

20 November 2025

Dear Douglas,

On behalf of the ALIVE National Centre for Mental Health Research Translation, thank you for your time and effort in applying to the ALIVE National Centre 2025 Seed Funding Award program. As you are aware up to four research awards may be funded across Next Generation Researcher-led, Lived-Experience Researcher-led, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-led and Community-Based Researcher-led categories.

We are sorry that on this occasion your application within the Community-Based Researcher-led category was unsuccessful in being awarded seed funding. The top four overall ranked applications were considered for funding with three awarded and one remaining open until end of February 2026 for an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-led project. The Centre is committed to supporting priority populations research and has extended this opportunity to ensure that funding support can be provided for that award. We recognise that you and the team will have worked hard to apply to this funding round and thank you for bringing together an application no matter the level of funding involved. Please see below high-level feedback on your application collated from the individual reviews and panel discussions.

We look forward to continuing to work together and thank you for your engagement and participation in the ALIVE National Centre's research and network activities.

Feedback on your application from the independent review panel:

General feedback:

The proposed project is a good topic with clear justification that has a very strong conceptual link to ALIVE's Consensus Statements and Casting the Net actions. It has an ambitious national scope that directly responds to implementation-gap questions, and outlines deep and authentic lived-experience participation in the research.

Reasons the application was unsuccessful:

- *The applicant is not listed as the lead for this project, making it unclear as to the roles of the applicant and the listed research team for the project in the context of being a community-based research project*
- *The project's methodological description is high-level and would benefit from more detail on sampling, on the data-analysis plan, and on ethical considerations.*
- *There were some feasibility questions in regard to the analysis timeline in the current project proposal.*

The seed funding award is part of the capacity building strategy of the National Centre and aims to support researcher development in the Next Generation Researcher Network and the Lived Experience Research Collective. We encourage you to consider future opportunities as they emerge for your proposed research.

Regards

The ALIVE Hub team

(on behalf of the ALIVE National Centre Co-Directors)



The ALIVE National Centre is funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Special Initiative in Mental Health GNT2002047

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OUR MISSION

Transforming mental health and well-being through primary care and community action.

OUR VISION

Vibrant communities that support mental health and promote well-being to enable people to thrive.

OUR VALUES

Lived Expertise

We value lived-experience as a unique expertise that is central to transformation

Practice Wisdom

We value practice experience as a form of wisdom that can inform change

Outcomes Driven

We value making a difference by being data-driven and using evidence for sustained change and impact

Inclusive

We value co-created spaces that are inclusive, equitable and respectful of difference

Authentic

We value collaborations where trust, respect and connection support honouring all expertise

Brave

We value curiosity to grow together, and to be courageous in what we do collectively