

New Social Innovation Grants Program benefits community

Friday, 21 January 2011

Community groups are invited to apply for the first round of the State Government's new Social Innovation Grants Program.

Mental Health and Disability Services Minister Helen Morton launched the program today on behalf of Premier Colin Barnett.

"The program will provide financial support for social innovation in the community sector and is open to not-for-profit organisations," Mrs Morton said.

"The grants are designed to offer a clear incentive for the community sector to try new ways of doing business that produce better outcomes for people in need.

"Social innovation is all about developing new ideas, such as products, services or models, to better meet social needs and bring social benefits to the community."

The Government has allocated \$2million funding for 2010-11, increasing to \$4million in future years.

"To be socially innovative, an organisation must understand the needs of the community it serves and be willing to try new strategies to meet those needs in a more tailored and targeted way," the Minister said.

"Through the program, we want to encourage the sharing of policy, practice and data across agencies and identify co-location opportunities.

"This program is expected to make a significant contribution over time towards the establishment of a culture of innovation in the delivery of human services in this State."

Applications are open now and run until March 31, 2011.

More information is available at <http://www.communities.wa.gov.au/grants> or phone 6217 8400.

Minister's office - 9213 7250



Hon Helen Morton MLC

Minister for Mental Health;
Disability Services; Child
Protection