

**GIVE WHERE
YOU LIVE FOUNDATION**

Conversations

MAGAZINE

JUNE 2023

YOUR DONATIONS AT WORK

Operation NewStart
Bluebird Foundation
Bellarine
Living & Learning Centre

The Paddock

building community
assets

Talking Reconciliation

with Nova Peris OAM

Community Choice

Vouchers for our community

Homelessness

Geelong Zero



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OPERATION
NEWSTART

Welcome to Conversations Magazine

For almost 70 years the Give Where You Live Foundation has worked to assist people experiencing crisis, promote food security and improve education and employment opportunities across the region.

Please enjoy our magazine sharing stories about how your donations are creating a fairer G21 community where all people and places thrive.



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BELLARINE LIVING AND
LEARNING CENTRE



OUR COVER

Zoey from
Operation
Newstart

BUILDING COMMUNITY ASSETS:

PURCHASE OF ‘THE PADDOCK’

IN APRIL 2023, THE GIVE WHERE YOU LIVE FOUNDATION SUCCESSFULLY PURCHASED ‘THE PADDOCK,’ RETAINING THE SEVEN-ACRE FARM AS A COMMUNITY ASSET FROM PREVIOUS OWNERS ENCOMPASS COMMUNITY SERVICES.

people facing barriers. We’re proud that the time, money, effort and commitment the community has put into The Paddock will be retained and built upon.”

This includes a significant investment from the Foundation over many years.

“The Foundation has supported The Paddock and provided funding towards a number of initiatives including the fit out of the nursery, part of the building upgrade, landscaping in the front garden and rotunda, as well as equipment including water tanks and a tractor.”

The Give Where You Live Foundation is currently exploring further models of operation and potential new opportunities for The Paddock. The Foundation is seeking to broaden the connection the community, local businesses and additional service providers have with the property and increase access and inclusion to this incredible community asset.

“While the Foundation works to explore all options for the future of The Paddock over the coming months, we’re happy to have so many of the people who were previously accessing The Paddock back and reconnecting at the property,” Bill said.



ABOVE: BILL MITHEN AT THE PADDOCK IN LEOPOLD

The Give Where You Live Foundation is excited to announce it has successfully purchased ‘**The Paddock**,’ a seven-acre farm in Leopold, which was previously owned and run by Encompass Community Services.

Bill Mithen, CEO, Give Where You Live Foundation said the Foundation was very proud to confirm the purchase of The Paddock, which sees the property retained as a community asset.

“The Give Where You Live Foundation exists to create a fairer community, where all people and all places thrive. The Paddock has been a much-loved community asset for over 15 years, providing a unique setting for people of all abilities to explore new experiences and learn new skills, in areas of horticulture, grounds maintenance and cooking.”

“The Foundation’s decision to purchase The Paddock strongly aligns with our goal to build community assets and support learning and employment pathway opportunities, particularly for

“The Foundation’s decision to purchase The Paddock strongly aligns with our goal to build community assets and support learning and employment pathway opportunities, particularly for people facing barriers.”

- Bill Mithen, CEO, Give Where You Live Foundation

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PARTNERING FOR A
FAIRER COMMUNITY



Bill Mithen

Chief Executive Officer
Give Where You Live
Foundation

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

I’D LIKE TO BEGIN this edition by acknowledging the Wadawurrung people, Traditional Owners of the land on which we work and where we are striving to create a fairer community.

During Reconciliation Week (27 May – 3 June) we were very proud to present, in partnership with Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation, Conversations That Matter: Reconciliation with Nova Peris OAM (page 6-7). Working towards healing and reconciliation on Wadawurrung Country, we were encouraged to help dismantle the walls of discrimination, call out inequalities and be a voice for generations.

I would like to thank all of our donors who continue to support the Foundation. This incredible generosity means we can continue to support our community to not only survive, but to thrive.

This support is even more important this year as we continue to see the effects the rising cost of living is having on our community. The number of people in our region experiencing financial stress is increasing and many are facing homelessness and food insecurity.

