

# Request for Proposal

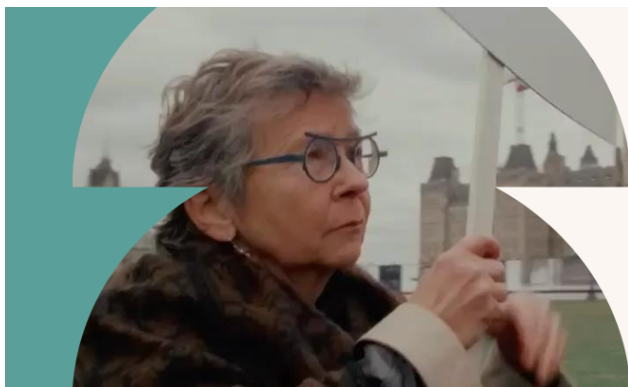
## Message for Non-Profits and Community Treatment Organizations

### Seeking Psilocybin Support:

This request for proposal is for non-profit and community treatment organizations across Canada that may be seeking to explore the possibilities of access to medical psilocybin-assisted psychotherapy (**psilocybin therapy**) for patients with TheraPsil through Project Solace. Medical psilocybin is legal and available in Canada through the Special Access Program (SAP). Project Solace will help government-funded non-profits and charities connect with TheraPsil to navigate the SAP and connect their clients with Psilocybin Therapy-trained medical professionals.

### About TheraPsil:

TheraPsil is Canada's largest psilocybin therapy training, advocacy, and access organization. We have successfully trained 500+ healthcare professionals, empowering them to provide effective treatment to patients in need. With this extensive network of trained professionals, we are ready to mobilize our resources to support patients and clinical organizations via Project Solace. Our goal is to establish a uniform and organized approach to help Canadians seeking access to medical psilocybin. Project Solace will provide access to medical psilocybin through the SAP, a safe and regulated alternative to the black market.



"The primary goal is to facilitate safe and effective access to PAP for patients in medical need."

### Project Overview:

Project Solace is an initiative that brings together organizations and individuals across Canada to exercise the right to medical psilocybin through the SAP. Psilocybin, a medically legal substance in Canada through the SAP, combined with psychotherapy, offers potential therapeutic benefits for those with mental health conditions. It is crucial for the Canadian Government to recognize and regulate psilocybin as a viable treatment option. Through this project, we utilize our automated Special Access Program ("SAP") system and Practitioner Directories to assist clients in completing their SAP forms. This process ensures that all patients who require this treatment can receive it legally and predictably and conduct applied research to measure our impact.

## **The Special Access Program (SAP):**

Each year thousands of Canadians use the SAP to access different medications for emergency use. A healthcare professional trained and within their scope of work is eligible to use the SAP to access psilocybin as a viable treatment option. Currently, through the SAP, doctors can request psilocybin for the treatment of serious or life-threatening conditions when standard therapies have failed or are assessed as unsuitable. By filling out an SAP application, a doctor may gain approval from Health Canada to treat their patient using psilocybin therapy.

## **Eligibility for Psilocybin-Assisted Psychotherapy Through the SAP:**

Applications for psilocybin therapy through Health Canada's Special Access Program (SAP) have been approved for:

- End-of-life distress / Terminal Illness / Remission
- Treatment-Resistant Depression (TRD) or Major Depressive Disorder (MDD)
- Those who have not responded to standard treatments.
  - One Pharmaceutical
  - One non-Pharmaceutical

Please note that patients with intersection diagnoses such as post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), substance-use disorder, cluster headaches and other mental and physical illnesses who also have an underlying diagnosis of TRD or MDD may too qualify so long as other diagnoses or medical treatments are not contraindicated.

## **TheraPsil's Value Proposition:**

TheraPsil will support the administration of this project for partners:

- **Connection:** Through our growing network of trained healthcare professionals, we are able to connect patients with local therapists and doctors who may be able to provide SAP support and care.
- **Automated SAP:** The automated application system will allow clients to complete a series of forms, connect therapists and patients for medical and mental health assessments, and further connect patients and therapists with prescribing nurses and doctors to fulfill all SAP requirements.
- **Training / Consultation:** TheraPsil can train organizations on becoming their psilocybin therapy treatment hub to continue supporting clients into the future.

