Sponsorship Proposal

-ĊoVerse

By and for people who have suffered significant adverse reactions to COVID-19 vaccinations.



CURRENT SITUATION

As you are no doubt aware, the past four years have been incredibly painful for those who have suffered serious adverse reactions to the COVID-19 vaccines. For many in our community, the physical toll has been compounded by a deep sense of abandonment - repeatedly dismissed or disbelieved as we sought medical care.

This pattern of disregard has extended beyond the healthcare system. Those affected have encountered silence and resistance from government institutions - our reports often downplayed or dismissed, our voices ignored by state and federal representatives. Perhaps most disheartening of all, many have struggled to access rightful compensation promised by the federal government, and either due to punitive eligibility criteria, or the government's decision to discontinue the compensation scheme, have not been compensated.

For the vast majority of those in our community, returning to work in any form resembling their previous roles has proven impossible. Many continue to face overwhelming barriers in accessing essential supports such as workers compensation, total and permanent disability (TPD) insurance, the Disability Support Pension, and the NDIS.

At COVERSE, we are acutely aware of the toll this continued neglect has taken. We've witnessed firsthand the growing despair caused by ongoing medical dismissal, lack of treatment options, and institutional rejection. People are experiencing extreme financial hardship. Families and relationships are under strain. Mental health is deteriorating.

What concerns us deeply is the rising number of individuals who have reached a point of complete hopelessness - some now pursuing Voluntary Assisted Dying, others contemplating or attempting suicide. The UK CV Family, our sister organisation conducted research that found 73% of their members had considered taking their own lives. Based on what we hear from our community, we believe the numbers here are tragically similar.

Community Concerns

- medical system obstacles
- public health policy frustration
- barriers to care via TPD, DSP, and NDIS
- disillusionment/loss of identity
- lack of support from friends and family
- financial hardship
- significant psychological and physical distress

In seeking meaningful ways to support the community of Australians who have had adverse reactions to the COVID-19 vaccine, we have placed a strong emphasis on addressing the deep and urgent needs emerging among those affected. Our aim with this project is to provide expert, compassionate assistance to help individuals navigate the difficult transitions they are making managing extremely drawn out recoveries, diagnosed and undiagnosed longterm conditions, and permanent disability. Just as importantly, we strive to offer a renewed sense of purpose by helping people rediscover meaning, resilience, and hope within the reality of the lives they now lead.

A WAY FORWARD

One of the charitable objectives of **CO**VERSE is:

"Advance health, by: Providing people who have been adversely impacted by COVID-19 vaccines with a national platform that helps them find local and international resources and support services." (COVERSE Constitution, Section 6, point 1).

At COVERSE, we are actively working to secure sponsorships and donations to help bring vital support to the community of people with COVID vaccine adverse events. We are currently developing a new initiative aimed at providing safe, structured spaces for healing and connection. This includes both in-person and online support groups, delivered in collaboration with certified counselling organisations. These programs are designed to offer professional, trauma and peer-informed care — and most importantly, to ensure that no one in our community feels alone in their journey.

This project aims to create an interactive experience to educate, empower and encourage people living with the challenges of chronic illness, grief, trauma, anxiety and depression after COVID-19 adverse events.

The initial program will seek to support key volunteers and advocates of the community of COVID vaccine adverse events sufferers in Australia. The intention is two-fold:

- 1. to get strong feedback about the services provided before we open it up to everyone in the community *and*
- 2. to help our leaders grow so that they can, in turn, help others to grow.



CAN YOU SUPPORT THIS INITIATIVE?

We are aiming to raise \$10,000 by the end of July to help fund the initial support group program.

Any additional funds raised over this \$10,000 amount will be put towards future support groups and community programs including online and in-person, built from the feedback of the initial program.

We aim for more of our members to receive this valued support, no matter where they are in Australia.

We will be conducting evaluations as part of the initial program to assist us with applying for grant funding to further supplement the cost of future programs.

Because we have no paid employees and no office or associated costs, your donations will be able to be put 100% directly towards this initiative.

Your support will help provide:

- scholarships for in-person programs
- grants for transportation
- provision of online support groups
- mental health first aid training for our volunteers

ABOUT COVERSE

COVERSE is the only charity in Australia run by and for people who have suffered a significant adverse reaction following their COVID-19 vaccination. Science-led, patient oriented, and invested in the integrity of our health system, we are the peak body representing Australians with adverse reactions after the COVID-19 vaccine.

We were established in mid-2022 by a group of professionals who connected with each other online while trying to find answers to our health problems that the COVID-19 vaccines had caused.

COVERSE exists because of the goodwill of people contributing their time and money to help us undertake activities to improve the lives of Australians impacted by COVID-19 vaccines.

COVERSE is a registered charity in Australia (<u>ABN 62 661 834 493</u>), and is endorsed as a deductible gift recipient. Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible. All contributions go towards activities that support and advocate for Australians living with ongoing health probelms resulting from an adverse reaction to the COVID-19 vaccine.

(Click image to watch video)



YES! COUNT ME IN! BUT HOW?

We are asking that you consider making a donation towards the **CO**VERSE support groups project.

You can donate online, set up a recurring transaction via Stripe, or give through PayPal. <u>https://coverse.org.au/supportgroups</u> (DONATE HERE)

OR you can donate by filling in the e-form below and donating to **CO**VERSE, with your donation reference: **'Support Groups'**. Bank account details are:

- Account name: COVERSE Ltd
- BSB: 313 140
- Account number: 12417119

COVERSE is a tax-deductible registered charity, which means that all donations you make over \$2 can be tax deducted, which is handy at this time of year as the financial year draws to a close. You will be issued with your receipt once a donation has been made. All funds will be applied to support group initiatives.

Donation Form for those without access to the online donation portal

Name:	
Contact details: Email	Mobile
Please tick which of the following apply to you: Yes! I would like to make a one-off donation to the CO VERSE support group project.	
Donation amount:	
Yes! I would like to be a recurring sponsor of the CO VERSE support group project.	
I pledge to give	(amount)
Weekly	

Weekly Monthly Quarterly Annually

Please keep me in the loop. I would like to be sent regular information about the **CO**VERSE, including future donation or sponsorship opportunities.

Return this form by email to email it to <u>contact@coverse.org.au</u> OR if you aren't online, please post to: COVERSE PO Box 4394, Hawker ACT 2614

Contact Us



<u>contact@coverse.org.au</u>

