

## Bushfires Recovery and Pandemic Small Grant Guidelines

The 2019/20 Bushfires & Pandemic Small Grant Program has been established by Into Our Hands Community Foundation (the “Foundation”) in partnership with the Nelson Alexander Charitable Foundation and other generous donors. It aims to support local community organisations and their work in the bushfire recovery and current pandemic period.

Please note, the Foundation will allocate all donations made to the Foundation for the bushfire disaster to projects solely relating to bushfire recovery.

### Program purpose

The Small Grant program will provide up to \$3,000 for projects that directly respond to the impacts of the 2019/20 bushfires and the COVID-19 Pandemic. All applicant organisations must be open and inclusive, actively engaged in community activity, and be significantly comprised of people who live, work, volunteer or study in North East Victoria.

We will fund community projects that:

- Deliver, practical, creative and innovative solutions to emerging challenges in the community
- Are charitable activities that provide whole-of-community benefit
- Are feasible and ready to begin quickly
- Strengthen the diverse communities of North East Victoria

### Target activity for funding

Grants up to \$3,000 are available to support projects responding to the recent bushfires and/or the COVID-19 Pandemic, which assist people in North East Victoria. The Foundation will give priority to projects which will:

1. **Improve Community Connectedness and Social Wellbeing** - projects that facilitate community connectedness, support and develop volunteer community groups, and community preparedness to respond to the impacts of the bushfires and the COVID-19 Pandemic.
2. **Enhance the mental health of residents** – projects that deliver support and assistance to people who are suffering mentally from the social and economic impacts of the bushfires and Pandemic.
3. **Develop Organisational Resilience and Capacity** - projects that strengthen local not-for-profit organisations' capacity, operational infrastructure, upgrading of equipment to improve service delivery.
4. **Foster cultural vibrancy** - projects that celebrate, preserve and promote local culture and identity, creative projects that foster the arts, and support for local artists and the arts community.

Due to the bushfires and the evolving impacts of COVID-19 on our community, the Foundation aims to respond flexibly. As a result, Grant Guidelines may be changed from time to time.

Before applying, please ensure you have the most recent version of Small Grant Guidelines, you can find this on the 'Grants' section of our website: <https://intoourhandsfoundation.com.au/grants/>

## Eligibility for funding

Applicants must be organisations that:

- Are in one or more of the following municipalities:
  - Alpine Shire Council
  - Indigo Shire Council
  - Mansfield Shire Council
  - Rural City of Wangaratta
  - Towong Shire Council
- Have an ABN or Incorporation number or be partnering with an auspicing organisation
- Have proven capacity and relevant public liability insurances

## What the Foundation will not fund

Funding is not available for:

- Projects that take place outside of the five target municipalities
- Recurrent operational and administration costs.
- Individuals, 'for profit' organisations, government bodies, political parties or their candidates.
- Personal expenses (such as living, educational etc.)
- Projects that are not consistent with Local, State or Commonwealth laws, including the Victorian Equal Opportunity Act 1995
- Completed projects, capital works, assets (other than minor equipment) and repayment of outstanding loans or debts.
- Major institutions (government agencies, universities, hospitals)
- Duplication of an existing private or public program.

## How to apply

We encourage interested organisations to discuss their project idea with Jenny Griffiths (acting Executive Officer) on 0466 252 866 before applying to ensure eligibility. Follow these three steps to apply:

1. Download and review the application form at [www.intoourhands.org.au/grants](http://www.intoourhands.org.au/grants).
2. Contact Jenny Griffiths (acting Executive Officer) on M: 0466 252 866 or E: [info@intoourhandsfoundation.com.au](mailto:info@intoourhandsfoundation.com.au) to discuss your project.
3. The Foundation will accept applications on an ongoing basis. Submit your completed application using the document provided on our website.

We will acknowledge receipt of your application by email. If you do not receive an email confirmation within two business days, please contact Jenny Griffiths (acting Executive Officer) on M: 0466 252 866 or E: [info@intoourhandsfoundation.com.au](mailto:info@intoourhandsfoundation.com.au)