Healing Pathways
WITH NSHPCA

Public Health Agency of Canada
Agence de la santé publique du Canada

Healing Pathways Community Fund for Grief, Loss and Emotional Wellness

Colchester, East Hants and Cumberland Counties

1. What is NSHPCA's Healing Pathways Community Fund for Grief, Loss and Emotional Wellness?

The Nova Scotia Hospice Palliative Care Society ("NSHPCA") is responsible for distributing $300,000 in funding to support eligible groups or organizations to develop and/or implement community-based initiatives that align with the objectives of the *NS Community Grief and Emotional Wellness Model*, and in particular, address community needs in Colchester, Cumberland and East Hants counties.

2. What is the purpose of this funding?

- To provide direct financial support to the communities most impacted by the April 2020 Mass Casualty Event, in alignment with the objectives of the Public Health Agency of Canada's funding of the Response to Mass Casualty Commission Report recommendations;
- To enable and encourage the development of community-level initiatives, which will provide necessary services and supports to the residents of Colchester, Cumberland and East Hants in the areas of grief, loss, bereavement and emotional well-being; and
- To support the availability of effective and long-lasting resources and strategies in those communities that will enable broad public access to such services and supports.

3. Who can apply for funding?

To be eligible for community funding, applicants must be:

- A registered not-for-profit organization or charity, based and operating in Nova Scotia:
    - Not-for-profit organizations and charities that are based and currently operate in the communities of Colchester, Cumberland and East Hants are eligible for funding, and will be prioritized.
    - Non-profit organizations based elsewhere in the province that propose a project that will directly support the communities of Colchester, Cumberland and East Hants are also eligible.

- If you are a registered not-for-profit, you may partner with another organization.

4. What initiatives qualify for funding?

People experience grief and loss in many different ways. Not all supportive approaches will work for everyone.

Applicants are encouraged to develop projects or initiatives that have a clear focus on supporting those that are experiencing grief, loss and bereavement, and aim to restore emotional health and wellness.

Examples of community-level projects or initiatives might include, but are not limited to:

- Training in supportive grief and loss for community leaders and workers (Train the Trainer approach)
- Community events (e.g. webinars, workshops, healing circles, cultural ceremonial activities, learning events, conferences, etc.)
- Volunteer training
- Development of digital assets and online information resources
- After-school programs
- Family-centred activities such as healing circles, sweats, cultural ceremonial activities
- Art therapy and equipment
- Creation of physical spaces (indoor/outdoor) such as therapeutic gardens or project huts
- Individual and group programs for grief and bereavement support, mindfulness, emotional well-being
- Grief navigation services
- Lecture series with experts on grief, loss, bereavement or positive mental outlook
- Library resources and/or acquisition of grief and bereavement tools (e.g. books, digital assets, music resources, self-reflection or meditation training programs, etc.)
- Music therapy equipment and tools
- Outdoor activities aimed to restore emotional health such as a structured walk or hiking program; youth adventure programs; community and skill building
- Play therapy and equipment
- Pet therapy services
- Peer outreach programs
- Supportive exercise programs

Projects and initiatives may focus on supporting any or all of:

- Those directly or indirectly affected by the Mass Casualty event of April 2020, such as:
  - Young children
  - School age children
  - Youth
  - Adults
  - Parents and families
  - Seniors
  - First responders
  - People with disabilities
  - Diverse cultural communities
  - Newcomers
  - Others

5. What kinds of project expenses are eligible?

**** Only projects directly serving Colchester, Cumberland and East Hants communities will be funded in this round of funding****

Applicants should consider the total cost of implementing a new project, and identify which expenses are eligible based on the information below:

- **Project materials and supplies** necessary for project implementation *(such as but not limited to construction materials, art supplies, technology tools, etc.)*
- **Personnel costs** associated with project execution *(such as but not limited to salaries for project coordinators, consultants, or contractors directly involved with the project).*
- **Marketing and outreach** to promote the project and engage the community *(such as printing flyers, social media advertising, website development, advertising, etc.)*
- **Event expenses** if the project involves organizing events for the community *(such as venue rental, catering, transportation, permits, etc.)*
- **Training and capacity building** *(such as training workshops, sessions or capacity-building activities aimed at enhancing the skills and knowledge of project staff and leadership, volunteers, or community members)*
- **Travel and accommodation costs related to project implementation** if the project involves bringing in external speakers, participants or organizers.
- **General administrative and operating costs** – Up to 10% of the project value may be allocated to administrative and operating costs of the organization applying for funding *(such as office supplies, telecommunications, office utilities, office rent, etc.).*

6. What kinds of project expenses are not eligible?

- Funding to cover budget deficits;
- Loan/Capital loan financing;
- Costs covered by other funding including other government funding;
- Entertainment fees, alcohol, sponsorships, contests, gifts and souvenirs;
- Interest expenses incurred on operating loans;
- Legal challenges, costs, and settlements;
- Mortgage financing unless specifically related to the project;
- Administrative costs (beyond the direct costs associated with the project);
- Professional organization fees paid on behalf of staff for membership in professional organizations.

