

Wellbeing and Resilience Grants



After a natural disaster, such as floods, storms, or fires EMPHN understands the need to support communities to gradually rebuild their lives and achieve a sense of wellbeing again.

A first round of Wellbeing and Resilience Grants will open in September 2023, to strengthen social connectedness and assist communities to address the impact of recent disaster events.

Organisations are invited to apply for grants of between \$10,000 - \$30,000 per application.

Key dates

APPLICATIONS OPEN:
27 September 2023

APPLICATIONS CLOSE:
20 October 2023

TOTAL FUNDING:
Each applicant can apply for a grant amount of up to \$30,000

About Eastern Melbourne PHN

The Australian Government established Primary Health Networks (PHNs) to increase the efficiency of medical services, reduce fragmentation of care and improve health outcomes for everyone, especially for the most vulnerable. There are 31 Primary Health Networks in Australia and six in Victoria.

Eastern Melbourne Primary Health Network (EMPHN) achieves this goal by improving access to existing services, commissioning services to improve health outcomes and by supporting GPs and others to innovate and further improve local health care. We aim to improve the health of our community by ensuring people receive the right care, in the right place, at the right time.

Eligibility

All applications must describe how the grant is needed and will benefit the affected community. Community grant applicants must be located within a natural disaster affected area in the Eastern Melbourne PHN region (Fig. 1), or the funded activity be of direct benefit to communities within the affected area.

Preference will be given to communities who were impacted by the storms of 2021 and community groups/organisations residing in those areas (Fig. 2).

Figure 1 EMPHN catchment



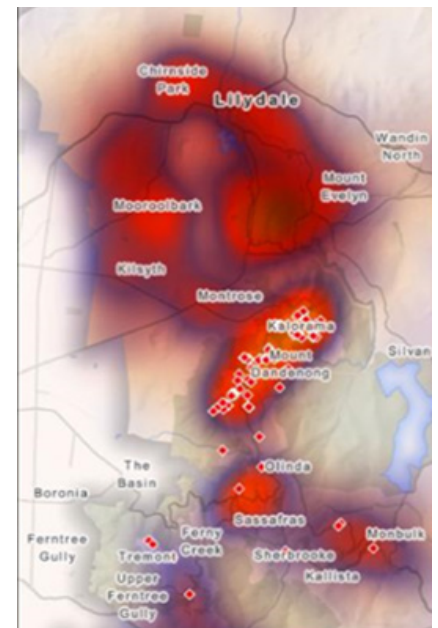
These LGAs are entirely within EMPHN's catchment:

- City of Banyule
- City of Boroondara
- City of Knox
- City of Manningham
- City of Maroondah
- City of Monash
- Shire of Nillumbik
- City of Whitehorse
- City of Whittlesea

EMPHN's catchment also covers part of:

- Shire of Mitchell (35% of population)
- Shire of Murrindindi (27% of population)
- Shire of Yarra Ranges (portion which falls outside the EMPHN catchment is largely uninhabited national park)

Figure 2 Affected communities



Community groups can represent particular population groups, for example: multicultural, age or gender-specific. This could include: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander groups, migrant or refugee communities, playgroups, church or faith-based organisations, sports clubs, local community associations, and school affiliated groups.

The aim of these activities is to strengthen social connectedness and assist communities with the distress and other impacts they have experienced due to a natural disaster.

Example activities or supports that could be funded includes (but are not limited to):

- support for community events and activities that bring people together (virtually or in-person)
- local mental health professional attendance and engagement at community events
- activities to engage priority population groups less likely to seek out traditional mental health services (for example, First Nations communities)
- awareness-raising activities regarding available services and how to access them

The funding cannot be used for activities or services that:

- extend or expand services that are currently funded by EMPHN
- duplicate existing activities and services
- are more appropriately funded under other grant programs or funding sources
- are for communities that were not impacted by natural disasters or are outside of the EMPHN region
- are not linked to natural disasters
- would require ongoing funding
- subsidise commercial activities
- involve purchasing of assets or improve infrastructure

Selection criteria

Applications need to meet the following criteria:

- A. The applicant is based in a 2021/22 storm/flood affected area/s, or the activities proposed will directly benefit the community within a storm/flood affected area/s.
- B. The proposed activities aim to:
 - reduce impacts of natural disasters on mental health, (and/or)
 - address climate change anxiety, (and/or)
 - build resilience within the community to natural disasters, (and/or)
 - support social connectedness for communities.
- C. The proposal demonstrates a clear outline of the proposed activities.
- D. The proposal describes the need within the community.

