

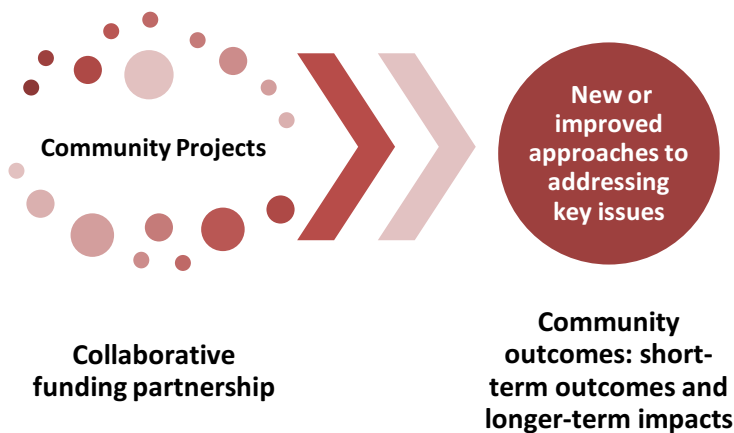
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## I4CI Program Guidelines

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### BACKGROUND

Innovation for Community Impact (I4CI) brings together the collective resources of the NSW government, philanthropic sector, and community to address pressing and persistent social issues facing communities in ten regional NSW Local Government Areas. The program aims to support innovative and effective responses to issues including domestic and family violence, education disengagement, criminal behaviour, and unemployment. The approach taken is underpinned by a belief in the power of the collective over individual or siloed action and by an aspiration for communities to be supported to lead the change they wish to see.



I4CI is supported by a number of collaborating partners with a keen interest in the impact areas to be supported: NSW Department of Family and Community Services, the Snow Foundation, nib foundation, Flannery Family Foundation, the Katz Family Foundation, Sally Foundation, Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation, CAGES Foundation, Myer Family Company, and Doc Ross Foundation. The grants program is independently managed by the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR), with support from Philanthropy Australia.

### FUNDS AVAILABLE

In February 2016 Round 2 of Innovation for Community Impact will open inviting applications for community driven projects, with a total of \$300,000 available for projects that provide more effective or new responses for priority outcome areas and target population groups.

Grants of *up to* \$50,000 will be considered for projects encouraging grassroots organisations working on community capacity building and local responses to big issues.

### DEFINITION OF 'SOCIAL INNOVATION'

A core premise of the Innovation for Community Impact program is a desire to utilise philanthropic and government resources to address critical community issues in ways that take a different approach and which may have greater impact than existing approaches. This can also mean improving on existing approaches to achieve better outcomes.

The Centre for Social Innovation defines social innovation as *"a novel solution to a social problem that is more effective, efficient, sustainable, or just than existing solutions and for which the value created accrues primarily to society as a whole rather than private individuals."*<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> James A. Phills Jr., Kriss Deiglmeier, & Dale T. Miller, *Rediscovering Social Innovation*, Stanford Social Innovation Review, Issue 7, 2008

## **PRIORITY OUTCOME AREAS**

Grants will be considered for projects which are focussed on innovative responses to at least one of the following outcome areas:

- Increased and stronger community partnerships and collaborative responses to issues
- Development of and greater participation in volunteering/mentoring/leadership
- Increased access to employment for Aboriginal women
- Improved economic security that reduces economic vulnerability
- Increased education, retention and future employment for Aboriginal young men and Aboriginal children and youth
- Increased engagement of infants, children and families in early years supports and education
- Improved health and wellbeing of at-risk individuals and population groups
- Improved access, information and pathways to services within community
- Reduced youth anti-social and criminal behaviour

## **EXAMPLES OF TYPES OF PROJECTS THAT COULD BE SUPPORTED**

Examples of projects that can be funded include, but are not limited to:

- New approaches to supporting women and children effected by domestic violence such as reducing economic vulnerability and improved housing options
- Social enterprises that provide a means to engage youth and/or women in meaningful training and employment or which create pathways to employment
- Leadership and peer mentoring programs that provide genuine opportunities for aboriginal youth to celebrate and utilise their strengths
- Culturally relevant programs to support literacy and numeracy skill development and transfer
- Programs that facilitate rites of passage for young Aboriginal males utilising contemporary community and cultural contexts and reduce anti-social and criminal behaviours
- Activities that support families to engage in their child's development and learning such as play-based programs in pre-schools or maternal child health centres
- Community art projects and community-based health and wellbeing programs such as community gardens and cooking groups

## **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

- The project must address a specific outcome area and target population as listed in Table 1
- Projects must directly assist those individuals and communities in one of the Local Government Areas listed in these guidelines
- Projects must be for a charitable purpose
- Projects must be able to demonstrate wide community support and involvement of a range of community groups/representatives

