

## **The Selwyn Foundation Ageing Well Grants**

The Selwyn Foundation Ageing Well grants aim to continue the vision of the Ageing Well National Science Challenge: adding life to years for all older New Zealanders.

They support research and community initiatives that:

- Preserve dignity into old age by maintaining mental, cognitive, and physical health.
- Promote health, wellbeing, and independence for older people.
- Strengthen older people's resilience and capability to age well in place.
- Support ageing in place through intergenerational engagement and community connection.

Two awards of \$25,000 each will fund:

1. Early-career research into ageing well.
2. Community-based research or applying research to improve outcomes for older people.

### **Grant Criteria – Early Career Research**

This award will only be made to an individual who:

- is at the beginning of their research career with a clear development path and is working in a strongly supportive research environment
- is employed by a New Zealand host organisation, has New Zealand citizenship or a residency visa, and has New Zealand as their principal domicile and place of employment
- has spent no more than six (6) years full-time equivalent in an active research role after completing their highest research degree. This period could be greater considering parental leave, caring responsibilities, career breaks, ill health, or other justified reasons.
- has not held individual competitive research grants above \$300,000 previously.

In addition, the research the individual will undertake must:

- be part of an independent research path, not just continuing work supervised by a senior researcher
- demonstrably align with the grant purpose above
- show a benefit to older New Zealanders, especially those in the Auckland or Northland regions or who are Māori, Pacific, women or from rainbow communities
- meet all relevant institutional and research governance, including ethics approval.

## Grant Criteria – Community Research

The recipient of this grant must be either:

- an individual employed by a New Zealand host organisation, having New Zealand citizenship or a residency visa, and have New Zealand as their principal domicile and place of employment **OR**
- a registered New Zealand charity working in the community with older people

In addition, the proposed research must:

- demonstrably align with the grant purpose above
- show a benefit to older New Zealanders, especially those in the Auckland or Northland regions or who are Māori, Pacific, women or from rainbow communities
- demonstrate partnership between community organisation/s and one or more researchers and/or demonstrably improve community outcomes.

## Grant timeline

Send an Expression of Interest outlining how your research meets the grant criteria to [ofs@msd.govt.nz](mailto:ofs@msd.govt.nz).

- Please include evidence your research meets relevant institutional and research governance requirements, including ethics approval.
- Expressions of Interest must be received by 5pm 18 February 2026.

Milestone	Date
Expressions of interest due	18 February 2026
Shortlisted applicants invited to submit full proposal	27 February 2026
Full proposals due	20 March 2026
Grant recipients announced	3 April 2026
Payment of grant funds by The Selwyn Foundation	April 2026
Grant recipients presented at 2026 Ageing Well Symposium (TBC)	Late 2026
Final report and 'lay report' due to Office for Seniors	April 2027
Grant outcomes publicised/promoted by The Selwyn Foundation	Mid-2027

## **The Selwyn Foundation**

The Selwyn Foundation is a registered charity that champions initiatives which enable respectful ageing for vulnerable older people. Through its social impact and mission charitable activities, the Foundation seeks to enable the most vulnerable seniors to age with dignity and respect, and it works with a wide range of organisations and community partners to deliver social impact at scale for those seniors who need it most.

[www.selwynfoundation.org.nz](http://www.selwynfoundation.org.nz)