

# Memo



MINISTRY OF SOCIAL  
DEVELOPMENT  
TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

**To:** Rena Hona, General Manager, Māori Partnerships and Programmes

**CC:** Heni Turner, Manager, E Tū Whānau

**From:** Sheetal Samy, Senior Advisor, Ethnic Communities Violence Prevention

**Date:** 25 March 2024

**Security level:** Unclassified

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## Ethnic Communities Violence Prevention Innovation Fund – Funding Recommendations

**Action:** For Approval

### Purpose

This memo seeks your approval of the successful Ethnic Communities Innovation Fund recipients.

### **The Innovation Fund is a key component in understanding the prevention of violence in ethnically diverse communities**

The Ethnic Communities Innovation Fund (Innovation Fund) aims to promote the safety and wellbeing of ethnic people by supporting community-driven initiatives for preventing family and sexual violence. The funding enables the community to develop and deliver solutions and activities within their local and cultural contexts.

The Innovation Fund is a critical aspect of the Ethnic Communities Violence Prevention (ECVP) programme and will allow for development of an expanded evidence base that aims to better inform long-term sustainable funding for prevention initiatives and activities specifically for ethnically diverse communities.

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Details of the Innovation Fund were made publicly available through a wide range of MSD and other agency communications channels, including via Te Puna Aonui and the Ministry for Ethnic Communities newsletters.

## **The funds have clear aims and processes to determine impact**

This is a conditional grant fund, as successful applicants are required to deliver their initiative under one or more of the three focus areas below:

1. Developing and testing activities with change-ready ethnic communities and providers throughout the country.
2. Building our collective knowledge and insights into ethnic communities, generated by, and for, ethnic communities.
3. Establishment and development of ethnic-specific services and support to grow the capability and capacity of the sector.

Successful applicants will provide short monthly reports during the delivery period of their initiative, and a final report at the end of the 12-month delivery period.

The monthly, and final, reports will contribute to and expand the evidence base for prevention in ethnically diverse communities. They will allow MSD to gather data to understand the impact of prevention in specific regions and ethnic groups across Aotearoa New Zealand.

## **A robust selection process was followed to identify recipients for the Innovation Fund**

The team worked closely with MSD's legal and contracting teams to ensure a robust selection process was followed to determine the most suitable Innovation Fund recipients.

A pre-evaluation was carried out by Shazia Gazi (ECVP Team Leader) and Sally Clarkson (Former Refugee and Migrant – E Tū Whānau – Team Leader) to determine eligibility.

Following the pre-evaluation, the eligible applications were reviewed, assessed and deliberated by a panel of experts. The voting members of the panel included:

- Joe Lim (Senior Advisor, ECVP Team)
- Samira Ghoreishi (Senior Advisor, ECVP Team)
- Jenny Janif (Senior Advisor, Former Refugee and Migrant team - E Tū Whānau)
- Cristy Trewartha (community mobilisation expert)
- Sripriya Somasekar (FVSV in ethnic communities expert).

Non-voting members included: Sheetal Samy (Senior Advisor, ECVP Team) as the chair, and Ngahuia Wright (ECVP Team Admin) as the minute-taker.

The expert panel considered the following when choosing the successful applicants:

- ethnic diversity
- regional spread across the country
- support for different age groups
- rurality
- types of initiatives
- the ability of the initiative to build evidence and learning about family and sexual violence prevention in ethnically diverse communities.

The panel met from 7-9 February 2024 in Wellington to assess the applications. Twenty-five projects – at a total of \$1,065,000 – were identified for funding.

The panel’s recommendations regarding the organisations to receive the funding are attached, along with a brief summary of each project.

## Recommendation

It is recommended that you:

**agree** to fund 25 projects under the Ethnic Communities Violence Prevention Innovation Fund, at a total of \$1,065,000 – as recommended and advised by the expert evaluation panel.

**Agree** / ~~Disagree~~



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Rena Hona  
General Manager  
Māori, Communities and Partnerships

