



# MQ Research Portfolio

Cynthia Joyce, MQ Mental Health Science Council

## **Funders Panel for Suicide Prevention Researchers**

AFSP/IASR Research Training Series

April 6, 2023 12:30 PM EDT

# A Global Organisation

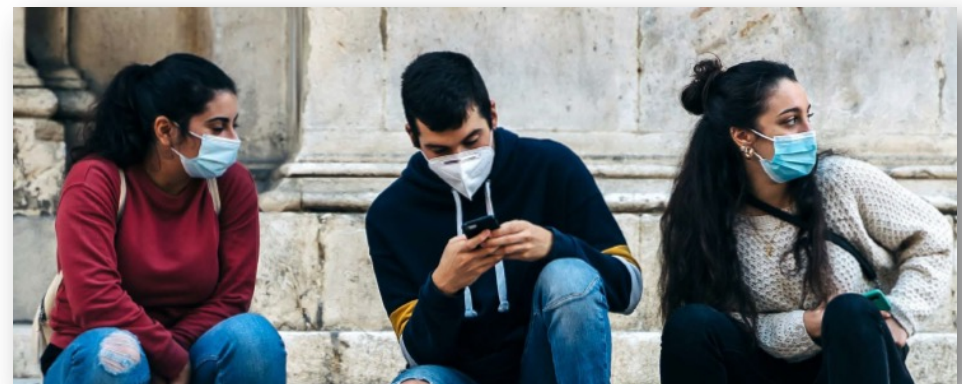


We have delivered ground-breaking research through grants and collaborations in 37 countries around the world

In 2023 we have two offices in London and New York

Our active grants portfolio stands at over £3M or \$3.7M USD

**MQ**  
Mental health  
research



# Our Strategic Priorities



## 1. Growing Talent



In order to transform mental health, we need a cadre of highly skilled researchers passionate about using their expertise to benefit people's lives. Mental health research is constrained by the scale of the workforce, with an urgent need to increase its size and diversity.<sup>7</sup> We support talented, early-career researchers with bold ideas from across the globe, who aspire to be the next generation of leaders in mental health research. We will be funding bold ideas by future leaders with a combination of direct funding and development opportunities. Critically we will ensure they are embedded in a truly interdisciplinary mental health science.

Over the next five years, MQ will invest in inspiring new talent and expand the capability and quality of research



## 3. Challenging Inequality



We will have maximum impact by focusing our efforts on substantial unmet need. A cluster of interconnected structural inequalities drastically impact how people experience mental illness and treatment.<sup>8</sup> We will put research to work so that vulnerable groups can flourish. We will target the rising tide of youth mental illness, the injustice of racial inequalities in mental illness and treatment, and the scandal of lives cut short through failing to integrate mental and physical health care.

Over the next 5 years, MQ will invest in research that closes the inequalities gap

## 2. Investing in Impact



MQ's research & publications, alongside our work leading and convening experts at local and international level, have sharpened the focus of Governments, institutions and funders.<sup>9</sup> We must continue to put research to work for those affected. We must drive rapid innovation and development, particularly new remote and digital interventions, and radical new ways to think about depression. We need 'live' research that can transform policy and practice on the ground.

Over the next five years, MQ will invest in research programmes that drive innovation in policy and practice and challenge the status quo



## 4. Engaging People



MQ uniquely exists to bring people and researchers together to drive forward mental health research. We believe that while the stigma attached to mental health is decreasing, there is more to do to help people talk transformatively about mental health, to access improved services and treatments more easily; to take part in research; and invest their support in helping the next generation of those experiencing mental illness. We have seen so much support already. Over 16,000 people donated to MQ over the last six years, and over 80,000 people took part in research via our Participate platform - seeing first-hand how research can change the future of mental health.

Over the next five years, we want to see the number of people actively supporting mental health research increase three fold, as well as engage a diverse group of individuals to take part in and inform our research projects



# Generating Impact



## Commissioning Research

Designing and delivering high quality grant rounds that commission ground breaking research.

E.g. Brighter Futures Adolescent MH, IDEA FLAME



## Partnering on Research

Acting as a Co-Investigator, advisor or member of the Scientific Board of research projects, bringing to bear MQ's expertise and networks

