

Large Grants for regional NSW 2022

NSW Children and Young People Wellbeing Recovery Initiative



Guidelines



Overview

Name	Children and Young People Wellbeing Recovery Initiative program – Large Grants for regional NSW
Type of assistance and who will receive support	Program funding to a range of organisations to deliver wellbeing initiatives for children and young people in regional NSW.
Description of initiative	<p>The objective of the program is to support the wellbeing of children and young people living in regional NSW to recover from and build resilience to future adversity.</p> <p>This program will leverage the work of Regional Youth Community Coordinators (YCC) working with communities, government, Community Recovery Officers and non-government organisations to identify programs for funding regional NSW Local Government Areas (LGAs). This program is funded by the NSW Government's COVID-19 Economic Recovery Strategy.</p> <p>Funding recipients can be government or non-government organisations such as the following entities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> local councils joint organisation of councils not-for-profit organisations schools research or academic organisation Local Aboriginal Land Council <p>Eligible programs must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> be delivered in a regional LGA's with a significant community impact and need for wellbeing and mental health support for children and young people to recover from and build resilience to future adverse events focus on children and/or young people aged 0-24 years directly respond to community need for support to recover and build resilience and supports improved wellbeing and mental support for children and young people address mental health, wellbeing or healing in children and young people impacted by adverse events. <p>Programs that may be eligible for funding include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> community events and social activities sport and recreational programs youth mental health training cultural and community connection programs healing initiatives to support Aboriginal children, vulnerable children and young people affected by adverse events peer support programs, mentoring and training for children and young people digital communications and resources partnership programs, activities with schools, early childhood and non-government organisations (NGOs).

The Department of Regional NSW (DRNSW) will work in partnership with applicants to submit a funding proposal. An Assessment Panel will assess applications against the following criteria:

- delivers new or enhanced existing programs, activities or services
- coordinates and works together with existing services, does not duplicate existing services
- promotes community cohesion to improve community recovery from adverse events and build resilience of children and young people
- cooperative program delivery - brings together agencies and organisations to deliver programs to support wellbeing and mental health of children and young people
- supported by the community and meets community need
- focuses on vulnerable children and young people
- equity of programs for different age groups within the 0-24 year cohort
- appropriately costed and costs incurred between January 2021 and 30 June 2023 (timing aligns with the funding envelope provided by the State)
- inclusive and accessible for children and young people with a disability, LGBTIQ+ and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Funding is available for eligible recipients within regional NSW. This includes all LGAs in NSW with the exception of the metropolitan areas of Greater Sydney, Newcastle and Wollongong, where there is a demonstrated community need, and significant wellbeing and mental health issues of children and young people arising from adverse events. Programs may cover more than one LGA.

A minimum of \$10,000 and a maximum of \$50,000 can be allocated to each approved project with a maximum of \$100,000 allocated to each LGA. Multiple groups within an LGA can apply for a portion of this funding. Funding will be allocated based on community need and need for mental health or wellbeing support for children and young people arising from adversity, with a focus on community programs that cover more than one LGA to maximise funding distribution. Not all regional LGAs will receive funding through this program.

Funding allocation will be determined by the Assessment Panel and weighting criteria. An interim review of funding allocation will be undertaken by Department of Regional NSW in June 2022 to determine any changes to the maximum funding amount available to each eligible LGA.

Eligible locations	LGAs within regional NSW. This includes all of NSW with the exception of the metropolitan areas of Greater Sydney, Newcastle and Wollongong.
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Administering agency	Office for Regional Youth, Department of Regional NSW.
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Purpose

In the last 24 months, communities in regional NSW have endured multiple adverse events, including natural disasters and impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The resilience of young people has been tested. The compounding impacts of these events have increased mental health issues among children and young people and increased the need for additional support. Research shows that adverse events significantly affect young people. Since 2019, there has been a marked increase in access to mental health support among children and young people. The experiences of children and young people are unique and different to adults and they require additional and targeted recovery support.

