

# POST-COVID COLLABORATION: COLLABORATIVE FUNDING ROUND

## INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

An initiative of the Sidney Myer Fund, Gandel Philanthropy, Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation, The Ian Potter Foundation and Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation

## BACKGROUND

This grant round is offered by a collaboration of philanthropic funders including the Sidney Myer Fund, Gandel Philanthropy, Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation, The Ian Potter Foundation and Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation.

In 2020 in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic the collaborating foundations recognised that the pandemic had had serious consequences for many for-purpose sector organisations which had been forced to innovate and adapt rapidly to changing circumstances.

It is also apparent that the funding and operating environments for the arts and social sectors are undergoing longer-term change, and that while innovation was precipitated by the pandemic, further innovation and adaptation will be necessary for organisations to be resilient and better able to achieve their respective missions.

Findings and recommendations from a collaborative research project focused on collaboration and innovation, and what the arts and social sectors require to enable them to innovate and to collaborate.

This collaborative funding round will support innovation and collaboration in the arts and social sectors.

A total funding pool of \$1.5 million is offered.

## INITIATIVE PARAMETERS

Initiatives are sought in the Social and/or Arts sectors that focus on **quality employment outcomes for young people and/or older women experiencing disadvantage**. Initiatives must:

- be both collaborative and innovative.
- include activities in New South Wales and/or Victoria and may have national scope or application.
- two to three years' duration but up to five years should the project warrant it.

Priority will be given to projects that include a strong evaluation and sustainability strategy. Operational funding will be encouraged and will be considered eligible expenditure for part or all of the grant.

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### APPLICATION PROCESS

#### EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

- Outlining initiative and collaborative partners, both/all of which must agree to EOI submission
- Applicants are asked to provide the framework of their collaborative initiatives, including anticipated outcomes from the collaboration

#### COLLABORATION DEVELOPMENT PHASE

- Up to five proposals will be shortlisted for a \$15,000 grant each to develop the collaboration, for implementation over three months, including development of a full proposal

#### FULL PROPOSAL

- Shortlisted applicants will describe their collaboration model, detail the innovation and how it will lead to the anticipated outcomes and impact. A high-level budget and proposed sustainability beyond the funding period will also be required.
- Two to three proposals may be selected for funding of up to \$500,000 each (for initiatives of two-to-three years) or up to \$750,000 each (for initiatives of up to five years).

### APPLICATION TIMELINE

#### Expressions of Interest Open

Monday 11 October 2021, 2pm (AEDT)

#### Expressions of Interest Close

Sunday 31 October, 5pm (AEDT)

#### Collaboration Proposal Development Period

December 2021 – end January 2022

#### Due date for Full Proposals

Sunday 6 February, 5pm (AEDT)

#### Grants Announcement

End April 2022

### ELIGIBILITY

Lead applicants **MUST** be registered with the Australian Non-Profits and Charities Commission, have DGR1 and be eligible for charity tax concessions.

 [EOI FORM](#)

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## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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### WHAT IS THE INTENDED FOCUS OF THE COLLABORATIVE INITIATIVE?

The collaborative funding round will support innovation in the Social and/or Arts sectors, focused on delivering quality employment outcomes for young people and/or older women experiencing disadvantage.

### WHAT DO WE MEAN BY INNOVATION?

Innovation can be categorised into four types:

- Incremental Innovation – an existing technology/process/approach which is applied in an existing market/sector/collaboration
- Disruptive Innovation – a new technology/process/approach which is applied in an existing market/sector/collaboration
- Architectural Innovation – an existing technology/process/approach which is applied in a new market/sector/collaboration
- Radical Innovation – a new technology/process/approach which is applied in a new market/sector/collaboration.

Social innovation has been defined as a novel proposal or solution to a social problem that is more effective, efficient, sustainable, or just [fair] than present solutions.