In this edition, we share how homelessness initiatives and food relief programs are being supported by the Foundation to help meet the increasing need across the region.

We’re also really excited to share the news about the purchase of The Paddock, a 7-acre farm in Leopold. You can read all about this exciting development on the next page.

Thank you for the part you play in helping to make a fairer Geelong. I really hope you enjoy reading Conversations Magazine and learning about the difference your donation is making in our community.

FEED GEELONG APPEAL



Help make sure
nobody in our
community goes
hungry



The Geelong Food Relief Centre has seen a **239% increase in demand** since 2020/21.

16-20 October

Visit: feedgeelong.org.au


**How you can
help Feed
Geelong**

Get involved in Brown Paper Bag Day - 20 Oct

On Brown Paper Bag Day, Friday 20 October, we're encouraging the community to donate what you'd usually spend on lunch to help fight hunger in our region.

Register your workplace, sports club, friendship group and donate your lunch money to help fight hunger in our region.

Email: jackie@givewhereyoulive.com.au

Donate to Feed Geelong now!

feedgeelong.org.au

HELP MAKE SURE NOBODY IN OUR COMMUNITY GOES HUNGRY



FUNDING FROM
THE FOUNDATION
SUPPORTS A YOUTH
WORKER TO ASSIST
YOUNG PEOPLE IN
OUR COMMUNITY



“It's nice to have fun again after I've had terrible years, I've had five terrible years and it feels nice to smile again. My parents have even said that I've become my old self again, with a smile every day.”

- Zoey,
Operation Newstart

Your donations at work

SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE
TO REMAIN ENGAGED WITH
EDUCATION

OPERATION NEWSTART GEELONG supports young people aged 14-17 years old who are experiencing difficulties in school, are at risk of disengaging from their education, or experiencing complex problems at school or home, by engaging them in a unique outdoor adventure and life skills program.

Thanks to your generous donations, the Give Where You Live Foundation provided Operation Newstart Geelong with a \$30,000 Education & Employment grant to support the salary of a full-time youth worker to assist program delivery this year.

This youth worker is enhancing and improving outcomes for the young participants entering Operation Newstart Geelong.

“Some students have perhaps got to the point where they're ready to give up on school, or they're really not sure what they're going to do in the future or they're really withdrawing from their social life or their connections with community.”

- Nick Sack, Program Manager
Operation Newstart

Nick Sack, Program Manager at Operation Newstart said that most of the young students in the program are around year nine in school and are facing a range of challenges.

“Year nine is a bit of a tricky year sometimes for young people if school is not the perfect fit for them. And so this program is an opportunity to do something different to see what else is out there. And then to hopefully reengage with that extra focus to be successful and to take what they want for their future.”

Nick said they're still seeing the impact of COVID-19 on many students.

“We're now seeing many students who may have disengaged completely during COVID. We have a lot of young people who have high absenteeism than what we did previously, and through that disengagement found it really hard then to reengage with school post COVID.”

Some of the benefits of the program for young people include improved confidence, connection to the community and re-engagement in school.

Research shows that higher levels of education are associated with increased likelihood of being employed, being in good health and reporting life satisfaction (OECD 2016a, 2018).

“If young people can see schooling through until they have a pathway, then it means they're going to be much more successful in their life beyond that.”

Give Where You Live have supported Operation Newstart for approximately five years and Nick thanks the community for their support.

“Give Where You Live have been a very valuable contributor and our program wouldn't be able to have the success that it has, without the great support of Give Where You Live. A big thank you from Operation Newstart to all of the community that support the Give Where You Live Foundation, your donations go a long way to helping programs like ours succeed and support the high level programming that we have for our young people.”

ZOEY'S STORY

For almost 15-year-old, Zoey, participating in the Operation Newstart program is proving life changing. Before the program, Zoey wasn't enjoying school and like over 1 in 5 young people her age*, she had experienced bullying.