## **Step-by-Step Path for Project Management:**

The below section may act as a general framework for how the project partnership might operate over the next few months:

### **1. Cohort Planning (First 30 days)**

- a. Work with TheraPsil to determine the total client cohort size and inclusion criteria
- b. Develop a communications and recruitment plan
- c. Choose possible treatment locations and teams

### **2. SAP Intake Process and Support**

- a. Clients can apply for SAP access through the TheraPsil website and start with the SAP eligibility form on the patient's page
- b. Eligible patients will be connected with therapists in their area and begin the first comprehensive mental and physical health evaluations by filling out the Patient Inclusion Criteria (PIC) Form and the SAP Questionnaire Form.
- c. Eligible patients will then be connected with a prescriber who will conduct an additional mental and physical health assessment before completing the SAP template for the client

### **3. Application Support**

- a. Once completed, the SAP can be reviewed by the TheraPsil team and submitted to Health Canada for regulatory review and approval
- b. If rejected, TheraPsil will help the medical team determine the issue and next steps.
- c. Approved patients can now meet with their medical team (Primary Therapist, Prescribing doctor, and Co-Sitter) to determine the treatment schedule.

### **4. Treatment:**

- a. Each client will complete a minimum of three preparatory sessions, a medicine session and a minimum of three integration sessions in a group or individual setting.
- b. Additional sessions can be provided up to 6 months following treatment to ensure clients are well-integrated and cared for.

## **Project Goals: Safe and Effective Access**

The primary goal is to facilitate safe and effective access to psilocybin therapy for patients in medical need, specifically those seeking treatment for end-of-life distress, treatment-resistant depression, major depressive disorder, chronic pain/cluster headaches, alcohol-use disorder, and post-traumatic stress disorder.

Through the treatment process, TheraPsil aims to expand applied research efforts to gather data on the success and viability of these treatments. The goal is to share this valuable information with TheraPsil's contributors and all Canadians. By spreading the research findings, TheraPsil aims to inform and shape medical regulations.

## Understanding Costs:

The cost of psilocybin treatment in Canada can range from \$4,000 - \$7,000 following the standard protocol. While these prices can fluctuate, this cost generally includes:

Lead Therapist ~ 4.5 hours Preparation	(\$675)
Lead Therapist ~ 8 hours session	(\$800-\$1,200)
Lead Therapist - 4.5 hours Integration	(\$675)
Co-therapist ~ 11 hours total	(\$770)
Pharmacist consult	(\$0-\$250)
Administration	(\$1,000-\$2,000)
MD Time	(\$300-\$900)
Clinical Space	(\$0-\$500)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>(\$4,220 - \$6,970)</b>

Group treatment can significantly reduce the cost of treatment. By utilizing shared space and conducting group sessions, along with maximizing the oversight of prescribers and co-therapists, the price can be reduced by approximately 20%.

## Partnership Sponsorship Options:

We know that finances can be a barrier, but together we can support the full treatment for a patient or group of patients from start to finish with a group or individual psilocybin therapy treatment through SAP.

## Other Partnership Considerations:

Build a Clinical Treatment Hub: If your organization is interested in providing psilocybin therapy in the future, TheraPsil is able to train your team to provide this therapy and support you with the tools and resources needed to complete SAP applications on your own. Please indicate your interest below to inquire about the cost of training your team.

## Evaluation Metrics and Criteria:

1. Name and address of organization - 200 characters
2. What is your mission/vision statement? - 250 characters
3. Describe in general terms, the clients you serve - 300 characters
4. Have you read the RFP and understand the requirements? - YES or NO.
5. What made you interested in considering psilocybin treatment for your clients?
6. Describe how you intend to apply psilocybin treatment with the clients you serve

Please take 10 minutes to [complete this Google Form](#).

Alternatively, you can address the above questions in an email to Spencer Hawkswell at [spencer@therapsil.ca](mailto:spencer@therapsil.ca).

## Submission Requirements:

Please send your proposal in electronic format here no later than September 1st, 2023. TheraPsil welcomes creative ideas and innovative approaches to collaboration.

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## Project Applications:

**Due By:** September 1st, 2023

**Budget:** \$ 4,000-\$7,000 / patient

**Contact:** Spencer Hawkswell

**Email:** [spencer@therapsil.ca](mailto:spencer@therapsil.ca)

**Phone #:** 647-542-7465