

FAQs - NBHF Stage 1: Partnership and Readiness Grant

Date Question Received	Question	Answer	Date published
<i>*Please read all questions and answers; responses should be read in conjunction with each other as they are all related.</i>			
28 November 25	1. Why is this work being done in stages?	This staged approach supports a self-determined Community-led pathway to Community-control of the NBHF operations and to a residential service. This grant process will identify an ACCO partner for HCSD to share decision-making with through a formal partnership agreement. The grant will fund an ACCO to do the work of Stage 1 only. That is, to work in partnership with HCSD to plan and prepare for Stages 2 and 3.	16 Dec 25
28 November 25	2. Why can we not move directly to a residential service?	A supported transition to Community-control needs to happen prior to the establishment of a residential service at the NBHF. Our understanding, based on internal reviews informed by Community and evidence from other jurisdictions, is that to ensure a sustainable transition, we need to allow the time to design and develop an evidenced-based service that meets Community need.	16 Dec 25
28 November 25	3. In the Stage 1 would you expect someone to outline how Stage 2 might look? Are we responding to all 3 stages of the Grant in this response?	Your response should focus how you see Stage 1 going, however part of that will naturally involve outlining your strategic vision for Stage 2 and Stage 3. While this grant is for Stage 1 only; as part of your response, we want you to tell us how you see Stage 2 and Stage 3 working. For example, you could outline how long you think it will take to do the planning and preparation	16 Dec 25

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		as part of Stage 1, and suggested timelines for Stages 2 and Stage 3.	
28 November 25	4. <i>Why has there been no commitment from ACT Government for ongoing funding after this Stage 1 Grant?</i>	Part of the work of the partnership in Stage 1 is to understand what the financial requirements are to transition to Stage 2 and Stage 3. Once this is determined, the usual budget processes will be undertaken	16 Dec 25
28 November 25	5. <i>Does delivery of services have to be solely funded by HCSD/ACT Government?</i>	Similar services in the sector typically have a diverse funding profile to support sustainability. A range of funding sources may be sought or proposed by the ACCO partner to deliver subsequent Stages.	16 Dec 25
28 November 25	6. <i>How will HCSD, as a formal partner, support the ACCO to navigate existing service barriers and risks – such as supports for First Nations peoples in the AMC and their effective transition to Community?</i>	HCSD will work transparently with the ACCO partner to address systemic barriers and concerns, raising Community voice through Priority Reform 1 and shared decision making, as well as actively seeking to change government processes in line with Priority Reform 3.	16 Dec 25
28 November 25	7. <i>How is the original vision of the Elders from the last 20 years going to be included and maintained across all stages?</i>	The Grant requirements guidelines clearly reference Appendix 2.2 <i>The Ngunnawal Bush Healing Farm Healing Framework</i>, a document linked for download on the grant web page. Weighted Criteria WC1, 1b asks how ACCOs will respect that vision moving forward. Responses will form part of the assessment process.	16 Dec 25
9 December 25	8. <i>Why would an ACCO do all this work with no guaranteed funding in future years?</i>	Providing funding for Stage 1 demonstrates ACT Government's commitment to a genuine partnership with an ACCO to deliver a clear pathway forward for the transition to Community-control and residential services.	16 Dec 25

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		We anticipate the costs of service delivery by the ACCO will be different: • due to not knowing what will be proposed by the ACCO • due to the benefits of economies of scale when government delivers services. ACT Government cannot commit funding without knowing what is being funded. This shared decision-making approach requires the ACCO partner and HCSD to trust in the formal partnership process.	
28 November 25	9. <i>Where do I go for support?</i>	PSRContracts@act.gov.au if you have questions specifically about this grant. AboriginalServiceDevelopment@act.gov.au if you are an ACCO needing general support to apply.	16 Dec 25
18 December 25	10. <i>Request documentation of frameworks and models of care developed by the Elders of the previous Ngunnawal Bush Healing Farm Advisory Board; we are aware of consultations and developments by Kerry Arabena and know of other consultants like The Glen that provided consultation and developed models of care and other documents for the Ngunnawal Bush Healing Farm with the input of the Elders</i>	• Kerry Arabena report, <i>Karabena Consulting: Review of the Ngunnawal Bush Healing Farm Healing Framework and ACT Treaty Living Web</i>, is now provided as a new addendum to the FAQs (linked for download). The report's purpose was to give Community confidence that the <i>Ngunnawal Bush Healing Farm Healing Framework (NBHF Healing Framework)</i> and the <i>Living Web</i> (see report) were aligned – and if so to endorse the <i>NBHF Healing Framework</i>. The recommendation of the final report was for <i>The NBHF Healing Framework</i> to be endorsed. <i>The NBHF Healing Framework</i> is referenced in the Grant Requirement guidelines and is also available for download under the 'Before you apply' heading.	19 Dec 25

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		Following Community collaboration and relationship development with members of ADARRN, work to prepare HCSD and the NBHF for Community-control (and later residential services) has been progressed with the support of sector experts, Ngaimpe Consulting. Ngaimpe Consulting were also involved in the development of the approach to this grant process.	
31 January 26	<i>11. Request to extend the Grant closing date</i>	- We have received a request to extend the deadline for the Ngunnawal Bush Healing Farm Transition to Community-Control and Residential Services - STAGE 1 Partnership and Readiness Grant. - The delegate has considered the request and the reasons for it and agreed to extend the deadline for all applications for this Grant to 4pm Friday 27 February 2026.	3 Feb 26