Since joining Operation Newstart, Zoey shares that she's made new friends, feels happier, is overcoming some of her past challenges and will continue at school with ambitions to become a daycare worker and photographer.

“It's just kind of good for me to come here and have a break from school. I feel safe here. My goals were to have a break from people from school and making new friends which I have, having fun which I have, and learning new skills, which I have done a lot of as well.”

*In 2019, just over 1 in 5 (21%) young people aged 15-19 reported experiencing bullying in the previous 12 months. Source www.aihw.gov.au

PRESENTED ON WADAWURRUNG COUNTRY

2023 CONVERSATIONS THAT MATTER: RECONCILIATION

THE GIVE WHERE YOU LIVE FOUNDATION HELD ITS SECOND CONVERSATIONS THAT MATTER EVENT DURING RECONCILIATION WEEK, WITH GUEST SPEAKER NOVA PERIS OAM

PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:



PRESENTED ON WADAWURRUNG COUNTRY BY:



SPONSORED BY:



2023 CONVERSATIONS THAT MATTER: RECONCILIATION presented in partnership with Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation, on Wadawurrung Country by GeelongPort, was hosted by Yorta Yorta woman Allira Potter. It also included local first nations guests including Wadawurrung Traditional Owner, Corrina Eccles and Simon Flagg, CEO of Wathaurong, sharing their personal stories.

Guest speaker Nova Peris OAM shared her family's story and deeply personal experience of being a First Nations person in Australia today.

Nova encouraged us all to understand First Nations history and call out inequalities when we see them.

"You don't lose your 250 years of history when you acknowledge ours, you gain 50,000 years of history."

"I hope that today you will understand our deep and ongoing connection



to our countries, hear the story of strength, pride, our ability to open our arms to generosity, and that you can empathise with why it is that we call upon you to see the challenges we face, and why we need your help to dismantle the walls of discrimination and call out inequalities when you see it."

In talking about her family's history, she spoke about using the past as her strength.

"Knowing my history, this is what has given me every inch to have mind over my body, mind over any pain."

During the event a group of local First Nations people including Gunditjmara man Tom Molyneux, Wakaya woman Bek Lasky, Larrakia man Matt Stokes, and Adnyamathanha woman Marsha Uppill joined MC Allira Potter for a Yarn about their stories and family histories as well as their recent experiences of being a First Nations person in Djilang.



Bill Mithen, CEO, Give Where You Live Foundation, said as well as giving people a voice, Conversations That Matter: Reconciliation aimed to highlight the importance of truth listening.

"At Conversations That Matter: Reconciliation, we encouraged the community to really sit and listen deeply to the voices of our First Nations brothers and sisters."

"The theme for 2023 National Reconciliation Week was 'Be a Voice for Generations.' It encourages all Australians to be a voice for reconciliation in their everyday lives. The best way for non-indigenous people to truly embrace and understand reconciliation, is to listen and learn from the experiences and truth of First Nations people. Together we can create generational change."



"You don't lose your 250 years of history when you acknowledge ours, you gain 50,000 years of history."

- Nova Peris, OAM OLY



GeelongPort is building stronger and more sustainable partnerships with our community, customers and industries, to create new long-term opportunities for the Geelong region.

GeelongPort is thrilled to partner with Give Where You Live on Conversations That Matter.

For more information
1800 979 717
enquiries@geelongport.com.au
geelongport.com.au



AWA Banking on Our Community

AWA, ONE OF THE GIVE WHERE YOU LIVE FOUNDATION'S PLATINUM PARTNERS, IS A SOCIAL ENTERPRISE BANK OWNED BY ITS MEMBERS. AS A SOCIAL ENTERPRISE, AWA USE PROFIT FOR PURPOSE TO CREATE SOCIAL CHANGE AND SUPPORT THE COMMUNITIES IN WHICH THEY OPERATE.

