



MINISTRY OF
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
Te Manatū Whakahiato Ora

funding news

ISSUE 15 ✨ FEBRUARY 2011

Welcome to the 15th edition of Funding News, the newsletter for community service providers funded by the Ministry of Social Development.

In this issue we tell you about:

- the roll-out of High Trust Contracts
- dates for round three of the Fresh Start Innovation Fund
- streamlined monitoring
- changes to the TOPS programmes
- the final round of the Community Response Fund
- how the Contract Mapping website is growing
- changes to the SKIP LIF fund
- the Make a Difference Fund
- the annual provider perception survey and its link to the Code of Funding Practice.

CURRENT FUNDING AVAILABLE

Fresh Start Innovation Fund

Closes 3 March 2011

Community Response Fund – Round Six

Closes 25 February 2011

Make A Difference Fund – Round One

Closes 28 February 2011

Youth Development Partnership Fund

Closes 18 March 2011

SKIP Local Initiatives Fund (LIF) closing dates:

25 March 2011 – for winter grants of up to 12 months there is a \$70,000 limit. Initiatives will run between July 2011 and June 2012.

25 March 2011 – for three year grants there is a limit of \$195,000. Initiatives will run between July 2011 and June 2014.

DEVELOPMENT OF HIGH TRUST CONTRACTS CONTINUES

The roll-out of High Trust Contracts is gaining momentum nationally. Forty-three contracts have been completed and the Ministry plans to have well over 100 contracts in place by the end of June this year.

Family and Community Services General Manager, Operations Marti Eller says feedback from providers who are engaged in the process, or have completed it, continues to be positive.



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community services**
ratonga ā-whānau, ā-hapori
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**child, youth
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TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO TAIOHI
Administered by the Ministry of Social Development



Work and Income
Te Hiranga Tangata
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“The responses to evaluation questions from providers indicate they think the new contracts are enabling them to provide a higher quality service because they can more easily adapt their service to what works for client families,” she said.

High Trust Contracts are simple three to four page contracts where funding is paid up front at the start of a financial year and providers are required to only report once – at the end of the financial year.

The contracts:

- recognise the trust built up over time between the provider and funding organisation(s)
- use simple but effective processes that support and capitalise on the strengths and benefits of a high trust relationship
- provide an opportunity to develop common goals and an understanding about how best to work together for the benefit of families and communities.

For more information on High Trust Contracts contact your funding advisor or visit www.familyservices.govt.nz

FRESH START INNOVATION FUND

Applications for the third round of the Fresh Start Innovation Fund, for the 2011/2012 financial year, opened on **7 February 2011**, and close on **3 March 2011**.

Contracts will start from 1 July 2011 and will run for up to a year but must be completed by 30 June 2012.

The Innovation Fund aims to encourage and stimulate communities to deliver their own promising solutions to local youth offending problems, with a particular focus on addressing the needs of Māori children and young people already in the youth justice system, or at risk of offending.

This is a great opportunity for providers with new ideas, or have a programme that offers a different approach. To allow maximum flexibility, the fund is distributed through a system of grants, with a maximum of \$100,000 per annum for each grant application. A national selection panel assesses the applications and recommends the programmes to be funded.

More information about the fund, including the application form and guidelines, are available on www.cyf.govt.nz

COMMUNITY RESPONSE FUND ROUND SIX

The final round of the Community Response Fund is now open and closes on 25 February 2011.

Critical community service providers that have been impacted by the economic recession are invited to apply.

To make it easier to apply, the application forms have been split into two. Applicants requesting grants under \$15,000 can now apply without having to supply additional documentation. Applicants requesting funding over \$15,000 still need to show supporting evidence.

The Community Response Fund is a two year, time-limited fund and was designed for the specific purpose of supporting community service providers through the economic recession. There will be no more funding available under this fund after this final round.

For more information about the Community Response Fund, or to apply for funding, go to www.familyservices.govt.nz

STREAMLINED CONTRACTS: MONITORING

Service lines within the Ministry of Social Development are working together to find better ways to operate.

