



Grand Challenges Canada®  
Grands Défis Canada

**BOLD IDEAS WITH BIG IMPACT®**

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## **Global Mental Health**

A Global Mental Health Grand Challenge: Mental Health  
and Wellbeing of Young People, Round 1

May 2020

## Executive Summary

Poor mental health is a fundamental threat to the rights of the world's poorest and most vulnerable. The COVID-19 pandemic has only further highlighted disparities in the global health system. While low resource populations bear 75% of the global burden of mental illness, only about 10% of their mental health needs are met. This is due to a lack of resources and trained professionals, and poor mental health literacy limiting access to evidence-based solutions. COVID-19 throws these challenges into stark perspective, heightening the need for accessible mental health support as we all grapple with new levels of stress, anxiety and loss.

For the young, social isolation and increased uncertainty makes an already challenging time even more so. Our youths' mental health is most vulnerable just as they're establishing the social, cultural, emotional, educational, and economic resources they'll need to maintain health and wellbeing throughout their lives. While exaggerated gender discrimination can profoundly impact both sexes, it can particularly limit girls in choosing their own path. Suicide is now the leading cause of death amongst young girls<sup>1</sup> and, after puberty, girls and women are almost twice more likely to be diagnosed with clinical depression.<sup>2</sup>

This request for proposals is supported by the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) UK aid through the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) and the Grand Challenges Canada Global Mental Health program.<sup>3</sup> We're looking to fund bold ideas that meet the mental health needs of the **most vulnerable 10 to 24 year olds**.

We're looking for approaches that:

- are culturally sensitive
- are community driven
- are innovative
- **add to mental health literacy and/or provide youth-friendly services**, while accounting for complex social and environmental factors that contribute to young people's mental health and wellbeing
- **engage young people with lived experiences, and stakeholders, from the outset.**

These bold ideas can come from Canada, the United Kingdom or Official Development Assistance (ODA) eligible low and middle-income countries. Projects must be for eligible low and middle-income countries listed in Appendix A. (See Section 4 for rules and guidelines).

<sup>1</sup> Petroni, Suzanne et al, 'Why is suicide the leading killer of older adolescent girls?', *Lancet*, 2015; 386 (10008): 2031–2032.

<sup>2</sup> World Health Organization, *Gender Disparities in Mental Health*, Available at: [https://www.who.int/mental\\_health/media/en/242.pdf?ua=1](https://www.who.int/mental_health/media/en/242.pdf?ua=1).

<sup>3</sup> Grand Challenges Canada first launched its Global Mental Health program in 2011. To date, \$43.8M CAD has been invested in 95 projects across more than 30 low and middle-income countries. Previous funding calls focused on improving treatments and access to care in low resource settings.

Successful proposals will get seed grants of up to \$250,000 CAD over 18 to 24 months to develop and test their proposed innovation. Assuming enough proposals of merit are presented, Grand Challenges Canada will award around 15 seed grants this round.

Innovators are to use the seed grant to demonstrate proof of concept of their idea. To be considered for further investment from Grand Challenges Canada, innovators also need to:

- develop a scale and sustainability plan
- attract interest from key stakeholders and partners to enact it.

Successful project teams will include people who understand the mental health needs of young people in low resource settings and are capable of developing, testing and refining their innovation to transform their mental health and wellbeing.

**Priority will go to youth-led organizations.** An increased focus on youth-led innovators is planned for round two.

**Proposals should show evidence of meaningful involvement of young people with lived experiences, in the design, testing and evaluation of your innovation.**

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: July 17, 2020 at 3:00pm ET.**

**Proposals won't be accepted after this.**

**Due to processing times, you should register for a Fluxx account no later than July 9, 2020.**

Grand Challenges Canada's Fluxx Portal <[gcc.fluxx.io](http://gcc.fluxx.io)>. (See Section 4.2 *Application Instructions*.)

For technical assistance with registration or the online application, contact Grand Challenges Canada's Fluxx Technical Support team at: <http://www.grandchallenges.ca/fluxxsupport/>

Email [globalmentalhealth@grandchallenges.ca](mailto:globalmentalhealth@grandchallenges.ca) with 'Request for Proposals' questions not answered in the FAQ.

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## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 THE GLOBAL MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM

The aim of Grand Challenges Canada's Global Mental Health Program is to seed and scale up, high impact innovations that support individual mental health needs in low and middle-income countries. With funding from the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) UK aid through the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)<sup>4</sup> to support global health research – we've relaunched our Global Mental Health program to seed innovations to help young people's mental health.

### 1.2 GRAND CHALLENGES CANADA

Grand Challenges Canada is hosted in Toronto at the Sandra Rotman Centre, University Health Network.

**Our vision:** A world in which innovation accelerates the achievement of the UN's [Sustainable Development Goals](#).

**Our mission:** To catalyze innovation that saves and improves the lives of the most vulnerable in Canada and low and middle-income countries.

We're dedicated to supporting **Bold Ideas with Big Impact**® and get funding from a variety of governments and organizations ("Funding Partners") primarily for innovators in low and middle-income countries and Canada. Our **Integrated Innovation**® approach supports bold ideas that combine science and technology, social and business innovation.

We bring a feminist approach to investment and are one of Canada's largest impact-first investors – having supported over 1,000 innovations across 95 countries. We estimate that by 2030, these innovations could save up to 1.6 million lives and improve up to 35 million.

### 1.3 THE PROBLEM

Poor mental health is a fundamental threat to the rights of the world's poorest and most vulnerable. Effective and accessible mental health services and supports are more important than ever as the globe grapples with the COVID-19 pandemic.

Current estimates reveal mental disorders make up **14% of the global burden of disease**. About 75% of this is borne by populations in low and middle-income countries. Due to lack of resources and trained professionals, and poor mental health literacy limiting access to evidence-based solutions, only around 10% of their mental health

<sup>4</sup> Funded using ODA–UK aid from the UK Government. ODA eligible low and middle-income beneficiaries are listed in the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development's (OECD) Development Assistance Committee (DAC) list. See Appendix A.

needs are met.