AWA HAS BEEN A PART OF THE GEELONG COMMUNITY since 1969 starting out as the Point Henry Credit Co-operative for Alcoa Employees and their families. Over time it has evolved and now offers its services to anyone in the community as its vision is to significantly contribute to an improved and sustainable future for its members and local communities.

AWA and the Give Where You Live Foundation have worked together for many decades and over the past eight years, AWA have provided over \$730,000 to the Foundation to help create a fairer community.

SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY WHEN YOU BANK

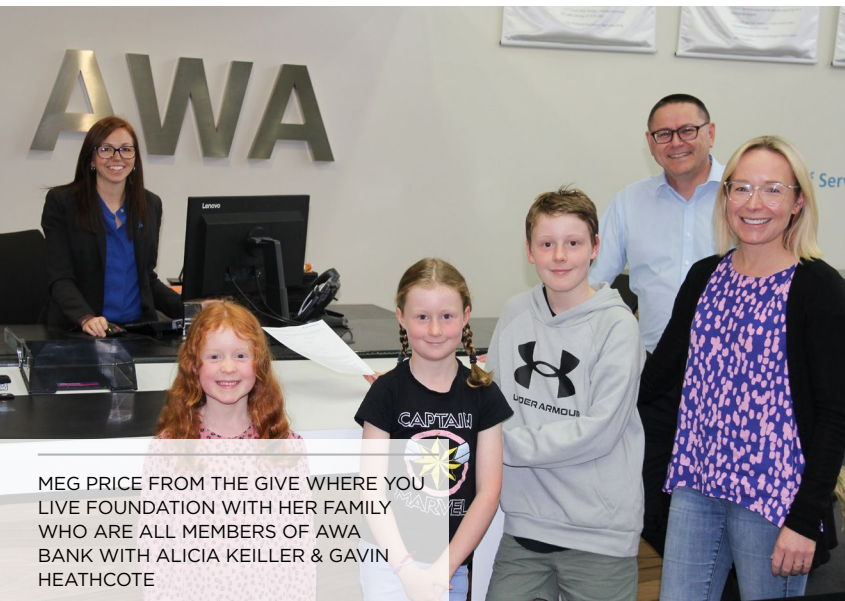
THROUGH AWA'S PARTNERSHIP WITH THE FOUNDATION, when a new customer joins AWA and mentions Give Where You Live Foundation, AWA pay the Foundation an ongoing percentage of revenue received.

By banking with AWA not only will you have access to a great range of products and services (no fees and competitive interest rates) but you'll have access to a

knowledgeable group of staff members who will take the time to get to know you.

You also have the comfort of knowing that just by doing your usual banking you'll be helping Give Where You Live and your local community to thrive.

You can speak to a member of the AWA Geelong team by calling 1300 056 953, calling in to their Malop St branch or visiting their website www.awaalliancebank.com.au and don't forget to mention Give Where You Live.



MEG PRICE FROM THE GIVE WHERE YOU LIVE FOUNDATION WITH HER FAMILY WHO ARE ALL MEMBERS OF AWA BANK WITH ALICIA KEILLER & GAVIN HEATHCOTE

“Our extended family really values being part of the AWA family. My father-in-law became an AWA customer through his work at Alcoa. My husband and his siblings all joined when they were old enough to open bank accounts and now my children are third-generation members. We really love their long-term commitment to, and their investment in, the broader Geelong community.”

- Meg Price, AWA member



How Healthy is Your Home Loan?

A **Home Loan Health Check** is a great way to ensure your home loan is still meeting your needs and providing **the best rate possible**.

Speak to one of the **friendly staff at AWA** today for your free check-up.

