

Innovation and Evidence Grants Program Integrating Primary Health and Social Services

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

Introduction

Perth South Primary Health Network (PHN) and Perth North PHN invite organisations and consortiums to apply for Innovation and Evidence grants.

The aim of the grant is to promote and facilitate innovation in the development and testing of interlinked primary and social care models and systems to deliver locally relevant outcomes to support the population in selected areas of need in the Perth South and Perth North PHN regions. The funding will be allocated to selected organisations or collaborations such as those currently providing social care services to marginalised and disadvantaged groups that may have difficulty accessing primary care.

Projects/models are expected to deliver improved, tangible and locally relevant outcomes that can be tested. This will enable the Perth South and Perth North PHNs, in conjunction with the successful applicants, to test the efficacy of the project or model against health outcomes and assess its scalability.

Grants will be available to selected organisations to:

- develop and test improved models and/or systems of care and
- encourage collaboration of service providers to establish place-based systems of care in which they work together to improve health and social care for the populations they serve.
- leverage the resources and capability of collaborating organisations to strengthen whole of person care with integrated primary and social care.

Applicants are required to demonstrate their ability to work collaboratively with other local organisations and the PHN, with the goal of achieving a collective impact. Organisations will be expected to demonstrate and contribute knowledge, skills, systems and / or resources to the development of new models.

The results and learnings of the funded projects are expected to be made available to the broader health and social services sector and government.

The PHNs will provide necessary support to funded organisations to share project knowledge and learnings.

Background to the PHNs

The Australian Government funded 31 PHNs in July 2015 with the objectives of:

- increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of health services for patients, particularly those at risk of poor health outcomes; and
- improving coordination of care to ensure patients receive the right care in the right place at the right time.

WA Primary Health Alliance

There are three PHNs in WA and they are all operated by the WA Primary Health Alliance (WAPHA).

WAPHA's Vision is improved health equity in Western Australia.

WAPHA's mission is to build a robust and responsive patient centred primary health care system through innovative and meaningful partnerships at the local and state-wide level.

As a commissioner, the PHNs expect Innovation and Evidence grant recipients to share, and demonstrate alignment with, WAPHA's values of:

Respect, Integrity, Courage, Humility and Wisdom.

Key Strategic Priorities

Commonwealth Priorities	National Headline Key Performance Indicators	WA PHN Priority Areas
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Population Health (Chronic Conditions) Aboriginal Health Mental Health EHealth Health Workforce planning Aged care 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potentially preventable hospitalisations Childhood immunisation Cancer screening rates (cervical, breast and bowel) Mental health treatment rates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keeping people well in the community; People with multiple morbidities especially chronic co-occurring physical conditions, mental health conditions and drug and alcohol treatment needs; Services designed to meet the health needs of vulnerable and disadvantaged people, including those of Aboriginal heritage; System navigation and integration to help people get the right services at the right time and in the right place; Capable workforce tailored to these priorities.

In order for primary health care to be effective, sectors within and outside the health system need to be engaged to work together to support health care and promote it to deliver effective whole of patient care. Current silos within the health system and between relevant social support systems make it harder for those most in need of health care to identify and access services critical to the effective management of their conditions. One of the warning signs of the system failure is the fact that people attend hospitals for chronic conditions, that could be managed out of hospital.

Research carried out by the Grattan Institute has highlighted that there is a close link between place and health. The 'Perils of Place' report identified that there are some Australian locations, the ill health hotspots, where potentially preventable hospitalisation rates are persistently above the state average. Health services are also organised geographically.

"The conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age ('social determinants of health') are intimately linked to place"¹

What will be considered for funding?

- Projects supporting Commonwealth Priorities, National Headline Indicators and PHN identified priority areas delivered by organisations and collaborations that align with WAPHA Vision, Mission and Values.
- Innovative projects resulting in systemic changes across or within the primary health care and social services systems (e.g. housing, education, employment) and organisations in locations where there has been an enduring poor health status for the local population.
- Projects that can be completed within a 12-month period and are able to demonstrate their sustainability beyond the funding period.
- Projects that demonstrate both individual and system outcomes².
- Projects that generate evidence as to the conditions for success and to enhance the knowledge of the PHN and wider stakeholder and community groups. All projects must be able to contribute to the wider knowledge base to inform the evidence of improving social and primary care integration.
- Projects that demonstrate their ability to work collaboratively with other local organisations and the PHN, and contribute knowledge, skills, systems or resources toward the development of new models.
- Projects using a collaborative or co-design approach based on the principles of collective impact with stakeholders or community or the person.

