

INVESTING \$2 MILLION INTO OUR COMMUNITY

Thanks to your donations, the Foundation is thrilled to announce our investment of \$2 million into our community, including \$1.3 million in grants, for programs to be implemented over the coming year.

Our work focuses on important areas including education, employment and life crisis and makes sure that those who are most vulnerable in our region receive the support and help they require, ensuring they thrive like the rest of the region.

The Give Where You Live Foundation not only awards grants to address these issues, but runs our own initiatives and programs such as the GROW initiative, our own Direct Assistance Voucher Program and Feed Geelong.

The Foundation is proud to announce our latest grant allocations under the Live and Learn, Live and Earn and Survive and Thrive Program areas as well as our Innovation Grants as outlined over the following pages.

THANK YOU TO COMMUNITY GRANTS REVIEW PANEL

The Foundation is extremely proud of its strategic and transparent grants allocation process.

This year over 130 members of our community have come together to read and review over 100 grant applications. This is an enormous amount of work and dedication but one that is extremely important to us. We thank sincerely every one of our Grant Review Panellists for their assistance in this process.



If you or your work team would like to get involved in future reviews please contact our grants team:

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LIVE & LEARN GRANTS

Research confirms that ensuring access to and supporting students through education is a pathway out of disadvantage. The education level of a person is an important predictor of future employment, welfare and health outcomes as well as improving a person's ability to participate socially and economically within the community.

Education is of paramount importance to the Foundation and a major focus of our work. Our Live and Learn grants focus on the learning aspirations of all children across our community and supports programs working with parent engagement, early years learning, successful transitions throughout education and disengaged young people.

The following Live and Learn Grants were awarded in the Community Grant round, June 2019:

ARDOCH YOUTH FOUNDATION, \$18,750

To improve early literacy skills, develop oral language and social skills, build confidence and support the school readiness of children aged 4-6 years in disadvantaged Geelong communities through the Early Language and Literacy program.

BLUEBIRD FOUNDATION, \$30,000

To improve long-term educational outcomes for children aged up to 5 years in the 3214 postcode through arts-based parent and child groups.

COTTAGE BY THE SEA, \$25,610

To support young people aged 11-14 years from Corio and Norlane through their transition from primary to secondary school through the Recreation, Education, Environment, Friendship program.

EDCONNECT AUSTRALIA, \$29,700

To improve the education outcomes of disadvantaged students (primary and secondary) through mobilising an army of Learning Support Volunteers to provide academic support, and Mentoring Volunteers to provide social and emotional support within the school environment.

MACKILLOP FAMILY SERVICES, \$30,000

To break the correlation for youth, between disadvantage and living in Out of Home Care, and to stop the intergenerational cycle of issues such as low education standards, poverty and poor life outcomes through piloting Therapeutic Life Story work.

OPERATION NEWSTART VICTORIA, \$30,000

To facilitate early intervention for disengaged youth aged 14 to 17 years, through the support of a specialist youth worker to work with these young people who are not attending school on a regular basis.

SKYLINE EDUCATION FOUNDATION AUSTRALIA, \$23,000

To strengthen educational and social engagement and assist the transition through VCE to tertiary education or a career of choice, for gifted and academically talented young people aged 16-18 years from socially and financially disadvantaged backgrounds.

SOMEBODY'S DAUGHTER THEATRE COMPANY, \$30,000

To re-engage at risk young people aged 12-19 years in learning through Nobody's Fool Theatre.

THE SONG ROOM, \$20,000

To support Whittington Primary School students aged 5-12 years to engage with school and learning to improve social and emotional wellbeing through participation in Arts Learning program.



LIVE & EARN GRANTS

Evidence clearly illustrates that one of the most effective ways to reduce persistent and entrenched disadvantage in a community is to reduce joblessness, specifically, long-term joblessness.

