

## What Spark Grants are all about Video Transcript

Spark Grants have been created because we've heard from community that there isn't funding available to really develop ideas, responses, dreams, as determined by community evidence, community insights, and in a community led way. And that quite often what, organisations are able to support communities is with predetermined evidence and that is quite generally generic and without context to the people and lives of community members. Spark Grants really are about working closely with community, and we really want this to provide an opportunity for communities voices to be heard and to be able to inform the types of services and supports they can access that impact their wellbeing. Equally, we really want to create opportunities for community members to be driving their own wellbeing. So we're really looking to support, applications that show a really deep, ideally existing relationship between a representative body, whether that be a community group, or organisation, or a Not-for-profit, with a recognised community group. This leads to what do we mean by community? We ask you to invite what community means to you. We recognise that might be a shared connection experience or identity, whether that be geographic, culturally, your gender identity, anything that's a shared experience that binds you and that has encouraged you to consider your wellbeing having, similar parameters and something that you would want to explore together in creating a different outcome. From communities about what mental health and wellbeing and living a good life means to them and what types of things could make a difference in enhancing that and really looking at that from a preventative lens. So not how do we treat, support, or better intervene when people are experiencing poor mental health, but really how do we create the conditions, and the ways of connecting or being or supportive that really build, wellbeing and protective factors for community? It is about, spending time learning, listening, testing, and going where those learnings take you. So it enables you the ability to not have to deliver a set of outcomes to have all the ideas upfront. Really, we're looking for you not to. We're really looking for opportunities to explore and learn and test and change along the way. So you might find something out midway through that means that some of those assumptions you had at the start about what might make a difference say you thought it was going to be a video resource. Actually aren't correct and what community are asking for is really more contextual information sessions, for example. So Spark is really about having the opportunity to be able to say, oh, great. Okay. That's wonderful. Let's learn more about that. And so by the end of the year, that you really have a better understanding about what's needed, what's important, what it would take to bring it to life and really hopefully activated community members that are really engaged with this idea, see a role for themselves, and see their own agency in taking forward the conditions of their wellbeing and connection with each other and potentially with your organisation that's walking alongside them.