Our Town funding application guidelines

Background

- South Australian rural and regional towns situated within the Country SA Primary Health Network are encouraged to apply to for Our Town funding. A list of towns and postcodes can be downloaded from the Our Town web page on the Fay Fuller Foundation website.

- Our Town is new funding that will offer long-term, on-ground support to rural and regional towns on local mental health challenges identified by the towns themselves.

- The funding will support representatives in the selected towns to build their capability—or upskill, develop talents and improve processes—that will enable them to effectively deal with the mental health challenge they have identified.

- The funding is designed to improve the capability of towns (as described in the previous point) rather than replace services or programs.

- This funding is being offered by the Fay Fuller Foundation, a South Australian philanthropic organisation

How the funding will be delivered

Stage 1:

- The Fay Fuller Foundation will initially recruit six towns for a mentoring and coaching program that will look to build the skills and knowledge of participants to deal with their mental health challenge. Small grant support will be provided to these towns for resources and activities, examples could include hall and facility hire, transport provision and catering.

Stage 2:

- At the completion of this process, which will run for up to one year, two of the six towns will be chosen for up to 10 years of major funding support to focus on their town’s challenge. The six participating towns will have a role in choosing the towns that will be part of phase 2 of the program—the long-term funding support.

- Over the ten years, a learning network will also be created so all six towns can continue to connect and learn.

Eligibility

To be eligible for Our Town funding South Australian towns must:

- Be part of the Country SA Primary Health Network.
- Have a population of approximately 10,000 people or fewer
Individual towns and clusters of towns will be eligible for funding so long as the combined population does not exceed approximately 10,000.

Applications for Our Town will open on 26 June, 2019 and close at 5pm ACST on 5 August, 2019.

The application process

The online application for Our Town will be available via the Fay Fuller Foundation website (www.fayfullerfoundation.com.au).

To begin the process, eligible applicants will need to register and create a log-in for the Fay Fuller Foundation grant application portal. This will allow for any partially completed applications to be saved.

Once inside the portal, applicants will need to answer a series of questions related to:

- The change they would like to see
- Who from the community should be involved
- What is already in place to deal with their specific mental health challenge
- What skills are needed to work on the issue
- Any additional challenges that they see

There will also be two documents which will help applicants to explore and list their connections and relationships within their community, and their community's strengths and greatest assets.

To help applicants prepare, a full list of questions will also be available to download prior to completing the online form on the Fay Fuller Foundation website.

If you have issues or challenges with accessing the application portal or online form contact us at admin@fayfullerfoundation.com.au or 1800 951 062.

The shortlisting process:

Stage 1 – Shortlisting of six towns:

Applications will be assessed by an advisory committee comprising representatives with experience or qualifications in lived experience, health, regional and rural development, community development and philanthropy.

The advisory committee will be looking for the following:

1. South Australian towns that fit the key geographic and population criteria listed above
2. Initiatives that involve a group of residents who are ready for action within a community on a mental health challenge.
3. Approaches and initiatives that could result in evidence and learning for other areas of the state and show other towns what is possible.

The panel will also visit a selection of up to 10 towns to personally meet applicants before the final shortlisting takes place.

The shortlisted towns will be notified by phone and email in December 2019.

The decision of the Our Town assessment panel will be final and no further correspondence will be entered into.

Stage 2: Two towns chosen for long-term funding

The assessment panel and representatives from the six shortlisted towns will choose the towns that will receive up to 10 years of funding.

For further information

Questions on the Our Town funding and application process can be emailed to admin@fayfullerfoundation.com.au or call 1800 951 062.