

## Coronavirus Mental Health Response Fund (CMHRF) for voluntary sector mental health providers

Voluntary and community sector organisations have a vital role working alongside our NHS colleagues to support anyone who has a mental health problem.

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, demand for mental health services is increasing.

To help VCS organisations based in England continue to provide mental health services - or provide additional support - you can apply for a Coronavirus Mental Health Response Fund (CMHRF) grant.

Thanks to £5m support from Government (the Department of Health and Social Care), grants of £20,000 or £50,000 are available for projects lasting up to 12 months.

On the behalf of mental health providers in England, Mind is administering the fund in partnership with the Mental Health Consortia (MHC), who represent the leading mental health organisations in England.

The National Survivor User Network (NSUN) will be administering part of the fund to support user-led organisations and smaller, un-constituted community organisations, who might not otherwise be eligible for a grant. Details will be available from Monday 20 April on [the NSUN website](#).

You can find out more about the fund and how to apply on both the [Association of Mental Health Providers website](#) and the [Mind's website](#).

### **Kathy Roberts, CEO Association of Mental Health Providers, said:**

*"This is a challenging time for the whole nation and consequently, it is having a detrimental effect on our mental health and wellbeing, especially for people with pre-existing conditions severely affected. The VCSE mental health sector continues to face many challenges in delivering services during Covid-19 and it is vital that service providers working in the community are supported to enable them to continue delivering essential, life-saving services to vulnerable people who need it most.*

*"The £5m grant made available by the Department of Health and Social Care for the voluntary and community sector will provide much needed support to services and allow us to respond to the needs of people who need it the most in these anxious and unsettling times. We look forward to working with our mental health sector partners to continue to support the VCSE sector, and most importantly, those who rely on these services in the community."*

### **Paul Farmer, CEO Mind, said:**

*"We're yet to fully understand the long-term impact of coronavirus on our mental health. But right now, many people are struggling to cope through the lockdown period in isolation or without access those things that help them stay well. For anyone with a longstanding mental health problem this impact is unimaginable.*

*"We're really pleased that Government has recognised the vital role that voluntary sector mental health organisations have in working alongside NHS colleagues in the fight against coronavirus. And we're delighted to be working in partnership with other leading mental health organisations in England to ensure that this government money can quickly reach those organisations who urgently need it."*