



Call for proposal guidelines for mental health initiatives

Green Shield Impact Fund

Deadline March 15, 2019

The Community Foundation of Nova Scotia (CFNS) is pleased to collaborate with the Hamilton Community Foundation (HCF) to grant to mental health initiatives throughout Nova Scotia through the Green Shield Canada Impact Fund (GSC Impact Fund).

Green Shield Canada (GSC), to mark its 60th anniversary – and to celebrate its 60-year history of social responsibility and charitable giving, is donating a total of \$6 million dollars to priority projects across six Canadian communities. The program, as GSC's new community granting initiative, is titled "Six 4 Six". The communities include Hamilton, Windsor Essex region, Calgary and the Atlantic region. The CFNS is the Atlantic partner. To learn more about GSC's corporate social responsibility visit their web site at www.greenshield.ca.

The program will focus on oral health and mental health as part of GSC's commitment to the health of Canadians. The initiative represents GSC's first engagement and collaboration with community foundations to achieve its social responsibility goals and objectives and impact on the health of Canadians.

Mental health funding will be accomplished through a call for proposals.

Approximate funds available for granting: \$300,000

Application process: Registered charities or other qualified donees (according to CRA) can apply by submitting an application to infocfns@cfns-fcne.ca by March 15, 2019. All documents must be merged into one pdf document.

Granting range: The number of proposals supported and granting amounts will be conditional based on applications received.

Deadline for applications: Complete applications are due March 15, 2018

Notice to applicants: Applicants will be notified by email by April 30, 2019

Priority Identification

The CFNS conducted early research to understand existing programs in the area of mental health and granting priorities were confirmed through a workshop hosted by the CFNS and the HCF on December 12, 2018. The conversation, facilitated by Gerry Giffin, was summarized and shared with attendees. A copy of the report can be found on the CFNS web site (www.cfns-fcne.ca).

While systemic issues were identified as prominent barriers for people accessing mental health, the session provided insight into areas where the GSC Impact Fund could have a measurable impact.

Priority Areas

The CFNS invites applications from qualified donees that address the following priority areas:

1. **Networking and engagement – funding of up to \$20,000 a year for two years**

Participants at the December 12, 2018 conversation expressed a strong need and interest in an ongoing opportunity for relationship development, knowledge sharing, and possible professional development opportunities among professionals working in the mental health sector.

The CFNS will accept applications in that area that meet the following criteria:

- Capacity and expertise in network leadership (please include 2 letters of support)
- Strong ties to mental health network and practitioners along with a vision for the value of increased connection and conversation
- Preliminary plan and budget tied to outcomes for mental health professionals, capacity for organizational collaboration, and effects on the mental health system
- Evaluation and sustainability plan in place

2. **Collaborative Initiatives – funding from \$5,000 for up to two years**

To support marginalized people, high potential impact areas identified by the mental health community at the December 12 conversation included initiatives that demonstrate collaboration and partnership among community organizations and/or navigation support for marginalized people. Navigation supports mentioned ranged from increased informal support (for example, support provided at a community facility) to more formal case management, and to the use of technology to support access to supports and services.

Greater collaboration, cooperation, and knowledge sharing were identified as ways to support people to overcome barriers to achieving better mental health. Funding can support enhancements or expansions to existing initiatives or provide support for new initiatives that create access to mental health services and supports for marginalized community members.

Criteria will include:

- Identification of barriers addressed through collaboration and/or navigation supports and discussion of potential effect on systemic issues

- Outcomes for marginalized community members and for community organizations through greater collaboration and alignment of activities
- Identification of community partners (please include 2 letters of support)
- Evaluation and sustainability plan in place

General Criteria:

- Grants for one-time special events, individual student sponsorships, or capital will not be considered.
- All initiatives must be carried out within Nova Scotia.
- Grants will not be made to promote political, religious, moral or ethical philosophies or for purposes which may be deemed discriminatory.
- Foundation funds are not intended to be used to fund programs that are the responsibility of the public through provincial or federal government programming.
- Funds are intended to be used during the 2019 and 2020.

Proposal Assessment:

The following criteria will be used to assess all applications for support from the Green Shield Impact Fund:

- Direct relevance to fund priorities
- Commitment to and history of partnering and collaboration with peer organizations
- Demonstrated capacity and credibility to plan and implement the work and demonstrated strength and continuity of relationships with citizens who are proposed to benefit
- Compelling rationale for the approach proposed
- Sound fiscal policies and a commitment to financial accountability
- Realistic, measurable goals and commitment to ongoing evaluation aimed at continuous improvement
- Potential to leverage additional financial support
- Clear and reasonable budget
- Evidence of community support for the initiative as well as pressure on systemic issues
- Include at least 2 letters of support

Successful applicants will also be required to take part in any sector networking and knowledge sharing events supported by granting to priority #1 noted above. Please review the summary of the December 12 gathering to identify how your application aligns with that day's findings.

Address any questions via email at infocfns@cfns-fcne.ca or call Angela Bishop 902 490 9916.