

Bill Crews International - Information for potential partners

1. Reverend Bill Crews

Reverend Bill Crews has been working to support vulnerable people across Australia since the 1970s. He was central in establishing the first Australian 24-hour crisis centre to provide emergency response and established the first modern centre to support youth experiencing hardship. These initiatives aimed to holistically support those affected by homelessness, hunger, domestic violence, addiction, and myriad other welfare challenges. Branching from and scaling-up this effort, Bill founded the Exodus foundation to advance education and employment for young people; relieve the effects of poverty and homelessness; and ensure food security for the most vulnerable members of local communities to name but a few of his organisation's endeavours.

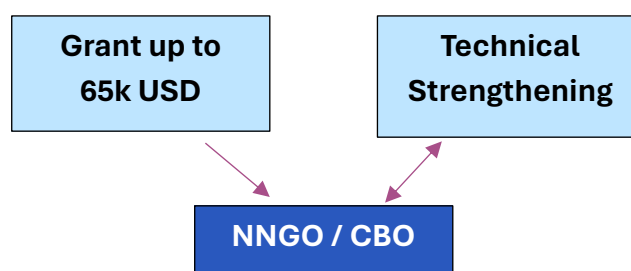
Throughout his life and career, Bill has received numerous accolades including a humanitarian of the year award (1992), recognition as an Australian National Living Treasure and the Order of Australia (AM). His community-led work has seen 3 million meals provided to people affected by homelessness and poverty across Australia while his mission continues through his drop-in centre and adjoining services in Sydney and outreach efforts across the country. While Bill's work will continue to expand in Sydney and beyond, he and his team will now also focus on expanding and formalising his previous contributions and advocacy into the international development and humanitarian sphere.

2. Bill Crews International (BCI)

Bill's work, research and global engagement has often focused upon populations and individuals who have been displaced by conflict, and specifically those living in camps and other hard to reach and underserved areas. BCI will focus on supporting local communities, national non-governmental organisations, and community-based organisations in their endeavour to alleviate the complexities and ill-effects of natural and man-made disasters. Organisations who work with populations affected by displacement; a lack of health and/or education opportunities; and protection concerns will be prioritised.

BCI recognises that at the heart of development and humanitarian relief, lies local strength, capacity, and resilience. For us, this means that our priority as an international NGO, our way of working intently focuses upon localisation approaches and locally led response. In practice, this means that BCI will work via a partnership-based approach with national non-governmental and community-based organisations. Partnerships will be absolutely built on foundations of mutual accountability, equitability, transparency and sustainability.

2.1 Bill Crews International: A two-pronged approach



- Grants of up to \$65,000 USD for a 6–18 month project in the areas of education; health including psychosocial support / mental health; and protection interventions for women, children, and vulnerable people.
 - Other types of intervention will be considered if there is a strong evidence base of *community-led decision making* and/or *community-led prioritisation* of needs and solutions
 - This project will be monitored and supported technically where required by a Bill Crews International Focal Point

- Partners will identify their own priorities for development as well as existing strengths and/or gaps. Following discussion and light assessments, BCI and the partner agency will mutually set capacity strengthening plans.
 - BCI and the partner will develop and agree upon an action plan for capacity strengthening. Modalities of such may include but are not limited to intensive skill sharing; formal trainings or courses; mentoring; specialist consultants
 - Specifically, BCI expects to technically support the following from in-house resources:
 - NGO governance, systems, processes, management
 - Programme management and institutional donor engagement
 - International advocacy
 - Coordination: Internal and external
 - Institutionalising accountability to affected populations / community engagement and accountability
 - Education and literacy
 - Protection programs with specific interest to case management
 - Health including mental health and psycho-social / therapeutic support
 - Camp Coordination and Camp Management

- Meaningful community engagement should be illustrated by the potential partner in the survey and project concept form to the extent possible. If there is an organisational desire to

strengthen community engagement mechanisms for scalability, it should be expressed in the this form too.

2.2 Conditions

- BCI and the partner organisation will mutually agree on what success looks like in terms of outcomes, impact and means of measurement.
 - This will be supported through using regular program management systems including work plans, project management frameworks, M&E plans, risk registers etc.
 - If there are technical gaps in program management systems and project cycle management mechanisms, BCI will work with the partner to establish standard practices and ways of working
- Capacity strengthening approaches will be tailored to the specific needs of the selected partner(s) and will be technically robust. Skill scale-ups and grant management will be complemented by scheduled meetings, discussion, and collaborative reflection.
- The partner will meaningfully engage with BCI, provide regular feedback on the approach and actively support BCF to improve its means of providing holistic and tailored support to NNGO's / CBOs.
- The partnership, grant management and capacity strengthening will be based on trust, openness and mutual commitment in pursuing shared objectives and collaboratively overcoming obstacles.
- If awarded a grant, partners will sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). There can be no changes to the agreement as per the MoU unless both BCI and the partner have mutually discussed, reflected and agreed on next steps. If so, an MoU amendment will be signed by both parties.
- If awarded, the grant must be used entirely as agreed in the MoU and project proposal. Changes to project spending and/or capacity strengthening initiatives must be communicated in a timely and open fashion with both parties agreeing on next steps and agreed amendments based on changes in the context.
- Regarding skill scale-ups and capacity strengthening, funding will not be drawn from the awarded grant but under a differing BCI internal funding stream to the extent budget allows.

2.3 Application Process

- i. Potential partners should read through the above information to ensure everything is clear and that the NNGO / CBO is on-board with the selected approach.
- ii. The Potential Partner Survey and Project Concept form can be found [HERE](#) (mandatory completion). It is recommended to go through the question list with the relevant colleagues before completing the form via the provided link. Question list can be found **on the NGO Forum website**. If not accessible there, please get in contact.
- iii. Applications will be assessed using a grading system which will consider but is not limited to the below.
 - a. Willingness, understanding and commitment to BCI's proposed approach toward localisation

- b. Illustrated commitment to community engagement and community-driven response
- c. Organisation size; governance structure; illustrated ways of working and opportunities for strengthening
- d. Capacity strengthening needs

2.4 Other information

- **Timelines**
 - **Applications** will be open for 21-25 days inclusive of weekends. Deadlines are stipulated on the survey form.
 - **Application outcomes** will be communicated within 4 weeks of the application deadline
 - **Funded projects** can run from 6-18 months, during which time the partner will be supported with capacity strengthening initiatives
- **Monitoring:** will be conducted according to BCF's remote monitoring policy; structured meetings; in-country visits and other means as identified during the partnership
- **Funds payment:** Grant funding will be deposited into the partners business bank account / via a relevant intermediary body as per an agreed schedule and related progression
- **Reporting:** BCI and the partner will agree the best means for reporting on programme activities; budget expenditure must be reported using the standardised templates along with accompanying certified documentation

Anything unclear? You're welcome to email olwyng@billcrews.org