The Children and Young People Wellbeing Recovery Initiative will fund projects in Regional NSW communities to:

- improve access to programs and services to improve mental health and wellbeing of children and young people
- provide programs and resources to improve recovery and resilience of children and young people to respond to the impacts of adverse events
- strengthen community networks and connection to support the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people
- build community capacity and capability to support children and young people to recover post adverse events.

The program will be delivered by the Office for Regional Youth, Department of Regional NSW.

Eligibility criteria

To be eligible, program funding recipients must:

- ✓ hold an Australian Business Number (ABN), Australian Company Number (ACN) or be registered with NSW Fair Trading under the Associations Incorporation Act 2009
- ✓ have or be able and willing to purchase at least \$20 million in public liability insurance.

The following activities and costs are not eligible for funding under the program:

- ✗ costs associated with existing ongoing staff
- ✗ purchase of plant, equipment, laptops, mobile phones and other capital items. In exceptional cases, equipment essential to project delivery as part of larger projects may be approved by the administering agency
- ✗ requests for ongoing program funding
- ✗ projects and/or activities that are not related to wellbeing of young people and communities in regional areas impacted by adverse events
- ✗ requests to recover costs for existing debts and/or budget deficits.





Funding

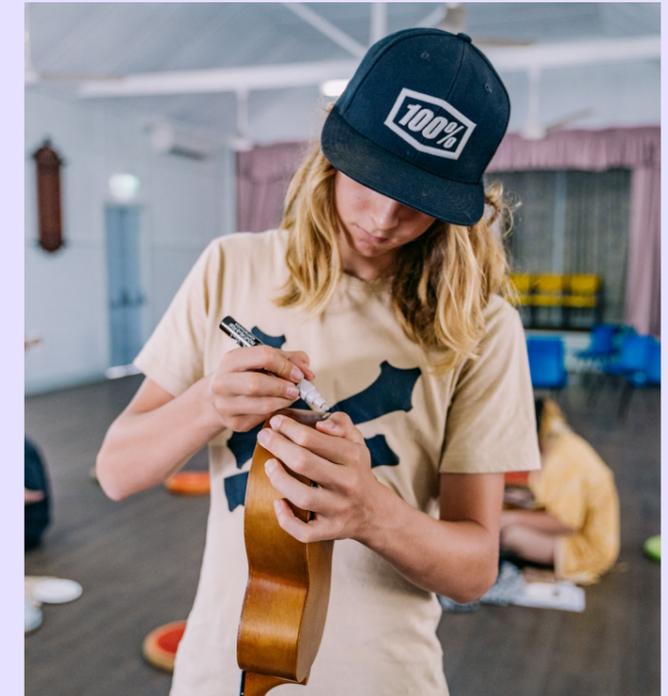
To be eligible, costs must be directly associated with the delivery of the initiative.

Funding is available for eligible recipients in LGAs within regional NSW where there is a demonstrated community need, and significant wellbeing and mental health issues of children and young people. Proposals may cover more than one LGA.

\$5.2 million is available within this program for eligible LGAs. \$2.6 million will be allocated in 2021-22 and \$2.6 million will be allocated in 2022-23. A minimum of \$10,000 and a maximum of \$50,000 will be available to each proposal with a maximum amount of \$100,000 allocated to each eligible LGA. Joint applications from a number of LGAs are encouraged.

Co-contributions and cooperative program delivery are strongly encouraged. This may include in-kind support and/or funding from other sources. Evidence of co-contribution is required as part of the proposal for funding where relevant.

Programs and locations will be identified through the Youth Community Coordinators. Community Recovery Officers employed by councils and other groups interested in this funding can work with the Youth Community Coordinators to develop applications.



Program proposals will be assessed by a panel comprised of the Office for Regional Youth, Resilience NSW and Ministry for Health. The panel will consider applications on a monthly basis and recommend projects for funding to the NSW Minister for Regional Youth for final approval.

Funding recipients must adhere to the funding agreements and reporting requirements of the Department of Regional NSW, including requirements outlined below.



Key dates

This program has been funded under the COVID-19 Economic Recovery Strategy, with funding up to 30 June 2023. The programs and activities funded under this program must be completed before this date.