Social-isolation and quarantine have greatly disrupted young people's lives and routines, with schools closed and social and economic conditions changing rapidly. Seventy five percent **(75%) of all mental health disorders begin before 24.**<sup>5</sup> Research shows that poor youth mental health limits:

- health
- education
- livelihoods
- the formation of positive relationships and communities.

While 40% of the global population is under 24, they get only 12.5% of development assistance for mental health – just 0.1% of the total!<sup>6</sup> With the added stressors of the COVID-19 pandemic, this critically neglected cohort needs more investment and innovation.

Experience from past pandemics shows mental health impacts linger long after the physical dangers subside. Preventing and treating youth issues could limit the future burden of poor adult mental health. **Widespread stigma and lack of youth friendly services** mean, even where mental health services exist, young people are often unwilling or unable to access them. Improving the mental health and wellbeing of today's youth will better position the global community to achieve the UN's Sustainable Development Goals and have 2030 lead by a generation of healthy, empowered, educated and collaborative people.

Over the past seven years, Grand Challenges Canada has supported one of the world's largest portfolios of global mental health innovations, investing \$43.8M CAD to support 95 projects across more than 30 low and middle-income countries.

## 2. Approach

### 2.1 AREAS OF FOCUS

We seek bold ideas to meet the mental health needs of the most vulnerable young people aged 10 to 24 years. We are specifically looking for innovative approaches to **enhance mental health literacy and/or provide youth-friendly services** while accounting for the complex social and environmental factors that contribute to young people's mental health and wellbeing. Approaches should be culturally sensitive and community driven.

**Approaches need to engage young people with lived experiences, from the start.**

<sup>5</sup> Kessler, Ronald C. et al, 'Lifetime Prevalence and Age-of-Onset Distributions of DSM-IV Disorders in the National Comorbidity Survey Replication', *Arch Gen Psychiatry*, 2005; 62:593-602.

<sup>6</sup> Lu C, Li Z, Patel V., 'Global child and adolescent mental health: The orphan of development assistance for health', *PLOS Medicine*, 2018; 15: e1002524.

COVID-19 poses new and unique mental health challenges, while also highlighting existing gaps in mental health services, supports and understanding. Innovations should address ongoing and persistent mental health needs of the most vulnerable young people. Innovations must be bold, innovative, transformational, accessible to the most vulnerable young people, and have the potential to be sustainable at scale.

Innovations should seek to do one or more of the following:

- support community environments that promote mental wellbeing throughout adolescence
- creatively approach mental health literacy and psychosocial education, working to embed mental health understanding in the broader community
- provide effective and affordable youth-friendly community-based care and rehabilitation
- foster resilience and advance mental disorder prevention and mental health promotion
- integrate mental health services and/or wellbeing interventions into existing education systems
- address the mental health needs of young people exposed to violence, with a trauma informed approach
- inventively leverage technology that is highly used and trusted by young people.

We're particularly interested in innovations that:

- aim to empower and give a voice to young people
- inform local communities
- tackle the outcomes of damaging gender norms
- support delivering mental health care through youth-friendly, non-health delivery mechanisms
- consider the social determinants of health – like violence, marginalization and vulnerability

Projects should be transformational, should try to shift the culture around mental health and delivered through a culturally appropriate lens by:

- engaging young people with lived experiences
- building upon local systems
- engaging with local government and policy makers where necessary

Your project team must be led by effective, results-driven leaders, capable of developing, testing and refining these innovations and their delivery.

Projects need measurable outcomes and clear results.

Successful projects will serve as models that can be replicated or scaled in other low-resource settings, or provide lessons for other settings.

## 2.2 TARGET BENEFICIARIES

Innovations must ultimately benefit the most vulnerable 10 to 24 year olds in the eligible low and middle-income countries listed in Appendix A.

## 2.3 AVAILABLE FUNDING

There will be seed grants of up to \$250,000 CAD over 18 to 24 months to develop and test innovations. Assuming a sufficient number of strong proposals, around 15 seed grants will be awarded.

## 2.4 WHAT WE WON'T FUND

We won't fund:

1. projects involving establishing proof-of-concept of innovations for which the core intellectual property rights are owned by a third party institution, unless that third party:
  - (a) grants the applicant sufficient license rights to the innovation to permit eventual scaling in low and middle-income countries
  - or
  - (b) signs an undertaking to comply with our [Global Access Policy](#)
2. projects similar to ones we've already funded – our [searchable database of funded innovations](#) will help you work this out
3. projects implementing in countries **NOT** listed in Appendix A.

## 2.5 FOCUS ON RESULTS

Grand Challenges Canada's ultimate goal is to save and improve lives in low and middle-income countries and fund projects with real-world impact on the mental health and wellbeing of eligible young people. Any proposals need a monitoring and evaluation system to:

- clearly quantify effects on mental health and wellbeing
- identify shortcomings
- maximize impact.

Data collection plans should track your innovation's use, access and impact; plus a brief overview of how you'll evaluate results over your project's life and measure outcomes. Innovators must report against any indicators in Appendix B relevant to demonstrating success.

**Please note:** We'll match youth-led organizations needing help to measure outcomes, with a third party expert. You can request this support in the application but you'll need to reserve \$15,000 CAD in your budget and return unused funds to programming costs.

Please include tools in your project plans to capture lives improved, measuring at least one of the following:

- overall wellbeing
- level of functioning
- severity of symptoms.

How we define success:

- evidence from a controlled or limited setting that the innovation improves mental health and wellbeing for the most vulnerable 10 to 24 year olds
- evidence your innovation can be feasibly implemented, sustained and financially supported at scale in the target region(s)
- demonstrated interest, financing and/or commitments from key stakeholders, influencers and partners for scaling up and sustaining the innovation.

Communicating results is crucial to accountability. While doing this via scientific publications is important, it should not be the primary objective of any funded project without a well-articulated justification that this is on the critical path to impact.

