

# headspace First Nations focused evidence building scholarship

## Information document

### 1. Purpose and background

headspace National Youth Mental Health Foundation has a vision that all young people are supported to be healthy and engaged in their communities. To bring this vision into being, and in line with our core principles of participation and inclusion, headspace is committed to the delivery of culturally safe care for First Nations young people seeking mental health support.

Between 2020 and 2021, 8% or nearly 8000 of the young people accessing headspace centres and services identified as First Nations young people. The *headspace Evidence Building Scholarship: First Nations Focused* will support doctoral research on a topic broadly related to how mental health support can more appropriately meet the social and emotional wellbeing needs of First Nations young people.<sup>1</sup>

The purpose of this scholarship is to:

- provide an opportunity for a First Nations scholar to be supported to undertake research into a priority area broadly related to the social and emotional wellbeing of First Nations young people
- build research capacity in First Nations youth mental health, and
- highlight the headspace commitment to being evidence-led

### 2. Expectations

1. PhD students will be expected to:
  - Work with headspace National to identify a topic focused on the research priority area
  - undertake a PhD by publication. This will comprise 4+ publications over the course of the degree. These publications will be made available to headspace National and the network.
  - collaborate closely with headspace throughout their candidature
  - provide regular work-in-progress seminars and reports for headspace National
  - attend collaborative meetings organised by headspace (twice yearly)
  - present at headspace Forum
  - students will be strongly encouraged and supported to study full-time, which is required for them to complete within 3 years (they would be able to undertake limited part-time work while studying – determined by their supervisor)
2. Supervisors will be expected to:
  - Support supervisees to focus on the research priority area identified by headspace
  - collaborate closely with headspace
  - inform headspace of any issues with the candidature
  - ensure regular updates for headspace National
  - attend collaborative meetings organised by headspace
3. headspace will provide:
  - scholarship funding

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<sup>1</sup> Gee, G., Dudgeon, P., Schultz, C., Hart, A., & Kelly, K. (2014). Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander social and emotional wellbeing. *Working together: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander mental health and wellbeing principles and practice*, 2, 55-68.

- ensure effective integration and collaboration across headspace National and network (e.g., with headspace intern initiative)
- organise bringing students, supervisors, and headspace National together for a preliminary meeting to meet each other and discuss research questions (early 2022)
- organise twice yearly meetings for students to present progress and gain input from hYNRG and headspace National
- Dr Georgia Privitera will be the headspace national point of contact for students and supervisors and will facilitate collaboration and provide access to resources

### 3. Scholarship Package

Table 1 provides an overview of the scholarship package which will be paid to the PhD candidate.

**Table 1: Scholarship Package (3 calendar years)**

Description	
<b>Scholarship (grant)</b>	\$30,000 per year
<b>Collaboration (flights)</b>	Flights (twice yearly to meet headspace national)
	Flights - presentations at headspace Forum
<b>Subscription</b>	Open access publication fee for 4 open access articles
<b>Professional Development</b>	Consumables and incidentals, including survey costs, recruitment costs; professional development etc – max \$10,000 over 3 years

If you are interested in more information or wish to submit an expression of interest, please contact Dr Georgia Privitera at [gprivitera@headspace.org.au](mailto:gprivitera@headspace.org.au)