

We are inviting Expressions of Interest (EOIs) for a new Communities For Children (CfC) Community Partner (CP) activity.

This is a selective EOI inviting Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCOs) to apply. Recent CfC consultations have highlighted that many families are looking for access to cultural activities for their children. This EOI is looking to engage a suitable provider to deliver a new CfC Community Partner Activity; i.e. cultural activities to children and young people in the context of community events and playgroups, in partnership with pre-schools and schools, and in collaboration with other services that work with families, children and young people – including other CfC CPs.

Please read this document prior to completing the EOI.

1 Background:

Communities for Children- Facilitating Partner (CfC FP) is funded by the Australian Government through the Department Social Services (DSS), under the Families and Children Activity of the Families and Communities Programme.

Under the CfC FP, Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) are engaged as ‘Facilitating Partners’ in 52 communities, or sites, throughout Australia to develop and implement a strategic and sustainable whole-of-community approach to childhood development in consultation with local stakeholders.

CfC FPs fund other organisations (Community Partners, CPs) to provide services in line with the CfC Community Strategic Plan (CSP). The CSP has been developed in consultation with communities and with input from the Communities For Children Committee (CCC). It identifies four priority areas for service delivery within the Dubbo Site (Dubbo, Wellington, Narromine). Services as provided by Community Partners may include community and supported playgroups, child focused activities, parenting skills and support, peer support groups, home visiting, school readiness programs, web-based services and other supports to **achieve better outcomes for children and their families**.

CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes (CCWF) has been the Facilitating Partner for the Dubbo Site since 2005. CCWF currently subcontracts five CPs who deliver a range of activities across Dubbo, Narromine and Wellington. For more information visit

<https://communitiesforchildren.com.au/dubbo/>

The objectives of ‘Communities for Children Facilitating Partner’ as set by DSS are:

- **To improve the health and well-being of families and the development of young children, from before birth through to age 12 years**, paying special attention to:
 - Healthy young families — supporting parents to care for their children before and after birth and throughout the early years;
 - Supporting families and parents — support for parents to provide children with secure attachment, consistent discipline and quality environments that are stable, positive, stimulating, safe and secure;
 - Early learning — provide access to high quality early learning opportunities in the years before school; provide early identification and support for children at

Approved Date:	3/06/2022	Review Date:	2/06/2024
Version No:	3.0	Approved By:	Dorothee Crawley

- risk of developmental and behavioural problems; assist parents with ways they can stimulate and promote child development and learning from birth; and
- School transition and engagement - support children and families to make a smooth transition to school and work with local schools to assist children and families with their ongoing engagement with school.
- **To create strong child-friendly communities that understand the importance of children and apply this capacity to maximise the health, well-being and early development of young children at the local level.**

2 Probity

The selection of funding recipients (CPs) must be fair, open and demonstrate the highest level of integrity, consistent with the public interest.

The following probity principles will be applied through all stages of the EOI process.

- a) fairness and impartiality
- b) consistency, accountability and transparency of process
- c) security and confidentiality of information
- d) identification and resolution of conflicts of interest
- e) compliance with legislative obligations and government policy

These principles are intended to achieve an equitable, justifiable, and sound process.

Adherence to the probity principles means that everyone involved with the selection process will act:

- (a) impartially
- (b) with integrity, including avoiding actual or perceived conflicts of interest

3 Service Agreement

- a) The Facilitating Partner will contract the successful Community Partner, which in turn will engage, supervise and support delivery of the CfC Community Partner activity. The CfC Project Manager will support and work with the Community Partner throughout the implementation of the Project.
- b) The Project Manager can be contacted on 02 6863 5426 or cfc@ccwf.org.au for advice and support.
- c) The Service Agreement will provide terms and conditions of the CP subcontracting arrangement, service specifications, budget, payment, reporting schedules and evaluation processes.
- d) The Facilitating Partner will make payments to the Community Partner in three-month intervals and are subject to compliance with the terms and conditions of the service agreement.

Approved Date:	3/06/2022	Review Date:	2/06/2024
Version No:	3.0	Approved By:	Dorothee Crawley

4 The EOI Process

4.1 Eligibility

Applicants seeking funding to deliver Communities for Children activities must meet the eligibility criteria. The following entity types meet the eligibility requirements for this EOI:

a) Aboriginal Controlled Community Organisations

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community control is an act of self-determination. Under this Agreement, an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community-Controlled Organisation delivers services, including land and resource management, that builds the strength and empowerment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and people and is:

- i. incorporated under relevant legislation and not-for-profit
- ii. controlled and operated by Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people
- iii. connected to the community, or communities, in which they deliver the services
- iv. governed by a majority Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander governing body.

If you do not meet this eligibility requirement and/ or do not hold your own ABN, you will need to seek the support of an eligible organisation to hold the auspice for the activity. This organisation will need to be nominated as the lead agency for your application.

4.2 Funding amount

The maximum funding amount for this EOI is **\$144,000**.

4.3 Stage 1: This EOI - How to Apply

We invite EOIs by completion of the provided application form. Please read and complete the application form carefully.

By 11am on Wednesday 10th July 2024, submit your application via email to cfc@ccwf.org.au. Upon submission you will be issued with a confirmation email, please ensure that you do receive a receipt email.

4.4 Stage 2: Successful EOI applicants - Next steps

Applications will be assessed by the Business Allocation committee which is a subcommittee of the CCC. This decision will be final, and applicants will be notified whether their application has been successful or not within 30 working days of the EOI closing. Successful applicants progress to the next stage and will be invited to provide further information either verbally or in writing. Including:

4.4.1 Budget

As part of Stage 2, applicants will provide a detailed budget. Your budget will need to detail salary and non-salary line items. A condition of CfC funding does not allow for funds to be used to purchase capital equipment over the value of \$5,000.

Approved Date:	3/06/2022	Review Date:	2/06/2024
Version No:	3.0	Approved By:	Dorothee Crawley

4.4.2 Delivery Model

As part of Stage 2, applicants will also be asked to put forward a detailed delivery model. A strong model would demonstrate how the service would use **early intervention and prevention** approach; be supported by **evidence base**; work effectively with the target group or community/communities as well as other service providers in achieving **outcomes for children and their parents or carers**; provide detail on **practical features** of service delivery; respond to individual and specific **community needs**, and **not duplicate** other services in the community/communities.

5 Questions

If you have any questions about the application please call Project Manager, Kimeaka Bermingham on 02 6863 5426 or email cfc@ccwf.org.au.

Approved Date:	3/06/2022	Review Date:	2/06/2024
Version No:	3.0	Approved By:	Dorothee Crawley