

CONNECTING COMMUNITIES' SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM

Grant Opens 1st July 2023. Grant Closes 31st July 2023

1. Program Overview and Objectives

Foundation Murrindindi's vision is to foster thriving, vibrant connected communities within the Shire of Murrindindi. Our connecting communities program aims to support our vision and help communities to stay connected. Community groups and not for profit organisations are invited to apply for small grants of up to \$500 to support community-led initiatives, activities, projects or events that reduce feelings of loneliness and isolation, increase social participation and inclusion, foster community connections and enhances a sense of belonging. Successful projects must be implemented quickly and assist community groups to continue to support and respond to identified needs that improve the health, wellbeing and capacity of their community.

Program Outcomes:

- increase community participation, access, connection and inclusion
- empower community to identify and respond to local issues and priorities
- foster community spirit

2. Program Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible to apply for funding through Connected Communities Small Grants Program, applications must meet the following criteria:

- Applicant organisations must be a not-for-profit organisation.
- Applicant organisations must be located within the Shire of Murrindindi with the project providing benefits to local people.
- Funded activities must create opportunities for community members to experience greater connection to their community through opportunities that improve access and participation.
- Funded activities must align with 1 or more impact areas as described by Foundation Murrindindi.

Funding will not be considered for:

- Activities with a religious or political focus
- Capital works
- Commercial activities
- Fundraising activities, competitions, prizes or award events
- Activities that have already commenced or occurred
- Funded project, events or activities **must** be completed by Feb 28th 2024

3. Assessment Process

After the application period has closed and we have received your application:

- You will receive an email confirming receipt of your application through SmartyGrants online portal.
- Your application will be assessed against the eligibility and assessment criteria.
- Funding recommendations will be advised by Foundation Murrindindi Grants & Programs Sub Committee.
- Foundation Murrindindi Board will make the final decision on the outcome of all eligible applications.
- All applicants will receive a notification via email with the result of their application by the end of August 2023
- Information about grant decisions will not be given over the phone.
- The list of successful applicants will be published on the Foundation Murrindindi's website and social media platforms approximately a month after all applicants have been notified of the outcome of their application

4. Assessment Criteria

Connected Communities Small Grant applications are assessed against the following assessment criteria:

- Alignment to the purpose and objectives of Connected Communities Small Grants
- Demonstrated community need
- Number of participants that will participate and benefit
- Target demographic group/s
- Budget reflects appropriate scope and scale of intended activity.
- Geographic location/s of intended activity or event.

For more information contact Robyn Hill, Executive Officer

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Please apply online via our website

<https://foundationmurrindindi.org.au/>