Terms and conditions

- A. The applicant group or organisation must have an ABN or partner with an organisation that has an ABN that can manage the grant on its behalf.
- B. Eastern Melbourne PHN may in its discretion choose to accept, or not accept all or part of any submission.
- C. Applicants must meet their own costs associated with preparing their proposal.
- D. Eastern Melbourne PHN may require additional information in writing and/or through interview, which should be provided at no cost.
- E. All information received will be kept in accordance with the Privacy Act laws.
- F. Applicants must declare to Eastern Melbourne PHN any matter or issue which is or may be perceived to lead to a conflict of interest.
- G. If the proposed activities include public events, evidence of appropriate public liability insurance and workers compensation must be provided, as is required by law.

Evaluation and assessment

Eastern Melbourne PHN recognises the widespread impact of natural disasters is not confined to those directly affected by storm damage or the inundation of flood waters and that additional social and emotional wellbeing factors need to be considered as an impact. Therefore, all applications will be based on eligibility, merit and benefit to the community.

Application process

To apply:

- Complete the online Funding Application form available at <https://www.emphn.org.au/news-events/news/wellbeing-and-resilience-grants>

The first round of applications will open 27 September 2023

All applications will be acknowledged on receipt and applicants will be notified as to whether their application has been successful or unsuccessful. Successful applicants will need to enter into a Grant Agreement with Eastern Melbourne PHN. Funding will be paid directly into the nominated bank account provided following the return of the signed Grant Agreement documents. Successful applicants will be required to regularly update an activity tracking spreadsheet (provided by EMPHN) for the duration of the funded activities. At the end of the delivered activity, successful applicants will also be required to complete a short evaluation report that describes the outcomes achieved.

Timeframes

Wellbeing and Resilience grant applications open	27 September 2023
Applications close	20 October 2023
Applicants informed of outcome	By 1 November 2023
Grant Distribution	From date of agreement execution
Proposed activities to take place	From date of agreement execution
Final evaluation	30 June 2024

Eastern Melbourne PHN Commissioning

By working closely with health professionals, consumers and carers and using health related data, we identify emerging community needs and gaps in the health care system.

The Commissioning Framework provides EMPHN employees and consumers, providers and other stakeholders with a shared and transparent approach to decision making in an environment of collaboration and co-design.

Our Commissioning Framework

This Strategic Commissioning Framework provides the principles and guidance EMPHN use to work with stakeholders when designing and commissioning health services to meet community need.

The Framework is underpinned by EMPHN's Strategic Plan for 2020-2025 which outlines the organisation's vision and sets an ambitious plan to transform the primary health care sector in EMPHN's catchment. The Board has identified five strategic priorities and related transformative strategies:

1. Addressing health gaps and inequalities

- Listen to the consumer voice and design new mental health and chronic disease management approaches that are truly person-centred.

2. Enhancing primary care

- Support and encourage primary care to adopt collaborative interdisciplinary care approaches that are person-centred.
- Increase use of practice-based evidence.

3. Leveraging digital health, data and technology

- Encourage health information continuity between providers.

4. Working in partnerships to enable an integrated service system

- Ensure commissioning and system change strategies encourage integration from a consumer perspective.

5. A high performing organisation

- Build a positive culture of high performance.

Our Commissioning Principles

Commissioning at Eastern Melbourne Primary Health Network expresses our values of leadership, understanding, outcomes and collaboration. A continuous improvement approach has been adopted as the Commissioning Framework, and this is underpinned by key principles.

Commissioning at EMPHN:

- Is informed by an understanding of the gaps in local service provision. This understanding is based on an analysis of quantifiable data and consumer experience. It recognises that developing a response to identified need should involve co-design with consumers and local service providers (the needs based principle).
- Begins with the best available evidence of what will improve consumer outcomes, and service improvement is informed by ongoing collection of data and analysis of program outcomes. We conduct rigorous evaluation, published for major initiatives, to contribute to available evidence (the evidence principle).
- Aims to strengthen our integrated primary care system. We commission services to maintain and build the capabilities of local primary care providers (the strengthening local networks principle).
- Is accompanied by rigorous monitoring of commissioned projects to ensure the best outcomes for consumers as well as value for money (the probity, consumer focus and value principle).

Visit [Eastern Melbourne PHN's website](#) for more information. Details on commissioning can be found [here](#).

Eastern Melbourne PHN acknowledges the Wurundjeri people and other people of the Kulin Nations on whose unceded lands our work in the community takes place. We pay our respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures; and to Elders past and present. EMPHN is committed to the healing of country, working towards equity in health outcomes, and the ongoing journey of reconciliation.

We recognise and value the knowledge and wisdom of people with lived experience, their supporters and the practitioners who work with them. We celebrate their strengths and resilience in facing the challenges associated with their recovery and acknowledge the important contribution that they make to the development and delivery of health and community services.