Key dates:

- program commencement: 24 January 2022
- proposals considered monthly from February 2022 to December 2022, or until funds are fully expended
- proposals provided for Ministerial approval monthly from: February 2022
- proposals announced and commenced: ongoing
- all funding allocated by: 30 June 2023.

Funding proposal process

Youth Community Coordinators will work with communities, government and non-government organisations within regional communities to identify community projects for funding under the program.

Relevant agencies and organisations in the community will be consulted on the program and potential programs for funding. Youth Community Coordinators will work with all relevant agencies and organisations to develop community proposals for funding, involving multiple agencies and organisations in the community. Council employed Community Recovery Officers and other key community staff can refer programs to the Youth Community Coordinators to develop applications. Program proposals must demonstrate community involvement and support.

Youth Community Coordinators will develop funding proposals in partnership with proponents for consideration by an Assessment Panel (made up of the Office for Regional Youth, Resilience NSW and Ministry for Health). Proposals will take into account disaster impacts, recovery needs, available and existing services and community need and support for resources. Funding proposals will be ranked based on meeting the eligibility and weighted according to the assessment criteria. The applications, weighting and assessment process will be determined and agreed by the Assessment Panel.

Assessment and approval process

Proposals for program funding will be assessed by an Assessment Panel comprised of the Department of Regional NSW, Resilience NSW and Ministry for Health.

The Panel will meet monthly as required to consider and recommend projects for funding to the NSW Minister for Regional Youth for approval.

A funding agreement and milestones will be created, within program requirements. If successful, you will be advised of this information.

Proposals will be assessed against the eligibility requirements and the following assessment criteria:

- delivers new or enhanced existing programs, activities or services
- coordinates and works together with existing services, does not duplicate existing services
- promotes community cohesion to improve community recovery from adverse events and resilience of children and young people
- cooperative program delivery - brings together agencies and organisations to deliver programs to support wellbeing and mental health of children and young people
- supported by the community and meets community need
- focuses on vulnerable children and young people
- equity of programs for different age groups with the 0-24 year cohort
- appropriately costed and costs incurred between January 2022 and 30 June 2023, (timing aligns with the funding envelope provided by the State)
- inclusive and accessible for children and young people with a disability, LGBTIQ+ and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Greater weighting will be given to the following criteria:

- cooperative program delivery - brings together agencies and organisations to deliver programs to support wellbeing and mental health of children and young people
- demonstrated support from the community and meets community need
- focuses on vulnerable children and young people
- programs with reach across LGAs.

Feedback will be provided to unsuccessful applicants, who will also have the opportunity to resubmit their application in response to the feedback provided. However, the decision of the assessment panel is final.



Reporting

The Office for Regional Youth will coordinate quarterly progress reports, including activity delivery, dates and expenditure. Program progress reports will be used to identify appropriate program milestones and opportunities for joint program announcements.

Projects will be monitored for compliance and progress throughout the project delivery period in accordance with Department of Regional NSW requirements.

Funding recipients will be required to complete:

- quarterly reporting including actual expenditure until the completion of the project
- evaluation report upon completion of the project.



Assurance and acquittal

Assurance and acquittal will be in accordance with existing requirements established under the funding agreement.



Public acknowledgement

Successful funding recipients must seek approval from the Department of Regional NSW to issue program announcements, promotional material or other publicity materials relating to funding measures. NSW Government support must be acknowledged in all promotional material as per the NSW Government Funding Acknowledgement Guidelines available at nsw.gov.au/branding/funding_acknowledgement_guidelines



NSW Children and Young People
Wellbeing Recovery Initiative

Monitoring and evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation of the program will be undertaken by the Department of Regional NSW. Monitoring will be undertaken on a quarterly basis and evaluation will be undertaken and reported after 12 months and at the end of the program.

Evaluation measures may include:

- improved access to programs and services to improve mental health and wellbeing of children and young people following adverse events
- improved mental health and wellbeing of children and young people arising from adverse events
- increased number of programs and resources to improve recovery and resilience of children and young people to respond to the impacts of adverse events
- improved community networks and connection to support the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people
- increased community capacity and capability to support children and young people to recover post adverse events.



Contact

For more information, please contact
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