

phn

HUNTER NEW ENGLAND
AND CENTRAL COAST

An Australian Government Initiative

Primary Health Innovation Fund Proposal

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LAND THAT WE LIVE & WORK ON AS THE FIRST PEOPLE OF THIS
COUNTRY.

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Primary Health Innovation Fund Proposal (PHIF)

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BACKGROUND

The issue

- Whilst there is growing appetite for innovation and partnerships between PHNs and Philanthropy much of the funding commissioned via PHNs is constrained by pre-determined schedules.
- There is limited Departmental funding for ever growing and more complex primary care challenges

The opportunity

- PHN's generally have DGR 1 status, are independent not for profit entities with charitable status
- Government signalling of commitment to work more closely with philanthropy and doubling of giving agenda
- Philanthropic sector often has alignment with our cause areas, appetite for risk and are looking for new and innovative partnerships

Our challenge

- **To provide the Department with tangible funding model they could support to facilitate the joint efforts between PHNs and philanthropy.**

Provide the Government with a funding model that could support efforts between PHNs and Philanthropy



PHIF Timeline

July 2023

**November
2023**

**February
2024**

2024 ongoing

- From the original workshop with stakeholders including PHNs, philanthropic organisations a commitment was undertaken to further develop a conceptual funding model to present to the Department for consideration
- The Primary Health Innovation Fund proposal was finalised with endorsement from the working group.
- The proposal was sent to Minister Butler requesting a meeting to facilitate further discussion.
- The proposal was also disseminated through the Department of Health and Aged Care (DoHAC)
- A meeting was convened with DoHAC representation to discuss the proposal.
- Initial positive feedback with some suggestions for improvements and tweaking of the proposal
- The proposal was re-submitted as requested.
- Several follow-ups within the Department have occurred.
- To date there has been no concrete progression of the proposal
- Opportunity presents to reinvigorate the concept and proposal for further advocacy if the collective appetite is there.



PHIF MODEL COMPONENTS

**ALLOCATED DOHAC FUNDING THAT CAN BE
ACCESSED BY PHNS TO SUPPORT
PHILANTHROPIC PARTNERSHIPS**

**PHNS MUST HAVE MATCHED
PHILANTHROPIC FUNDING**

INITIATIVES MUST BE INNOVATION FOCUSSED

**CAPACITY BUILDING FUND FOR PHNS +
EVALUATION**

**POTENTIAL TO FUND CENTRAL
RESOURCES/TEAM**

Facilitate Innovation

- Supports innovative health system changes that enhance outcomes and deepen impact working with community.

Reduces the long-term budgetary constraints in the national health system.

- Unlocks private capital to support innovations that are expected to lessen the long-term cost burdens on the health system
- Identify gaps and optimises existing initiatives contributing to a more comprehensive health system

Enhance access to primary care and social determinants of health

- Encourages projects extending beyond clinical care to social determinants of health and increasing access

Strengthening Partnerships

- Foster partnerships between DoHAC, PHNs and philanthropic organisations, identifying common agendas and knowledge sharing to drive positive change in primary care

Goals of the PHIF



- Opportunity to revisit the original proposal and concept to enhance, modify or take in a new direction
- Reinvigorate the discussion with Minister and department to raise the profile
- Discuss in this forum any alternative approaches



Where to next.....