Expression of interest: Bluff Rd estate community garden project

**About the Bluff Rd estate community garden project**

The Bluff Rd Engagement Project is a community development project that aims to create a sense of community and increase access to services and referral pathways for residents living on the Bluff Rd public housing estate in Hampton East. The project is working with residents on numerous initiatives to create a vibrant and socially inclusive community.

Funding of $4,500 has been secured from Bayside City Council to establish a small-scale community garden to support the social, mental and physical wellbeing of residents. It is intended that the garden will:

* encourage resident engagement in community activities
* support horticultural knowledge and skill development through training and participation in garden activities
* provide opportunities for social connection and a space for relaxation and reflection
* address issues related to food insecurity on a small scale.

This is a partnership project between Connect Health & Community, Bayside City Council, Castlefield Community Centre and the Department of Health and Human Services.

**About the opportunity**

The garden will be located at the Bluff Rd end of the Scarborough playground. The project team, managed by Connect Health & Community, will coordinate initial garden development, including installation of two wicking beds. The project team will also remove the garden beds in the unlikely event that this is required.

Expressions of interest are sought from community organisations to manage maintenance of the garden beds in an ongoing capacity, in collaboration with residents of the estate. This will involve:

* Engaging with estate residents and the project team to establish the types of plants to be used and how they will be positioned within the garden beds
* Initial garden planting in collaboration with estate residents
* Establishing a garden maintenance plan in agreement with Connect Health & Community, including a strategy for repairing any damage and removing any graffiti
* Managing ongoing maintenance of the garden in collaboration with estate residents, including watering, re-planting and all gardening activities to sustain a healthy community garden.

This is an in-kind partnership opportunity with no funds associated. The project team is open to working with more than one community partner for this project.

**Application**

Please answer the questions below in the spaces provided

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| Contact | Details |
| Name | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Organisation | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Address | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Telephone | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Email | Click or tap here to enter text. |

1. Why would your organisation like to participate in this project, and over what period of time can your organisation commit to being involved?

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1. What relevant experience does your organisation have that relates to the maintenance of this project?

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1. Please summarise the maintenance plan your organisation would propose for this project, including timelines and a strategy for how the garden will be maintained when your organisation is not available, for example, school holidays, closure periods, unforeseen circumstances (note that a plan will be formalised with the project team).

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1. How will your organisation collaborate and engage with estate residents to maintain the garden?

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1. Are there any potential risks associated with your organisation participating in this project and what strategies will you implement to mitigate these risks?

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1. Are there any special skills or resources that your organisation can provide to further enhance the outcomes of this project?

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1. Does your organisation have any special requirements of the project team or Connect Health & Community with respect to your involvement in this project (for example, facilitating resident engagement, presence on-site, etc)?

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Please note: Submissions close on Friday 20 March 2020

If you have any questions about this Expression of Interest, please contact Jess Kempler on 9192 8986 or Kate Temby on 9575 5349.

Please email your submission to Jessica Kempler at j.kempler@connecthealth.org.au.