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**Live Well Kent Innovation Fund 2021/22**

**guidance notes**

Live Well Kent is a mental health and wellbeing service, promoting mental health recovery and wellbeing. People are supported to feel part of their local community and the service provides information and skills for a healthy and independent life. Porchlight is one of two strategic partners managing the service across Kent, working with Kent County Council and the NHS Kent and Medway Clinical Commissioning Group.

An important part of the service is to develop, encourage and share innovation in mental health and wellbeing. To support this, we have set up an Innovation Fund across areas of Kent where Porchlight is the strategic partner.

The Innovation Fund for 2021/22 is for projects working with those **aged 17 to 25 years** to help address the mental health impact of Covid-19. Young people have been hugely impacted and a survey carried out this year by Young Minds shows that 67% of respondents believe that the pandemic will have a long-term negative effect on their mental health.

**There is a pot of £50,000** to fund 2 or 3 projects in any of the following areas:

* Dartford, Gravesend and Swanley
* Swale (former Swale CCG area only)
* Thanet
* Dover and Deal
* Folkestone, Hythe and New Romney

We are expecting applications to be for funding of £10,000 to £30,000.

There will be development/innovation funding made available for Medway at a later date.

**What we want projects to achieve**

Being able to show the difference that your project or initiative makes to individuals is important. We want innovations to be able to strongly show **one or more** the following outcomes:

* Improved emotional and/or physical wellbeing
* Increased social inclusion
* Improved employability or access to education
* Increased resilience

**What we will consider funding**

We want to fund projects and ideas where there is a direct benefit to young people with mental health and wellbeing issues. We are particularly interested in the following:

1. **Recovery focused programmes through activity** – through evidence-based programmes, using activity to support recovery and self-management.
2. **Initiatives led by young people with mental health issues** – this could include peer support, programmes or workshops.
3. **Sport, leisure and healthy lifestyles** – using these approaches to achieve better mental health and wellbeing, as well as developing new skills and confidence for young people with mental health issues.
4. **Environmental** – using outside community spaces and green projects to support recovery and early intervention.
5. **Employability** – using evidenced based approaches to support young people to develop skills and build confidence that help with future employment, such as personal development programmes or access to further education.
6. **Deprivation work** – targeted work with young people in areas of high social deprivation (please contact Porchlight if you are uncertain which areas these are).

**Who can apply**

* Charities
* Schools, colleges and universities
* Youth organisations
* Peer-led organisations
* Social enterprises
* Community Interest Companies
* Arts and sports organisations

Groups must have a formal constitution or legal structure, appropriate insurance and policies, and audited accounts (where relevant). You will be asked to provide evidence of these if you are successful.

**How much funding can you apply for?**

The Innovation Fund will provide successful project applications with between £10,000 and £30,000.

**How to apply**

To apply please download and complete the application form **and email your application to** [**innovation@porchlight.org.uk**](mailto:innovation@porchlight.org.uk)

All applications must be submitted by **Monday, 14 June 2021 by 5pm.**

Successful organisations awarded an Innovation Fund contract will be notified by Friday, 2 July 2021 and contracts will be issued in July. The contracts will start on Wednesday, 1 September 2021.

If you would like to talk through your idea or project, please contact:

Fiona Tapley Thanet, Folkestone, Hythe, New Romney, Dover and Deal

[fionatapley@porchlight.org.uk](mailto:fionatapley@porchlight.org.uk)

07525 990255

Teresa Snowden Dartford, Gravesend and Swanley and Swale (former CCG area)

[teresasnowden@porchlight.org.uk](mailto:teresasnowden@porchlight.org.uk)

07788 383813

Decision to award funds will be made by an Innovation Fund panel. A point scoring system will be used. The scoring system will be looking for:

* How well your project meets the Live Well Kent outcomes
* The strength of innovation within the project
* Whether your project’s aims and activities are realistic and achievable
* Realistic budget and value for money

Equal weighting will be given to each area.

If you are successful, we will let you know in writing by email. Please allow three weeks from the submission deadline for our response.

**Monitoring requirements**

If your project is successful, you will need to be able to commit to monitoring paperwork including reporting on progress each quarter. You will also be required to use a wellbeing scale questionnaire for each person using your service; we can provide guidance and support with this.

You will also be asked to provide one case study, with a template provided, and a final project report will be required.

You may be asked for feedback from our communications team so that we can promote and share the successes of the funding.