



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples **Community Led Wellness, Healing and Suicide Prevention Programs**

Frequently Asked Questions



If reading about suicide in the contents of this document raises strong feelings or emotions for you and you would like to talk to someone, here are some places you can contact for support:

13 YARN (13 92 76)

Lifeline (13 11 14)

Beyond Blue (1300 22 4636)



About this document

This document provides answers to frequently asked questions from community organisations about the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Led Wellness, Healing and Suicide Prevention Program. It aims to support interested organisations in understanding program eligibility, evaluation requirements and participation across our region. The document will be updated frequently as new questions arise and further program details are confirmed.

1. Is there a particular age group for participants?

No, selected organisations can determine the age group that can participate.

2. Does the program require a specific measurement tool or evaluation method, e.g. Kessler Psychological Distress Scale - 5 (K-5) to be used?

No, but the program funding will require you to conduct an evaluation of the outcomes achieved. Organisations can select the most appropriate evaluation method(s) for their program. If not specified, this will be discussed during contract negotiations.

3. Can we take participants from or use services outside of the Blue Mountains, Hawkesbury, Lithgow and Penrith Local Government Areas (LGAs)?

Any venue which is not within the 4 LGA's would be a part of the contract negotiations in relation to the program deliverables.

4. Can we purchase equipment?

It will depend on the equipment, the monetary value, and how the equipment will be used as part of the program. Items should be clearly listed in the budget. If the applicant is successful, any essential equipment will be discussed as a part of the contract negotiations.

5. Can we provide suicide prevention training for community members who will deliver the program?

Yes, program funding can be used to train local community members.

6. Can family members who are local experts provide services and how should we declare this?

Yes, family members may be able to deliver cultural services (e.g. weaving, tool making, artwork) if they are the most appropriate choice and if there is no conflict of interest at any stage. We recommend you declare in your application that family members will deliver part or all of the activity. If the applicant is successful, this will be further discussed at the contract negotiation stage.

7. What is the maximum administration cost allowed in the budget?

Administration costs should not exceed 10% of the total budget amount.

8. How many people should my program support?

There is no set number. The scale of your program should align with your budget and the impact it aims to achieve. We assess value for money based on various factors, including the number of people supported and the overall cost. A smaller program with lower costs may still demonstrate strong value, just as a larger program with a higher budget may also be appropriate. Each application is assessed individually.



9. How does permission for photos work, and who will be photographed?

We respect your privacy, and participation in photos is entirely up to you and your program participants. If we wish to take photos during key events, such as Pitch Coach Days or Presentations, we will seek permission beforehand. We have a Consent Form in place and are mindful of the considerations around photographing individuals in the community.

10. Do I need to include learning outcomes for my organisation or program participants in my program evaluation, and how detailed should they be?

Yes, learning outcomes should be included, and should be appropriate for your program evaluation. The detail will depend on your project and its goals. If not specified, this will be discussed during contract negotiations.

11. Where will the Pitch Coaching be held?

Pitch Coaching will be held at the Wentworth Healthcare premises in Kingswood and facilitated by an external organisation. Sessions will include indoor learning and outdoor breakout activities. Each successful organisation can send up to two representatives, and refreshments will be provided. Further details will be shared with successful applicants.

12. Is there a limit to the number of letters of support from stakeholders who will be involved in or benefit from the program that we can submit?

There is no strict limit, but we encourage keeping submissions manageable. If you have multiple stakeholders wishing to show their support, you may choose to draft a single letter with multiple signatories instead of submitting separate letters.

13. Can we add attachments as part of the application process?

Stakeholder letters of support need to be attached and you may also attach a diagram of your organisational structure (however this is optional) but additional documents, such as a Risk Matrix with mitigation strategies, are not usually required at this stage. You can reference these in your application if relevant, and they may be discussed further during contract negotiations for successful applicants.

14. What will the presentations look like?

Successful applicants will work with an external organisation at the Pitch Coaching event, with up to two representatives per organisation. If weather permits, presentations will take place outdoors on Country in a yarning circle with the Evaluation Panel. The Pitch Coaching organisation generally does not support electronic presentations, but if slides are required, they prefer minimal content, potentially in the form of printed information provided to the Evaluation Panel.