

# RURAL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FUND

Community Mental Health Micro Grants

Application Form

January/March 2021

**BACKGROUND TO THE FUND**

Support in Mind Scotland has been funded by the Scottish Government to work with them to improve the mental wellbeing of people in rural communities as we all recover from the pandemic. This fund is part of a larger community engagement project, working directly with people in local communities to raise awareness, identify need and work collectively to develop creative local solutions to address local needs.

This Grants Scheme is designed to fund creative local ideas that develop as communities work together to protect and support the people most excluded as we recover from covid.

**PURPOSE OF THE FUND**

Local groups and organisations across Scotland’s Rural\* Communities are now able to apply for micro grants of up to £2,500 to support and promote mental health recovery following the pandemic in Scotland’s rural communities through community engagement and support approaches.

The grants are specifically aimed at people who face additional inequalities in achieving good mental health whilst recovering from the pandemic and are particularly aimed at:

* People who are marginalised and experience health inequalities due to factors such as poverty and social deprivation
* People who face multiple layers of inequality within specific marginalised groups:
  + Refugees and Asylum Seekers
  + Young Carers
  + LGBTI+ communities

The grants will be available to apply to for in three rounds of applications across all three areas:

Round 1: open 11th January – close 31 March 2022

Round 2: open 1 April – close 15 July 2022

Round 3: open 1 August – close 21 October 10th January 2022 and all funding awarded must be spent by end March 2023, with final reports and evaluations completed by end June 2023.

\*Rural as defined by the Scottish Government [here](https://www.gov.scot/publications/scottish-government-urban-rural-classification-2016).

**GRANTS MUST DELIVER AT LEAST ONE OF THE FOLLOWING OUTCOMES**

* Raise awareness of the need to look after mental health and seek help and support
* Avert people slipping into crisis and being at risk
* Provide immediate practical support and help (housing, benefits respite)
* Provide resilience/confidence intervention
* Address specific barriers to accessing mainstream support services including but not only language or cultural barriers.

**THESE GRANTS WILL FUND:**

* One-off events that meet the criteria in rural Scotland
* Community activities that bring communities together
* Providing short-term immediate crisis support
* Activities that allow individuals and communities to address loneliness and isolation
* Awareness raising

This list is for illustration only and there may be other ideas that your group want to develop.

**THESE GRANTS WILL NOT FUND:**

* Work that is long-term, meeting chronic long-term support needs
* Grants for individuals
* Core costs not related directly to the activity
* Items of equipment not directly related to the activity

**ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

All sizes of groups/organisations are eligible to apply but we will prioritise smaller community groups who have less access to funding, or for whom a relatively small amount will make the biggest difference.

Grants can be for existing projects where funding is particularly difficult to find; but we will prioritise activities that are new, *or* that are exploring new approaches, *or* are reaching new communities or individuals who currently do not have access to that support

Groups applying must have a set of rules and an organisational bank account to receive the funds. Grants will not be paid into individual bank accounts on behalf of an organisation or group.

If groups are new and/or these are not in place:

* You could seek help from a host organisation to receive the funds on your behalf
* Ask for help to set these up from our Engagement Team/ (contacts at the end)
* Apply for a later round of funding when they are in place

Bids will be welcomed from groups and organisations in conjunction with other delivery partners; but will only match fund a larger project if the specific activity that a micro-grant will fund, and the impact of the grant can be clearly identified and measured.

**ROUND 1**

Applications open 11th January

Applications Close 31st March

Sifting week commencing 1st April

Assessment Panel week commencing 1st April

Applicants Informed 8th April

First Evaluation Mid July

**ROUND 2**

Applications open 1st April

Applications Close 15th July

Sifting week commencing 18th July

Assessment Panel week commencing 25th July

Applicants Informed 29th July

First Evaluation Mid November

**ROUND 3**

Applications open 1st August

Applications Close 21st Oct

Sifting week commencing 24th Oct

Assessment Panel week commencing 31st Oct

Applicants Informed 4th Nov

First Evaluation End Jan

**ASSESSING APPLICATIONS**

Applications will be assessed for eligibility and clarity by an Assessment Panel of Support in Mind Scotland staff.

For this assessment, projects must demonstrate that

* They help to deliver the Government’s overarching priorities for rural mental wellbeing: address socio-economic inequalities; and address rural isolation
* They support people identified as the focus for the fund
* They deliver at least one of the listed fund outcomes
* They can deliver their activity within a 12-month period and by end March 2023

Projects that are assessed as being eligible will go to a Decision Making Panel made up of members of the National Rural Mental Health Forum.

We will aim to fund between 8 and 10 projects per round, and unsuccessful applicants will be eligible to resubmit for the next round if appropriate; however, each round of applications will be judged afresh on their merits and so there is no guarantee that an application resubmitted will be funded on resubmission.

The decision of the Decision Panel is final and although we will try to give feedback, there is no right of appeal.