The evidence suggests that not only do jobs need to be generated in disadvantaged communities, but they must also be actively linked to long-term jobseekers, who, in turn, require support to ensure that the employment opportunity provides them with the maximum life benefit.

The Foundation's work in employment includes, implementing and being the major funder of the GROW initiative and providing grants under our Live and Learn program that supports employment pathways and transitions and overcoming barriers once in employment for vulnerable populations including those living with a disability, youth, the long term unemployed and those from refugee/asylum seeker backgrounds.

The following Live and Earn Grants were awarded in the Community Grant round and the Foundation's Pitch Up Geelong event in June 2019.

CLANN, \$22,900

To support those who have been out of the labour market, particularly women, to become home-based carers, while creating a healthier environment for children who are in informal care through the Family Care program and online platform.

COLAC OTWAY DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION, \$7,500

To support people with disabilities to learn and develop employability skills with an intended pathway to supported employment and / or independent volunteering by upgrading accessibility at The Leap Shop.

ENCOMPASS COMMUNITY SERVICES, \$10,000

To develop practical, social and employability skills of people living with a disability by improving access (particularly for people in wheelchairs or with mobility restrictions) by expanding the current nursery at Encompass' 7-acre farm, The Paddock.

THE AVIARY CAFÉ, \$27,433

To provide confidence, skills and work experience to assist people from Norlane to find employment through a workplace training program at the Aviary Café, a social enterprise of Norlane Community Initiatives.



A COLLABORATION OF AUSTRALIAN FEDERATION OF DISABILITY ORGANISATIONS, NATIONAL DISABILITY COORDINATION OFFICER PROGRAM AND TICKET TO WORK NETWORK, \$30,000

To strengthen educational, employment and social participation of young aged 15-19 years living with disability and experiencing disadvantage through the support and delivery of the Passport 2 Employment Program.



THE PADDOCK, \$27,500

To increase the employability, social and practical skills of people with a disability through a long-term transitional program at The Paddock, a social enterprise of Encompass Community Services.

Developing employability, practical and social skills at The Paddock



SURVIVE & THRIVE GRANTS

The Foundation understands the impact a life crisis can have on the lives of individuals and families and their ability to thrive within their community.

The work the Foundation undertakes in this area focuses around supporting basic needs (such as hunger and homelessness), building resilience through the prevention and early intervention efforts related to family violence and sexual assault, addiction, mental health, and family breakdown; as well as promoting community connections through tackling social isolation and supporting social participation.

The following Survive and Thrive Grants were awarded in the Feed Geelong and Community Connections Grant rounds in October 2018 (Community Connections grants are proudly supported by AWA Alliance Bank) and our Community Grant round, June 2019.

BACK TO BACK THEATRE, \$10,000

To promote community connections for people with disabilities through the delivery of arts workshops and performances which assist these people to reach their full potential and challenge societal attitudes towards disability.

BARWON CHILD, YOUTH & FAMILY, \$30,000

To reduce family conflict, a risk factor of and precursor to family violence; by strengthening family relationships and reducing financial stress through increasing families' financial knowledge, literacy, management, skills and resilience through the Strengthening Family Connections Plus program.

BELLARINE COMMUNITY HEALTH, \$9,900

To reduce social isolation and increase health outcomes among older people in Portarlington through piloting a Volunteer Social Visiting program.

BLUEBIRD FOUNDATION, \$10,000

To support social participation of disadvantaged young people, by providing supported pathways into creative arts workshops that align with their personal artistic interests and passions.

BELLARINE LIVING AND LEARNING CENTRE, \$28,500

To increase the food security and provide improved health education to Whittington residents through FoodConnect, a program to develop enhanced food literacy and food preparation skills.

BELLARINE LIVING AND LEARNING CENTRE, \$1,998

To support participants at the Whittington Centre to prepare nutritious and wholesome meals through cooking classes, meal preparation and access to appropriate food through the Centre's Foodbank program.



