



COVID-19 Sector Update 14 April

[Click Here for the NTCOSS COVID-19 Webpage](#)

CALL FOR UPDATES: NT Organisations delivering frontline services

In light of the current situation, NTCOSS recognises that there will be ongoing changes of service delivery and availability for many organisations.

If your organisation is currently operating in a modified way, here are two ways that NTCOSS can assist in sharing this information:

- Member organisations can manually update details regarding service delivery in their listing on our [Directory](#). If you require any assistance with this change, email jacob@ntcoss.org.au or admin@ntcoss.org.au.
- NTCOSS is releasing a regular Sector Update on Mondays and the eBulletin on Thursdays, while there remains a need for more frequent updates. If you would like your change of delivery of services added to the next Sector Update, please email admin@ntcoss.org.au with the relevant details, using the subject line 'CHANGE OF SERVICE DELIVERY – SECTOR UPDATE'.

COVID-19 News and Resources

NEWS: JobKeeper Payment Update for NFPs

After an update from Federal Treasury, charities and NFPs registered with the ACNC will now be eligible for the JobKeeper payment if they estimate their turnover has fallen, *or will likely fall*, by 15 per cent or more relative to a comparable period. More information [here](#).

NEWS: Hardship provisions for energy, water and rates

National Cabinet agreed to a nationally consistent approach to hardship support across the essential services for households and small businesses.

- Offering flexible payment options to all households and small businesses in financial stress – including small businesses eligible for the JobKeeper Payment;
- Not disconnecting restricting supply/services to those in financial stress;
- Deferring debt recovery proceedings and credit default listing;
- Waiving late fees and interest charges on debt; and
- Minimising planned outages for critical works, and provide as much notice as possible to assist households and businesses during any outage.

For more information click [here](#).

UPDATE: Worker and Wellbeing Fund

The Worker and Wellbeing Fund has been established to support local workers struggling with the economic effects of the COVID-19 crisis. This funding is to meet new and emerging gaps, and will complement other funding initiatives by the Northern Territory or Australian Government. The fund will focus on Territorians who are not eligible for Centrelink benefits and are experiencing unemployment, reduced income or who are affected within their workplace in relation to COVID-19, with four main goals:

1. Help people access the range of wellbeing and other counselling or support services that are available
2. Help people navigate the welfare system and access income and any other financial support available
3. Help workers who have lost their job find new employment opportunities fast (such as guiding people to job matching services like the Territory Jobs Hub)
4. Assisting Territorians who require access to accommodation and other essentials.

If your organisation would like to apply for funding that supports individuals that meet the criteria of the fund please read the [factsheet](#) and complete and send the [application](#) form via [email](#). The email address can also be found on the application form. Please [click here](#) for more information.

GRANTS: City of Darwin COVID-19 Response Grants Program

City of Darwin has established a COVID-19 Response Grants Program to provide funding of up to \$10,000 to community groups or organisations to create and deliver innovative solutions to meet the changing needs of the community due to the impacts of COVID-19.

The first grant round of \$50,000 will be for projects delivered by **30 June**. The second round of \$100,000 will be for projects delivered between **1 July** and **31 December**. The grants guidelines, FAQs and a link to the SmartyGrants application form can be [found here](#). For more information please [email here](#) or call (08) 8930 0645.

AWARD CHANGES: Schedule X: Additional measures during the COVID-19 pandemic

The Fair Work Commission has inserted a new schedule into 99 modern awards, including the Social, Community, Home Care and Disability Services Industry Award 2010. Schedule X: Additional measures during the COVID-19 pandemic (the schedule) provides employees with an entitlement to take unpaid pandemic leave and flexibility to take annual leave at half pay. Schedule X is in operation from 8 April 2020 until 30 June 2020 and may be extended by application. [See a summary of the decision here.](#)

VOLUNTEERING: Volunteering NT Update and Call Out

Does your organization need volunteers at this time? [Volunteering NT](#) has received a large number of inquiries regarding people with capacity to volunteer during this period. In addition, Volunteering NT are compiling a list of organisations that require volunteers, and are asking that organisations that currently have volunteer programs can advise them of any changes due to COVID-19.

Please [email here](#) to advise if your volunteer program is still operating, if you require volunteers and include a brief blurb about what activities you require volunteers for e.g. working in isolation or working with other etc. Volunteering NT can then start referring people to your volunteer program.

RESOURCE: COVID-19 Factsheets in Language

The Federal Government has created [factsheets](#) in many languages that cover topics such as identifying symptoms, social distancing, community return, residential care services and early childhood centres.

Past eBulletins and COVID-19 Sector Updates

Access past eBulletins here:

[NTCOSS COVID-19 Sector Update 9 April 2020](#)

[NTCOSS COVID-19 Worker's Wellbeing eBulletin 6 April 2020](#)

[NTCOSS COVID-19 Sector Update 2 April 2020](#)

[NTCOSS COVID-19 Sector Update 30 March 2020](#)

NTCOSS is a not for profit, member based, peak body for the social and community services sector in the Northern Territory. We're an advocate for social justice on behalf of people and communities in the NT, who may be affected by poverty and disadvantage.

NTCOSS acknowledges that we work on the land of the First Peoples of the Northern Territory and respect their continuing cultural connections as traditional owners of this country.

Don't forget to check out the NTCOSS website and follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

Submit an item to eBulletin

To contribute notices to our Sector Update, please email your information in the body of an email or as a Word document to admin@ntcoss.org.au

Please ensure your contribution is in line with [NTCOSS guidelines](#) and includes all appropriate dates, times, links and contact details.

NTCOSS thanks HESTA for their ongoing support of this publication



Copyright © Northern Territory Council of Social Service Inc., All rights reserved.

NTCOSS makes every effort to provide accurate and useful general information in its publications and other communications but accepts no liability for the use of the material by individuals or organisations. If you believe you or your organisation has been misrepresented we are happy to include corrected information in the next issue of the NTCOSS eBulletin.

NTCOSS does not necessarily agree with or endorse information represented in this eBulletin. Entries included in this eBulletin are at the discretion of NTCOSS.

Our mailing address is:

admin@ntcoss.org.au

PO Box 1128 Nightcliff NT 0814

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)