

Developing Resilient Communities Project Small Grants

*Part of the LCSA Trauma-Informed Community Development
Training Program (TICDTP)*

Expression of Interest Guidelines

Opening date:	Tuesday, 16 November 2021
Closing date and time:	4.00pm on Monday 20 December 2021
Successful Applicants notification	Monday, 31 January 2022
Enquiries:	Email: bronwyn@lcsansw.org.au

*Please note this EOI specification does mention types of disaster
and trauma and may be a trigger for some people*

Trauma-Informed Community Development Training Program

Developing Resilient Communities Project Small Grants

Background:

The Local Community Services Association of NSW (LCSA) has been doing various pieces of work on bushfire disaster responses over the last 12 months. This includes two reports:

- Resilience through Disasters LCSA Member Survey Report October 2020 in conjunction with WESTIR and
- Disaster Management Research Project in conjunction with ACU December 2020

An opportunity arose through NSW the Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) through the Social Sector Transformation Fund (SSTF) to progress this work into a practical tool to assist with broader trauma informed community development training.

LCSA will develop and roll out the TICDP over the next 12 months. This will involve two key parts:

1. Developing Resilient Communities Project Small Grant - Community led recovery

LCSA will allocate \$5,000 grants to 10 LCSA financial member organisations to assist in their development of community-led resilience projects and enhance their community leadership capacity through community conversations.

2. Online training course

An online training course to assist Neighbourhood Centres work in a trauma-informed way with their communities, especially following the impact from natural disasters and the COVID19 Pandemic.

'Community trauma' is not only due to natural disasters and can be caused by a range of events. This training course aims to address this broad scope and assist Neighbourhood Centres with a framework and strategies to enhance positive pathways forward.

Developing Resilient Communities Project Small Grants

The Developing Resilient Communities Project Small Grants is a small grant to assist organisations strengthen their communities through initiatives that prepare and support a local community from a disaster or traumatic event.

- The grant aims to assist and support financial members of LCSA to work with priority populations, as they prepare and /or respond, rebuild and recover by developing or progressing resilience projects
- Trauma could be COVID 19, bushfires, floods, droughts, intergenerational trauma, refugees and asylum seekers, community trauma e.g., murder, rape, riots/violent protests, suicide circle, poverty, homelessness or a combination of different traumas
- The application is based on an EOI process. (The EOI Application form is attached)
- The grant can be spent over a one-year period but must be spent by the end of January 2023.
- Reporting on the project will be required by April 2023
- It is a one-off grant. Projects being developed need to be one-off projects or self-sufficient by the end of the grant period.
- The grant will interest organisations that are starting or facilitating a disaster resilience project or wanting to expand on an existing resilience project in a trauma informed way.
- The grant relates to community-led resilience projects and encourages organisations to take a collaborative place-based approach to the project. Examples of potential partners that an

organisation may include are the local council, other local community service providers, interagency groups including DCJ or Resilience NSW as an example, SES, RFS or other emergency services, other community organisations such as Lions, Rotary or local progress associations, schools or the Chamber of Commerce.

Eligibility and Requirements:

- Be a financial member of LCSA.
- Recognise that this is one-off funding and ensure that the project design can be sustainable, or self-funded longer term or is a one-off project.
- Incorporate at least one community conversation as part of the project.
- Outline how the project will enhance your organisation's capability and capacity to develop community-led solutions
- Identify two community wellbeing outcomes
- Identify and report on two measures
- Attendance at a workshop on the small grant project in March 2022 and involvement in a communities of practice network to support successful applicants.

Community Wellbeing Outcomes and Measures

➤ **Community Wellbeing Outcomes**

LCSA is using the development work being done by LCSA and DCJ through the TEI Community Strengthening Data Project to identify outcomes for the small grants project and provide consistency across work areas.

LCSA and DCJ have been working together on a TEI Community Strengthening Data project in response to sector feedback about the need to more consistently measure community wellbeing as a longer-term outcome.

Outcomes for the small grants will be based on the four areas highlighted in the TEI Community Wellbeing Survey:

- Sense of belonging
- Community Participation
- Trust in the community
- Access to services and resources

➤ **Measures**

Organisations will be asked to identify one measure for each community wellbeing outcome identified.

A measure could be the number of people attending a community conversation and the difference it made or it could be the number of online webinars that are held.

These measures will be reported on at the completion of the project to LCSA.

➤ **Assistance with Community Wellbeing Outcomes and Measures**

Please note LCSA will assist successful applicants with designing surveys or other tools to assist in assessing the measures.

Monitoring and reporting

Successful recipients will be asked to provide a report about their initiative including:

- What activities your organisation did, number of people or other community organisations that were involved?
- The two community wellbeing outcomes identified and how these were achieved based on the two measures your organisation identified (one per outcome)
- How the initiative will or has improved outcomes for your community?
- How you will take what you have developed and incorporate in the longer term?
- How the funds were spent?

The projects developed through this grant will be included in a 'Disaster Resilience' webpage on the LCSA website and will be incorporated into the trauma-informed community development training program longer term.

Examples of possible community-led activities

Please see Appendix A.

Queries:

Project Manager: Bronwyn Hutchings
Contact: bronwyn@lcsansw.org.au
Phone: 0408 198 819

Examples of possible community-led activities that may be funded or arise out of community conversations

Please note this is a list of possible activities that may arise out of community conversations rather than a list of what projects need to be undertaken.

<p>Preparedness projects</p>	<p>Ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mentoring new residents and linking them with families that have survived local disasters. • Work with SES or RFS to prepare properties. • Set up volunteers and a 'library' of tools that the community can use to prepare their houses prior to bushfire, flood, mouse season by vegetation clearing, yard set up and plans • Link web pages • Webinars on disaster preparedness • Promoting or establishing a Neighbourhood Safer Places with relevant authorities or Static Water Supply locations.
<p>Creative activities to strengthen community cohesion</p>	<p>Ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oral history project • Arts and crafts such as poetry, writing and storytelling, community murals, painting or pottery classes • Drama or dance classes • Basic woodworking • Community garden
<p>Group activities</p>	<p>Ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coffee mornings or lunches • Outings – bushwalking, sport event, train trip to another region • Preparing local community sites for bushfire/ flood etc seasons • Local festival /information day in conjunction with the local Council or emergency service to raise awareness of mental health, preparedness, community facilities and other resilience activities.
<p>Support activities</p>	<p>Ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meal preparedness • Clothes or toy bank • Phone check-ins to vulnerable community members • Online support communities or chat rooms • Setting up support circles • Volunteers to assist in developing local and family survival plans

Speakers	<p>Ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Emergency service speakers on identified topics• Local Council• Chamber of Commerce• Refugee advocates
Interagency projects	<p>Examples of potential partners that an organisation may include are the local council, other local community service providers, interagency groups including DCJ, NSW Health or Resilience NSW as an example, SES, RFS, Police or other emergency services, other community organisations such as Lions, Rotary or local progress associations, schools or the Chamber of Commerce.</p>