



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Note: Most Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities prefer to define mental health as social and emotional wellbeing (SEWB). Respectfully, the program references both terms

1. When is the next Pay it Forward Deadline?

Thursday, 23 March 2023 – up to \$10,000/application

2. Who Can Apply?

ConnectGroups' peer Support Groups which are either primarily mental health/social and emotional wellbeing-focused or Groups' where the condition/circumstance results in mental distress for members.

3. Who can I talk to about my application | How can I get support with it?

Pay it Forward is a partnership between ConnectGroups and its eligible members. We strongly encourage you to contact the ConnectGroups project team below to:

- Discuss ideas
- Answer all your questions about the application process
- Be provided advice and feel supported with your project ideas
- Receive support to complete an application form if needed

ConnectGroups can provide intensive 1:1 support to guide you through the application process. Zoom sessions can also be organised. Contact:

Karen Silverthorne

karen@connectgroups.org.au

OR

Christine Hendricks

christine@connectgroups.org.au

Phone: 08 9364 6909

4. How many applications can I submit?

As priority is given to distributing the available funds as widely as possible, there is a limit of one submission per applicant.

5. Does the program support payments for the applicant?

Generally, no, applicants cannot financially benefit from the proposed project. There cannot be a financial benefit to staff or Board members of an applicant organisation either unless it can be demonstrated that they are the subject matter expert and to source an external resource would diminish project impact.

6. Can I submit a joint application with another group?

Yes, ConnectGroups encourages collaboration.



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) continued

7. What can the program pay for?

Examples but not limited to:

Capacity Building and Sustainability

Governance, incorporation, public liability insurance, hire of meeting/training venues, mental health upskilling, training opportunities, improved administration processes.

Information Technology

Purchase of IT or audio-visual equipment if the Group has permanent office space accessible by volunteers, webpage/social media development that supports service delivery

Marketing and Promotion

Branding development, flyers, brochures, pull-up banners, other promotional materials (excluding merchandise).

[Click to see stories of past Pay it Forward projects.](#)

8. How does the assessment work?

All applications are considered by an Assessment Panel made up of representatives from:

ConnectGroups Support Groups Association WA

Mental Health Commission of WA

Peer Support Group sector

All applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application within approximately six weeks of the closing date.

9. If I am successful, then what?

Congratulations! You will have approximately one year to complete your project, but longer-term projects are an option. Pay it Forward is a partnership between ConnectGroups and you, and we are here to support you to ensure your project is as successful as possible. We will stay connected with you throughout the process to assist where needed.

10. Will I have to do a grant acquittal?

No, **there is no direct exchange of funds** between ConnectGroups and grant recipients. ConnectGroups will be responsible for all payments to vendors and suppliers providing goods and services for grant recipients and will facilitate that process to allow grant holders to focus on the outcomes of their project. ConnectGroups will acquit the grant to the Mental Health Commission directly.