Ph. 1300 056 953
E. staff@awaab.com.au
W. awaalliancebank.com.au



GROW PARTNERS IN OUR COMMUNITY

THE FOUNDATION'S GROW INITIATIVE WORKS TOGETHER WITH INDIVIDUALS, COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS, BUSINESS AND GOVERNMENT TO ADDRESS ENTRENCHED DISADVANTAGE THROUGH EMPLOYMENT. GROW AIMS TO CHANGE THE OUTLOOK FOR AREAS OF HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT ACROSS THE G21 REGION. THE MAIN GOAL OF GROW IS TO CREATE MORE JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR LONG-TERM JOB SEEKERS WHO ARE MISSING OUT ON OPPORTUNITIES.

ASSOCIATED RIGGING.

The G21 GROW team and network of signatories aims to change the way we buy and employ locally, working together with community organisations, business and government to address entrenched disadvantage through inclusive employment and social procurement.

GROW Signatory, Associated Rigging has taken many steps towards creating inclusive employment opportunities. The business was founded over three decades ago and brings the services of mobile cranes to small and large-scale projects. A highly skilled team of qualified Crane Operators, Riggers, Dogmen, Spotters and Boilermakers make up the team.

Rachel McManus, IMS Manager at Associated Rigging said, “Social procurement is an important part of our business strategy. By incorporating social factors into our procurement decisions, we can create positive social impact, while also achieving our business objectives.”

BELOW: RACHEL MCCANN STARTED AS AN APPRENTICE AT ASSOCIATED RIGGING



Working together to deliver a fairer community

Collaboration between several Geelong organisations has enabled young people living in the northern suburbs of Geelong who have migrated here receive computers to assist with their studies.

The Give Where You Live Foundation's GROW (G21 Regional Opportunities for Work) initiative facilitated the relationship between GeelongPort and Catholic Care Victoria which resulted in the handover of 20 refurbished laptops.

Catholic Care Victoria said the group of young people who are studying a Certificate 1 in English delivered by Victoria University, were excited to have received the laptops, generously donated by GeelongPort. The laptops will play a key role in helping the students complete the English language course.

Sarah Cunningham from Catholic Care Victoria said, “These devices have been so warmly received. We are so grateful for the introduction from Give Where You Live and the donation from GeelongPort. The computers will benefit the students and relieve some financial pressure for them and their families.”

GeelongPort CEO Brett Winter said the port was proud to help local youth gain new language skills and achieve improved opportunities in our community. “It’s great to see our refurbished computers providing so much benefit to new Geelong families,” he said. “The ability to communicate and stay connected is so important for the growth and mental health of young refugees in our community.”

Give Where You Live Foundation CEO, Bill Mithen said the Give Where You Live Foundation was inspired by the generosity of organisations like GeelongPort who are helping to support those most in need in our community. “We’re working hard to create a fairer Geelong and we can only do that with the support of our community. Because of this incredible support, our community partner organisations can make real change to many people’s lives,” he said.

Community Choice: GIVING MORE CHOICE TO OUR COMMUNITY

THE GIVE WHERE YOU LIVE FOUNDATION HAS BEEN DELIVERING AN EMERGENCY RELIEF PROGRAM SINCE 1990.

THE FOUNDATION'S COMMUNITY CHOICE PROGRAM, provides access to basic necessities including food, material aid, and support for prescriptions, to people experiencing crisis across our region.

The Community Choice program brings together food relief and local hospitality venues to address food insecurity and bring the dignity of choice to people across our region.

The Give Where You Live Foundation is pleased to have recently expanded the number of Community Choice merchants into the program to offer our community greater choice in where they can access food, prescriptions and material aid across the Geelong region.

Community Care Chemist, Pharmacy 4 Less, JUNK, Blooms Chemist in Colac and the 24/7 Café at APCO Service Station at Waurin Ponds have all joined the program.

The addition of the APCO 24/7 Café is the Community Choice program's first food merchant that is open 24 hours giving the community access to food relief all day, every day of the year.



Stories from our community

READ HOW THE FOUNDATION'S COMMUNITY CHOICE VOUCHERS ARE SUPPORTING PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY WHO NEED IT MOST

A man called as he had just been let go from his long-term employer and was concerned about being able to provide for himself while he waited for his Centrelink application to be approved. At the time of calling, this man had not eaten in several days. He was provided with Community Choice vouchers to assist him while he made arrangements for ongoing support.