Examples of social innovation include:

- Testing a new concept, idea or way of working (collaboratively) that will lead to a service improvement or an advance in a major community issue
- Applying a new approach to improving service effectiveness and/or service quality
- Increasing impact and/or service effectiveness through sharing space or backoffice support, or other forms of partnership, merger or collaboration
- Applying an existing approach proven to be successful and sustainable in one sector to one or more associated sectors to improve service effectiveness and/or service quality
- Scaling up or demonstrating sustainability of a new service model, collaborative work practice or social enterprise.

In 2020, driven by the exceptional circumstances of the pandemic, many social services and arts organisations collaborated in ways they had not before.

Examples include:

- A collaboration between the major national food rescue organisations to distribute meals in all states and territories except Western Australia

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- A state-wide youth affairs organisation collaborated with mental health services, a university, a health promotion organisation and a digital safety organisation to deliver information and innovation sharing events.

### WHAT DO WE MEAN BY COLLABORATION?

Collaboration is a partnership between two or more organisations working together to achieve a common goal that progresses their respective and collective missions.

Collaboration enables participants to achieve more together, than would be possible individually.

This funding round targets initiatives that are undertaken by two or more organisations working together. It requires a minimum of two confirmed partners at Expression of Interest stage, and others may be added during the development phase. Collaborations which include a government agency must be led by an eligible not-for-profit (NFP)/charitable organisation and include at least one other NFP.

This funding round does not consider collaboration to be one organisation engaging a consultant or consulting organisation to develop a collaboration plan or review their operations.

An ongoing funding arrangement with a government department, is also not considered a collaboration.

### WHAT DO WE MEAN BY SUSTAINABILITY?

Sustainability can mean different things, in different contexts. In this funding round we would expect a sustainability strategy to include consideration of how the initiative might have longevity beyond the funding period. This could be via replicability, scalability, requirements/options to seek/secure government funding, impact investment, develop fee for service models, or in the case of a social enterprise, contract readiness. It could also be policy change, the application of learnings to sector practice or knowledge sharing.

### WHAT IS THE ANTICIPATED PROJECT DURATION?

Proposals are invited for initiatives of duration of at least two years and up to five years. For initiatives up to three years' duration the maximum grant would be \$500,000 while for initiatives of four to five years' duration the maximum grant would be \$750,000.

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### HOW DO THE THREE APPLICATION PHASES WORK?

In the Expression of Interest (Eoi) phase applicants are asked to provide high-level information describing their collaborative initiative, including its anticipated impacts and how they advance each collaborating partner's mission.

Shortlisted candidates will be awarded a development grant of \$15,000 to support the development of the collaboration (including adding partners not included in the Eoi) and the development of a detailed proposal.

The detailed proposal will be the opportunity to describe the proposed collaborative initiative, including details of anticipated outcomes and impacts. At this stage also applicants will be requested to outline their sustainability strategy.

### OTHER QUESTIONS?

Please email [grants@lmcf.org.au](mailto:grants@lmcf.org.au) with your query and a representative of one of the collaborating foundations will get back to you.

### WILL THE GRANT COVER OPERATIONAL FUNDING OR PROJECT FUNDING?

The collaborative funders understand that support for organisations, including back-of-house operations, better enables organisations to achieve the objectives of their funded initiative and their organisational goals. Applicants to this funding round are encouraged to include operational support in the budgets for their collaborative initiative. No ceiling will be placed on this.

### WHAT IS MEANT BY NATIONAL SCOPE?

While proposed initiatives must have activities that take place in New South Wales and/or Victoria, activities need not be limited to those states and applicant organisations need not be based in those states.

### WHICH COLLABORATION PARTNER WILL THE GRANT BE PAID TO?

Grants for successful applications will preferably be paid to the Collaboration Lead Organisation, however funds may also be allocated to one or more of the collaborating organisations subject to meeting all eligibility criteria and details provided in the Budget at Full Proposal stage.

 [EOI FORM](#)

