

Department for
Correctional Services

FUNDING GUIDELINES FOR COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

Community Program Grants (up to \$50,000)

ONE-OFF GRANTS

2021-2022



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1. Message from the Chief Executive

The Department for Correctional Services (DCS) is committed to strengthening strategic partnerships with community organisations through the provision of Community Grants.

Through the DCS Community Grants Program we aim to work with community organisations to implement innovative, efficient and effective services and programs within custodial and community-based settings.

The DCS Community Grants Program is a key action against our department's [Strategic Plan 2018 – 2022](#) to achieve outcomes by investing in collaboration, engagement and innovation.

I am eager to engage new ideas and concepts into the way we work. Through this funding we aim to support NGOs to deliver evidence-based and effective programs and services that:

- Reach priority offender cohorts
- Broaden the types of programs available to address service needs; and
- Create opportunities for offenders to engage in meaningful activities that assist them with maintaining pro-social lives.

These grants can have a big impact on the lives of prisoners, their families and the communities in which they live. I encourage a range of community organisations to apply for the DCS Community Grant funding to be a part of this positive change.



David Brown
Chief Executive
Department for Correctional Services

2. Purpose

Across DCS we have a strategic focus on reducing recidivism and improving reintegration and rehabilitation outcomes for offenders. The purpose of the DCS Community Grants Program is to enhance protective factors of offenders in relation to their recidivism so they can lead pro-social lives. This means investing in evidence based, effective initiatives that are provided through in-reach into prisons, or in the community with the support of DCS Community Corrections.

Enhancing protective factors includes addressing matters such as employment, health and wellbeing, housing, relationships and other key life skills. DCS recognises that connection to community and meaningful activity are critical elements in the rehabilitation of offenders and their successful reintegration into community.

DCS seeks strategic partnerships with community organisations to work together on common goals to increase community safety and reduce reoffending.

The DCS Community Grants Program focuses on the key strategic priorities of:

- Successful return to community;
- Employment and industry;
- Prioritising target cohorts; and
- Closing the Gap.

Previous examples of successful grants include:

- Peer support programs;
- Parenting sessions;
- Health and fitness programs;
- Aboriginal health programs;
- Building healthy relationships with adults; and
- Employment or work experience connections for people who have exited prison.

3. Grant Funding Details

Non-government organisations (NGOs) are invited to apply for funding of **up to \$50,000** (GST exclusive), for the delivery of programs and services over a 12-month period. Funded programs and services may be delivered in the community, within prisons or at Community Correctional Centres.

Grants are once-off and are not intended as a recurring funding source.

The DCS Community Grants Program is a key action from the DCS Strategic Plan to improve corrections outcomes through collaboration, engagement and innovation. DCS will work with community organisations through the Community Grants Program to develop innovative, efficient and effective services and programs that enhance rehabilitation, reintegration and reduce reoffending.

Programs and services funded by DCS Community Grants must align to the DCS Strategic Plan and the State Government's *Reducing Reoffending: 10% by 2020 Strategy* (10by20) by building a safer community through preventing reoffending and improving rates of rehabilitation and reintegration.

DCS Community Grants Program funding will support NGOs deliver evidence based and effective programs and services that:

- Reach priority offender cohorts
- Broaden the types of programs available to address service needs; and
- Create opportunities for offenders to engage in meaningful activities that assist them with maintaining pro-social lives.

Applications must contribute to one or more of the following strategic priorities:

- **Successful return to community** - providing targeted programs to support the successful reintegration of offenders into the community;
- **Employment and industry** - improving employment outcomes for prisoners and offenders;
- **Prioritising target cohorts** – ensuring programs are targeted to groups to achieve the best results, including
 - women offenders
 - prisoners on short sentences
 - individuals on remand
 - offenders in community corrections; and
- **Closing the Gap**– providing targeted and culturally appropriate services and programs to address the specific needs of Aboriginal offenders.

4. Assessment Criteria

All applications are assessed on merit, based on the following criteria:

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Identified need | The identified need or service gap and how the program or service will address this need. |
| Extent of Benefit | The intended outcomes, benefits and evidence base for effectiveness. |
| Relevance | Strategically aligned to the 10by20 Strategy and DCS Strategic Plan 2018-22 . |
| Equity | DCS aims to ensure equitable funding across target groups and geographic regions. |
| Sustainability | Projects must demonstrate sustainability and not require recurrent grant funding . |
| Cost Effectiveness | Proposals must represent value for money. |
| Applicant Capacity | Evidence that the organisation has the resources to effectively conduct the initiative. |
| Partnerships | Evidence of partnership funding or in-kind support |
| Complementary nature | Projects that aim to coordinate with existing community or government programs or services are a higher priority than those that operate in isolation. |

5. Eligible Organisations

DCS can only provide grant funds to eligible organisations that:

- are non-government, incorporated community organisations that are not-for-profit;
- provide social welfare and help for disadvantaged individuals, families and communities in need in South Australia;
- have a registered Australian Business Number (ABN); and
- can be a local council if the applicant is a separately managed community group.

6. Accountability Requirements

All organisations approved for funding will be required to:

- sign and comply with reporting requirements in a grant agreement;
- maintain financial records in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and comply with relevant laws in South Australia;
- appropriately acknowledge DCS as a funding body; and
- develop measures that accurately show the impact of funding.

7. Exclusions

Funding will not be provided for:

- ongoing funding;
- activities, programs or projects with the objective of making financial profits;
- projects where alternative sources of funding are more appropriate;
- salaries where the salary forms part of an organisation's/individual's usual responsibility;
- recurrent operating or maintenance costs for day-to-day operations of the organisation / group;
- projects that are a duplication of an existing service, program, project or event in that location;
- travel allowances;
- prize money;
- projects with political or religious purposes or objectives;
- projects which are deemed to be inappropriate and offensive; and
- overseas organisations.

8. How to Apply

1. Read these funding guidelines.
2. Read [DCS Strategic Plan 2018-22](#) and [Reducing Reoffending 10by20 Response and Action Plan](#)
3. Complete the [Application Form](#).
4. Contact the Senior Project Officer DCSSPPP@sa.gov.au if you have any queries about the program and how to apply.

9. Processing Applications

After you have submitted your application, you may be contacted by DCS to seek further information.

It is not possible to fund all application requests, therefore funding should not be anticipated or deemed automatic.

Application for grants will open from **5:00pm Monday 7 February 2022** and will close **5:00pm Monday 21 March 2022**.

10. Notification of Outcomes

All applicants will receive written notification regarding the outcome of their application.

Successful applicants will receive a notification letter and grant agreement detailing the terms and conditions of the funding. Depending on the program or service being funded, successful applicants may be required to undertake site specific inductions.

Unsuccessful applicants are encouraged to contact DCS through DCSSPPP@sa.gov.au to receive feedback and to discuss aspects of the application that might be improved for future applications.

If you have any queries about the DCS Community Grants Program, please contact DCS at DCSSPPP@sa.gov.au.