## **2.6 GLOBAL MENTAL HEALTH (GMH) LEARNING PLATFORM**

Currently in development, the GMH learning platform's mentors and experts in the field of mental health and innovation systems, will provide technical support to the project teams we fund. The GMH learning platform will be a responsive resource to maximize the impact of GMH projects and to boost the collective impact of the GMH program.

Specifically, the GMH learning platform will:

- 2.6.1 support projects within the GMH program to achieve sustainable impacts, including mentorship and one-on-one support
- 2.6.2 collect lessons and best practices arising from the broad GMH community to improve the success of program innovations and inform the wider community of learning
- 2.6.3 help track and disseminate the individual and collective impact of GMH innovations for the community and relevant external stakeholders
- 2.6.4 support youth-led organizations to develop processes and frameworks to successfully implement projects.

## **2.7 INTEGRATED INNOVATION**

Projects need to have an Integrated Innovation approach that coordinates scientific/technological, social and business innovation, to develop solutions to complex challenges. This does not discount the singular benefits of each of these innovation

types, but instead highlights the powerful synergies of [aligning all three](#). Therefore your solutions should combine:

- **scientific/technological innovation** – has a base in the psychological, natural, health or behavioral sciences or in engineering or economics; can be simple as there is no requirement for high-tech solutions
- **social innovation** – recognizes and/or addresses the broader social, structural and/or political determinants of health, with a particular focus on gender and intersectional inequalities; addresses local and/or cultural contexts that factor into implementation and scaling
- **business innovation** – maximizes the value, relevance and unique quality of the solution to create demand and financial sustainability; addresses barriers to affordability and accessibility.

## 2.8 SCALE AND SUSTAINABILITY

Grand Challenges Canada is looking for solutions that can be scaled up and project teams willing to do this. Your clear path to scale must account for the following:

- the state of local infrastructure
- social, political and economic forces
- capacity of the organization and its leadership
- available funding and revenue streams
- other potential barriers to scale.

You should try to leverage local systems for efficiencies and engage young people with lived experiences, to increase the likelihood of being able to scale it up.

### Effective Leadership and Project Teams

To achieve impact at scale, bold ideas need to be championed by effective, results-driven leaders with the capacity to convene and engage with key influencers. Effective project teams need expertise, or a plan to engage relevant expertise, in:

- young people's mental health
- monitoring and evaluation
- data analysis and statistics
- working in the implementation region/country.

Multidisciplinary/ cross-sector teams are encouraged to ensure relevant scientific, social, and business expertise. Teams should demonstrate evidence of individual project members' input.

### Understanding Local Context

To help ensure both impact at scale and sustainability, project teams need member(s) who understand local infrastructure and the social, political and economic context. This

includes local cultures, traditions and beliefs and the stigma and discrimination faced by individuals with mental disorders and their families. This will help projects better understand community health status and needs and identify risks to success. Where they exist, you should try to leverage and build on local systems that support mental health, reach the target population, or address broader determinants of mental health.

### **Stakeholder Engagement**

Mental health is influenced by multiple factors including:

- peers
- the family and dwelling
- local communities
- health and social programs and services
- regional, national and global environments.

Based on this, your project should be guided and supported by:

- families
- communities and community leaders
- businesses
- healthcare providers and institutions
- teachers
- policy makers
- governments
- international agencies.

Stakeholders, especially youth and those who'll ultimately decide your solution's fate, should be engaged from beginning to end.

**We won't fund projects not meaningfully involving young people in their design, testing and evaluation.** This is to ensure your solution is poised for initial adoption, and subsequent adaptation, for greater impact.

## **2.9 GENDER EQUALITY, ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY, HUMAN RIGHTS AND INCLUSION**

Grand Challenges Canada (GCC) and the funders of the Global Mental Health Program are committed to furthering the principles of gender equality, environmental sustainability, human rights and inclusion. So, in addition to any funder specific policies, innovators must comply with [Grand Challenges Canada's Policy on Gender Equality, Environmental Sustainability and Human Rights and Inclusion](#).

- **Gender Equality**  
GCC believes gender equality and the rights of women and girls are important, and a critical development objective. Our [Gender Equality Portal](#) provides a set of gender equality tools. GCC's baseline is to do no harm. Innovators funded, or under review for funding, must consider how the design, implementation and

evaluation of their innovation could promote – or hinder – gender equality, and must take actions towards realizing gender equality opportunities within the funding period. In addition, GCC is committed to advancing gender equality in innovation leadership and governance. We strive to source and promote support systems to ensure equal access to progressive levels of financing for all genders, and diversity in governance structures. Gender equality objectives include:

- i) **advancing equal participation by women and supporting women and girls in realizing their full human rights** – GCC seeks to support processes and innovations that actively engage and empower women and their communities to further women’s equal participation and status in their societies
  - ii) **reducing gender inequalities around access to, and control over, the resources and benefits of development** – innovators should strive to understand and mitigate gender gaps where they operate and work towards gender equality and other, broader development goals.
- **Environmental Sustainability**

GCC is, in part, funded by the Government of Canada through Global Affairs Canada and aligns with its efforts in supporting environmental sustainability in developing countries, and the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act 2012*. The reasonably foreseeable environmental impacts of innovations funded, or under review for funding, must be considered at planning stage and, where applicable, monitored and evaluated throughout implementation. You should identify and minimize negative impacts and enhance positive impacts on the local environment(s).
  - **Human Rights and Inclusion**

From proposal development through implementation, GCC is committed to equality, non-discrimination, participation, inclusion, transparency and accountability. We work with innovators to strengthen their focus on these key human rights principles in the design of the innovation(s) and in the systems and processes for implementing the innovation(s) in their specific context. Innovators who have submitted a proposal or are implementing an innovation, must consider how it will, at a minimum, protect the human rights of project stakeholders and beneficiaries. In the design and implementation of the innovation(s), the innovator must consider how the innovation will:

    - reduce local poverty and foster participation and inclusion of local marginalized stakeholders and beneficiaries, particularly women and girls
    - ensure equality and non-discrimination for project stakeholders and beneficiaries, including on the basis of gender
    - promote stakeholders and beneficiaries’ transparency and accountability around the innovation and its intended impact.

## 2.10 GLOBAL ACCESS, DATA ACCESS, AND ETHICS

Grand Challenges Canada (GCC) and the funders of the Global Mental Health Program are committed to:

- fostering meaningful access to supported innovations for the target beneficiaries of each funded project, particularly the marginalized and poor in low and middle-income countries
- promoting prompt and open dissemination of research findings and data arising from funded activities
- ensuring funded research is conducted ethically.

These commitments are embodied in the following GCC policies which you must review carefully. Please note, additional commitments may be included by funders.

#### [Global Access policy](#)

GCC is committed to ensuring:

- the price and availability of all funded innovations are meaningfully accessible to their target beneficiaries, particularly those in marginalized and poor low and middle-income countries
- knowledge and information gained through funded projects is disseminated broadly and promptly to the global research community and beyond
- encouragement for commercializing funded innovations, consistent with these principles.

#### [Data Access policy](#)

GCC is committed to ensuring:

- data is shared as broadly and as promptly as possible to foster innovation and optimize prospects for the translation of knowledge into life-saving solutions
- respect for attribution, cultural diversity, scientific integrity, and the privacy of individuals and communities that contribute data are appropriately considered in all data access activities
- collection, production, sharing and use of data consistent with applicable laws, regulations and standards of ethical research conduct
- the individuals and communities who enable and support inquiry, particularly those in low and middle-income countries – research participants or investigators – benefit from data to the extent possible.

#### [Ethics policy](#)

GCC requires that:

- research involving humans protects and preserves respect for these people, and there is concern for the welfare of individuals, families and communities, and justice

- the care and treatment of animals in research is humane
- research, including but not limited to research with recombinant DNA, biohazards and genetically modified organisms, is subject to enhanced appropriate regulation and oversight.

Innovators are required to:

- commit to compliance with the above policies
- ensure intellectual property rights, including those of third parties, do not impede meaningful access to innovations and widespread dissemination of knowledge
- grant GCC a limited, non-exclusive license to intellectual property rights in their innovations – applicable only if unable to secure meaningful access for target beneficiaries in low and middle-income countries, or in the context of a World Health Organization-declared public health emergency of international concern.

## **2.11 RISK MANAGEMENT, SAFETY, ANTI-TERRORISM, ANTI-CORRUPTION, ANTI-BRIBERY**

Proposals must comply with all relevant UK and Canadian legislation, including anti-bribery and anti-terrorism legislation. Any person or organization named in US, UK, EU, World Bank, Canadian, or United Nations Security Council sanctions will not be funded. We may add to this list as more partners join the challenge.

Innovators are to manage material risks.

Proposals for projects that include work in insecure locations, must detail how they'll manage the safety and security risks faced by people and assets. Proposals must also explain how they'll avoid corruption and the diversion of aid from its intended purpose.

For example, proposals shall include a description of the organization's policies and procedures to address conflicts of interest and financial or other irregularities, including without limitation, adequate procedures:

- requiring the organization and its representatives to declare any personal or financial interest in any matter concerning the funded activities, and exclude that individual from the matter concerned
- identifying steps to investigate an irregularity
- a timely and appropriate plan of action to recover any funds that have been subject to proven fraud.

Proposals must also include a description of the organization's policies and procedures for preventing bribery, including without limitation, adequate procedures under the *UK Bribery Act 2010* and a prohibition of any activity, practice or conduct that would constitute an offence under sections 1, 2 or 6 of this Act.

### 3. Activities and Deliverables

If you get funded, you must demonstrate project progress and success by doing and providing the following:

- a) Performance reporting focused on how funds were used and outcomes achieved. Reporting will be every three or six months, depending on our assessment of project and institutional risk.
- b) Dissemination of knowledge in a timely manner, including through:
  - social media
  - open access publications
  - depositing of data into publicly accessible repositories
  - press releases
  - conferences
  - stakeholder engagement...

Grand Challenges Canada must be acknowledged.

**Note:** Innovators will be expected to publish their findings in open access journals or on open access publishing platforms, typically within 12 months of completing their seed grant.

- c) A final report accounting for financial expenditures, that captures a clear assessment of project impact. Please note we will hold back 5% of funds for projects. This will be released to innovators on submission of a satisfactory final report and full justification of costs.
- d) Continued post-grant updates on impact, global access, data access and management of intellectual property rights in supported innovations.

Instructions for reporting will be provided to successful recipients. Written progress reports and teleconference conversations may be needed.

Innovators must also:

- participate in safe public engagement activities
- contribute to the learning agenda for specific challenges, including participation in meetings, such as annual Grand Challenges meetings.

Funded innovators must retain supporting project documentation for seven (7) years after the end of the agreement, including financial records, and may be audited by Grand Challenges Canada or any funders of this initiative. Associated requirements will be reflected in grant agreements.

## 4. Rules and Guidelines

All proposals go through a multi-step review process before the Board of Directors of Grand Challenges Canada, makes a final funding decision. More detail on this process can be found [here](#).

### 4.1 TO BE ELIGIBLE

Applications must show how they align with Official Development Assistance (ODA) compliance criteria and outline:

- which country(s) listed in Appendix A will benefit directly
- how the application is relevant to the development challenges of the country(s)
- how the outcomes will promote health and welfare for people of the country(s).

1. This is open to any social enterprise and legally recognized institution (e.g. non-profit, for-profit, academic institution) that:

- is formed and legally incorporated
- can successfully perform activities in their technical area
- can receive and administer grants.

These are ineligible:

- sole proprietorships
- government organizations
- United Nations country offices.

2. There can only be one Project Lead for each project and they must be affiliated with the applying organization.

3. A Project Lead can only be listed on one application. Single institutions can submit multiple applications but each needs a different Project Lead.

4. The Review Committee will only consider applications that include all the information required.

5. Your ideas must align with:

- Section 2.1: Areas of Focus
- Section 2.2: Target Beneficiaries.

Section 2.4 outlines what we won't fund.

6. Applicants must obtain any legal and/or regulatory approvals, consents or reviews required to accept foreign grant funds and/or conduct the project activities, before

concluding a funding agreement. For example, project activities in India may require prior registration with the Ministry of Home Affairs under the *Foreign Contribution Regulation Act 2010* (FCRA). As such, successful applicants would have to provide either FCRA registration or written certification. Failure to comply with FCRA requirements may result in financial and/or criminal penalties against your organization. Get advice to determine if FCRA applies.

7. Grand Challenges Canada may, at any time and at our sole discretion, change the eligibility criteria for applicants, Project Leads and/or eligible countries, as long as it doesn't substantially undermine the review process.

**Please note:**

- we must approve any changes to the original application to the applicant organization or Project Lead
- while it's not required, we do encourage applicants from high-income countries to collaborate with innovators from low or middle-income countries.
- Project Leads must get their affiliated institution's sign-off before submitting any application.

## 4.2 APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

1. Go to the [Grand Challenges Canada's Fluxx Portal](#)

- Previously applied for funding? Then you **already** have an account.
- Lost your password? Click on the [Create or reset password](#) link.
- First time user or the 'forgot password' option fails? Click **Create an account**.

**Note:** If registering for a new account on behalf of a colleague, enter all information – including the Project Lead's date of birth and the name of the applying organization. Once entered, this information cannot be changed without administrator assistance.

For new accounts, please allow one business day to receive your username and a URL to set up your password. This may be longer during peak periods, so make sure you don't request an account any later than July 9, 2020.

2. Enter your username and password and click **Sign in**.
3. Click on the Welcome/Bienvenue link on the left menu then scroll down and click **Start an Application**.
  - We recommend Google Chrome. DON'T use Internet Explorer.
  - **Save** your work at any time. Return to it by logging into your account and clicking on **Drafts / Ébauches** and clicking **Edit**.
  - When you're done editing, save your form and click **Submit**. Complete your form carefully because, after it's submitted, it can no longer be edited.
  - You **MUST** submit your application by **3:00pm ET**, July 17, 2020.

See the [Fluxx Quick Reference Guide](#) for more details (including screen shots) about:

- creating a Fluxx Portal account
- resetting an existing account's password
- navigating Fluxx and the application form
- avoiding any technical issues.

Contact the [Grand Challenges Canada's Fluxx Technical Support Team](#) for technical assistance with registration or application.

Your application can only be in English or French. You can change the language at the **Edit Profile** link on the left menu.

**Please note:**

- The application form is only available [here](#). It can't be emailed to you.
- Emailed applications will not be considered.

**Innovator Toolbox**

The Grand Challenge Canada's online [Innovator Toolbox](#) provides researchers and innovators with useful materials to develop their project proposals and plan how their innovation can:

- scale
- be sustained
- have global impact.

Our [Gender Equality Portal](#) provides a set of gender equality tools.

**4.3 APPLICATION TIMELINE**

Key Dates	Event
July 9, 2020	<p><b>Suggested deadline to <a href="#">register for a Fluxx account</a> (<a href="#">gcc.fluxx.io</a>)</b></p> <p>Note: If you have applied for funding in the past, you <b>already</b> have an account. If you do not remember your password, you can reset it and gain immediate access to the Portal. Simply click on <a href="#">Create or reset password</a>.</p>
July 17, 2020	<b>Application deadline is 3:00pm ET</b>
January 31, 2021	<b>Notification of application status</b>
April, 2021	<b>Anticipated project start dates</b>

## 4.4 REVIEW PROCESS

Applications are initially screened for eligibility and innovation, followed by an independent, expert peer review.

### Eligibility Screen

Applications failing to meet the eligibility criteria in Section 4.1 are removed from consideration.

### Innovation Screen

Grand Challenges Canada staff and youth advisors score applications for their strategic relevance to this Request for Proposals. Only the proposed innovative idea will be evaluated, not the feasibility or quality of the project plan. We look for novelty and potential to contribute uniquely to the Global Mental Health program. Proposals lacking innovation and projects similar to ones we've already funded are removed from consideration. Check your application against our searchable database of [previously funded innovations](#).

Applications are scored against the below criteria using **Project Summary paragraphs** only. 'Innovation' and 'Relevance' carry equal weight:

#### 1. Innovation

- Is the proposed solution, aimed at improving the mental health and wellbeing of young people in low and middle-income countries, clearly articulated?
- Does it represent more than an incremental improvement over current approaches and/or an innovative approach to implementation or delivery of a known intervention?
- Is there a clearly demonstrated coordination of integrated scientific/technological, social and business innovation as defined in Section 2.7?

#### 2. Relevance

- Does the proposed solution address the areas of focus in Section 2.1?
- Does it apply to the most vulnerable young people aged 10 to 24, in low or middle-income countries?

### Peer Review

An independent expert peer review committee of external scientific, social and business experts – low and middle-income countries represented – will advise on the merit of proposals and evaluate each one against the criteria in Section 4.5.

## 4.5 EVALUATION CRITERIA

### 1. Youth Priority

Is the organization and the project led mostly by youth?

### 2. Impact

- Is the proposed solution aligned with the areas of focus, outlined in Section 2.1?
- Could the idea significantly impact young people's mental health and wellbeing?
- Will the project have clear outcomes that demonstrate proof of concept of the idea? It must include measures to target at least one of the outcomes associated with improving lives. See Appendix B.
- Does the proposed solution apply to the most vulnerable young people in low and middle-income countries, with potential to address the social determinants of health?

### **3. Integrated Innovation**

- How bold, novel and/or how much of a departure from incremental improvements is the innovation over current approaches? Innovative approaches to implementing and delivering known interventions are encouraged.
- How clearly does the plan identify barriers to scale and sustainability?
- How well does the proposed solution integrate scientific/technological, social and business innovation?
- Will key stakeholders be engaged, particularly young people?

### **4. Project Execution Plan**

- Are the timelines proposed appropriate and feasible?
- How appropriate are the metrics to evaluate progress toward achieving proof of concept?
- How well does the proposal take into account and aim to address Grand Challenges Canada's objectives for:
  - gender equality
  - environmental sustainability
  - human rights and inclusion?
- What evidence is there to indicate:
  - likelihood of success
  - a rigorous assessment of risks
  - an assessment of mitigation strategies?

*Please note:*

Any youth-led organizations signaling that they'd like third party evaluation support are exempt from sections related to metrics and project evaluation.

### **5. Leadership Capability to Champion Change**

- Does the Project Lead have the commitment and leadership potential to bring solutions to scale?
- Are the proposed Project Lead(s) and key team members appropriately trained, experienced (including lived experience of seeking mental health

services as a youth) and positioned in the local community to do the proposed work?

## 6. Value for Effort

- Are the scope of the proposed work and the funds requested, reasonable and commensurate with the proposed study goals?
- Does the proposal represent a particularly thoughtful and efficient use of resources?

## Funding Decisions

The external review will rank and rate fundable applications. Details will be sent to Grand Challenges Canada. We will then make funding recommendations to our Board which will make the final decisions, including using its reserved rights set out in Section 4.13. The Board will take into account the results of due diligence, including the applicant's performance on other projects funded by us and our partners.

Oversight may be required during the negotiation of a funding agreement based on:

- results of the review committee
- the due diligence process
- refinements to the proposed project plan, structure, amount and type of funding.

## 4.6 FINANCIAL TERMS AND ELIGIBLE COSTS

Costs directly related to the implementation of the project are eligible as per the [Eligible & Ineligible Expenses Directive](#)<sup>7</sup> and any additional funder-specific directives included in the resulting grant agreement.

If an organization's published or audited indirect rate is less than the maximum allowable indirect rate, it should apply its published or audited rate for budgeting purposes. Additionally, you **can't** apply indirect-cost rates, like depreciation, to equipment or supply purchases.

Indirect cost rates also apply to approved sub-contractors in your proposal and are limited to the first \$25,000 of each sub-contract per year (12 months) of implementation. These sub-contracted services are excluded from indirect cost rates:

- business supply
- administrative support
- audiovisual
- architectural
- engineer
- construction

<sup>7</sup> Salary support is an allowable cost. Please note that \$7,000 per year must be included within the budget to cover the travel cost of one project team member attending one Grand Challenges Canada Global Mental Health community meeting per year.

- equipment maintenance.

Sub-contractors can't charge the primary applicant for indirect cost rates that exceed the above stated policy.

#### **4.7 TERMS OF PAYMENTS**

1. Advance Payments: On signing a grant agreement, an initial advance is paid equal to the estimated cash flow needs for the eligible costs forecasted for the first period. Subsequent advances are made quarterly or semi-annually on the same basis. Advances are subject to a 5% holdback on the amount forecasted.
2. All advance requests and financial reports submitted must be signed by a senior executive with a certified professional accounting qualification.
3. Outstanding Advances: Advance payments can't cover more than two periods and at no time shall there be outstanding advances covering the cash flow requirements of more than two periods. The first period must be accounted for before an advance for the third can be made.
4. Separate Bank Account and Interest Earned on Advance Payments: A separate interest-bearing bank account must be used for the project.
5. A final payment, up to 5% of the grant amount, is subject to:
  - a. the project being completed in accordance with the grant agreement
  - b. receipt and acceptance of a final report
  - c. receipt of a certificate confirming that all financial obligations to employees, subcontractors or suppliers related to our contribution, have been settled.

#### **4.8 AUDIT**

Grand Challenges Canada can audit funded innovators or any of their partners at any time, up to seven (7) years after the agreement end date. Fund recipients must retain project records until then, as reflected in each funding agreement.

#### **4.9 SUBMISSION MATERIALS AND PRIVACY NOTICE**

Grand Challenges Canada may share any materials you submit in connection with your proposal ('Submission Materials') with any funding partners. This covers proposals, documents and communications; including videos and associated materials.

By submitting Submission Materials to Grand Challenges Canada each applicant grants to Grand Challenges Canada a worldwide, perpetual, irrevocable, non-exclusive, non-commercial, free of charge and royalty-free license to use, reproduce, adapt, modify, improve, develop, translate, publish, disseminate, distribute, communicate to the public by telecommunication, and display such Submission Materials, in whole or in part, in any form, media or technology now known or later developed. This includes the right to

authorize others to do such acts and the right to sublicense these rights to others on the same terms.

Proposals are subject to external review by independent subject-matter experts and potential co-funders with the results being confidential, in addition to analysis by our staff.

Grand Challenges Canada expressly disclaims any and all liability arising from disclosure of confidential information in Submission Materials.

Consult with your legal counsel about the wisdom of disclosure of confidential or proprietary information (including information related to inventions). Consider if such information is critical for us to evaluate the submission and whether more general, non-confidential information would suffice.

Take all necessary steps to protect your intellectual property.

#### **4.10 WARRANTY**

Applicants represent and warrant they have the right to provide any Submission Materials and to grant the above license. Email [globalmentalhealth@grandchallenges.ca](mailto:globalmentalhealth@grandchallenges.ca) with any questions about the contents of your Submission Materials.

#### **4.11 INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

Solutions supported by this program to promote young people's mental health and wellbeing in low and middle-income countries, involve:

- innovative technologies
- services
- knowledge and/or products.

To ensure meaningful access for relevant populations, the successful development and deployment of these solutions may call for involvement by, support of, and/or collaboration with, multiple organizations, including the private sector, and government and academic non-profit research institutions.

Accordingly, this program encourages partnerships essential to meeting these urgent global health needs.

Successful applicants retain ownership of intellectual property rights in supported innovations, including those arising in outputs of funded projects. However Grand Challenges Canada aims to ensure any such rights are used and managed in a way that's consistent with this program's goals. Our Global Access Policy guides our approach to intellectual property, and we urge all applicants to submit applications that comply with this policy.

