# Request for Expression of Interest

# Embedding the “Framework for Mental Health in Multicultural Australia” with PHNs

## **Would your Primary Health Network like to receive free targeted support to improve cultural responsiveness of mental health services for multicultural communities?**

## Background

Embrace Multicultural Mental Health (the Embrace Project) is led by Mental Health Australia and funded by the Department of Health to provide a national focus on mental health and suicide prevention for people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds. It provides a national platform for Australian mental health services and organisations, and multicultural communities to access resources, services and information in a culturally accessible format.

In collaboration with consumers, carers and stakeholders the Embrace Project has further developed and is supporting national implementation of the Framework for Mental Health in Multicultural Australia (the Framework). The Framework is a free, nationally available online resource which consists of a set of modules and self-reflection tools, which allow organisations and individual practitioners to evaluate and enhance their cultural responsiveness and enhance the delivery of services for CALD communities.

The Framework has been mapped against national standards to help organisations and practitioners meet their existing requirements and provides free access to a wide range of support and resources to inform both professional and service development. It has been developed to support Australian mental health services, practitioners, Primary Health Networks (PHNs) and others to work effectively in a multicultural context.

# The Embrace Project is seeking applications from Primary Health Networks

This EOI is to receive free, targeted support from the Embrace Project team in implementing the Framework. There is no allocation of funding associated with this EOI process.

Aim

To develop a comprehensive organisational plan to improve mental health service delivery to multicultural communities. This will be achieved through the implementation of the Framework with targeted support from the Embrace Project team.

This opportunity will allow your PHN to:

* Access free, individualised support to implement the Framework in your PHN and commissioned services
* Map and work with multicultural communities and organisations
* Utilise a comprehensive structure to plan, implement and evaluate effective multicultural mental health interventions
* Work with commissioned services to build multicultural mental health capacity
* Benefit from resources, best practice and specialised knowledge in multicultural mental health
* Build a tailored organisational approach to multicultural mental health
* Timeframe

The selected PHNs will be offered targeted support over a six to twelve-month period to assist in implementing the Framework. The support will commence on 1 April 2022.

## Support provided

* The Embrace Project team will provide dedicated support to participating PHNs to implement the Framework through:
  + Regular meetings to discuss progress, assist in trouble shooting and provide tailored support
  + Facilitated learning workshops with Embrace Project staff
  + Participation in Framework Community of Practice webinars to share knowledge
  + Access to specific resources and tools to assist in Framework implementation
  + Site visits by Embrace Project staff to provide face to face support (where possible)
  + Opportunity to be showcased as best practice on the Embrace website
  + Opportunity to share, network and connect with other PHNs involved in the activity

## Outcomes

Each participating PHN will achieve:

* A plan outlining how the Framework will be applied to your PHN and commissioned services for mental health
* Monthly updates to the Embrace team on how the plan is being implemented, including successes, barriers, and potential solutions
* Participation in webinars/ meetings with other PHNs to share knowledge and best practice
* A brief final report which details how the Framework has been implemented, activities that have been undertaken and sustainability measures to continue the work

## EOI Process

PHNs are invited to submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) application detailing how they propose to apply the Framework within their PHN and commissioned services.

Up to ten PHNs will be selected to participate in this EOI round.

Assessment Criteria

Description of how the Framework will be implemented including timings, processes and staff involvement including a one-page implementation plan.

Demonstrated consideration of local demographics through any current planning processes.

## How to apply

Please complete the attached application form below and email to [multicultural@mhaustralia.org](mailto:multicultural@mhaustralia.org) by 9:00am (AEDT) on Monday 28 February 2022.

Please direct all queries to:

Ruth Das - National Project Manager- Partnerships and Engagement

Phone: 02 6285 3100

Email: [ruth.das@mhaustralia.org](mailto:ruth.das@mhaustralia.org)

OR

Ash Badhan – Embrace Project Officer

Phone: 02 6285 3100

Email: [Ash.Badhan@mhaustralia.org](mailto:Ash.Badhan@mhaustralia.org)

## EOI Timeline

The below table indicates the EOI timeline.

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| **Activity** | **Date** |
| EOI opens | 2:00pm (AEDT) Tuesday 8 February 2022 |
| EOI closes | **9:00am (AEDT) Monday 28 February 2022** |
| EOI Information Webinar | 2:00pm – 3:00pm (AEDT) Wednesday 16 February 2022 via Zoom |
| EOI applications reviewed by the selection panel | Thursday 3 March 2022 |
| Applicants notified of the outcome of their proposal | Monday 7 March 2022 – Thursday 10 March 2022 |
| Successful applicants notified and formal letter attached | Monday 14 March 2022 |
| Activity and support commence | Friday 1 April 2022 |

# Expression of Interest Application Form

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| **Applicant name:** | | |
| **Name of PHN:** | | |
| **PHN address:** | | |
| **ABN:** | | |
| **Applicant details:** | **Phone:** | **Email:** |
| **Additional details:** | **Phone:** | **Email:** |
| EXPRESSION OF INTEREST QUESTIONS | | |
| 1. **Describe how the Framework will be applied including timings, processes, and staff involvement. (Word limit: 400)** | | |
| 1. **Please provide a one-page action plan for implementing the Framework over the next 12 months (e.g., develop a working group) (Word limit: 400)** | | |
| 1. **Demonstrate consideration of local demographics through any current planning processes (Word limit: 200)** | | |
| OPTIONAL QUESTION | | |
| **Please provide any additional information to support your application. (Word limit 500 words)** | | |