Socially Responsible Grants and External Funding
Background Paper

The Australian ACMHN of Mental Health Nurses is the pre-eminent and authoritative voice of the mental health nursing profession in Australia. It provides leadership to, and advocacy for, mental health issues across all health sectors and nursing, and sets national standards of practice in mental health nursing.

The ACMHN Standards of Practice for Australian Mental Health Nurses 2010 and the Code of Ethics for Nurses in Australia (2005) provide guidance to the ACMHN on ethical decision making.

The purpose of this position statement is to outline the position of the Australian College of Mental Health Nurses (ACMHN) in relation to the acceptance of sponsorship, grants and external funding.

This position statement, and the subsequent policy, has been developed to provide transparency and accountability regarding funding sources to members and stakeholders. Demonstrating and describing the organisation’s responsibility in relation to accepting sponsorship, grants and external funding.

The “ACMHN” includes the ACMHN Board and its constituent committees, branches, and special interest groups and their constituent committees. This position statement does not refer to the relationship between individual ACMHN members and commercial enterprises or other organisations.
This position statement relates to:

- Direct funding from organisations that contribute to the running of conferences, other ACMHN events or any other ACMHN branded activity.

- Arrangements with other organisations where benefits other than direct funding can be derived to the ACMHN, ACMHN members and or ACMHN staff.

- Funding or other benefits from organisations that may be perceived as a sponsorship, grants or external funding to the ACMHN.

- The need for the ACMHN to give due consideration to all offers of sponsorship, grant and external funding before they are accepted.

The policy document will guide the decision making processes in regards to sponsorship, grants and external funding in accordance with the sponsorship position statement.

The policy document will also take in to consideration the ACMHN advertising policy.