**MONITORING AND EVALUATION**

Grant payments will be subject to a light touch monitoring and evaluation process to measure impact in meeting the fund outcomes. The reporting and evaluation requirements are attached so that applicants can gather relevant data and evidence from the start of their project.

Successful applicants will need to provide an update report at agreed intervals after a grant payment is made (quarterly for longer projects and); and will be asked for a final report with case studies or other evidence of impact at the end of the project period (max 12 months).

**EQUALITIES MONITORING**

Successful applicants will be asked to gather equalities data

**OTHER FUNDING STREAMS AND MATCH FUNDING**

Other funding streams can be utilised in addition to support project delivery e.g., crowd funding, windfarm grants, Leader funding and other local funds. If you wish to use match-funding, a description of any additional funding sources that have been secured or applied for and what they will be used for and how they will provide additional value must be provided.

If either of the Panels think that another fund may be more appropriate, this will be fed back to the Applicant. If groups are making multiple applications to different funds for the same project, they will be asked to confirm that they have not received duplicate funding for their project.

Please see the Frequently Asked Questions which accompany this application form.

Please contact Rosita Novak if you have any queries at: rnovak@supportinmindscotland.ord.uk

**MAKING AN APPLICATION**

Please complete the attached application form in full. Please also attach your set of rules of Constitution; or tell us who will manage the funds on your behalf.

**APPLICATION FORM**

**CONTACT**

**Name of Organisation/Group:**

**Organisation website:**

**Contact name:**

**Role in the Organisation/Project:**

**Phone number:**

**Email address:**

**PROJECT/ACTIVITY**

**Geographical area covered by your Project:**

**Project name:**

**Project Overview :**

*Please give an overview of the project. Tell us clearly in no more than 500 words:*

* *The issue you are addressing and why you know it is needed*
* *The activity you are proposing*
* *Who is involved and how you are involving beneficiaries*
* *Details of what you will actually do – the ‘outputs’*

**ELIGIBILITY AND OUTCOMES**

Can you deliver this project within 12 months and by end March 2023?

Projects who cannot meet this criteria are ineligible to apply.

Please describe how your project helps to deliver the purpose of the fund: Promote mental health recovery following the pandemic (300 words)

Who will benefit from your project?

People marginalised through experiencing poverty and social deprivation

People who face multiple layers of inequality within specific marginalised groups:

Refugees/Asylum Seekers

Young Carers

LGBTQI+ Communities

Please tell us how your activity will address the issues faced by your beneficiaries and meet at least one of the fund outcomes (300 words) \*see below

\*Fund Outcomes:

* Raise awareness of the need to look after mental health and seek help and support
* Avert people slipping into crisis and being at risk
* Provide immediate practical support and help (housing, benefits respite)
* Provide resilience/confidence intervention
* Address specific barriers to accessing mainstream support services *including but not*
* *only* language or cultural barriers

**PROJECT FUNDING**

Does your organisation have its own organisational bank account? If so please give us the bank details; if not, tell us who will receive the funds on your behalf and give their bank details below:

We have our own bank account: Acc Number: …………………. Sort Code: .......

Another organisation is receiving the funds on our behalf:

Name of Organisation: ………………………………………………………………………

Contact name and details for this organisation: ………………………………………….

Account Number: ………………………………. Sort Code:………………………………

Tell us what your project costs using the table below:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **ITEM** | **COST £** | **SEEKING FROM FUND £** | **MATCH FUNDING £** |
| *e.g Meeting Room hire* | *350* | *200* | *150* |
|  |  |  |  |
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|  |  |  |  |
| **TOTALS** |  |  |  |

If you are seeking only part-funding is the match funding confirmed?

Yes – where is this funding coming from?................................................................

No – if not, when do you expect it to be confirmed?.…………………………………….

If you do not receive the match funding, what would be the impact on your project and your ability to achieve the outcomes? (150 words)

Are you working in partnership with other groups/organisations on this project and if so, please tell us who they are and how the partnership will work? (150 words)

**Measuring Impact**

How will you know if you have achieved your outcomes? (300 words)

How will you ensure that your activity is inclusive and in line with equality and diversity best practice? (300 words)

**MANAGING DATA**

How will you ensure that you keep personal data relating to beneficiaries who use your project safe? (300 words)

**SUBMITTING THE APPLICATION**

Please email this application form to [rnovak@supportinmindscotland.org.uk](mailto:rnovak@supportinmindscotland.org.uk)

Once submitted, this form will be shared with an assessment panel. The assessment panel will not retain, share or use personal data for any other purpose. If you need further information, please contact Ida Hansen.

By signing this form you agree to sharing your contact details with SiMS and the people on the Assessment Panel. You also agree to submit an end of project report that will include impact measurement and a report on how the funds have been spent. Receipts must be submitted for all expenditure.

Signed: Role:

Date: