

# Global Mental Health

## Request for Proposal

Grand Challenges Canada's Global Mental Health program supports Bold Ideas with Big Impact.® The aim of the program is to seed and transition to scale high impact innovations that support the mental health needs of underserved individuals, in particular young people, in low-and middle-income countries.

### Youth Mental Health

Mental health challenges contribute to 14 percent of the global burden of disease worldwide; 81 percent of this burden occurs in low- and middle-income countries. The global mental health burden is further magnified for youth due to a lack of access to youth-friendly services. Early intervention for youth is essential to providing young people with the supports and skills to help alleviate the mental health burden seen in adulthood.

Seed grants of up to \$250,000 CAD are available to develop and test innovations over 18 or 24 months that meet the mental health needs of the most underserved 10 to 24 year olds in low- and middle-income countries. **Approaches need to enhance mental health literacy and/or provide youth-friendly services.**

Young people and young people with lived experiences of mental health challenges should be involved from the outset. We expect all innovations to be culturally sensitive, community driven, and take a **person-centered, rights-based approach** to mental health.

### Priority Outcomes

Innovations should lead to at least one of the following priority outcomes:

- Increased wellbeing
- Increased resilience
- Decreased symptom severity
- Improved functioning

### We are particularly interested in innovations that:



Use peer to peer models

Tackle damaging gender norms and the mental health needs of people with diverse sexual and gender identities



Deliver care through youth-friendly, non-health delivery mechanisms

Integrate mental health and/or wellbeing interventions into existing education or social care systems



Leverage technology that is highly used and trusted

*The Global Mental Health program is in partnership with the United Kingdom's Department of Health and Social Care using UK Aid through the National Institute for Health Research and Global Affairs Canada.*

Projects should be transformational, aim to shift the culture around mental health, and be delivered through a culturally appropriate lens by working with young people with lived experiences, building upon local systems, and engaging with local government and policy makers where necessary.

**Youth-led organizations will be given priority.** This includes organizations in which fifty percent (50%) or more of the individuals in key leadership positions are youth 35 years and under.

## Eligibility Criteria

Eligible applicants include social enterprises and legally recognized organizations (e.g., non-profit, for-profit, limited liability companies, research/academic institutions) that:

- Are formed and legally incorporated in an eligible country listed in Appendix A of the Request for Proposals and/or Canada. (Please note: Applicants from Canada must implement their project in an eligible country/countries listed in Appendix A of the Requests for Proposals)
- Can successfully perform activities in their technical area
- Can receive and administer grant funding

## Important Dates

**November 23, 2021 at 12:00 pm EST (5:00pm UTC) – Deadline to Register for Fluxx Account.** All applicants **MUST** register for an account on the Grand Challenges Canada Fluxx Portal by this date. Account registrations received after this date and time will not be processed. **ONLY** applicants registered by this date will be able to submit an application.

**December 1, 2021 at 12:00pm EST (5:00pm UTC) – Deadline to Submit an Application.** All applicants **MUST** submit an application via Grand Challenges Canada Fluxx Portal by this date to be considered for funding.



To learn more about the Global Mental Health program and the funding opportunity, please visit <https://www.grandchallenges.ca/programs/global-mental-health/>

Please submit inquiries related to the Request for Proposal that are not addressed in the Frequently Asked Questions to [globalmentalhealth@grandchallenges.ca](mailto:globalmentalhealth@grandchallenges.ca)

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