



Community-Led Collaboration Project (CLCP) Community Engagement Grants Description

The Opportunity

The Community-Led Collaboration Project (CLCP) is an opportunity for action - for B.C. communities to engage locally in meaningful and inclusive conversations about creating a better network of services for children and youth with disabilities or support needs and their families.

What is shared in these conversations will help inform the transformation of the current delivery of programs. Our vision is that the changes will include an accessible, inclusive, culturally safe, needs-based approach to providing support and services for children and youth who are 0-19 years of age, have a disability, diagnosed or undiagnosed, need support, and/or have a possible developmental delay.

With these grants, service providers and families are invited to partner to develop and implement a plan for the gathering and reporting of information that describes the “strengths”, the “gaps” and the “hopes” reflected in their community conversations.

The major focus of the Community-Led Collaboration Project is to take a community development approach to transformation that considers the uniqueness of a community, the families, and the children and youth who are in need of support, with an emphasis on the inclusion of perspectives that have been historically excluded.

- The grants are open to any organization or group of organizations that will collaborate in a community partnership to create conversational spaces to discuss the future of services for children and youth with disabilities or support needs in British Columbia.
- Applicants must demonstrate the capacity to lead the development of a multi-layered plan to gather information about what is working well, what is challenging, and what would help to make things better across the community.
- The plans should include the ability for service providers, families, and other members of the community to participate in multiple ways (e.g. in-person meetings, online meetings, surveys, community events, etc.).
- There are 30 grants available across British Columbia. Maximum grant amount - \$20,000 (only one grant per community will be awarded).



Background

When the BC government announced in October 2021 the new service delivery framework for Children and Youth with Support Needs (CSYN), the four umbrella organizations in this project expressed our belief that any changes should be rooted in the needs of children, youth, their families, and the communities they live in. Inclusion BC, the BC Association for Child Development and Intervention, the BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres, and the Federation of Community Social Services of BC presented a proposal and were granted funding for the “Community-Led Collaboration Project” (CLCP).

This project has four guiding principles:

- Community-driven change,
- Collaboration,
- Reconciliation & Decolonizing (making intentional space for historically excluded voices and perspectives), and
- Transparency & Timeliness.

In 2022, the BC Government paused the rollout of their redesigned service delivery framework and changed the direction allowing for wider and deeper engagement. The Community-Led Collaboration Project team adjusted to this shift by creating an opportunity for broader conversations. Guided by our project’s principles, we continued our engagement plans and co-hosted community-centred conversations about what changes are needed to better support children and youth in BC.

Initial community engagements were held in Campbell River & Gold River (May 2023), Castlegar (June 2023), Kamloops (October 2023), Port Alberni & West Coast Island Communities (October 2023), and Richmond (November 2023).

In Phase 2 of the project, there are grants available for 30 communities in BC to build on their existing strengths and develop their own community-led engagement. Based on the learnings accumulated during Phase 1 of the project, a “Community Engagement Guide” has been developed to share and provide suggestions for how communities might develop their own engagement plan. The guide includes information and guidance from the planning and design to the implementation and completion of the community engagement and its report.

The results from all the conversations from Phase 1 and 2 of the project will inform a report to the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) with the expectation that all community reports will inform the future of services for children and youth with support needs (CYSN) in BC.



The Expectation

Applicants can be individual organizations or, ideally, a group of agencies forming a partnership to deliver this project, with or without a lead agency. Please note that the emphasis of this project is collaboration. Applicants are asked to develop, organize, and implement a multi-layered approach that allows service providers and families to share their thoughts and ideas about the delivery of services and supports for children and youth aged 0 to 19 living with disabilities, either diagnosed or undiagnosed and need supports to participate meaningfully in family and community life.. A major focus for this project is to ensure that people with a wide diversity of perspective and experiences can participate, especially those that have not been historically included. Therefore, applicants are asked to describe how they will create a variety of ways for members of their community to share their thoughts that are accessible and comfortable, and how they will create opportunities for authentic conversations that are diverse, inclusive, and culturally safe.

Finally, applicants are asked to develop a community report that includes relevant information about their community and all the information collected during the implementation phase of their engagement. This report should lead to the creation of a framework for community collaboration and transformation and define ways to develop and nurture sustainable partnerships for change. The applicants are required to submit their community report with the vision for their community to the project team.

Applicants will have access to the Community Engagement Guide prepared by the project team to support their planning, implementation, and reporting on their community-led engagement.