- Projects must be undertaken between July 2016 and July 2018 (projects will not be retrospectively funded)
- The project must not duplicate an existing project or service
- Applicant organisations must have an ABN or Incorporation Certificate

Innovation for Community Impact is guided by the charitable objective *'to promote for the public benefit rural and regional renewal, regeneration and development in Australia in social, economic, environmental and cultural areas.'*

PRIORITY POPULATION GROUPS	TARGET LGA'S
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Women and children at risk of or experiencing domestic and family violence</li> <li>▪ Women and children from CALD and Aboriginal backgrounds</li> <li>▪ Aboriginal children and youth aged up to 16 years, especially males</li> <li>▪ Families experiencing disadvantage</li> <li>▪ At risk youth</li> </ul>	Wyong Gosford Nambucca Kempsey Coffs Harbour Port Macquarie Newcastle Lake Macquarie Maitland Port Stephens

Table 1: I4CI Priority Areas

### WHO CAN APPLY?

- Not-for-profit organisations with an ABN or Incorporation Certificate. Please note no specific tax status is required.
- Priority will be given to organisations run by and based in the target LGA's over those delivering services to, but not based in the listed regions. Projects led by local communities, reaching the grassroots and leaving a lasting legacy will also be given preference.

### WHAT CAN'T BE FUNDED?

- Purely social, sporting or recreational activities
- Projects outside Australia and overseas travel
- Federal, State and Local Government core business and areas of responsibility
- Projects that do not directly relate to the target regions, issues and populations
- Projects that benefit a single individual rather than a community
- Projects that are for animal welfare
- Projects that support private businesses and commercial activities

### HOW TO APPLY

**Grants up to \$50,000** (\$300k available)

Applications for this program may be submitted in one of two ways:

1. Written application - complete and submit the I4CI program application form along with supporting documentation
2. A dvd/animated clip/presentation of no more than 15 minutes in length that tells the story of the project, the need it addresses and the outcomes it aims to achieve. Examples of how this could be

done are included with the tips included with these guidelines. Note that this format does not require a high production standard but does need to be audible and visible.

Application forms can be downloaded at:

[http://www.frrr.org.au/cb\\_pages/innovation\\_for\\_community\\_impact\\_i4ci.php](http://www.frrr.org.au/cb_pages/innovation_for_community_impact_i4ci.php)

### WHAT SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION IS REQUIRED?

- You MUST attach an up to date organisational financial statement (audited financial statements, Profit & Loss Statement, balance sheet).
- You MUST attach a copy of your ABN or Incorporation Certificate.
- Quotes and letters of support significantly strengthen your application, as does the inclusion of in-kind support eg. volunteer hours, and other sources of funding in your project budget. We strongly recommend that you include letters of support, in-kind support and quotes with your application.
- All supporting material MUST be submitted with the application.
- Applications MUST be signed by the Head of the Organisation (President/CEO) or the application will not be considered. Note applications signed by a Subcommittee Chair, Secretary, Treasurer or Program Manager will not be accepted.

### CLOSING DATES

- Applications to be received by no later than 5pm, 8<sup>th</sup> April 2016.

Applications can be submitted by post or email (preferable):

**Email:** [I4CI@frrr.org.au](mailto:I4CI@frrr.org.au)

**Post:** FRRR, Innovation for Community Impact, PO Box 41, Bendigo, Vic 3552



## **TIPS FOR DEVELOPING YOUR APPLICATION**

If applying using video or other visual material, some ideas include:

- Interviews or vox pops with people in your community about the need, the proposed project and its desired outcomes
- Virtual tours of your community or a place of focus such as a community enterprise
- A conversation between project partners about how they will work together to address the issue
- Info-graphics and animated information that communicates your project and the outcomes.

Be creative but ensure that all of the I4CI application questions (per the application form) are answered and be sure to provide the required supporting documentation along with the dvd/weblink.

Remember:

- ✓ Use the SMART approach (specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and timely).
- ✓ Be clear about what the grant funds will be used for.
- ✓ Demonstrate how the project is innovative, the intended impact (i.e. what will be different as a result) and how the project will deliver and measure impact.
- ✓ “Innovation” in this program does not need to be ‘out of the box’ or something that has never been done before. It could be an improvement to a current program or system that is quite simple yet will create significant positive change for client groups and communities.

**For further information or to speak with FRRR about your project, please contact:**

**Innovation for Community Impact Program Manager – Frankie Opie**

1800 170 020

[i4ci@frrr.org.au](mailto:i4ci@frrr.org.au)

[http://www.frrr.org.au/cb\\_pages/innovation\\_for\\_community\\_impact\\_i4ci.php](http://www.frrr.org.au/cb_pages/innovation_for_community_impact_i4ci.php)