E.g. AFSP, PHSOP Cog-I, DATAMIND



## Engagement

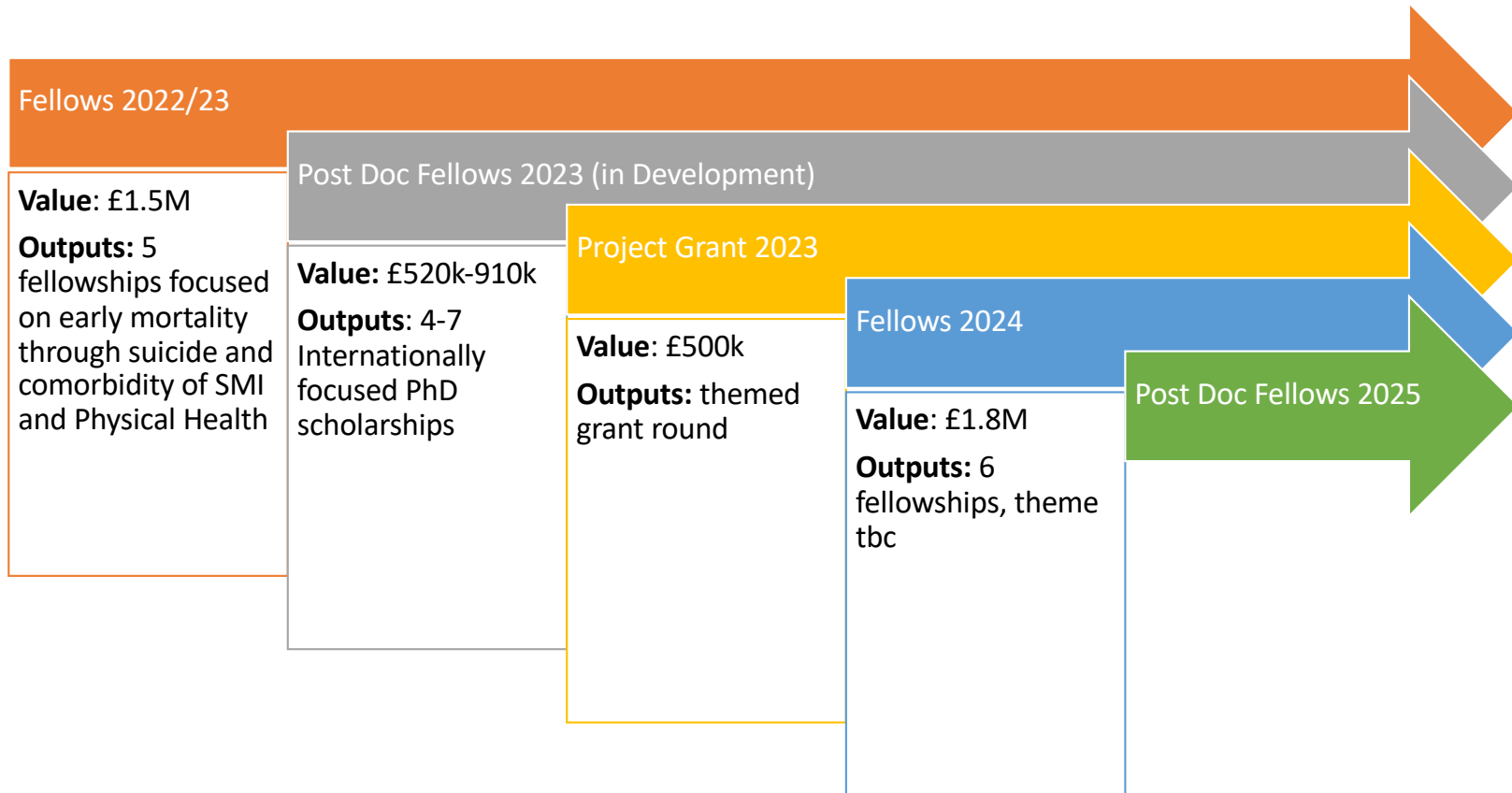
Bringing together experts to leverage policy change, and using our skills to guide others to achieve more for mental health research

E.g. APPG, HBGI, Science Summit





# Grants Portfolio 2022 >>



# Fellows Awards

## MQ Fellowship Awards

**Length:** Ongoing

**Duration:** 2013- Present

- 2022 Theme: *Gone too Soon*: premature mortality – Primarily suicide and comorbidities
- Full proposal applications reviewed by external reviewers, MQ Fellows Panel, and experts by experience.
- Shortlisted applications invited to interview and ranked for funding decisions
- Mental Health Science Council approves process and funding recommendations to MQ Board. Note: grants are subject to available funds/other restrictions



# 2022/23 Fellows

UK, US, India, Canada



Suhas Ganesh



Gareth Griffith



Moritz Herle



Leslie Johnson



Marisa Marraccini



Massimiliano Orri



Amy Ronaldson

# Gone too Soon

## Highlights

- MQ/AFSP Fellow **Dr Marisa Ellen Marraccini** **University of North Carolina, USA.** Marisa will be building and testing a tailored virtual reality supplement to cognitive behavioural therapy to be provided during hospitalization after a suicide attempt.
- **Gone too Soon Research Roadmap** International expert panel co-chaired by **Rory O'Connor** and **Carol Worthman** will deliver their report & recommendations this spring.



**“My work situates suicide prevention within the environment youth spend majority of their time: schools. Without prioritizing school environment, researchers and practitioners miss opportunities to address the day-to-day stressors and issues faced by students.”**

**MQ**

Mental health  
research



## Additional Resources

- MQ Research Roundup for funding updates  
<https://www.mqmentalhealth.org/research-programmes/fellows-award/>
- International Alliance of Mental Health Research Funders  
<https://iamhrf.org/members>
- Movember (Men's Health) <https://us.movember.com/about/funding>
- Mental Health Innovation Network based at WHO & LSHTM  
[www.mhinnovation.net](http://www.mhinnovation.net)