26 March 2024

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Date

	Organisation/Provider	Initiative description	Focus area/s	Community served	Region	Funding amount
1	ACOFI Auckland – African communities forum	Develop research studies and activities as well as educational and training programmes, which address cultural norms, communication styles and barriers to seeking help. These activities are tailored to a range of groups, specifically suited to the cultural context and set-up of the African community in Auckland.	1 and 2	African community	Auckland	\$45,000
2	Acorn Autism Charitable Trust	Develop a new programme specifically for South Asian families, which will include individual parent training and group parent training workshops. This aims to reduce the stigma of autism in the community, social isolation and abusive parenting practices, which may be related to having a disabled child and being a migrant with different cultural practices related to parenting.	1 and 3	Neurodiverse South Asian Communities	Auckland	\$40,000
3	Adhikaar Aotearoa	Research initiative that will identify ethnic LGBTQIA+ FVSV survivors, mapping their experiences of violence as a visual output. Demographic data will be shared to add a critical layer, offering a spatial context to vulnerabilities by examining intersections with ethnicity, class, caste, neurodiversity, disability, and immigration status.	1, 2 and 3	LGBTQIA+ ethnic communities across NZ	All of New Zealand	\$45,000
4	African Community Council Wellington	Develop an initiative engaging diverse demographics within the African community in Wellington by collaborating with community mobilisers, leaders, and professionals for activities such as community conversations, door-to-door discussions, training, multimedia campaigns, and community events implementing diverse prevention initiatives and advocating for action against family and sexual violence.	1 and 3	African Community	Wellington	\$45,000
5	Auckland Tamil Association	Develop culturally sensitive prevention strategies rooted in Tamil culture and traditions by implementing educational workshops, seminars and support groups tailored to address family and sexual violence issues within the Tamil community. These will focus on addressing gender inequality and other forms of systemic discrimination. This will be whilst establishing language-specific helplines, counselling services and support groups dedicated to aiding victims within the Tamil community.	1	Tamil Community	Auckland	\$45,000
6	Bhartiya Samaj Lower North Island	Deliver 12 family violence and sexual violence awareness workshops over the course of 12 months, evenly distributed between Wellington and Manawatu. These workshops, led by qualified experts and supported by volunteers, are designed to enlighten South Asian and Southeast Asian senior citizens about the various forms of abuse they may encounter, often perpetrated by their own families. The objective is to provide a framework on integrating linguistically and culturally appropriate strategies and values to reinforce respectful relationships in ethnic families.	3	South Asian and Southeast Asian Senior Citizens	Wellington and Manawatu	\$24,000
7	Burmese Rohingya Welfare Organisation	Ruáingga (Rohingya) Wellbeing and Safety Project will be a new initiative with the main objective of working with Rohingya community members (youth, adults (males and	1	Burmese Rohingya Community	Auckland and Blenheim	\$45,000

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		females), elders, community leaders and faith leaders on awareness raising on child sex abuse, family and sexual violence.				
8	CNSST Foundation	CNSST propose a new initiative – the Asian Community Family Harmony Awareness Hub (the Hub) focusing on culturally and linguistically appropriate information/awareness education and service navigation for family and sexual violence prevention in East Asian communities.	1	East Asian Migrant Community	Auckland	\$45,000
9	Cultural Conversations	Building off the concept brought to life with funding from MSD’s Te Korowai Whetū Social Cohesion fund, delivering workshops with external partners on digital/financial literacy, tutoring to support social enterprise development, monthly care/connect sessions for women, and monthly Te Reo Māori sessions for the ethnic communities in Nelson. This will also include group social cohesion trips into Nelson/Tasman locations, shared cultural cooking/meal exchange evenings and hosting a monthly stall at the local Nelson Arts Market.	1	Local ethnic Community in Nelson	Nelson	\$45,000
10	Diversity Counselling New Zealand	Developing and testing child sexual abuse prevention approaches in two targeted Asian communities – Chinese and Indian. This initiative will continue work in understanding parental/caregiver views on child sexual abuse and prevention across many ethnic communities. Community mobilisers will be upskilled to engage with a minimum of 15-20 families from either community to understand their expectations and perceptions regarding the protective and risk factors relating to child sexual abuse prevention. The information gathered will identify common themes and be used as a resource to raise awareness and design workshops for these communities.	1	Chinese and Indian Community	Waikato	\$45,000
11	Ethnic Rainbow Alliance	Develop a Rainbow competency workshop module to be delivered to diverse ethnic communities. The workshop will support ethnic communities and ethnic community organisations to build Rainbow responsive capability, attitudes and practice with a wider aim of identifying and challenging enablers of sexual and family violence.	3	All ethnic communities	Auckland	\$35,000
12	Family Action	Develop a programme for caregivers of children who have been sexually harmed within the ethnic community. The programme aims to support families to make informed decisions regarding the steps they take through the legal system by increasing understanding of: impacts of sexual harm on children and caregivers; how to respond to disclosures; coping strategies and resources for support; and how to navigate the New Zealand legal systems and processes.	2	All ethnic communities	Auckland	\$45,000
13	The Fatimah Foundation	Pathway to Peace (Salaam) aims to support ethnically diverse Muslim men seeking to discontinue the use of violence. This initiative encourages collective community ownership of solutions, support and resources, reflecting a commitment to shared responsibility, by encouraging individuals to proactively contribute to the development of community-driven solutions, fostering mutual support and cultivating a shared sense of purpose.	1	Muslim men	Auckland	\$45,000