Successful applicants must commit to our Global Access Policy and sign a Global Access and Data Access Agreement with Grand Challenges Canada, in line with the policy's 'Guiding Principles', applicable to innovative solutions and project outputs supported by this program. The Global Access Agreement will provide a non-exclusive license to intellectual property rights in supported innovations (including background intellectual property) permitting Grand Challenges Canada, and its funding partners and its sub-licensees, to implement and disseminate products, processes, knowledge or solutions in low and middle-income countries where applicants or their partners are unable to achieve meaningful accessibility. Applicants should note that Grand Challenges Canada may have to provide sub-license or sub-distribution rights to funding partners, or to one or more persons they appoint.

Please be aware, the above global access commitments live beyond the end of the project activities.

#### **4.12 DATA ACCESS**

Grand Challenges Canada seeks to optimize data to translate knowledge into life-saving solutions. To do this, data must be made widely and rapidly available to our research community and the broader global health community through ethical and efficient data access practices. In accordance with global access, data access represents an elaboration of the second guiding principle of the Global Access Policy, which states that knowledge gained through discovery is broadly, and as promptly as possible, distributed between related projects and the global scientific community.

At a minimum, 'data' refers to final, annotated quantitative and qualitative datasets, and accompanying information like:

- metadata
- codebooks
- data dictionaries
- questionnaires
- protocols.

Grand Challenges Canada recognizes the value of IP and commercialization, and the benefits of first and continuing use of data, but not prolonged/exclusive use. Sometimes, IP protection laws or regulations can delay or preclude data access. In such cases, the grantee will provide justification to warrant a partial or complete waiver of the data access requirement.

#### **4.13 RIGHTS OF GRAND CHALLENGES CANADA**

This Request for Proposals is part of a discretionary grant program. Submitting an application doesn't create a contract between us. Without limiting the generality of the above, this Request for Proposals and your application, does not commitment Grand Challenges Canada to fund or support your proposal.

Grand Challenges Canada reserves the right, in its sole discretion and without notice, to:

1. Cancel this Request for Proposals at any time and for any reason.
2. Amend and reissue Request for Proposals at any time and for any reason. This Request for Proposals is valid from May 18, 2020 and supersedes any previous ones of this nature. Its terms and conditions apply to all applications submitted from May 18, 2020 and may be replaced by a revised Request for Proposals. Check for any such revisions before submission.
3. Accept or reject applications that don't:
  - meet eligibility criteria, or
  - comply with instructions for the application, including without limitation allowable costs.
4. Reject an application based on performance on a previous Grand Challenges Canada grant or project, or on a grant to the applicant for the same or similar research by one of our partners or collaborating institutions.
5. Disqualify any application at any stage where there is an indication it was plagiarized.
6. Accept or reject any or all applications, regardless of an application's ranking based on the evaluation criteria, with or without an explanation.
7. Award applications with different funding amounts, different durations and/or different conditions than set out in this document.
8. Verify any information provided by applicants through independent research or by contacting reliable third parties and use that information to shape our decision.
9. Provide grants in collaboration with funding partners. This may involve separate grant agreements with each institution (i.e. one with Grand Challenges Canada and one with a funding partner institution), as well as distinct transfers of funds. Any such funding may be subject to terms and conditions beyond those described here. However, the project deliverables will be aligned.

#### **4.14 RESEARCH ASSURANCES**

As Section 2.10 noted, research involving humans and animals and research subject to additional regulatory requirements, must accord with the highest internationally-recognized ethical standards. To receive funds initially, and throughout a research project, researchers must affirm and document compliance with these guiding ethical principles and standards:

1. Human research must be done in a way that protects and preserves respect for people, the welfare of individuals, families and communities, and justice.
2. Animal research must be conducted humanely.
3. Certain research, including but not limited to research with recombinant DNA, biohazards and genetically modified organisms, may require more regulation and oversight.

Grand Challenges Canada requires that, for each venue in which any part of the project is conducted (either by your institution or a sub-grantee or subcontractor), all legal and regulatory approvals for the activities be obtained before starting. You must agree you

won't spend any funds enrolling human subjects until you get the necessary regulatory and ethical bodies' approvals. See [Grand Challenges Canada's Ethics Policy](#) for more.

#### **4.15 COSTS**

Applicants must cover all of their costs in the preparation, submission and evaluation of a proposal and application.

Also, no costs incurred during the application process in response to this Request for Proposals may be charged to any resulting grant agreement if an application is successful.

#### **4.16 GOVERNING LAW**

This Request for Proposals and any resulting grant agreement shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with any and all applicable laws of the Province of Ontario and federal laws of Canada. Each applicant agrees that any and all disputes, actions or proceedings relating to this Request for Proposals whether as to interpretation, validity, performance or otherwise, will be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of the Province of Ontario. Each applicant and Grand Challenges Canada irrevocably attorn to the jurisdiction of the courts of such province.

## Appendix A: Country Eligibility

Applicants from the following list of countries and/or applicants from the United Kingdom or Canada implementing in the countries listed below are eligible to apply:

