

Neighbourhood Watch SA 40th anniversary grants program



Celebrating
Years 1985 - 2025

Information guide



Table of contents

What is the NHW watch grants program?	03
Why should your NHW Area apply?	04
What are we offering?	04
When are the grants available?	04
What do we mean by ‘improve safety and build community connections’?	05
What types of projects are suitable?	05
Grant project criteria.	05
Frequently asked questions	07

What is the NHW SA grants program?

The Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) SA 40th anniversary grants program is a co-funded partnership initiative of the South Australia Police (SAPOL) NHW program and the Neighbourhood Watch Volunteer Association of South Australia Inc. (VASA) Board of Management.

It's purpose is to enable NHW Areas throughout the state to undertake projects that support the development of safe and connected communities during the program's 40th anniversary year, through the provision of grants up to \$2,000.

“A \$2,000 grant will reduce the need to spend time fundraising for valuable community initiatives.”

**Kirsty Mudge -
NHW State Coordinator.**



It is also an opportunity for us to show our appreciation to the amazing NHW Areas statewide for all of the incredible work you have undertaken over the past 40 years.

The program aims to improve safety and build community connections in local communities and grow awareness of our NHW program.

Applications open on 3 March 2025 and close on 23 April 2025. Successful applicants will be notified prior to 30 June 2025.



Why should your NHW Area apply?

The grants program provides fantastic opportunities for your NHW Area to:

- make a tangible difference to safety in your local area
- build community connections within your local area
- try something new / get out of your comfort zone
- work with local councils and other stakeholders
- be creative
- share ideas
- learn new skills.

What are we offering?

We are offering grants of up to **\$2,000** for projects that improve safety and build community connections within a NHW Area.

Your Area can apply for less than \$2,000 if your proposed project can be achieved for less, but you cannot apply for more than \$2,000.

Your Area can also submit more than one grant application but will not be awarded more than one grant.

When are the grants available?

Applications will open on 3 March 2025 and close on 23 April 2025. Your project must be completed and all funds expended within one year of the date of your signed grant agreement.



What do we mean by ‘Improve safety and build community connections’?

Improving safety – This refers to implementing crime prevention projects to create safer communities. We will be looking for projects that address existing crime problems.

Community connections – This is about community members getting to know each other and supporting each other. Community connections can be built through activities that bring the community together. Research shows a positive connection between the strength of relationships between individuals and the level of crime in a community.

What types of projects are suitable for the grants program?

We are looking for two types of projects

Community crime prevention initiatives such as:

- providing lighting or security cameras for secluded areas
- clearing and tidying secluded areas
- creating attractive shared areas where neighbours can socialise
- removing graffiti
- engraving bikes and tools
- providing letterbox or electrical box locks.

Community connection initiatives such as:

- street parties
- community picnics or barbeques
- guest speaker events
- community gardens and verge gardens
- neighbourhood clean ups
- public art projects
- ‘coffee with a cop’.

Issues that projects may address include property crime, personal safety (including cybersafety), reducing the fear of crime, anti-social behaviour, crime prevention through environmental design, and social isolation.



What will the grants program not fund?

- NHW 'business as usual'.
- Projects that do not have crime prevention or community connection outcomes.
- Projects based outside your NHW Area, unless you are doing a joint submission with another Area.
- Giving money or buying items for other organisations.
- Projects that require ongoing funding.
- General office equipment such as printers and mobile phones.
- Travel and conference attendance.

Before you complete the grant application form:

- Identify the safety and community connection issues in your NHW Area.
- Talk with your NHW Police Coordinator about relevant safety or community connection issues and how your project ideas address them.
- Research initiatives that other Areas or organisations have used to address the issue/s you have identified.
- Select a project that addresses local community needs.
- Discuss your project with your local council in case approvals are required.
- Consider what data and evidence you can use to support your application.
- Get estimates/quotes for costs related to your project keeping in mind the maximum amount available is \$2,000.

Grant project criteria

Successful grant applications will include the following:

- A clearly articulated need for the grant project to be progressed.
- A demonstrated need for finances to fund the grant project.
- A description with clear objectives of how the grant project will benefit the community.
- An explanation of how the grant project aligns with NHW's objective to create safe or connected community.
- A well-researched budget proposal.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q1. Who is eligible to apply for a Neighbourhood Watch 40th anniversary grant?

Only South Australian NHW Areas can apply for a grant. All office bearers for your NHW Area and members of your grant project team must have Police Volunteer Program (PVP) status. Email the SAPOL NHW team at SAPOL.NeighbourhoodWatch@police.sa.gov.au to check membership status. If your office bearers and members of your grant project team are not PVP accredited, the SAPOL NHW team can assist with this process.

Q2. Can NHW areas in 'recess' apply for a grant?

Yes! The grants program provides an excellent opportunity to reinvigorate your NHW Area.

Q3. Can our NHW Area work in partnership with other community organisations to undertake a grant project?

Yes! Your NHW Area may team up with other community organisations that may have the skills, expertise and resources required for you to successfully complete your project.

Q4. If \$2,000 is not enough for our NHW Area's project, can we seek additional funds from another source.?

Yes. However, your NHW Area must source the additional funds prior to submitting your grant application and confirmation of the additional funds must be in your application. Grants submissions will not be awarded 'subject to finding additional funding'.

Q5. Can we do a combined submission with another NHW Area?

Yes. However, the total amount you can apply for will still be \$2,000 per submission. The grant project needs to take place within the NHW Areas identified in your submission.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q6. Does our NHW Area Coordinator need to support the grant application?

Yes. Your NHW Area Coordinator must endorse grant application before submission. If your NHW Area wins a grant, your NHW Area Coordinator must sign the 'Grant recipient terms and conditions' form.

Q7. How will grant projects be chosen?

A panel of SAPOL and VASA Board of Management representatives will consider all eligible grant applications and score them against the grant program criteria:

- A clearly articulated need for the grant project to be progressed.
- A demonstrated need for finances to fund the grant project.
- A description with clear objectives of how the grant project will benefit the community.
- An explanation of how the grant project aligns with NHW's objective to create safe or connected community.
- A well-researched budget proposal.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q8. What is required of NHW Areas that are successful in obtaining a grant?

Grant recipients must undertake their grant project and use the allocated funds as outlined in their grant application. Any changes to the project or to the use of funds must be approved by SAPOL and VASA Board of Management. Grant recipients must also submit simple mid-project and end-of-project status reports and a financial acquittal once the project is complete. Templates are available for these reports.

Q9. How will we know if our NHW area's grant project application has been successful?

All grant applicants will be notified of the outcome of their submission via email before 30 June 2025. Notification will be emailed to the person whose contact details are on the grant application.

Q10. What if we don't use all our grant funds?

Surplus funds must be returned to the VASA Board of Management.

Q11. Who can I contact if I have questions about the grant program or need assistance with the application process.?

You can email the SAPOL NHW team : SAPOLNeighbourhoodWatch@police.sa.gov.au





To find out more, please contact sapolneighbourhoodwatch@police.sa.gov.au
or visit police.sa.gov.au/nhw.

Thank you to the South Australian Police Historical Society and South Australia Police for providing the photos in this guide. Photos on pages 3 and 6 are courtesy of Messenger Press.

Disclaimer: This publication contains only general guidelines and strategies for Neighbourhood Watch SA, and no guarantees or representations are made concerning their effectiveness. SAPOL accept no responsibility for any injury or loss resulting from the application of these strategies.