14	Iranian Women in NZ	Develop a community-focused programme with the aim of strengthening factors that provide protection from domestic violence, through raising awareness about gender norms and roles, fostering a healthy family relationship, creating community connection and social support, and providing parenting and care support.	1	Iranian and Afghan Community	Auckland	\$43,000
15	Migrant Action Trust- Ethnic Communities Advocacy and Research Unit (MAT-ECARU)	Developing research to understand ethnic parents' perceptions of and responses to their LGBTQIA+ children, in an effort to determine what support is needed for families to provide homes and spaces where LGBTQIA+ children feel safe, accepted and welcomed by the family, extended family and community.	3	LGBTQIA+ from the Middle Easter, Latin American and African community	Auckland and Wellington	\$45,000
16	Migrante Aotearoa	Develop a series of workshops, group therapy sessions and community hui addressing the mental health needs and family wellbeing of Filipino communities. Addressing the stigma of asking for help, which aims to reduce the risk of worker exploitation, isolation, family and sexual violence, and the impacts of intergenerational trauma. Also, to support access to healing and mental health, and social services, to increase protective factors for wellbeing and healthy relationships in the Filipino community.	1 and 3	Filipino Community	Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch	\$45,000
17	Rotorua Multicultural Centre	Working in collaboration with a specialist family violence organisation – Family Focus Rotorua – to raise awareness of family violence in ethnic communities through social media. Local champions will be identified and trained to work in their ethnic communities to prevent and respond to family violence, under the supervision of qualified Family Focus Rotorua staff.	1	All Ethnic communities in Rotorua	Rotorua	\$44,000
18	Sahaayta	Delivering a social change programme for women, men, children and youth in South Asian communities in Auckland, which takes a prevention and early intervention focus that aims for a community-led response to issues that impact them the most. Workshops will focus on dating violence for youth, spirituality, developing understanding of the historical, cultural, and social contexts that have contributed towards family violence, and increased awareness of prevention.	3	South Asian Community	Auckland	\$45,000
19	Shakti Community Council	Initiating an educational outreach programme comprising of an online campaign of curated content, information materials, and culturally-specialist information sessions around gender and family violence within ethnic minorities. This initiative acknowledges the distinctive challenges experienced by women, youth and gender minorities within diverse migrant and refugee ethnic communities.	1 and 3	Middle Eastern and Indian refugee and migrant communities	Otago/Southland	\$45,000

20	Shama Ethnic Women's Trust	Continue delivering and expanding the Community Prevention Programme, which focuses on training community groups on best practices to prevent sexual violence, and supports them to develop a project that works for their community in a way that is relevant for them.	3	Muslim youth in Hamilton, the Korean community and ethnic parents of youth  Developing work with Multi-ethnic youth in the Bay of Plenty, Multi-ethnic group in Whangarei and Latin American Women in Queenstown	Waikato and Oamaru	\$45,000
21	Stopping Violence Dunedin	The initiative contributes to enabling people to help themselves, and promote community wellbeing and address disadvantage, encouraging people to take personal responsibility for addressing family violence, and providing the means to develop healthy relationships. Part of the initiative is to educate and introduce ethnic communities to the services available, and encourage them to form collaborations and seek support from existing services.	1	Former refugees, Māori, Pacific, Ukrainian, Pakistani, Syrian, African & South American	Dunedin	\$35,000
22	Southland Help Rape and Abuse Crisis Support Centre	This initiative aims to better understand the needs, issues and support gaps in the rural ethnic communities of Southland/Murihiku. The initiative includes developing sustainable prevention activities and therapeutic services based on community involvement and learning. Also, forming a community advisory group, developing awareness raising campaigns, co-designing prevention activities and education materials that integrate traditional cultural practices, as well as establishing an ethnic-focused sexual harm support service within Southland Help.	1	The immigrant dairy farm community/rural ethnic communities	Southland	\$45,000
23	Tairāwhiti Multicultural Council	Workshops for women, youth and men to understand their views on family violence prevention in Gisborne, as well as identify protective factors that can be put in targeted campaigns going forward, to ensure communities are kept safe. Initiate an ambassador programme using community champions, including youth, who will promote a 'safer whānau, safer community' philosophy.  Then, using the knowledge gained, develop a video 'for migrants by migrants' that is in different languages outlining the importance of family violence/sexual violence prevention, and the role of individuals and communities in this work.	1	All of ethnic community in Gisborne	Gisborne	\$45,000
24	Tautoko Mai Sexual Harm Support Services Trust	Developing and testing prevention activities through direct empowerment of community members, strengthening collaboration between multiple external stakeholders, and improving communication lines between organisations and community members – whilst establishing and developing ethnic specific services through one-on-one and group discussions with participants to raise awareness of family and/or sexual violence.	1	All of ethnic community in Tauranga	Tauranga	\$34,000
25	Wellbeing Charitable Trust	A series of targeted workshops tailored to the specific needs of each ethnic group, focusing on capability building, community development and mobilisation to address family and sexual violence. Also, to launch comprehensive campaigns that raise	1 and 3	Somali, Afghani, Rohingya, Thai, Pakistani, Fiji Indian,	Auckland	\$45,000

		awareness about pertinent issues within these communities and promote healthy relationships. Alongside, to develop strategic organisational and service plans that extend beyond the scope of this initiative. These plans will lay the groundwork for future implementation, seeking sustainable funding avenues for continued support and growth.		Taiwanese and Māori, communities		
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