Work is well underway to streamline the Ministry of Social Development's contract monitoring process for community service providers that have more than one contract with the Ministry's four services lines either regionally or nationally.

The new process aims to reduce the time organisations spend being monitored so they can get on with the business of helping families.

Key elements of the new process include working with providers to establish:

- an individual monitoring timetable that minimises the number of monitoring visits from different parts of the Ministry
- an annual plan for Child, Youth and Family (CYF) approvals visits for the coming year, and
- one person within the Ministry to whom service providers can talk to about any of their monitoring issues, if they so wish.

All providers who have multiple contracts with the Ministry will be contacted about the new monitoring arrangements by the end of April. For providers subject to the Child, Youth and Family approval process, where practical, the Ministry will work to have their approvals and monitoring visits happening at the same time.

Note: contract types that will not be part of the current streamlined processes include NGO Social Work Study Awards, Youth Transition Services, Community Max contracts, employer services contracts and training for work contracts.

Integrated contracts, whānau ora contracts and high trust contracts already include this approach in their agreements.

For more information on the new streamlined monitoring processes contact your funding advisor.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAMME (TOPS) REFOCUSES

A change in focus to the TOPS funding has seen providers make changes to the way they provide the service this year so they can be more responsive to the labour supply needs of employers and local industry.

Last August the Government decided to refocus the TOPS fund. The total amount of available funding will remain the same but from January 2011 the Tertiary Education Commission and the Ministry of Social Development will allocate the funding through a split arrangement.

Sixty percent of the funding is allocated through the existing Foundation-Focused Training Opportunities programmes which last twenty-six weeks. Funding is managed by the Tertiary Education Commission.

These programmes are targeted towards learners at the highest risk of long-term unemployment with a more explicit focus on improving literacy and numeracy skills. Sustainable employment that is equivalent to each learner's benefit type and aligned to job-seeking obligations is the primary objective.

Forty percent of the Training Opportunities funding is for the new 13 week Training for Work programmes.

These programmes are targeted towards more work-ready learners through more industry-focused training that is closely linked to local employment needs. Work and Income are expecting employment outcomes

in a relatively short time period from this part of the fund.

Eighty-four providers have been contracted to deliver 138 of these new programmes to 2,668 clients.

A further funding round is planned for the MSD-funded Training Opportunities programme in 2012.

For more information on the TOPS programmes contact Peter Martin on 04 917 8186 or at peter.martin003@msd.govt.nz.

CONTRACT MAPPING WEBSITE SET TO GROW

The Contract Mapping website has been up and running for two months and in the next couple of weeks it will be expanded to include other government agencies' contract data.

At the moment www.contractmapping.govt.nz only shows funding contracted through the Ministry of Social Development.

By the end of February the website will include contract information from the Ministries of Health, Education and Justice and Te Puni Kōkiri.

The website provides information on government funding of the social sector – who gets it and for what, how much they get and where you can find them.

If you have any enquiries about the contract mapping website you can talk to your local funding and contracting manager or email info@contractmapping.govt.nz.

SKIP LOCAL INITIATIVES FUND CHANGES

Changes to the SKIP Local Initiatives Fund (LIF) combine the priorities and criteria to link more closely with the latest SKIP research report – *SKIP what it is and why it works*.

“We’ve learnt more about what works and so we are trying to encourage more initiatives that show these success factors. The criteria for who will get funding is now a lot more specific,” says Andrea Sarty.

“This will increase communities’ understanding about what the LIF panel is looking for and the likelihood of a successful initiative.”

Funding of \$1.2 million per year has remained the same but we have realigned where we distribute the bulk of the funding to the beginning of our financial year.

We have seen the value of having two funding rounds so communities can try out an idea over the summer months when families are out and about and more reachable.

So we will now run summer grants for initiatives running from December to June. Winter grants will be available beginning in July each year for up to 12 months.

The maximum amount available for summer grants will be up to \$15,000 per year except in the first year where we have allocated a maximum of \$40,000 to take into account some communities who may have been planning their initiatives based on funding levels for previous years.