BRAVEHEARTS FOUNDATION, \$10,000

To educate, empower and protect children from sexual assault through the preventative education program Ditto's Keep Safe Adventure show for kindergarten and junior primary school children.

CHRIST CHURCH COMMUNITY MEALS PROGRAM, \$4,160

To improve the health of some of the most disadvantaged and vulnerable people in our community by providing consistent access to milk through the Breakfast program.

COMMUNITY HUB, \$10,000

To promote the social and economic participation of disadvantaged young people aged 16-20 years through the L2P program which assists learner drivers to gain driving experience and acquire mandatory driving hours required to obtain their probationary licence.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTORIA, \$30,000

To support prevention and early intervention efforts related to family violence by building the capacity of Family Violence Regional Integration Committees to better understand and utilise data for decision making and practice.

DRYSDALE FAMILY SUPPORT, \$30,000

To provide food security for those on the Bellarine Peninsula who do not have access to appropriate and nutritious food through support of the Foodbank.

EAT UP AUSTRALIA, \$1,000

To support vulnerable children to take advantage of learning opportunities and succeed in education by ensuring that they have access to nutritionally adequate lunches while at school.

FOUNDATION 61, \$30,000

To build the resilience of Geelong men facing life-controlling issues such as addiction, through residential care and rehabilitation.

FOUNDATION 61, \$4,400

To build confidence, self-awareness, self-esteem and resilience for socially disadvantaged and isolated women who have been affected by life controlling issues by developing relationships and supporting opportunities for engagement in social and recreational activities.

FOUNDATION 61, \$1,310

To support the socially disadvantaged in Whittington to develop relationships, build confidence and self-esteem as they share nutritious weekly meals in a non-threatening environment.

GEELONG FOOD RELIEF CENTRE, \$30,000

To fight food insecurity in the G2I region by providing adequate fresh, nutritious and relevant food to vulnerable individuals and families in need.

GEELONG FOOD RELIEF CENTRE, \$4,980

To support improved access to nutritious food, particularly pre-prepared frozen meals, by increasing the capacity of the Centre to store meals in a new freezer at the Smythe Street/CBD mini-mart.

GEELONG HIGH SCHOOL, \$5,000

To improve the well-being, attendance, behaviour and academic outcomes at Geelong High School through the implementation of a breakfast program for students experiencing food insecurity.

GEELONG MUMS, \$4,880

To reduce social isolation of vulnerable families by providing car restraints and prams to facilitate their mobility so that they can access the library, travel on local transport (with a pram), attend doctors' appointments, take siblings to school and more.

LAZARUS COMMUNITY CENTRE, \$1,000

To ensure access to regular, fresh, high quality, nutritious meals and improve community connections by providing community meals in a shared setting.

LAZARUS COMMUNITY CENTRE, \$12,000

To provide a welcoming place which provides activities, food and cleaning facilities for those who are experiencing homelessness or isolation within the community.

LIFE EDUCATION GEELONG, \$5,000

To empower children and young people to make safer and healthier choices through the Drug and Health Education program delivered at partner schools.

LEISURE NETWORKS ASSOCIATION, \$30,000

To decrease gender inequality (a key driver of family violence) by changing culture, behaviours and power imbalances by piloting strategies to build stronger, respectful and gender equal relationships between men and women in sporting clubs through engaging more women and girls in decision making roles.

NORLANE COMMUNITY INITIATIVES, \$30,000

To address issues of food security, health and well-being and employment and education through the delivery of five everyday small-scale food initiatives within walking distances of people's homes in Norlane.

NORLANE COMMUNITY INITIATIVES, \$2,500

To overcome barriers to food insecurity for Norlane residents, including the cost of food, transport issues and lack of food preparation skills through support of the 'Longroom Café', an affordable and nutritional volunteer staffed community café open five days per week.



