beyond the period of the grant;
- Do not duplicate an existing service or program.

*There is a preference for projects that are initiated and delivered by local community and not-for-profit organisations, rather than organisations from outside of the beneficiary community. Organisations from outside of beneficiary communities applying for funds will need to provide sufficient evidence that the local community endorses the organisation and the project, or has initiated the partnership to deliver the project.*

## What cannot be funded?

- Federal, State and Local Government core business and areas of responsibility;
- Projects that do not directly relate to the In a Good Place program objectives;
- Projects that benefit a single individual rather than a community;
- Retrospective projects; i.e. projects that have already occurred or which will have occurred by the time funds are received;
- Purely sporting, social or recreational activities;
- Projects that support private businesses and commercial activities (excepting social enterprises).

## What types of projects can be funded?

FRRR welcomes all project applications that meet the program objectives and criteria, including:

- Non-clinical mental health approaches which are community-based and accessible at a grassroots level in a range of settings;
- Projects that can demonstrate improved outcomes relating to reduced social isolation, increased participation in community life, and increased help-seeking of beneficiaries;

- Purchase of equipment or resources to enable delivery of a program, service, or activity locally (quotes must be provided for items over \$500);
- Development or provision of culturally-appropriate activities and resources;
- Delivery of community-based therapeutic programs and activities such as arts, theatre, gardening, community dinners, or informal mentoring and peer support groups, which engage vulnerable and at-risk members of the community;
- Projects that reduce stigma, increase local knowledge and understanding of mental health, promote awareness, and strengthen the skills of first responders within communities;
- Projects that are clearly aligned to, linked with, supported by or collaborating with other local, state or industry services focused on improving mental health;
- Projects that foster local partnerships that help to strengthen grassroots support mechanisms for local residents;
- Projects that can be sustained over time beyond the initial grant; and
- Salaries and wages may be supported if linked to the delivery of the project and where ongoing funding for the position is not required. Preferably, where a grant supports wages, the project will leave a legacy and build the capacity of local community groups and services to be able to respond and support needs or continue activities beyond the grant.

## What makes a strong application?

- Demonstrable partnerships, with defined project plans and evaluation of outcomes. See FRRR's [Community Group Resources](#) for project planning and evaluation templates and resources.
- Letters of support from organisations **directly involved in the project**, clearly stating their contribution towards and support for the project, are highly desirable.
- Financial or in-kind contributions towards the project from the applicant organisation are highly desirable and will be taken into account when assessing applications. Organisations that are unable to contribute either financially or in-kind should clearly articulate why they are unable to do so.

This program will be highly competitive. Applicants should contact FRRR to discuss the suitability of their project before applying.

## How to apply

FRRR accepts applications via its online application portal, Grants Gateway. If you have questions about your project, are unable to apply online, or experience any problems in using the Grants Gateway, please contact us on free call 1800 170 020 or email [info@frrr.org.au](mailto:info@frrr.org.au).

If you have previously applied using FRRR's Grants Gateway, login using your user account and start a new application.

If you have not applied for a grant with FRRR via this system previously, you need to set up an account to start your first application.

Click on the Apply Now button on the [In a Good Place program webpage](#) and then follow the link to 'Set up an account'. You will be prompted to create an online account to access the In a Good Place program application form, using an email address and password.

**Please use an email address associated with your organisation or group (rather than a personal email address) to create the account.** This ensures that any member of your organisation or committee will be able to access the account even if the person managing the application changes. It will also ensure your history is there for future applications, and for reporting.

Once the account has been established, you will be able to start the application, save your progress and finally submit via the online portal, until the program closes on 14 March 2019. We recommend that you print a copy of the form (top right

of the online application screen), so you can see all the information required and begin drafting your answers and collating the required information.

**Tips for using the Grants Gateway:** We strongly recommend preparing your application content in a Word document and then transferring your final application content to the Grants Gateway form. This will assist in managing versions and will reduce the risk of losing work if an internet connection times out – although continual saving is also recommended. Working offline also makes it easier for multiple people to work on an application before entering your application into the Grants Gateway for submission.

**To return to your application once started,** you will need to use the application link that is automatically generated by the system and emailed to your nominated Grants Gateway user email – you will only be able to access your application by using this link.

We have developed various tools to help you navigate the application process. We strongly suggest you read the [How to Guide](#) and [FAQ's](#), and watch our helpful tips on [How to Navigate the Activity Tree](#) before you start your application.

## What information should be provided with applications?

FRRR considers all eligible applications on their merit. However, we are only able to make a proper assessment of funding requests when we have adequate information about the applicant organisation and the project that funds will support. The following are important to be aware of and FRRR suggests attending to these early in the preparation of grant applications:

- An up-to-date organisational financial statement that shows the most recent 12 months of activity. This is preferably a profit & loss statement, balance sheet and cash flow statement.
- A copy of your current ABN or Incorporation Certificate.
- Letters of support and quotes can significantly strengthen your application, as does the inclusion of in-kind support e.g. volunteer hours, and other sources of funding in your project budget. We highly recommend that you include letters of support, in-kind support and quotes with your application. Note: we suggest costing unskilled volunteer labour at \$25/hr. Up to three letters of support can be included with applications, and up to three quotes can be attached.
- All supporting material **MUST** be submitted with the application.

If you need assistance with any of the above, please contact our office on 1800 170 020.

## How to submit your application

You will need to upload the following with your application before submitting:

- Your most recent financials, per the requirements listed above;
- Quotes for items to be purchased (over \$500) or outsourced;
- Letters of support from those partnering in, or directly benefiting from the project.

Once you have reviewed and completed your Grants Gateway application and uploaded the relevant documentation, click the **'Submit' button at the bottom of the 'Review My Application' tab page.**

FRRR recommends you save a copy of the application for your records, although a copy will be emailed to you.

**Applications will be accepted any time, through to 5pm AEDT 14 March 2019.**

If you have questions about your project, are unable to apply online, or experience any problems in using the Grants Gateway, please contact us: Free call 1800 170 020 or email [info@frrr.org.au](mailto:info@frrr.org.au).

## Process for consideration of applications



All applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application by email within 14 weeks of the closing date. Successful applicants may also be contacted by CCI Giving and may be invited to participate in announcement activities including media releases, social media, and profiling of projects in newsletters and websites.