



Government of Western Australia  
Mental Health Commission



## Proud and Connected Community Grants

### About the Program

Living Proud, in collaboration with the Mental Health Commission, are implementing a small grants program of \$125,000 (ex GST), the **Proud and Connected Community Grants**.

Community-led groups and organisations can apply for grants of up to \$25,000.

### Context

The **Proud and Connected Community Grants** program is funded by the Mental Health Commission as part of the [WA Suicide Prevention Framework 2021-2025](#). Funded activities need to align with one or more of the following Framework outcomes:

- Increase literacy surrounding mental health, wellbeing and suicide prevention
- Decrease stigma associated with mental health issues and suicide
- Increase people's ability to seek help for oneself or for someone else
- Increase coping skills and ability to manage difficult life experiences

### Purpose

While the majority of LGBTIQ+ West Australians lead healthy lives, we are over-represented among those with poorer mental health which can be linked to stigma and discrimination.

The purpose of this grant program is to support LGBTIQ+ groups and organisations to scope, pilot and implement activities that build **proud and connected** communities by fostering:

- Celebration of LGBTIQ+ diversity
- Community engagement and positive change
- Collaboration for better outcomes
- Reduced risk factors and enhanced protective factors
- LGBTIQ+ peer-led approaches
- Local responses that reflect the needs of LGBTIQ+ communities across WA

Living Proud will provide support to grant recipients with program development, implementation, promotion, and evaluation, as needed.

## **Types of Activities**

Funds can be used to support groups and organisations to scope and pilot new work, and/or review, improve and expand existing work. Types of activities include:

- Projects that facilitate community connectedness and pride
- Celebrations that increase awareness of LGBTIQ+ diversity
- Peer-based support and referral activities that address the impact of stigma and encourage help seeking behaviour
- Community education and awareness raising about suicide prevention
- Training to improve understanding of the experiences and needs of LGBTIQ+ people and leads to inclusion-based responses
- Investigating community-based initiatives to reduce loneliness and increase social connections

## **Eligibility Criteria**

**Applicant Criteria:** your community group or organisation must be one of the following:

- LGBTIQ+ community-controlled group
- LGBTIQ+ Not for Profit/Charity/Community-based Incorporated group
- LGBTIQ+ Social Enterprise (must partner with a LGBTIQ+ community group)
- LGBTIQ+ Unincorporated group (auspicing arrangements can be considered)

## **Activity Criteria:**

- The activity aligns with one or more of the following short and intermediate-term outcomes of the [WA Suicide Prevention Framework 2021-2025](#):
  1. Increased literacy surrounding mental health and wellbeing and suicide prevention
  2. Decreased stigma associated with mental health issues and suicide
  3. Increased ability to seek help for oneself or for someone else
  4. Increased coping skills and ability to manage difficult life experiences
- The activity responds to evidence or demonstrated community need
- The activity targets priority or under-resourced LGBTIQ+ populations
- Partnerships and collaborations are strongly encouraged.
- Ability to effectively implement community activity and manage the grant funds
- The activity is inclusive of all relevant communities

**Information Session** Representatives from Living Proud and the Mental Health Commission will be speaking about the program and there will be an opportunity to ask questions and get assistance with your application. Both in person and virtual attendance is available.

[To register, please click here.](#)

**6pm, Mon 13 March 2023.**

**City West Lotteries House, 2 Delhi Street, West Perth (free parking)**

## **What grant funds CAN be used for**

Funding from this application can go towards any of the following expenses:

- Transport (project related airfares and ground transport)
- Equipment and venue hire
- Consumables (where imperative for the activity to take place, including catering)
- Infrastructure
- Wages directly related to the project / program staffing (must be for the project time only)
- Marketing costs
- Consultations and facilitators
- Contractors for activities such as research or scoping
- Grant administration costs (up to 5%)

#### **What grant funds CAN'T be used for**

- Conferences and staff development
- Operational staffing (ongoing core administrative wages to maintain the organisation)
- Supplement expenses of unrelated projects
- Retrospective cost

#### **Assessment Process**

Applications will be assessed against the Eligibility Criteria by a review panel consisting of five LGBTIQ+ people including at least one person with mental health lived experience.

If additional information is required to support an application, we will make further contact with the applicant.

#### **Key Dates**

**Applications Open:** 27th February

**Information Session:** [13th March](#)

**Applications Close:** 2nd April

**Applicants Advised of Outcome:** 14th April

**Funds transferred:** by mid May 2023

**Activity start:** May 2023

**Activity ends:** by May 2024

**Evaluation submitted:** by June 2024

#### **How to Apply**

1. [Before starting your application, please download and read through our information sheet](#)
2. You are encouraged to contact our Programs Manager, Michael, to talk about your application and ensure it meets program criteria: 0418 346 535 or [michael@livingproud.org.au](mailto:michael@livingproud.org.au)
3. Explore and speak with potential project partners
4. [Complete the online application form here](#)

It is preferred that applicants apply via the above online form. However, if you have difficulty accessing this form please Download a word version of the application form here. Once completed, please email to [admin@livingproud.org.au](mailto:admin@livingproud.org.au). We will confirm your application has been received within 2 business days.

**Support** For further information, please visit our website, or contact our Programs Manager Michael Atkinson (He/Him): 0418 346 535 or [michael@livingproud.org.au](mailto:michael@livingproud.org.au).