

GRANT GUIDELINES



South West Community Foundation is committed to creating stronger communities through local giving.

Founded by the people of south-west Victoria, for the people of south-west Victoria, the Foundation offers small grants to community organisations across the Warrnambool, Moyne, Glenelg, Southern Grampians, Corangamite and Colac-Otway municipalities.

Our annual granting round provides South West Community Foundation with the opportunity to support hardworking community organisations across south-west Victoria to deliver important projects and initiatives that strengthen and improve our region.

South West Community Foundation Community Grants 2022 - "Connect and Grow"

South West Community Foundation (SWCF) offers grants of up to \$5,000 for not-for-profit, community based organisations and groups through a competitive process to undertake projects in south-west Victoria that *strengthen communities and promote social connection*. We encourage applications from small communities in the south-west region, with areas of interest ranging from the arts and environment, to education, health and wellbeing, accessibility and inclusion, and community building.

South West Community Foundation's areas of interest

South West Community Foundation seeks to support projects that make a positive difference, and have a broad, measurable impact on the community; in your own community, across a whole district, or across the entire region. We look for projects that demonstrate robust planning and value for money, and address the specific needs of your local community.

Projects and initiatives that promote the following areas of interest will be highly regarded by SWCF:

- Strengthening Communities;
- Encouraging philanthropy, volunteerism, fundraising and donations;
- Enabling groups/organisations to better serve/meet community needs, (Capacity building);
- Align with the Foundation's values of accountability, integrity, collaboration and inclusiveness;
- Are sustainable.

Application assessment - criteria

All applications will be assessed against the following criteria:

- **Strengthening communities, and building social connection**
 - SWCF is particularly interested in supporting projects that promote stronger communities and build social connections.
- **Benefit to wider community**
 - The project should clearly demonstrate what the project will achieve, it's expected outcomes, and how the impact will be measured; for direct benefits and for the wider community.
- **Organisational capacity**
 - Organisations must be able to complete their project/initiative by June 30 2023, approximately 12 months after funding approval.
 - Infrastructure projects should provide evidence of support from the property owner/council/land managers with their application.
 - Organisations should demonstrate appropriate governance and management for the project, and operations throughout the project.
 - Organisations must show evidence of their incorporation status.
- **Evidence of need**
 - The project should clearly state why the project is needed, and how the SWCF funds will be used to help deliver the outcomes.

South West Community Foundation will not support applications that

- Support religious or political parties
- Support projects or initiatives that take place outside the south west region
- Come from membership-based organisations
- Come from an individual
- Request sponsorship (Sponsorship is defined by SWCF as being a one-off event or activity, seeking contributions towards the overall operating costs)
- Have outstanding acquittal reports from previous projects.

A note on sporting clubs

Although sporting and recreation clubs make a valuable contribution to our community, as a matter of law, their purposes are generally not recognised as charitable and applications from sporting clubs will generally not be supported. If your application is on behalf of a sporting club and genuinely strengthens the community, builds connection, or offers a service otherwise not being met in your community, it may be considered for support by SWCF.

Acknowledgement

If your application is successful, it is expected that South West Community Foundation is appropriately acknowledged for its funding support. Logos, suggested acknowledgement statements and social media handles will be shared with successful applicants.

Contact us

We strongly encourage all applicants to contact our Executive Officer, Annabel Cussen, to ensure they are eligible, in alignment with our granting objectives, and to discuss the application in detail.

Contact details:

Email:
info@southwestcommunityfoundation.org

Phone:
0437 756 082

Timeline

**Information sessions will be held in March 2022*

March 1 2022	Applications open
March 31 2022	Applications close
April 2022	Assessment period
May 2022	Outcomes advised
June 2022	Grant announcement event <i>(subject to COVID restrictions in place at the time)</i>
June 2022	Payments processed
November 2022	Progress report to be submitted to SWCF
June 2023	Acquittal reports completed and returned to SWCF

