# Living Well with Psychosis community funding

**Frequently asked questions**

**These FAQs have been updated following the webinar of 22nd October 2024.**

## Q: What are your tips for writing expressions of interest?

**A**: Please write brief, clear answers in plain English using short sentences. Explain any acronyms or technical language. This will help all our reviewers to fully understand your project.

There is no word limit on the questions, but we have given you guidance on how many words we would expect an answer to be. If you are writing a list use dashes/bullets.

You could get a friend or colleague to proofread your application before submitting to spot any mistakes and check if the answers are clear.

## **Q:** How will you make decisions on who to give grants to?

**A**: We will review expressions of interest and Maudsley Charity will prioritise applications to go to the next stages, based on our selection criteria. We expect to fund roughly 20 organisations with a spread across the four boroughs we work in.

## **Q:** Can one organisation apply more than once?

**A**: We cannot consider more than one application per organisation because of the nature of the fund

## **Q:** Will you give feedback?

**A**: We will give feedback, but, depending on numbers of applicants, it may be general feedback rather than specific to your organisation. We are a small team and are keen to prioritise getting decisions made quickly and effectively.

## **Q:** Can I tell you about organisations I think should be funded under this call but aren’t eligible?

**A**: Please do. We’re really interested in understanding the picture of support for adults with severe mental illness in southeast London better than we currently do. If you know of a great organisation you think we should know about, please email grants@maudsleycharity.org.

## **Q:** Do you expect all funded projects to be focused on providing mental health support to people affected by severe enduring mental illness?

**A:** We do not expect that the support organisations give to people affected by severe enduring mental illnesses will necessarily be mental health specific. We welcome submissions from organisations providing all kinds of support.

## **Q**. Could you talk a more about the term 'severe enduring mental illness’?

A. Maudsley Charity intends this funding to be used to support people affected by psychosis. However, we know that often services that support people with severe mental illness including conditions such as schizophrenia and bipolar disorder, appropriately do not ask for or need to know if the users of their services have a specific diagnosis. We also recognise some people reject what is inherently a medical term. For these reasons, we’ve chosen to use the term “severe enduring mental illness”. We know people will use other terms they are comfortable with, and we don’t want our language to exclude anyone. To be clear, we do not expect organisations to be able to provide detailed data on the diagnoses of the people they support.

## **Q.** Not all of our beneficiaries live with severe enduring mental illness, would we still be able to apply for those of our service users that do fit the criteria?

**A.** The funding is for organisations that are delivering services that are designed for or particularly benefit people affected by severe enduring mental illness, but we do not expect every single person accessing a service to have a specific diagnosis and/or be experiencing severe and enduring mental illness.

## **Q.** Can you explain more about what you mean when you say 'catering for the needs' of racially minoritised communities?

**A.** We mean that we are looking for organisations and services that can describe how they have thought about the needs of racially minoritised communities, what that looks like, and how that impacts their approach. It is particularly important to us that this funding provides funding for organisations which effectively cater to the needs of people from racially minoritized communities.

## **Q.** What organisations do you expect to apply?

**A.** We expect to see applications from community organisations, such as charities, community interest companies, and social interest communities.

## **Q.** Can an organisation apply for £30,000 individually, or is this the total sum of funding available?

**A.** Organisations can apply for up to £30,000 individually.

## **Q.** Can you give examples of what might qualify as 'core funding'?

**A.** Core funding could include costs like rent, staffing costs for admin, learning support/fundraising. There are lots of costs associated with the day to day running of your organisation which would be eligible.

## **Q.** Could you explain more about the programme’s position on funding for statutory services or roles?

**A.** There are two parts to the Living Well with Psychosis programme, the first consists of funding that goes towards the South London and Maudsley Trust and the Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology and Neuroscience and the second focuses specifically on community organisations. This funding call is for community organisations only.

## **Q.** Is the funding provided only for the boroughs of Lewisham, Lambeth, Southwark and Croydon?

**A.** Yes, this funding call is for work within these four boroughs only.

## **Q.** Do service users have to demonstrate they live within these four boroughs?

**A.** No, there is no expectation that organisations must provide evidence that individual service users live within the boroughs.

## **Q.** Is there a minimum or maximum number of attendees for services required?

**A.** We are not looking for a specific number of attendees but instead really trying to understand the impact of the work, so we can make sure the funding goes to trusted, established community organisations that meet the needs of people affected by severe enduring mental illness.

## **Q.** What kind of detail do you require with regards to how money will be spent, and with reporting in reference to assessing impact?

**A.** We are expecting larger organisations with a more structured set-up to be able to provide a greater level of detail on costs. We do not expect any additional documents. For smaller, community organisations, we appreciate it may be more difficult to provide the same level of detail. Should we feel as though we need more information, it would likely be the video call stage of the application in which we would ask for more detail.

## **Q.** What sort of evidence are you looking for to demonstrate impact?

**A.** There will be some organisations with much stronger established processes, systems, and structures than others. We want to know people are thinking about impact and that there is a proportionate way of thinking and demonstrating impact. We will work with funded organisations to work out the best way to gather impact.

## **Q.** Are bullet points with basic details accepted for explaining cost details on the EOI application form?

**A.** Bullet points are absolutely fine. The word count suggestions included in the application are there for guidance purposes only.

## **Q.** When it comes to reporting, what kind of data are you looking for from established charities and at what points would you be asking for this?

**A.** We typically work on the basis of a written report every 12 months, but we are looking to think differently about recording impact for this funding call. We acknowledge smaller organisations may not have the same capacity to record data as large organisations.

## **Q.** How would site visits work for organisations working remotely?

**A.** The site visits are intended to give organisations the opportunity to have an open discussion with us in a place that gives a sense of the work that is taking place. However, for organisations where a site visit may not be possible, we can have a discussion about what’s viable and most useful.

## **Q.** My organization’s work in one of the 4 boroughs has only been running 20 months, but by the time funding is received, would be 24 months? Would we still be eligible?

**A.** Yes, this would be fine.

## **Q.** Is there a preference for funding programmes in the community over programmes running in hospitals?

**A.** There is no particular preference or priority, we recognise different community groups will be delivering work in different ways, different spaces and different contexts.

## **Q.** We are working alongside a few partner organisations on the Building Brighter Futures Fund, and are listed on applications as both lead applicants and partners. Would this impact us submitting an application to this funding call?

**A.** We will be aware if an organisation is being funded through another funding programme and are keen we spread the funding fairly, but it would not be an exclusion on that basis.

## **Q.** How many grants will be awarded in this round of funding?

**A.** We expect to fund around 20 organisations, depending how much organisations each apply for. We will also be looking to fund a spread across the four boroughs.

## **Q.** Can you provide any more information about the second round of funding and how this links to the first?

**A.** We hope, with the first round of funding, to create some breathing space and capacity for community organisations, allowing them to focus solely on delivering their services. The second round of funding will build upon this and further support organisations as we understand what their needs are, and what this support may look like.