The changes will allow more organisations to launch their initiatives around the same time which will increase the opportunities for collaboration. It also streamlines the administrative work required by the SKIP team so there is more time to spend providing networking, communications and training support to community organisations.

For more information on the SKIP LIF Fund go to www.skip.org.nz/funding/index.html

FACS ANNUAL PROVIDER SURVEY LINKS TO NEW FUNDING CODE

The second annual survey of providers funded by Family and Community Services will be conducted over the next month.

The survey measures providers' satisfaction with FACS and the quality of interactions they have as they work with FACS in the funding and contracting area.

The survey is only for community-based organisations that are funded by Family and Community Services.

This year questions will also include those about how FACS complies with the new Code of Funding Practice – a voluntary code that sets out the principles and associated standards for how Government and the community can best work together in the funding and contracting space. More information on the code can be found at www.msd.govt.nz/what-we-can-do/community/good-practice-funding/index.html

NEW FUND OPENS FOR CHANGING ATTITUDES TO DISABLED PEOPLE

A new funding round is now open for community projects that work to improve attitudes and behaviours towards disabled people.

Funding applications for this first round need to be in by 28 February 2011.

The fund, called the Making a Difference Fund, will give priority to projects that are collaborative and have support across the community. Projects need a well-thought-out plan to effect local change and contribute to the objectives of the wider campaign to improve attitudes and behaviours towards disabled people.

OBJECTIVES OF THE WIDER CAMPAIGN

The key objectives of the wider campaign are to:

- increase knowledge and understanding of disability
- increase the personal relevance of disability for all New Zealanders
- mobilise personal and community action for positive change
- address the social environment that tolerates or accepts exclusion of disabled people.

By changing social attitudes and behaviours the campaign is working to increase the participation of disabled people in all aspects of community life.

PURPOSE OF THE MAKING A DIFFERENCE FUND

The purpose of the Making a Difference Fund is to:

- ensure the objectives and outcomes of the campaign are echoed, made relevant and acted on in local communities
- build community ownership and commitment to changing attitudes and behaviours towards disabled people, and support local change
- encourage community organisations to work collaboratively towards this end.

To see the kinds of community action that can help to change social norms look at the 'It's not OK' campaign website www.areyouok.org.nz

The *Get Involved* section of the site talks about the various activities people are doing around the country to reinforce the message that family violence isn't OK.

FIND MORE INFORMATION

The funding description and application to improve attitudes and behaviours towards disabled people are available on the Office for Disability Issues website at: <http://www.odi.govt.nz/what-we-do/improving-attitudes-and-behaviours/index.html>

If you have questions after reading the information on-line please get in touch with Josi Wilson on (04) 978 4250 or email: Josi.Wilson045@msd.govt.nz

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP FUND (YDPF)

The Ministry of Youth Development's Youth Development Partnership Fund is open for applications until midday on Friday 18 March 2011. Applications to the Fund must be from Territorial Authorities who are working in partnership with young people and their communities to promote positive youth development.

Projects considered for the fund should demonstrate a council's commitment to engage with young people, respond to local needs and establish best-practice youth development initiatives. Evaluation of the outcomes from any project must demonstrate:

- improved motivation, family and community connections or health and wellbeing
 - that young people have established local connections, improved confidence, developed and practiced leadership skills, and contribute to and influenced their community
 - celebrate young people's achievements and showcase the positive contribution young people make in their community by focusing on group achievements and assisting young people to acknowledge each others' success.
- The total funding available for this round of the fund is \$735,000. As a result of the creation of the new Auckland Council, we have varied the minimum and maximum that can be awarded to a council for their project. The minimum amount is \$22,000 (GST excl). The maximum funding level will be either:
- \$220,000 (GST excl) over a period of up to three years, or
 - a proportion of YDPF funding up to the equivalent of a council's proportion of New Zealand's youth population within their boundaries.
- For further information, see the Ministry of Youth Development website:
- www.myd.govt.nz/funding/youth-development-partnership-fund/
- increased engagement in education, training, tertiary education, employment, or other youth development opportunities

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