

Heart Disease and Stroke – Support for Recovery
Grant Opportunity GO2797

FEEDBACK FOR APPLICANTS

OVERVIEW

The Australian Government continues its commitment to ensure there is a reduction in the incidence of preventable mortality and morbidity, including through the national public health initiatives, promotion of healthy lifestyles and approaches covering disease prevention, health screening and palliative care.

The Heart Disease and Stroke – Support for Recovery grant opportunity falls under the Public Health and Chronic Disease Program. Funding is provided through this program to support implementation of a range of activities under individual national strategic action plans for a range of chronic conditions, including the National Strategic Action Plan for Heart Disease and Stroke (the Action Plan).

The Action Plan aligns with the objectives and intended outcomes of the Public Health and Chronic Disease Program as it will provide a national vision for a coordinated effort to address prevention, early detection, effective care and management of heart disease and stroke, underpinned by the effective use of research, evidence and data.

The purpose of the grant opportunity is to provide support for Australians with heart disease or stroke to make the best recovery possible, to be well and participate in the community.

ASSESSMENT OF APPLICATIONS

Applications were assessed on their merits and comparatively against other applications based on:

- how well they met the assessment criteria;
- how they compared to other applications;
- whether they demonstrated value with relevant money; and
- how they proposed to meet program objectives and outcomes.

All applications received through this grant opportunity met eligibility requirements as identified under the grant opportunity guidelines.

Individual assessment of each application was undertaken and assessors allocated scores using the 5 point numerical scale (excellent, good, average, poor and does not meet criterion at all).

All criterion were considered to be of equal importance and no weighting was used.

ASSESSMENT FEEDBACK

Strong applications provided clear and concise evidence against the selection criteria demonstrating the organisation's ability to achieve project objectives to the highest standard.

Criterion 1: Describe how your project aligns with Grant Opportunity Objectives and Outcomes in Section 2.1

Strong responses:

- Clearly identified which population groups at risk were to be targeted through project activities. Suggested target groups included Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, culturally and linguistically diverse communities, socioeconomically disadvantaged Australians, persons with a mental illness, persons living in rural, regional or remote areas, childhood stroke survivors and their families; and stroke survivors affected by aphasia, and their families.

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- Provided evidence of understanding current resource availability and how gaps would be addressed, specifically the development of new evidence-based materials through a range of formats.
- Specific and detailed information provided on mechanisms for dissemination of health information and utilising digital health approaches.
- Specific and detailed information provided on mechanisms for implementation of programs to assist in cardiac and/or stroke rehabilitation, transition of care, post-discharge support, and/or peer and emotional support.

Criterion 2: Describe your organisation's capacity and capability to deliver the project

Strong responses:

- Outlined the organisation's governance structure, and financial and administrative systems, which included sub-committees and advisory groups.
- Provided evidence of exceptional staff experience and how expertise would be utilised.
- Demonstrated extensive knowledge in developing and disseminating resources at a national level.
- Provided extensive lists of networks which would be utilised in development and dissemination of resources, specifically established networks within relevant population at risk community groups.

Criterion 3: Describe your organisation's risk management approach in relation to your grant activity

Strong responses:

- Provided evidence of well-structured risk management policies, frameworks and committees within the organisation.
- Presented risk management plans demonstrating excellent understanding of well-considered risks specific to the project. Practical mitigation strategies included to address risk and minimise potential impacts.

Criterion 4: Demonstrate efficient and effective use of grant funds

Strong responses:

- Value for money clearly demonstrated through appropriate costings and inclusion of relevant project costs.
- Budget items appropriately balanced particularly in relation to split between staffing/administrative and tangible project outcomes.

In relation to this criteria all applicants should consider:

- Budgets should be checked to ensure all expense items add up to the total grant funds requested.
- Budgets should be consistent with the application, detailing the cost of all proposed activities and equipment in the Activity Work plan.
- The budget should have regard to eligible expenditure items and items that the grant cannot be used for, as detailed in the Guidelines. Templates should be altered as appropriate.