7. Funding Availability and Project Length

The level of funding will vary from project to project, based on the nature of the proposed activities. Applicants can request up to $50,000.

Project expenses must be incurred before December 31, 2024 calendar year-end.

8. Application Process

Applicants must submit a formal application to be considered for community funding. The application should include the following:

- **Completed and signed application form** – see attached paper form.
- **Completed budget template** -- A detailed project budget outlining how the requested funds will be used.
    - All project expenses must be spent by December 31 of the current calendar year.
- **Project overview:** An overview of the project or initiative, including its primary objectives, key activities, rationale or evidence, and anticipated outcomes should be described in as much detail as possible.
- **Expected Outcomes:** Applicants will be required to state the expected short, medium and long-term outcomes for their project or initiative. Successful applicants will also be required to report on their progress or achievements toward the expected outcomes.
- **Timeline:** A proposed timeline for project implementation, including key milestones and deadlines.

- **Impact assessment:** An explanation of how the project will directly benefit and contribute to grief support and emotional wellness in Colchester, Cumberland and East Hants communities.

Applications may be submitted by email to funding@nshpca.ca.

9. Application Deadlines

The application deadline for this round of funding is June 28, 2024. Applications received after that date and time may be held for future consideration.

The timelines anticipated are:

Activity	Deadline
Funding program opens for applications	June 1
Deadline for applications to be submitted	**June 28**
Review process begins	2 weeks
Applicants notified by phone or email (award, declined, ineligible)	July 17
Letters of agreement drafted and distributed to successful applicants	July 24
Deadline for successful applicants to sign formal letter of agreement and provide banking information	July 31
Distribution of funds to successful applicants (cheques will be mailed)	August
Project reporting due from successful applicants (Round 1 and Round 2)	January 15, 2025

10. Applicant Review and Evaluation Criteria

Once the application deadline has passed, NSHPCA will review all submitted applications and select projects for funding based on the following criteria:

Criteria	Weighting
Response to Identified Community Need *Projects will be prioritized that propose community-level supports and services related to grief, loss and emotional wellness (defined as Level 1 and Level 2 in the NS Community Grief and Emotional Well-Being Model).* *If the organization uses evidence-informed practices, or has performed research or surveys that identify a specific need in the community that your project is responding to, you should include it in the grant application for consideration.*	/ 25
Enduring Impact *Projects that expect to have a long-lasting impact will be prioritized. Make sure your application clearly describes how your project will have a long-lasting positive impact on the community.*	/ 15
Public benefit *Accessible, affordable and inclusive to the general public will be prioritized*	/ 5
Uniqueness and innovation *Projects that demonstrate creativity and uniqueness in addressing community needs will be prioritized*	/ 5
Total	**/ 50**

Applicants may be contacted for additional information or clarification during the review process.

11. Post-Grant Reporting and Evaluation

Upon completion of the project, successful recipients will be required to submit a final report by January 15, 2025, detailing any unspent funds, along with the measured outcomes achieved from the project. Unspent funds over $50 must be returned to NSHPCA at the time of the final report.

Funding recipients that do not complete the post-grant outcomes reporting form will not be considered for future funding.

12. Confidentiality and Privacy

Applicants consent to the release of the organization's name, project title, and the amount of support received under NSHPCA's *Distribution of Community Grant Funding Policy*.

Applicants must also commit to creating their own policy to protect participant data and privacy under the Personal Health Protection and Privacy Act of Nova Scotia.

13. Acknowledgement of Funding Support

Successful applicants are required to acknowledge the support from Healing Pathways community grant funding program.

For more information about this funding opportunity or to discuss your project idea, please contact:

Nova Scotia Hospice Palliative Care Association
Healing Pathways
funding@nshpca.ca

Frequently Asked Questions

Is there a minimum or maximum amount of funding that we can apply for?

The maximum that any applicant organization can apply for is $50,000. There is no minimum amount of funding, however , we expect that most requests will fall between $5,000 and $15,000.

My project has already been started. We would like to request funding to continue the program for another year. Is my project eligible?

Maybe. The 2024 NSHPCA Community Funding grant is intended to support new community initiatives that begin in 2024. However, we recognize that some projects are underway that may have particular significance to the community and can demonstrate that their continuity will be instrumental to community healing and emotional well-being. We will consider these projects on a case-by-case basis if the applicant can effectively demonstrate that continuing the project is aligned with our evaluation criteria and guidelines.

We encourage potential applicants to contact us at funding@nshpca.ca with questions or to discuss their project.

My project has already received partial funding from a municipal grant or other source. Is my project eligible?

Maybe. The 2024 NSHPCA Community Funding grant is intended to support community-based initiatives that are ‘standalone’ new projects. However, we recognize that some larger projects may have already secured funding commitments from other sources, and be able to achieve completion with additional community funding. We will consider these projects on a case-by-case basis, if the applicant can effectively link the project’s completion to our evaluation criteria and guidelines.

We encourage potential applicants to contact us at funding@nshpca.ca with questions or to discuss their project.