Timeline

- January 10, 2024 - Grant application process opens across the province.
- February 29, 2024 - Deadline to submit grant applications.
- March 15, 2024 - Successful grant applicants notified.
- March 31, 2024 - Grant fund distribution is completed.
- April – Oct 2024 - Communities implement their engagement plans.
- November 15, 2024 - Communities submit the final report to the provincial project team.
- Nov 15 – Dec 10, 2024- Final interviews with the local engagement teams.
- January 2025 - Final provincial report submitted to the Ministry by the Community-Led Collaboration Project team.



Deliverables for CLCP Grant Recipients

- Conversation sessions with families and service providers. Number and format to be decided by the local engagement team in ways that supports community participation.
- Session to report back to the community.
- Session to discuss community solutions (solutions tables).
- Summary of participants evaluations.
- Community report – reflecting the community profile, engagement results, and the analysis of strengths, gaps, and needs of the community.
- Final interview with the project team.

Examples of costs that can be covered with the Community Engagement Grant

Short-term wages for a community organizer	Childcare support – either onsite or in-home
Payments for an in-person sessions facilitator	Honourariums for Elders
Audiovisual and tech support	Gift cards for participants at family sessions
Food and beverages	Honourariums for onsite childminder
Rental of venue	Advertising in local media (newspaper, radio)
Printed materials <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • handouts • evaluation forms • posters 	Facilitation materials <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • flip charts and markers • post-it notes and pens • labels/name tags
Services of a local counsellor for people who may be triggered (\$150 for one session).	Transportation support for families (may include overnight stays for people travelling significant distances into a larger center).

Guidelines to prepare your application

You can use the following list to prepare your answers to submit your application. Please note that the application is an online form, and word limits apply to some answers.

1. Explain your interest in coordinating the community engagements.
2. Brief description of the organization that will receive the grant money – basic demographics, contact information, services provided, population served, how you are involved in the delivery of services for children and youth with disabilities or support needs, and anything else you think is important for the project team to know about you.



3. List of the community partners that will become part of the planning team for this project. Who have you reached out to and who has agreed to work with you? Include the name of the contact, role, organization, and contact information and confirm they have agreed to partner with you.
4. Description of the plan for community engagement - please refer to the [Community Engagement Guide](#) or the [Community-Led Collaboration Project](#) for examples of activities that have been completed in the initial communities. Focus on details that answer the following questions about who needs to be in the conversation:
 - How will you engage service providers, including those in the surrounding region?
 - How will you engage families, including those in the surrounding region?
 - How will you engage the larger community (recreation/leisure services, municipal planners, library services, school district, higher education, health authority etc.) for the solutions table?
5. Timelines for implementing your project and delivering the final community report.
6. Give us an idea of how you will spend the money granted.

Final Report and Interview

The final report would need to include information about:

- A. **Your approach to the engagement** – what you did and how you created safe spaces for conversation.
- B. **About your community** – describe your community’s composition and particular circumstances you want to include. Include information about children and youth with disabilities or support needs in your community. For example, you can use the data from the [Early Development Instrument](#) (EDI) by the Human Early Learning Project (HELP) from the University of British Columbia that gives information on children’s development vulnerability by school district. Or you can use information from [2021 Canadian census data](#). These two data sets can have information about your community that helps to describe some of the characteristics and needs in your community.
- C. **What you heard** – organize the results of your conversations by themes under the guiding questions:
 - a. What is working in your community?
 - b. What are the gaps or what is missing in your community?
 - c. What would a better network of services and supports for children and youth should look like in your community?
- D. **Solutions** – include the solutions that were identified at the solutions table session.
- E. **Financial report** – a separate document that explains how the grant funds were used for your engagement.



We want to hear about what you learned from your experience. You can use the following questions to prepare for your final interview.

1. What did you discover is going well, what is missing, and what the community would like to see regarding services for children and youth with disabilities or support needs in your community?
2. What worked well in the engagement process? What did you do that resulted in the greatest participation?
3. What would you do differently to increase participation or the amount of information gathered?
4. What new partnerships were developed?
5. What partnerships should be nurtured and sustained on an ongoing basis to enhance the experience of children and youth with disabilities or support needs and their families?
6. Were the funds made available through the grant enough for this project?
7. What kinds of innovations did the money allow you to do that you couldn't do before?
8. What are two key actions that could be started in your community to keep the conversation going?

The community reports for the initial communities will be available on the project's website, and you will be able to use them as guidance to prepare your report.

**Submit your application by 4:00 pm on February 29, 2024 at
this link: inclusionbc.org/clcp-grant-apply/**

If you need accommodations for submitting your application, please reach out by email to clcproject@inclusionbc.org