

WHAT MAKES A SUCCESSFUL APPLICATION?

INNOVATIVE

- Presents a solution that addresses the factors contributing to the gap/problem
AND
- Articulates how the solution is different / will be more effective in comparison to others within the landscape

What it might look like?

- **New solutions to tackle existing problems**
- **Old solutions to tackle new problems**
- **Value-adding to an existing solution to significantly improve the outcomes of its service users**

What might not qualify?

- Existing solutions
- Conversion of a virtual programme to in-person programme
- Digitalisation of existing services with no other enhancements

COLLABORATIVE

- Level 1: Information Sharing (*Cross-referrals*)
- Level 2: Joint Activities or projects (*Coordination*)
- Level 3: Systematic alignment of work structures/systems

What it might look like?

- Partnerships that leverage on each partner's strengths to create impact
- Partnerships that go beyond an affiliated network

What might not qualify?

- Referral-only partnerships
- Partnerships that are tentative in nature (whereby only some of the partners have been approached and secured)

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EMPOWERING

- Creates a person-centred environment
- Builds on the service users' strengths to expand the assets and capabilities of the community
- Participation that leads to ownership

What it might look like?

- **Co-design and/or co-production with service users**
- **Service user is ultimately involved in the programme delivery**

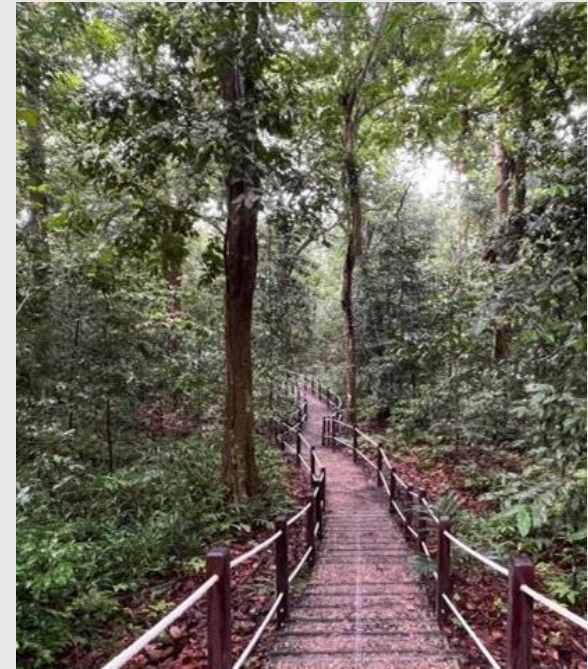
What might not qualify?

- Feedback process that does not engage the service user beyond the collection of data.

CASE STUDY 1

Pace: Bringing Youth Closer to Home

<p>Project Summary</p>	<p>Impart will collaborate with WWF Singapore to conduct group-based therapy for youths-facing-adversity for 50 youths (aged 10 to 24) over a 5-month duration through monthly nature-based mindfulness walks, and facilitate open communication between these youths and their parents.</p>
<p>How is this project innovative, collaborative and empowering?</p>	
<p>Innovation</p>	<p>The approach to tap on nature trails is different from the usual mediums of engagement of youths (i.e. through digital means) and different from usual mental health interventions (i.e. direct counselling vs. group-based activities in nature)</p>
<p>Collaboration</p>	<p>The collaboration puts together the expertise of both organisations (WWF in nature, biodiversity conservation and eco-education, and Impart in engagement and care for youths-facing-adversity) to jointly curate the programme.</p>
<p>Empowerment</p>	<p>The project equips the youth with mental health care skills, has feedback channels to improve the programme from user perspective, and has plans to train suitable youth participants to be facilitators for future runs.</p>



The BLT Initiative (BEING WELL TOGETHER)

Project Summary	Ubuntu Space is collaborating with Shin.tsugi to conduct experiential workshops for persons with lived mental health experience and the general public to interact without prejudice, as well as a showcase event to raise awareness of mental health stigma.
How is this project innovative, collaborative and empowering?	
Innovation	Use of LEGO® SERIOUS PLAY® and Fandom Journaling is a new approach to address both internalized and externalized mental health stigma among the participants.
Collaboration	The project incorporates both Ubuntu Space's LEGO® SERIOUS PLAY® and Shin.tsugi's Fandom Journaling to drive genuine conversations.
Empowerment	The project empowers individuals with lived mental health experience to share their mental health journey.





KEEP IN MIND

as you prepare your application

- 1. Review the NCSS 4ST Partnership Fund website's resources**
- 2. Ensure your proposal meets the ICES criteria**
- 3. Provide relevant information to address the “how” of each component of the evaluation matrix**
- 4. Be direct, clear and concise**

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**PROPOSAL
WRITING TIPS**

PROPOSAL WRITING TIPS

Project Summary:

Example of a vague and unclear summary:

“Our programme is dedicated to breaking chains of intergenerational poverty by offering the transformative power of 3Es: Education, Enrichment, and Excursions, via a safe Environment that nurtures essential skills to build grit and potential for the next generation to thrive. Your support can provide the tools needed to build brighter futures for more young hearts. Help us break barriers, one heart at a time and pave the way for lasting change.”

State the collaborator(s), aim of the project, target audience (profile and number), key interventions/activities, key outcome(s):

“We are collaborating with XX on a befriending programme for 35 youths aged 13-18 from low-income families living in YY *<area of Singapore>* every year, through the 3Es: Education (academic support), Enrichment (interest groups) and Excursions (learning journeys). Key outcomes include improved academic results and improved resilience to deal with challenges faced.”

PROPOSAL WRITING TIPS

Ensure your proposal covers the following:

- Who the project will target
 - What are their demographics (e.g., age range, gender, marital status, income level)?
- How gaps/needs were identified and prioritised
 - Data from user surveys / pilot runs / research studies / national trends, etc.

E.g. “Between August to September 2022, Pro Bono SG administered a legal needs survey to 48 Family Service Centres and 24 Social Service Offices, and engaged over 60 social workers. The key findings from the survey are: Around 17% to 25% of the clients seen by social workers face legal problems. The top challenges identified by social workers included: (a) Insufficient legal knowledge to support clients facing legal problems; (b) Lack of legal support for clients who do not qualify for national legal aid schemes, such as transnational families; and (c) The lack of access in terms of factors including physical proximity to legal aid and ability to use technology.”

PROPOSAL WRITING TIPS

- How the project components will address the identified gaps/needs
- How the project components will achieve the proposed outcomes

E.g. “One aspect of the project involves training social workers to identify legal needs of their clients (*addresses the gap/need of them having insufficient legal knowledge*). This ensures that services provided are relevant for the clients and they can receive more integrated care instead of being referred to multiple agencies (*linked to the outcome of providing integrated social and legal support*).”

- How the proposed outcomes will be measured and rationale for proposed measures

E.g. “80% of clients indicate that they found it helpful to be supported by both a social worker and lawyer - to understand the usefulness of integrated socio-legal support”

PROPOSAL WRITING TIPS

- Write clearly and succinctly: use simple words, go straight to the point
- Invite third party to read proposal to ensure it is clear and understandable.
- Employ tools such as ChatGPT when drafting or refining the proposal, if useful.

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- Programme Design
- Programme Monitoring
- Manpower Needs



<https://go.gov.sg/proposalwritingcourse>