¹ <http://grattan.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/874-Perils-of-Place.pdf>

² The PHNs will work with successful applicants to further develop project and evaluation plans.

- Projects that employ citizen centric/consumer centric models, integrated models of care, place based care and stepped care (mental health).
- Projects that target high risk groups (such as Aboriginal people, vulnerable populations and people with chronic, complex and co-occurring conditions).
- Projects that maximise the use of existing resources and capability in the community.

What will not be funded

- Proposals that do not meet the selection criteria.
- Projects outside the Perth South PHN or Perth North PHN regions.
- Projects that are core activities or services of the applicant organisation.
- Projects or initiatives that duplicate those that are already being offered within the same community.
- Projects or initiatives that are the primary responsibility of other funding agencies or Government departments.
- Projects that require ongoing funding to be sustainable.

Priority Geographic Areas

Proposed innovations must be implemented in the Perth North or Perth South PHN region and may be applied to the whole of region or a specific geographical location within the region.

Priority will be given to those projects conducted in the following places:

Perth North PHN	Perth South PHN
Swan	Armadale/ Gosnells
Joondalup/ Wanneroo	Kwinana/ Rockingham
Stirling	Fremantle/ Cockburn
Bayswater / Bassendean	Murray/ Peel/ Waroona
Perth	Belmont
Mundaring/Kalamunda	

Funding and Duration

It is intended that the grant program remains open, from September 2016 until January 2018 or until all funding is allocated. Applications will be assessed on a quarterly basis. Please refer to the WAPHA website for further information on timeline and key dates (www.wapha.org.au/expressions-of-interest-and-tenders). A limited number of projects will be awarded in each round.

Grant funding up to \$150,000 (excluding GST) is available.

Grants for one off projects to be completed within 12 months. There is no commitment for ongoing funding from the WA PHNs.

Expected Outcomes

Proposals should describe proposed innovation including how it aligns to PHN objectives and/ or priorities.

Applicants must also propose expected outcomes. These may be refined in partnership with the PHN during evaluation planning process.

Data collection, documentation and tracking are vital to Perth South and Perth North PHNs' understanding of the success of the service. Program outcomes could include:

- Improved patient and carer experience as measured against specific patient reported outcome measures (PROMS) and patient reported experiences (PREMs);
- Improved clinician reported experiences (CREMs); or
- Increase efficiency and productivity.
- Accessible and sustainable care pathways.

Timeline

First Round Timeline	
Applications open:	Thursday 8 th September 2016
Applications close:	5pm Thursday 20 th October 2016
Meetings with shortlisted applicants:	Week beginning 31 st October 2016
Notify successful and unsuccessful bidders:	Week beginning 5 th December 2016
Program commencement:	January 2017
Second Round Timeline	
Planned applications open:	January / February 2017
Third Round Timeline	
Planned applications open:	April / May 2017

Evaluation of Request for Proposal

Interested organisations are invited to submit a brief application using the Innovation & Evidence Grant Application Form.

Each application will be assessed and shortlisted by a panel comprising of representatives from the PHNs including the PHNs Clinical Commissioning and Consumer Engagement Committees.

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to meet with the selection panel to discuss their innovation further.

Successful applicants will be invited to work with WAPHA staff to develop an evaluation plan to inform the project contract.

Evaluation Guidelines & Methodology

After the deadline for the receipt of the RFP Application, a panel will evaluate the individual responses based on evidence contained within the document. The RFP will anticipate that providers can demonstrate value for money and financial efficiency in delivering the service.

Projects will be selected according to the following criteria:

- Alignment with PHN priorities and ability to demonstrate benefits across health and social care systems;
- Project governance;
- Capacity/capability of provider/s to deliver the project within the agreed timeframe;

- Innovation;
- Impact;
- Rationale/evidence base.

Additional Information

- Responses should be contained within the RFP template and should address all of the questions posed within the attached template.
- Shortlisted applicants will be invited to discuss their proposal with the selection panel.
- Successful applicants will be supported by WAPHA in the development of an evaluation plan.

Contact Details

If you have any questions regarding the RFP, please email Jody Niven, Regional Coordinator, Perth South PHN jody.niven@wapha.org.au.

Submission Details

Please note that all fields must be completed (including inserting N/A if not relevant to your proposal). All Applications must be submitted in full.

Please do not provide unrequested attachments.

Request for Proposal Application Forms must be submitted by email to submissions@wapha.org.au

Late applications will be moved for consideration to the next round.