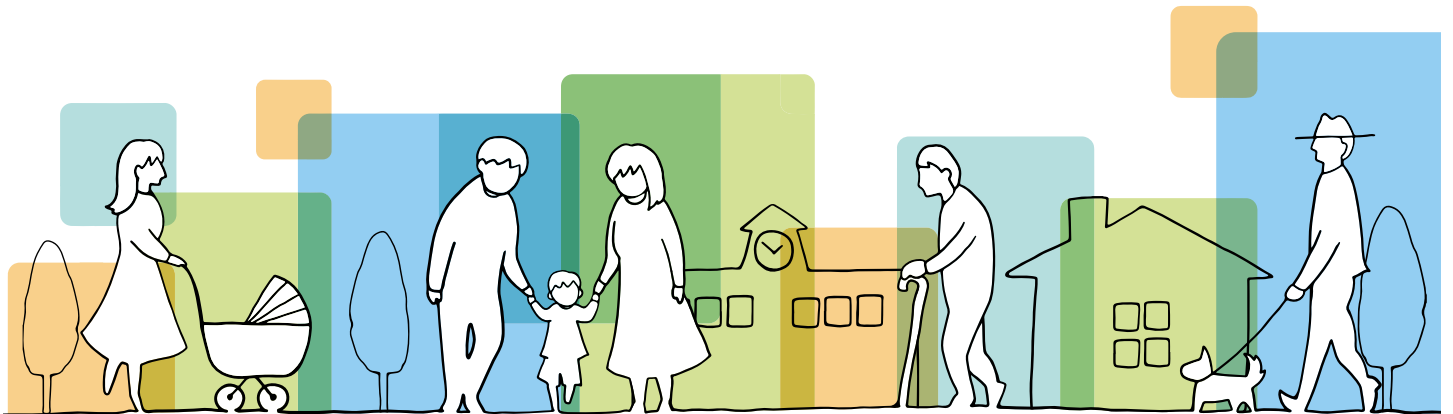


APPLICATION FAQ

CONNECTING CARERS IN THEIR COMMUNITY

SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM 2024/2025



This information is to support individuals and groups considering an application to the 2024/2025 grant round, Connecting Carers in their Community.

What if I don't have an ABN?

Carer groups or individuals that do not have an ABN will need to find an auspice organisation willing to apply on their behalf.

If you are not sure about who to approach about being an auspice or wish to discuss the use of an auspice organisation, please contact Carers Victoria sectorengagement@carersvictoria.org.au

You will be asked to submit evidence of the arrangement such as a letter of agreement or a Memorandum of Understanding.

Can Carers Victoria be an auspice partner for a grant?

No, Carers Victoria cannot be a partner for this grant because we are administering the grants on behalf of the Victorian Government.

As Carers Victoria is managing the administration for this grant, will project reporting be direct to the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH) or via Carers Victoria?

Project reporting will be provided to Carers Victoria.

Can I apply for less than \$15,000?

No, \$15,000 (excluding GST) is the minimum amount that can be applied for.

What will I have to do to acquit the grant?

There is a final report that is a requirement of the grant funding. The report should include:

- › the outcomes of your planned activities, a list of the items you spent the funds on, and a short evaluation of the grant activities. Carers Victoria will provide a report template to you, along with advice on how to complete the report.

What happens if my contact details change?

Please contact Carers Victoria via email to: sectorengagement@carersvictoria.org.au

How will the grant be assessed, and by whom?

An external panel of six assessors will assess the applications, three from metropolitan Melbourne and three from regional Victoria. Carers Victoria will not assess applications.

What is the total grant pool for the 2024/2025 round?

There is \$900,000 (excluding GST) available in total for grants, funded by the Victorian Government.

Are there any postcode boundaries for grant eligibility?

All Victorian postcodes are eligible.

Can you clarify the focus on priority groups?

For example, we support carers looking after people with mental health issues, but we have various cultures in our group, would this be considered multicultural?

The priority groups refer to the main target for your activities. However, your application can describe how various priority groups will be included in or supported by your program, even if they are not the main target.

It is not essential for your application to focus exclusively on the priority groups.

The priority groups include:

- › Regional and remote groups, especially those impacted by fire and flood events
- › Aboriginal-led organisations, or groups working directly with First Nations carers, families, and communities
- › Multicultural and diverse communities, including younger carers and LGBTIQ+ carers.

