

Woodspring
Locality Partnership



Woodspring Adult Mental Health Peer Support Grants

Round 1

September 2024

The Board of Woodspring Locality has asked VANS to deliver a small grant scheme for them, focusing on peer support for adult mental health.

Small grants focussing on mental health serve a vital purpose in fostering innovation and accessibility. The grants will allow smaller organisations and grassroots initiatives to develop creative programs and support systems that might not be funded through traditional routes. The grants will provide the opportunity to highlight and demonstrate what our sector can bring through a range of approaches to mental health, catering for specific needs within communities and piloting new methods that can improve the overall landscape of mental health services. This is round one of two rounds of funding opportunities

Mental Health Adult Mental Health Peer Support Small Grant Programme

The grant will fund a variety of initiatives that directly support peer support for people with mental health needs within the Woodspring community.

- Grants could provide funding for supporting peer support programs.
- This could include support groups for specific conditions or activities aimed at supporting mental well-being.
- Grants could fund initiatives that help connect individuals with others experiencing similar mental health issues.

Costs might include:

- Volunteer expenses/travel costs
- Room/venue hire and hospitality
- Training or staff time
- Marketing costs for the activities.

However, grant funds cannot be used to fund the following:

- to directly pay for individual mental health treatment or therapy sessions.
- to generate profit for an organisation or fund lobbying efforts.
- While faith-based organisations can apply, grant funds cannot be used for promoting religion or activities solely focused on religious practices.
- Grants are intended to support future projects, not pay off existing debts or reimburse past expenses.
- Funding is usually not available for purchasing larger equipment, or vehicles unless directly tied to delivering the mental health program.
- Privately owned and profit-distributing companies
- Projects/activities that take place before a grant can be awarded
- Direct replacement of statutory funding
- Promotion of any Religion
- Sports or Arts projects with no community or charitable element

Who can apply?

- Groups providing Wellbeing and Mental Health peer support to adults living in the Woodspring Locality area including prevention, early intervention, and self-care.
- Small organisations where a small amount of funding can make a big difference
- Peer support groups led and/or run by volunteers.
- Groups who are working collaboratively or in partnership.
- Grants are open to non-profit organisations, community groups, and registered social enterprises with a focus on mental health.

What can we apply for?

The grant fund has been set as follows

- Grants for up to £1000 or up to £3000 for larger projects.
- Grant funds must be used for the purposes outlined in the approved project proposal. Allowable expenses may include (list examples: staff training, materials, program development, etc.).

Organisations/groups will need to provide

Completed application form including:

- Project proposal outlining goals, activities, timeline, and budget
- Organisation Bank Account – over £250 – Bank Statement or Accounts
- Safeguarding Policy – We can require it before the money is transferred *
- Equality and Diversity Policy/statement*

*VANS will help to support you in developing these policies if you have not got them already in place

How will applications be assessed?

Applications will be evaluated based on:

- Alignment with program priorities
- Project clarity and feasibility
- Organisational capacity
- Potential impact on the community

All bids will need to be assessed by the panel and rated to ensure fairness.

What and how will we need to report on if we are successful in our application?

We will be asking you to produce a poster as your report at the end of your project.