

**Submission
No 1**

INQUIRY INTO INTEGRITY, EFFICACY AND VALUE FOR MONEY OF NSW GOVERNMENT GRANT PROGRAMS

Organisation: Greek Cultural Association Inc.

Date Received: 7 August 2020

The Greek Cultural Association has been a member of the Addison Rd Community Centre from its inception in the mid 70's. We are a non profit organisation, run by volunteers. Since 1983, we have transformed our space into a theatre, the Hellenic Art Theatre, known to many as the Greek Theatre. Other than artistic events of cultural significance to the CALD community, we have also made our theatre available to local artists, theatre groups and choirs. In doing this during 'normal' times this enabled us to pay the rent and as many other non for profit groups, unfortunately there is not enough money in the kitty for maintenance and upkeep of the building. We were fortunate enough to be recipients of NSW CBP in 2018 which enabled us to replace our foyer floor which was in disrepair and a safety hazard.

Today, with COVID-19 we, as all other venues and artists we are faced with huge financial stress. We are proud to be a part of the Addison Road Community Centre that has worked tirelessly to provide essential food supplies to those in need, have created personal protective equipment for health care professionals and other community members like Reverse Garbage; and right across our community other organisations continue to support to those most in need every single day.

Doubling funding that can be accessed through the Community Building Partnership would provide community groups the opportunity to both continue and expand the important work that we do. Community groups are the fabric of our community and we have concerns at the current Government's failure to provide adequate support where needed.

We submit our concerns on the shortfalls of current community group funding structures to the Public Accountability Committee and ask for funding made available through grants to be doubled.