

Evolve Lighthouse Program

Information Pack

White Box Enterprises

Evolve Lighthouse Program

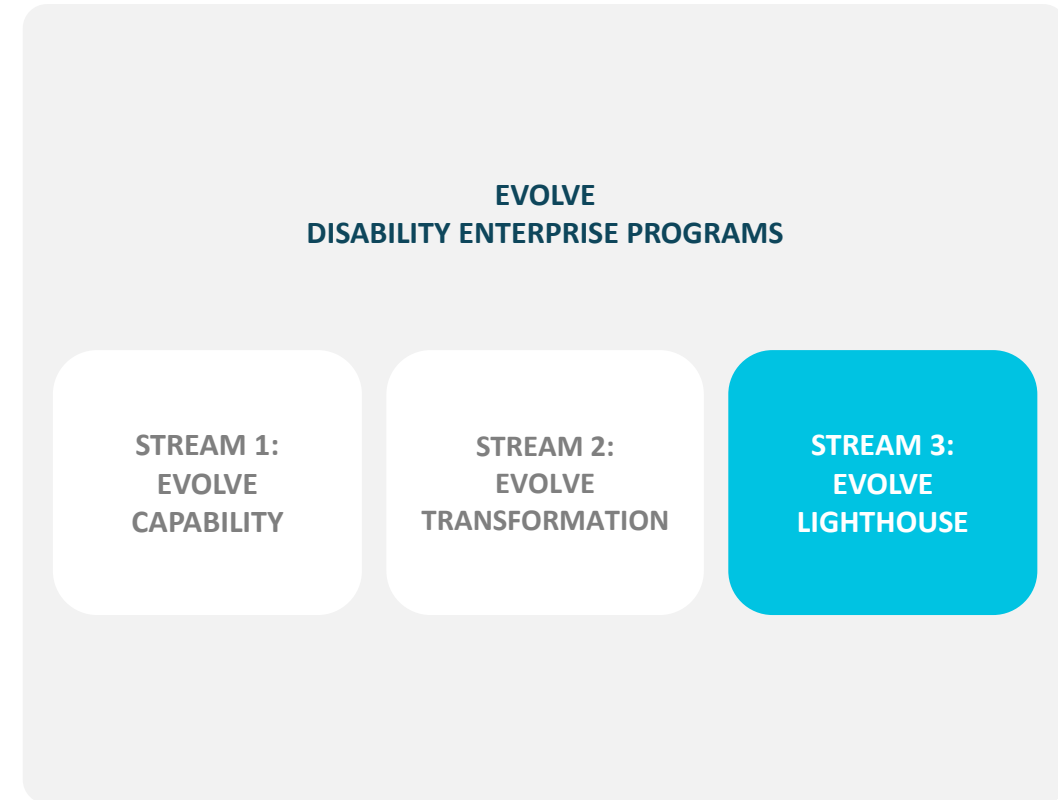
About

The Evolve Lighthouse Program aims to support disability enterprises to build highly inclusive business models that expand work opportunities for people with disability.

The program does this by supporting participating organisations to acquire commercial businesses and convert them into disability enterprises. The program will provide expert strategic advisory and granting support to each participating organisation.

The Evolve Lighthouse program seeks to build inclusive models that support PwD, including people with mild intellectual disability, to work in an integrated workforce, earn award wages, and pursue development and transitions.

Each acquisition is expected to create approximately 50 new roles for PwD, with further opportunities for development and transitions over time. Together, these organisations will help create more than 750 new jobs for PwD over five years while demonstrating the potential of inclusive employment to inspire other organisations, investors, and funders.



Connecting the pieces

Evolve Lighthouse connects five pieces to create a new model for disability employment

Stronger businesses

There are established businesses with the commercial strength, assets and potential to create sustainable jobs. Lighthouse looks for industries and businesses that can provide the foundation for new employment opportunities.

A highly inclusive model

Lighthouse is designed around award wages, high workforce integration, skills development, progression and opportunities to transition into other employment.

An underserved cohort

Many people with disability, including people with mild intellectual disability, have high capacity for work but fall between existing employment models. They may need more support than mainstream employment typically provides, yet want more opportunity, development and progression than traditional supported employment workplaces offer.

Disability enterprise expertise

Disability enterprises bring experience in running businesses and delivering high-quality disability support, providing an important foundation for the model.

Transformation support

Whitebox brings expertise in disability and social enterprise, employment supports, mergers and acquisitions and strategic transformation to help turn the model into practice.

Together, these pieces form the basis of a new model and way of doing things for creating more inclusive employment opportunities.

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Eligibility criteria

Scale: \$15m-\$150m revenue and 50+ supported employees

Cohort: Working with people with Intellectual Disability (ID)

Vision: Demonstrated progress toward inclusive employment practices
(e.g. transitions, wage uplift, workforce integration)

Commerciality: Profitable, >\$3m commercial revenue, and commercial expertise across Board and leadership

Readiness: Strong asset base, capacity to pursue M&A or market expansion within 18 months, and strong governance practices

What's on offer

Expert strategic advisory (averaging more than 400 days per organisation): across strategy, merger and acquisition, and transformation supports and access to business brokers.

Granting pool of up to \$1.7 million: funding will be allocated based on individual organisational needs and opportunities.

These support represents an average of over \$1 million in supports per partner.

Your contribution

Successful applicants will need to obtain independent financial and legal advice and provide funding for the acquisition, including transaction costs.

Selection process

Expressions of interest (EOI) will open on Monday 21st September and close on Monday 12th October