- Meli

A lady arrived to ask if we had any food to spare. She was covering severe facial injuries under her mask. She was referred to a government department that could assist her. She was very reluctant to go there but with lots of persuasion, she finally went. From there, she went to hospital for an operation. She was released and placed in a safety house and had Community Choice food vouchers. She arrived back a few weeks later with chocolates.

By this time, she had also managed to find a part time job. She wanted to thank me as she knew if she had returned home, she wouldn't have survived.

- Geelong Food Relief Centre

A young person was supported to apply for and move into public housing. They were apprehensive about taking on their first real tenancy after couch surfing and sleeping rough for over five years. Community Choice material aid vouchers gave them an opportunity to choose great quality furniture and household items that perfectly suited the size and style of their new home all in one place and delivered to their front door. This helped to make the transition as easy as possible for the consumer.

- Neami National - Towards Home+



THE IMPACT IN OUR COMMUNITY

FROM JANUARY TO JUNE 2022, WE PROVIDED

- \$49,000 in Community Choice food and pharmacy vouchers
- \$50,000 in Community Choice material aid vouchers (furniture, household goods)
- 2,680 food and pharmacy vouchers distributed.



WE WORKED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

- 25 local community agencies to distribute vouchers and
- 13 local businesses exchanging vouchers for food and pharmacy items.



WHO COMMUNITY CHOICE HAS SUPPORTED

- 67% were female
- 19% were single parents
- 17% people with disability
- 11% impacted by health issues or a bereavement.
- 10% culturally diverse
- 10% impacted by unplanned or large bills
- 55% have sought assistance due to them being on Government benefits which are not keeping up with increased cost of living, including food and rent increases.



“

55%

of people accessing Community Choice have sought assistance due to them being on Government benefits which are not keeping up with increased cost of living, including food and rent increases.



YOUR DONATIONS AT WORK



Supporting Homelessness in our Region

ONE OF THE FOUNDATION'S KEY PRIORITIES IS SUPPORTING PEOPLE THROUGH LIFE CRISIS, INCLUDING A FOCUS ON **HOMELESSNESS INITIATIVES**.

GEELONG ZERO IS PART OF A GROWING ALLIANCE ACROSS AUSTRALIA SEEKING TO END HOMELESSNESS BY 2025 IN OUR COMMUNITY. THE ADVANCE TO ZERO MODEL WAS DEVELOPED AND IS SUPPORTED BY THE AUSTRALIAN ALLIANCE TO END HOMELESSNESS, AND NOW OPERATES IN 25 REGIONS ACROSS AUSTRALIA.

GEELONG ZERO IS SEEKING TO REDUCE HOMELESSNESS AND END ROUGH SLEEPING BY 2025.

The Give Where You Live Foundation is proud to be the inaugural funder and partner, with Neami National to establish Geelong Zero in our region. The initiative seeks to work collaboratively across homelessness, emergency relief and community services in the Geelong region to ensure that homelessness, when it does occur, is rare, brief and non-recurring.

As the cost of living continues to increase, it is impacting our most vulnerable community members.

The 2021 census data shows that approximately 30% of households across the region are experiencing rental stress, however in some areas this is as high as 60%. Since then the cost of living has only continued to increase.

The number of homeless recorded in the census doubled from 2016 to 2021, with the Geelong region now reporting over 1500



Homelessness goes beyond people living on the streets or parks and includes many more across our community in unsafe and unstable accommodation. This can include people sleeping in their cars, couch surfing, living temporarily in shelters, hostels or refuges, living in crowded conditions or living in housing that is unfit for human habitation.



88% of people are experiencing mental health conditions



In 2021-2022 across the Barwon Network of homelessness funded services, they assisted **5,600 people** experiencing or at risk of homelessness and/or family violence



80% of people are experiencing chronic health issues



The cost of living is rising and we are seeing more and diverse people coming through our doors, that we haven't seen before, that are now struggling to put food on the table."

