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**Supporting men’s mental health - small grants scheme, round 2**

**Information, guidance, and frequently asked questions**

If you have a good idea and not sure your group qualifies or would like to discuss your ideas with someone, please give Helen Wyatt a call on 01709 302042 or email **helen.wyatt6@nhs.net**

**The deadline for applications is: Friday 27th September, 12 noon**

**Aim of the programme**

NHS Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group and Rotherham Council are working in partnership to fund local voluntary and community sector initiatives aimed at men. We want to support activities for men planned by local men themselves, with a focus on improving men’s mental health and reducing social isolation.

Suicide prevention is a priority within Rotherham, and organisations including local NHS services, Rotherham Council, South Yorkshire Police, voluntary and community organisations are working together through a local group to prevent deaths by suicide. We now want to work closely with community groups to fund activity at a very local level. We know from local data that men are at a higher risk of suicide; three quarters of the deaths by suicide are male.

**Due to the amazing response and success of the grants made earlier this year, we have made an additional small amount of funding available to extend this scheme. This will be run as a one off application process during September 2019.**

The funding will be prioritised to men over age 18, and activity must take place in Rotherham.

**These are the type of activities we will fund**

* Targeted activity in line with the Rotherham Suicide Prevention Action Plan, based on research that is known to be effective
* Developing social activities for men planned and organised by local men themselves
* Developing opportunities to bring men together to raise the importance of men’s mental health
* Developing activities which link with Rotherham’s Five Ways to Wellbeing campaign: [www.rotherham.gov.uk/health](http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/health)
* Providing outreach work with targeted communities to reduce social isolation for men with higher risk of suicide in areas of need (areas with fewer activities for socially isolated men.)
* Supporting engagement and empowerment of local men
* Encouraging/promoting access to local services that reduce the risk of suicide
* Capacity building to help emerging groups develop
* Use of new technologies and innovative ways of connecting with socially isolated men.

**How to Apply**

The form is attached to the email and is on Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Groups website. <http://www.rotherhamccg.nhs.uk/small-grants-scheme.htm>

Please call or email as above for a paper version

**How much can we ask for, and when do we have to spend it?**Grants can range from £500 to £3,000.

You should be able to start the activity immediately.

**When are decisions made and when would we get our funding?**

* Initial notice of the process will be sent out In August 2019, and the scheme will be promoted throughout September 2019
* All applications should be received by **midday, Friday 27th September 2019**
* The grants panel will meet the week of 7th October 2019
* Arrangements will be made to release the funding as soon as possible after the panel has met and agreed on successful applications

**Who decides?**

The panel will be made up of the following

* Elected member from RMBC
* RMBC Public Health representative
* RCCG (NHS) Mental Health Commissioning Manager
* RCCG (NHS) Senior Contract and Service Improvement Officer
* Public representative
* RCCG Lay Member
* RCCG GP representative

The panel will follow a set process to assess and score the grant applications to ensure that the process is fair, open and transparent. Any conflicts of interest must be declared and will be managed by the panel.

**Will you only fund registered charities?**

No, the following organisations can all apply

* Community groups
* Not for profit organisations

We will need to see that the group is active and meeting, and that its aims fit with those of the NHS.

We will need to see your latest terms of reference or constitution, and your group will need to have a bank account in the name of the organisation, needing at least two signatures.

This should also show your management or committee members, there should be at least three people involved.

**What about larger organisations?**

**Our aim in providing this funding is that the money goes to very small organisations, based in and working in their local community – whether this is a geographical community or a community of shared interests. If any larger organisations apply for a grant, we would want to see evidence that they are working with and supporting a smaller, community based organisation; and we will prioritise this sort of application.**

**Continuation funding: If your group had a grant in round 1**

**We know that there were some great bids in the first round, and that some groups will not need any continuation funding, but other may do. We have to balance the need for ongoing funding with reaching new groups, and ensuring that all communities have the same opportunities. We will therefore make a smaller amount available (£500) for groups that have already received a grant in 2019.**

**To apply for this, you will need to complete the separate continuation funding sheet, and you must have submitted your separate evaluation report or evidence.**

**However, if the project is a completely new one, you would still be able to apply for the full amount as before.**

**Please confirm that your group organisation meets the following criteria to qualify for a grant:**

* Be a faith, voluntary or community group (not a statutory organisation)
* Have your own constitution and/or governing document
* Have your own bank account in the name of the organisation/group with at least 2 signatories
* Be willing to keep accounts of how you spend the grant and provide a report
* Have relevant insurance in place (if this applies)
* Be able to start the activity or service **immediately**

**And ideally…..**

* **Tell us how local men will be involved in planning and organising the project**
* **Tell us how the planned project will offer something new that hasn’t been available before**

**What the grants will not fund**

* Applications from individuals, businesses, or statutory bodies such as schools and parish councils
* Contributions to general running costs. *However we may consider exceptional circumstances:-*
	+ *if the group is a men’s group focusing on mental health issues,*
	+ *and you can show that you will use the funding to change the way you are working to ensure sustainability in the future*
* Activities that promote religious and/or political beliefs
* Currently commissioned services that may be making a loss or have an operational shortfall
* Organisations that make a profit
* Work and activity that has already taken place

**What are the monitoring requirements?**

All successful grant recipients will be asked to report back on their grant and stated outcomes. We will ask for the following:-

* A simple report by March 2020; this will check on the number of people your activity has reached, and what has changed
* We may ask for copies of receipts, invoices or other proof of expenditure – please keep accurate records during the project and for at least a year afterwards.
* We will send a link to the monitoring forms by email shortly once a grant has been awarded

You may also find other sources of funding useful – please see the small grants information on the VAR website for Building Stronger Communities:

 <https://www.varotherham.org.uk/news/rmbc-building-stronger-communities-small-grants/>

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