Socially Responsible Grants and External Funding

Position Statement

The ACMHN is committed to acting ethically when accepting funding and additional benefits from other organisations. This means the ACMHN will:

- Maintain our independence and not accept sponsorship that supports the core activities of the College.
- Act with honesty, integrity, trust, and respect in any sponsorship relationship.
- Ensure the reputation and independence of the ACMHN is of prime importance and takes precedence over all other considerations when considering external sponsorship.
- Engage with all sponsors in a transparent manner that is clear to ACMHN members and stakeholders.
- Maintain that the acceptance of funding or benefits does not imply ACMHN endorsement of any products or activities, this does not relate to activities formally endorsed through the College’s endorsement program.
- Retain control of the content if sponsorship, grants or funding is provided for ACMHN professional development, educational activities or publications.
- Ensure advertising within ACMHN publications complies with the ACMHN advertising policy.
- Request the International Journal of Mental Health Nursing clearly instructs authors to declare any financial support or relationships that may pose conflict of interest.
- Endeavour to attract diversity in funding sources to reduce the perception of an alliance with any single external organisation.
- Ensure any funding or sponsorship arrangement with one commercial organisation will not preclude the ACMHN from entering into a funding or sponsorship arrangement with other commercial organisations.

- Always retain the freedom to publish and provide information to members irrespective of whether it is contrary to the views of organisations that provide funding or other benefits to the ACMHN, such as sponsorship.

**Pharmaceutical Sponsorship**

- The ACMHN acknowledges that medicines are a holistic part of a holistic approach to treating mental illness.

- The ACMHN will not promote any single medication or class of medicines.

- The ACMHN will not accept sponsorship with one pharmaceutical company at the exclusion of another.

- The ACMHN will not accept sponsorship that impacts on the independent governance and or independent decision making.

- The ACMHN will comply with Medicines Australia Code of Conduct.
References


- Royal College of Nursing. 2006. Policy for socially responsible income generation and investment.