



**Guidelines for
Community
Wellbeing
Grants**

March 2025, Version 1.0



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Community Wellbeing Grants are available to organisations that provide support to individuals, families, and whānau impacted by the severe weather events of 2023. These grants aim to fund innovative programmes and initiatives that enhance the wellbeing of our communities as they navigate their recovery journeys.

Background

In 2023, the Auckland Council Tāmaki Makaurau Recovery Office (Recovery Office) established the Mental Wellbeing Fund to enable iwi and community organisations to deliver services and initiatives supporting Aucklanders affected by the severe weather events.

Nineteen iwi and community organisations received funding, collectively supporting around 7,000 impacted individuals.

A participatory Learning Review was conducted with 17 of these organisations, aiming to understand what worked well, capture key learnings, and identify ongoing wellbeing needs for communities in recovery.

The full evaluation report is available on the [Auckland Council website](#). Below are key insights that have shaped this funding opportunity.

What are the ongoing wellbeing needs for communities in recovery?

1. **Timely access to counselling and mental health services**, with a focus on elderly, refugee, and migrant communities.
2. **Wellbeing support for community sector *kaimahi*** working in recovery to prevent burnout and sustain their efforts.
3. **Increased mental health awareness** among cultural and faith leaders to improve access to services and supports and reduce stigma.
4. **Tools and programmes** to help communities manage anxieties about nature and weather, while rebuilding trust and connection with *te taiao* (the environment).
5. **Consistent opportunities for social connection and peer support**, particularly for elderly, rural communities, and refugee and migrant groups.
6. **Capacity-building support** to strengthen resilience through skills development, intergenerational knowledge transfer, and access to indigenous practices.

What can be applied for?

Funding is available for initiatives that:

- Foster social connection and collective healing.
- Provide tools and programmes to help communities manage anxieties about nature and weather while rebuilding trust and connection with *te taiao*.

- Address one or more of the **key wellbeing needs** identified above, with clear evidence of community need.

Who can apply?

The Community Wellbeing Grant is open to all organisations and iwi who are providing wellbeing services to communities, individuals, families and whānau impacted by the weather events in 2023.

Communities receiving funding to develop Local Recovery Plans are also eligible to apply. These applicants must clearly demonstrate that their initiative is complementary to their existing recovery mahi.

How much can you apply for?

Grants will be for amounts of up to \$30,000.

What can the grant be used for?

The Tāmaki Makaurau Recovery Office aims to support **innovative** initiatives that enhance the wellbeing of those most impacted by the severe weather events of 2023. This may include:

- Tools, programmes, and resources that promote wellbeing and recovery.
- Community initiatives that enhance cohesion, provide social support, and strengthen community resilience.

We encourage new and creative approaches that have not been previously implemented, allowing us to evaluate their impact on the community. The more innovative, the better!

Grant timelines

- Expressions of Interest (EOI) open: 17 March – 6 April 2025 (three weeks).
- Evaluation and applicant notification: By the end of April 2025.
- Funding release: Before the end of June 2025.
- Funded initiatives to be implemented: Before the end of 2025.