OCEAN MIND, \$30,000

To decrease the effects of mental health issues and social isolation for young people aged 8-18 years by harnessing the therapeutic benefits of surfing and mentoring.

ONECARE GEELONG, \$30,000

To support individuals and families who are experiencing multiple aspects of disadvantage by fostering meaningful relationships and building resilience through the C.O.A.C.H. Mentoring program.

ONECARE GEELONG, \$10,000

To address the effects of isolation and social disadvantage by connecting volunteer mentors with families and individuals seeking change through the C.O.A.C.H. Community Mentoring program.

ONECARE GEELONG, \$1,000

To ensure the provision of nutritious, culturally appropriate and diverse foods to the participants in the Community Meal and English Around the Table Meal programs.

RIDING FOR THE DISABLED-BARWON CENTRE, \$5,000

To support social participation for disabled young people through therapeutic horse-riding activities.

ROSEWALL NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE, \$9,500

To reduce social isolation for people from multi-cultural backgrounds, who have disabilities, young people and seniors through the provision of a community-based pottery program.

SAMARITAN HOUSE GEELONG, \$30,000

To help break the cycle of homelessness amongst men aged over 18 years by supporting the provision of crisis accommodation and on-going support for some of the most vulnerable members of our community.

SAMARITAN HOUSE GEELONG, \$1,000

To support homeless men to thrive mentally and physically by providing access to nutritious and sustaining shared evening meal.

SIROVILLA, \$10,000

To reduce social isolation and build resilience in older people aged 55 years and over through a pilot program that uses positive psychology as a tool to support older people in responding to the challenges they face.

THE POWER IN YOU (COMMUNITY VERACITY), \$30,000

To build resilience for up to 40 participants, who are affected by mental health and life controlling addictions.



THE SANCTUARY COUNSELLING CENTRE, \$30,000

To build resilience for those experiencing a life challenging illness or bereavement (and their carers) to prevent mental health issues, family breakdown and education disengagement.

THE STROKE ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA, \$9,360

To reduce isolation, improve emotional wellbeing and support the long-term needs of stroke survivors and their careers through social, emotional and community engagement activities that support recovery after a stroke.

UNITING (VICTORIA AND TASMANIA), \$30,000

To find homes for those who are homeless and assist people at risk of homelessness to maintain their accommodation by advocating for and providing specialist expertise to those in most in need.

UNITING (VICTORIA AND TASMANIA), \$10,000

To increase the social participation of people experiencing disadvantage living in the Norlane community by offering a welcoming place where they can engage with other community members and learn skills to build their independence and resilience by developing a hub for services at the Dorothy Thompson Centre.

UNITING (VICTORIA AND TASMANIA), \$3,381

To support access to nutritious and healthy food to those that are food insecure by purchasing nutritious and culturally appropriate food for various emergency food programs. The grant will also assist with the upgrade of the washing and preparation area for fresh fruit and vegetables in the food room at Grovedale.

WELLWAYS AUSTRALIA, \$10,000

To reduce social isolation of disadvantaged LGBTIQ+ community members by connecting them with LGBTIQ+ peer volunteers through piloting The Stepping Out project.

WESLEY CHURCH GEELONG, \$3,500

To allow vulnerable people seeking asylum, or who have only temporary protection in Australia, to access culturally appropriate fresh food on a regular basis during periods of no income, limited income or financial difficulty.

WESTERN EDGE YOUTH ARTS, \$10,000

To promote social inclusion for young people from refugee backgrounds in North Geelong through a youth theatre project which develops connections between cultural communities, challenges prejudice and promotes greater diversity.

3216 CONNECT, \$1,000

To provide food assistance along with counselling assistance, to single parents, women fleeing domestic violence, homeless persons, refugees and others facing economic hardship in the 3216 postcode.

INNOVATION GRANTS

The Foundation's Innovation Grants are aimed to support community/charitable organisations to develop creative and innovate solutions to problems and needs it sees in the community.

