

CMHDARN INNOVATION AND EVALUATION GRANT 2019-2020 – ROUND 2

GUIDELINES FOR APPLICANTS

The Community Mental Health Drug and Alcohol Research Network (CMHDARN) invites member organisations from the Mental Health Coordinating Council (MHCC) and the Network of Alcohol and Other Drugs Agencies (NADA) to apply for the CMHDARN Innovation and Evaluation Grant.

The CMHDARN Innovation and Evaluation grant aims to:

- Enhance innovation and evaluation capacity in the community based / non-government mental health (MH) and alcohol and other drug (AOD) sectors
- Foster collaboration and partnerships
- Encourage innovation and evaluation that focuses on both mental health (MH) AND alcohol and other drugs (AOD)

The grant is intended to support non-government / community managed MH and AOD organisations to undertake a project that focuses on innovation and evaluation in both MH and AOD fields.

GRANT DETAILS

The Innovation and Evaluation Grant will be funded from 1st June 2020 and the project must be completed by 30th June 2021.

One grant is available for a total of \$14,000 (excluding GST).

Applicants must have the organisational support and capacity to conduct this project.

Applicants must be able to demonstrate that the funds will be used to explore and innovate in both MH and AOD, e.g. the project funded will need to cover both components and not singular in focus on either MH or AOD.

The successful applicant will be expected to meet the following milestones and three funding instalments will be issued at the completion of each:

1. Completed project proposal submitted (application form for successful grant recipient)
2. Mid-grant report (due early December 2020)
3. Final report (due June 2021)

The successful grant recipient will be expected to lodge a request with the CMHDARN Research Ethics Consultation Committee (RECC). For further information on the RECC, please click [here](#).

The successful grant recipient will also be offered an academic mentor as well as support of the CMHDARN coordinator throughout the project.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications close **COB 24th April 2020**

Applications must be submitted using the [APPLICATION FORM](#) and emailed to info@cmhdaresearchnetwork.com.au

All criteria in the application form must be addressed.

Successful grant recipients will be notified by the **15th of May, 2020**.

Please note: organisations may submit multiple applications; however, they can only receive one grant.

SELECTION PROCESS

Each application will be assessed by a panel against the eligibility and selection criteria outlined below. The panel will include representation from MHCC and NADA as well as the Mental Health Commission of NSW and member organisations from each sector, including at least one consumer/client led organisation.

Eligibility criteria

- 1) The applicant must be a member of the Mental Health Coordinating Council or the Network for Alcohol and Other Drugs Agency.
- 2) The project must enhance innovation and evaluation capacity in the community based / non-government mental health (MH) and alcohol and other drug (AOD) sectors
- 3) Applicants must have the organisational support and capacity to conduct this project.
- 4) Applicants must provide confirmation that they will adhere to funding provisions should their application be successful, namely that:
 - Funding will be quarantined for the research project only
 - The project will be completed by **30th June 2021**
 - Accountability reports, as stipulated in the schedule of the Funding Agreement, will be submitted
 - Meetings will be held with CMHDARN Coordinator bi-monthly
 - The project will be conducted in NSW

Selection Criteria

- 1) **Project design:** The strength of the research proposal in articulating:
 - clear purpose, aims and objectives
 - methodology required to undertake the project
 - mechanisms for consumer involvementⁱ
 - project risks and ethical considerationsⁱⁱ and how they will be addressed
 - a clear evaluation framework/plan

- 2) **Relevance / Impact:** The extent to which the project is important and how it will contribute to understanding in the mental health and alcohol and other drugs sectors
- 3) **MH/AOD:** The focus of the project will incorporate mental health AND alcohol and other drugs elements and identify how these two areas are integrated.
- 4) **Collaboration:** The extent to which the project involves collaboration with other organisations and/or academic partners.
 - Lived experienced researchers working across the MH / AOD fields are encouraged to apply.

ⁱ For guidance and tips, refer to the CMHDARN (2015) *Ask the experts: A CMHDARN best practice guide to enabling consumer and carer leadership in research and evaluation*. Available [here](#)

ⁱⁱ For guidance and tips, refer to the CMHDARN (2016) *Research Ethics: A CMHDARN Best Practice Guide*. Available [here](#)