

## CHSA (Covid-19 Healthcare Support Appeal) - Guidelines for applicants

CHSA provides grants to organisations to support health and care workers across the UK whose lives are impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Grants are for those needing emergency aid and facing financial hardship, for projects to support mental health and wellbeing and for projects to help the sector's resilience and recovery.

This document provides information about what CHSA is looking for from applicants wishing to apply for a grant. The information below should be viewed alongside the eligibility criteria and the questions on the application form to ensure that as much relevant information as possible is provided.

### 1. Available funding and timescale

CHSA is a time-limited charity and once it has spent down its funds, then the charity will cease to exist. There is no suggested amount that you can apply for though your request must be reasonable and can be justified. A list of grants already made can be found [here](#)

The CHSA Board of Trustees meets and reviews applications on an ongoing basis.

### 2. Who can apply and priority areas?

CHSA is making grants to organisations best placed to deliver support to those in need. Whilst preference is being given to charitable organisations, we will also consider applications from other not-for-profit entities.

Preference is also being given to applications from organisations that support health and care workers most adversely affected by COVID-19. This might include but not be limited to, for example, those within lower salary bands, people from a BAME background, or people in vulnerable groups with an underlying health condition.

Applications from organisations operating within any geographical area within the UK can apply to support health and care staff living and working in the UK.

### 3. Evidencing need and your ability to meet it

In any application, the trustees will expect you to be able to evidence the need of the beneficiaries you are aiming to support and your experience and suitability of being able to deliver your project.

### 4. What does CHSA support?

The funding awarded by CHSA is to support activity under the three themes set out below.

#### (i) Emergency aid and hardship

Frontline health and care staff are at the forefront of the fight against COVID-19 and for many, this is presenting unexpected challenges and making ends meet is difficult. CHSA provides grants to organisations whose beneficiaries are experiencing financial hardship as a result of COVID-19. Funding is awarded to help in a number of ways including:

- Living costs for those unable to work if they are self-isolating, particularly those on zero hours contracts
- Living costs for those whose financial situation has been directly impacted as a result of the virus



- Financial support for families of health and care staff who have died from COVID-19 to pay for funeral costs

### **(ii) Psychological support**

The impact of COVID-19 on the mental health of health and care staff is profound. CHSA is committed to funding projects that offer tailored psychological support to health and care staff who are experiencing the traumatic effects of working on the front line.

### **(iii) Recovery and Resilience**

CHSA recognises that the pandemic will have a long-term impact on the health and care workforce and that new ways of working and projects for recovery will be so important. We are supporting evidence-based projects that will strengthen the health and care workforce and encouraging creative applications that look to bring about positive change across the sector, including through better leadership and peer to peer support.

### **Considerations when applying:**

- Please be clear about the need for your project and provide data and evidence of need
- Clarify whether your application is for a service you already provide and have experience of delivering?
- What are you already providing to beneficiaries specifically in relation to the pandemic?
- Will you deliver the project you are providing in house or will you be working with an outside provider? If so, on what basis have you selected them?
- Are there any particular sections of your beneficiary group that you will be targeting and if so which?
- Have you used your own resources to meet the increase in demand and if so, how much and if not, why not?
- Be clear about the amount of funding you are requesting and how the budget breaks down
- Is the funding to provide additional services or to amplify existing ones?
- Be as specific as possible about beneficiary numbers
- Be clear about expected outcomes for your beneficiaries
- How will you decide who receives the support funded by the CHSA?

### **Checking your eligibility**

Full details of eligibility criteria can be downloaded [here](#). Please ensure that your organisation and application meets the requirements.

### **Discussing your project**

If you would like to discuss your application before completing the CHSA application form, send an email in the first instance to [chsa-admin@rcn.org.uk](mailto:chsa-admin@rcn.org.uk) summarising your project in a few sentences.

**How to apply** Please download and complete the [CHSA Application Form](#) and return it to [chsa-admin@rcn.org.uk](mailto:chsa-admin@rcn.org.uk)