<i>Afghanistan</i>	<i>Ethiopia</i>	<i>Nauru</i>
<i>Albania</i>	<i>Fiji</i>	<i>Nepal</i>
<i>Algeria</i>	<i>Gabon</i>	<i>Nicaragua</i>
<i>Anguilla</i>	<i>Gambia</i>	<i>Niger</i>
<i>Angola</i>	<i>Georgia</i>	<i>Nigeria</i>
<i>Antigua and Barbuda</i>	<i>Ghana</i>	<i>Niue</i>
<i>Argentina</i>	<i>Grenada</i>	<i>North Macedonia</i>
<i>Armenia</i>	<i>Guatemala</i>	<i>Pakistan</i>
<i>Azerbaijan</i>	<i>Guinea</i>	<i>Palau</i>
<i>Bangladesh</i>	<i>Guinea-Bissau</i>	<i>Panama</i>
<i>Belarus</i>	<i>Guyana</i>	<i>Papua New Guinea</i>
<i>Belize</i>	<i>Haiti</i>	<i>Paraguay</i>
<i>Benin</i>	<i>Honduras</i>	<i>Peru</i>
<i>Bhutan</i>	<i>India</i>	<i>Philippines</i>
<i>Bolivia</i>	<i>Indonesia</i>	<i>Rwanda</i>
<i>Bosnia and Herzegovina</i>	<i>Iran</i>	<i>Saint Helena</i>
<i>Botswana</i>	<i>Iraq</i>	<i>Saint Kitts-Nevis</i>
<i>Brazil</i>	<i>Jamaica</i>	<i>Saint Lucia</i>
<i>Burkina Faso</i>	<i>Jordan</i>	<i>Saint Vincent and the Grenadines</i>
<i>Burundi</i>	<i>Kazakhstan</i>	<i>Samoa</i>
<i>Cabo Verde</i>	<i>Kenya</i>	<i>Sao Tome and Principe</i>
<i>Cambodia</i>	<i>Kiribati</i>	<i>Serbia</i>
<i>Cameroon</i>	<i>Kosovo</i>	<i>Senegal</i>
<i>Central African Republic</i>	<i>Kyrgyzstan</i>	<i>Sierra Leone</i>
<i>Chad</i>	<i>Lao People's Democratic Republic</i>	<i>Solomon Islands</i>
<i>Chile</i>	<i>Lebanon</i>	<i>Somalia</i>
<i>China (People's Republic of)</i>	<i>Lesotho</i>	<i>South Africa</i>
<i>Colombia</i>	<i>Liberia</i>	<i>South Sudan</i>
<i>Comoros</i>	<i>Libya</i>	<i>Sri Lanka</i>
<i>Congo</i>	<i>Madagascar</i>	<i>Sudan</i>
<i>Cook Islands</i>	<i>Malawi</i>	<i>Suriname</i>
<i>Costa Rica</i>	<i>Malaysia</i>	<i>Syrian Arab Republic</i>
<i>Côte d'Ivoire</i>	<i>Maldives</i>	<i>Tanzania</i>
<i>Cuba</i>	<i>Mali</i>	<i>Tajikistan</i>
<i>Democratic People's Republic of Korea</i>	<i>Marshall Islands</i>	<i>Thailand</i>
<i>Democratic Republic of the Congo</i>	<i>Mauritania</i>	<i>Timor-Leste</i>
<i>Djibouti</i>	<i>Mauritius</i>	<i>Togo</i>
<i>Dominica</i>	<i>Mexico</i>	<i>Tokelau</i>
<i>Dominican Republic</i>	<i>Micronesia</i>	<i>Tonga</i>
<i>Ecuador</i>	<i>Moldova</i>	<i>Tunisia</i>
<i>Equatorial Guinea</i>	<i>Mongolia</i>	<i>Turkey</i>
<i>Egypt</i>	<i>Montenegro</i>	<i>Turkmenistan</i>
<i>El Salvador</i>	<i>Montserrat</i>	<i>Tuvalu</i>
<i>Eritrea</i>	<i>Morocco</i>	<i>Uganda</i>
<i>Eswatini</i>	<i>Mozambique</i>	<i>Ukraine</i>
	<i>Myanmar</i>	<i>Uruguay</i>
	<i>Namibia</i>	<i>Uzbekistan</i>



Grand Challenges Canada®  
Grands Défis Canada

*Vanuatu*  
*Venezuela*  
*Viet Nam*

*Wallis and Futuna*  
*West Bank and Gaza Strip*  
*Yemen*

*Zambia*  
*Zimbabwe*

## Appendix B: Key Indicators

### Key Indicators

Funded projects must report on various outcomes and outputs, including those listed below. Please note, this is not a complete list, **and not every project must achieve all of them**. Final outcomes and outputs will be determined by the project team and Grand Challenges Canada. Funded projects will work with other grantees in the Global Mental Health program to share lessons with the wider community.

### Ultimate Outcomes

The ultimate outcomes are the long-term impacts resulting from the innovation. Ultimate outcomes should be achievable and measurable by the end of the funding period. The ultimate outcomes that the Global Mental Health youth seed program focuses on are the number of **lives improved**. Specifically, changes in scores in at least one of the following,

- 1) Overall wellbeing - possible tool, the WHO-Five Wellbeing Index (WHO-5)
- 2) Level of functioning - possible tool, the WHO Disability Assessment Schedule 2.0 (WHO-DAS 2.0)  
and/or
- 3) Symptom severity, projects focused on anxiety or depression should incorporate one of the tools:
  - i. Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-9)
  - ii. Generalized Anxiety Disorder- 7 (GAD-7)
  - iii. Revised Children's Anxiety and Depression Scale (RCADS)

All tools mentioned are available online free of charge and are suitable for use in low and middle-income countries. Projects can use additional locally developed measures as well.

### Intermediate Outcomes

Intermediate outcomes are the medium-term changes resulting from the innovation. These outcomes should be achievable and measurable within the time and resource constraints of the project, and directly linked to the project's outputs. The intermediate outcomes that the Global Mental Health youth seed program focuses on are:

- Number of young people using the innovation to improve their mental health
- Number of facilities/sites implementing the innovation
- Number of intermediaries trained on how to use the innovation ("intermediaries" are the young people, service providers, community health workers, educators, family members, etc., who use the innovation to improve young people's mental health and wellbeing).
- Number of intermediaries using the innovation to improve mental health in their communities

### Immediate Outcomes

Immediate outcomes are the short-term changes resulting from the innovation. These outcomes should be measurable and achievable relatively soon after the project is implemented, and should be directly linked to the project's outputs. Examples of immediate outcomes that the Global Mental Health youth seed program focuses on are:

- Number of young people reached through outreach and awareness activities

- Number of intermediaries reached through outreach and awareness activities
- Number of intermediaries with changes in knowledge or skills as a result of training on the innovation.
- Number of project outputs, peer reviewed papers or patents filed if applicable

### **Outputs**

Outputs are the products or services that are directly produced, developed or implemented as part of the innovation. Examples of outputs that the Global Mental Health youth seed program focuses on are:

- Number and type of outreach and awareness activities conducted
- Number of jobs created as a result of the innovation