Are we able to apply multiple times for different local regions?

You can only apply for one grant as a lead organisation or group. However, an organisation can be nominated as an auspice for multiple groups.

I run an existing carer support group, we are all volunteers, can we apply?

Yes. Both existing carer support groups and new carer support groups are eligible to apply. You will need an auspice organisation with an ABN to handle the money for your group if your group does not have an ABN.

Our focus is kinship care, are we eligible?

We recognise the importance of kinship care. Where kinship care is provided to a child or adult who has a chronic illness, disability, mental health condition, addiction or a life-limiting condition, then yes this is also a care relationship and therefore eligible to apply.

We would like to plan activities beyond 30 June 2025 — is that possible?

No. Activities need to cease by 30 June 2025 so you can provide a final report by 31 July 2025.

The grant information refers to 'work readiness.' What is this exactly?

Work readiness activities include 1:1 or group sessions that support carers looking for work, returning to work, seeking alternative work or wanting to change careers. It could include peer mentoring, information sessions, expert speakers to a carer support group, information on available employment supports or activities that assist with confidence and interview skills.

Our service is currently funded through the Support for Carers program, can we apply?

No. This funding round targets small carer groups and those who are not receiving Victorian Government funds through existing funding programs such as Support for Carers or Additional Respite. However, you can auspice a carer support group or other group seeking funding.

What is SmartyGrants?

SmartyGrants is a software program that is used specifically for grant management. All applications are received via the program, and it is what we use to assess and award the grants. It is easy to use, and we try to make our application process as simple as possible.

I have never used SmartyGrants before, do I need to register?

Yes, there is a sign-up process, you will need to provide an email address. You can save your progress as you go.

Can we do a joint application with other organisations for a larger project and a larger amount of money?

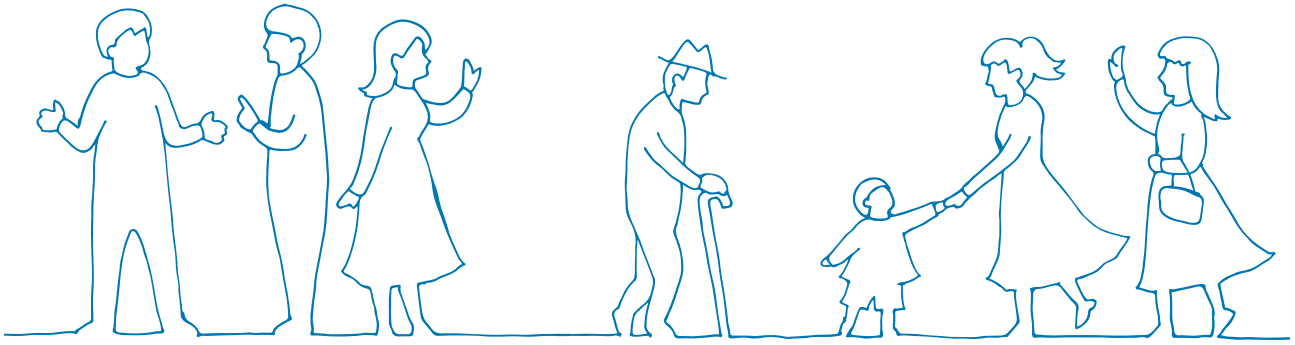
Partnerships are encouraged where this will help provide better support to carers. However, individual applications must fall within the maximum grant amount of \$25,000 (ex GST).

Our carers often can't attend events without respite for the person they care for and we can't afford to provide it for them. What are our options?

One option is to plan activities that include the care recipient so they can both attend. Alternatively, you will need to identify respite options for the person you care for. If you would like advice, please call our statewide advisory service on 1800 514 845.

Do the activities we run have to be just for carers or can they be for carers and the person they are caring for?

They can include both, but with the overall aim of supporting the carer.



What support is there to assist me with my application?

- › Please read the guidelines. Most questions can be answered in this document.
- › We will be delivering an information session and two further Q&A drop-in sessions.
- › There will also be a short learning session on how to use SmartyGrants.

For information about these sessions please visit www.eventbrite.com/cc/connecting-carers-in-their-community-small-grants-3444519.

If you still have questions, you can also email us at sectorengagement@carersvictoria.org.au

Will late applications be accepted?

No. Applications can be submitted up until 4pm, Monday 22 July.



The *Connecting Carers in their Community* small grants program is supported by the Victorian Government.