These grants not only support innovative (new or improved ways) to create change but ways that go to the root causes of the problem, often challenging the very ways our current systems work. Each year, the Foundation provides multi-year grants up to \$175,000 to a small number of organisations to test or scale up solutions and ideas.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW: CREATING JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR REFUGEE AND ASYLUM SEEKERS

Do you remember the first time you applied for a job? How long it took to find that great opportunity in the newspaper or online and then to piece together your resume and cover letter? Then how nervous you felt in your interview, worried about jumbling up your words and a shaky voice?

Now imagine how it must feel to have only learnt how to speak English, understanding some but not all of the words used by the people around you and to have only settled in a new country a couple of years ago.

Thanks to your donations, Diversitat received an Innovation grant of \$175,000 for the New Futures Program. Aiming to bring together people with diverse refugee and asylum seeker backgrounds, this program provides them with training in understanding the Australian workplace, volunteering opportunities to practice their English and ultimately the skills needed to find and obtain a job.

Recently, the first group graduated from the program and came together to share their experiences. One of these participants is Mukhles.



"When I arrived to Australia three years ago, it was the first two weeks that was very hard as a new arrival. At that time, we were the first Arabic and Syrian families in Geelong. The settlement program was not familiar with people from these different nationalities. Because every community has different needs so you have to deal with it differently.

With this program I learnt new skills, I have got a job interview and was able to practice my interview with the group first so that made me more confident and I now have a job at Diversitat as customer administrator."

Read the full story:
givewhereyoulive.com.au

The Foundation is pleased to announce our two new Innovation Grants awarded in 2019:

GOOD CYCLES, \$175,000 OVER THREE YEARS

The Good Cycles Innovation grant aims to engage vulnerable young people in our community and help transition them into and employment pathway. Bikes are the vehicle used. Participating young people learn practical skills through building bikes and working in a community bike store located in Centrepoint Arcade, Geelong. The store specialises in second-hand bike sales, servicing and cycling accessories.

A Give Where You Live Foundation Innovation Grant of \$175,000 will support Good Cycles (a social enterprise who use their commercial revenue to deliver their programs and provide immediate employment opportunities) to scale up their Transitional Employment Model in Geelong.



BETHANY COMMUNITY SUPPORT, \$149,474 OVER TWO YEARS

The cycle of prisoners re-offending is routinely accompanied and made more difficult by the disadvantage-offending-disadvantage cycle. In Victoria, 50% of prisoners come from 6% of the state's most disadvantaged postcodes; including our local 3214 postcode (Vinson, Rawsthorne, Beavis & Ericson, 2015).

There is also strong representation amongst this population of low education levels, chronic health conditions, family violence, drug and alcohol overuse as well as mental health and intellectual disability.

Unfortunately, little to no ex-prisoner-specific coordinated support is available at present which is contributing to high levels of re-incarceration. This population experiences discrimination and marginalisation from services and the broader community which undeniably impacts on their capacity to seek help and successfully rebuild their lives.

A Give Where You Live Foundation Innovation Grant of \$149,474 will allow Bethany Community Support to develop a model of reintegration support for released prisoners within the Corio-Norlane community and break the cycle of reoffending. The development of this model will be facilitated through a co-design process with project partners include Deakin University and the Department of Justice.



MEET OUR 2019 INNOVATION GRANT ADVISORY GROUP

Following a shortlisting process all Innovation Grant applicants must make a presentation to our Innovation Grant Advisory Group which is made up of experts and knowledge leaders in the philanthropic and community services sectors. This panel reviews our Innovation Grant applications and makes recommendations for funding in this grant round to the Give Where You Live Foundation Board.



Thanks to our 2019 Innovation Grant Advisory Group for volunteering and sharing their expertise, pictured here: Col Duthie, Austin Paterson, Sarah Davies, Bill Mithen, Liza Whitmore, Cynthia Scherer and Lesley Lightfoot.