

Grants to End Homelessness Criteria 2021 - 2022

**Grants range from $5,000 to $50,000**.

1. All potential applicants **are strongly urged to contact the Mercy Foundation on 02 9911 7390 to discuss their projects** prior to submitting their application. Please call the Mercy Foundation **as early as possible, prior to the submission date.**
2. Grants are available for seeding initiatives, services, projects, advocacy and research that will contribute to the goal of ending or preventing homelessness. The focus this year is **ending or preventing women’s homelessness**. The Mercy Foundation also prioritises projects that end chronic homelessness.
3. The Mercy Foundation prioritises projects that require seed funding and have potential to help build capacity and to create structural and systemic change and have capacity to continue after the funding period.
4. The Mercy Foundation supports housing first, rapid rehousing and permanent housing solutions combined with appropriate support to help end homelessness and sustain housing.
5. Projects that initiate and collaborate through strategic partnerships among funders, policymakers, business leaders, government, housing and service providers are well regarded.
6. Outcomes need to demonstrate that the project has contributed to ending women’s homelessness or contributed substantially to increasing knowledge about pathways into and out of ending homelessness (thereby increasing our understanding of how to intervene early and end homelessness).
7. Applicants must be a legal entity (incorporated association or company) or be auspiced by an appropriate organisation. **Preference will be given to small and medium size organisations.[[1]](#footnote-1)**
8. The Mercy Foundation must be satisfied that the applicant organisation has the competency and capacity to implement the project.
9. If successful, organisations will be required to provide a copy of their Safeguarding Policy as a condition of their funding.

**Grant Eligibility**

**Applications are accepted from not-for-profit community-based groups or organisations (not individuals) within Australia.** The Mercy Foundation will only accept **one application per organisation** in any given year.

* Organisations applying for funds must have a visible and accountable management structure that includes community representatives.
* Organisations applying for funds **must be not-for-profit** and therefore exempt from income tax but are not required to have Deductible Gift Recipient status.
* Applications are accepted for projects run wholly within Australia by organisations based in Australia.
* Criteria for suitability of projects to apply for grants are derived from the aims and objectives of the Mercy Foundation and the criteria for the grants programs.
* The criteria for grants are made known to potential applicants on the Mercy Foundation website [www.mercyfoundation.com.au](http://www.mercyfoundation.com.au) or when requested by email or phone or post.
* Applicants must demonstrate a capacity to implement the project.
* Applicants must display competency in the field of the projects or have included appropriate capacity building in the project design.

**Ineligibility**

The Mercy Foundation **does not** fund:

* Individuals
* The core operating costs of an existing organisation or project on-costs
* Vehicles
* General fundraising appeals
* Food parcels, crisis or emergency responses to homelessness
* Deficit funding
* Projects that will rely on **recurrent funding** from the Mercy Foundation
* Other grant-making foundations
* Projects that do not meet the identified criteria and priority goals of the Mercy Foundation
* Projects located overseas

The Grants to End Homelessness program attracts a high volume of applications. All applications are assessed in line with the grants criteria and prioritised. Unfortunately, due to funding constraints, we are unable to fund all applications that meet the criteria. Please call our office on **02 9911 7390** if you have any questions regarding the Grants to End Homelessness program.

1. 1. As per the ACNC, small charities have revenue less than $250,000 and medium charities have annual revenue between $250,000 but less than $1million. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)