- Amy Flint
The Outpost

THE OUTPOST

THE OUTPOST exists to support people in our community experiencing housing instability, addiction, or mental health challenges, though providing food and material aid.

For over 30 years, The Outpost have been providing hot healthy meals and supplies such as blankets and toiletries, 365 days of the year.

The Outpost Vice President Amy Flint said demand is continuing to increase as the cost of living continues to soar.

"The cost of living is rising and we are seeing more and diverse people coming through our doors, that we haven't seen before, that are now struggling to put food on the table."

"They are bringing their children, they are bringing their families. The people that come through our doors are new and ever emerging every day," she said.

John who regularly comes to The Outpost shares "You're left with nothing to live on after trying to pay your bills and groceries. If I didn't have The Outpost, I don't know what else I would do."

The Give Where You Live Foundation has supported The Outpost for many decades and most recently through a **\$18,000 grant** in May 2023.

"We rely on the support of the Give Where You Live Foundation in order to have the meals to cook, in order to have the lights turned on and the heaters warm and the urn running," Ms Flint said.

people experiencing unstable housing, including rough sleeping, couch surfing and supported accommodation. This is the second highest growth across the state.

Local homelessness services are also experiencing unprecedented demand. In 2021-2022, the network of homelessness funded services across the Barwon region assisted over 5,600 people experiencing or at risk of homelessness and/or family violence. (AIHW, Australian Institute Health & Welfare).

If we genuinely want to end rough sleeping in our region, we need wrap around support, coordinated services and a better understanding of the problem.

This is where Geelong Zero comes in. Through the creation of a shared 'by name' list of rough sleepers in the region, we will gain a better understanding of a person's needs so they can be linked to appropriate supports with the goal of accessing housing.

In October 2022 Geelong Zero completed the first rough sleeping 'census.' Over two nights Geelong Zero volunteers took to the streets connecting with and surveying rough sleepers.

Data from the survey highlighted the significant issues people across our community are experiencing. Across those surveyed we identified that the average number of years people are sleeping on the streets is 5.96 years - and 80% reported chronic health issues.



PITCH UP
AUGUST 10 2023

ADDRESSING HOMELESSNESS
SAVE THE DATE: 10 AUGUST 2023.

Find out more at givewhereyoulive.com.au



The average number of years people are sleeping on the streets is **5.96 years**





Our latest grant funding helping the community to survive & thrive

THANKS TO YOUR DONATIONS, IN MAY 2023 THE GIVE WHERE YOU LIVE FOUNDATION ANNOUNCED THE DISTRIBUTION OF **OVER \$420,000 IN GRANTS** TO SUPPORT PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY EXPERIENCING **LIFE INHIBITING CRISIS**, INCLUDING **FOOD INSECURITY** AND **HOMELESSNESS**.

Over \$200,000 of the latest grant funding will be directed towards supporting food security across the region, in part as a result of public donations received in the **Foundation's 2022 Feed Geelong Appeal**.



Give Where You Live Foundation grants

BARWON DISABILITY RESOURCE COUNCIL \$37,160

Barwon Disability Resource Council received a grant of \$37,160 which will provide support to people living with disability and their family to strengthen their community connections and reduce social isolation.

HOPE BEREAVEMENT CARE \$30,000

Hope Bereavement Care received a \$30,000 grant to reduce isolation and build resilience for those grieving the death of a baby or child. The Baby and Child Loss program will provide information, connection and counselling.

INSTITUTE OF HEALTH TRANSFORMATION - DEAKIN UNIVERSITY \$39,901

Deakin University's Institute of Health Transformation will use this grant to build a set of culturally appropriate codesign principles that organisations can use when engaging with local First Nations populations.

OCEAN MIND \$30,000

Ocean Mind received \$30,000 to transform the lives of young people by promoting self-efficacy, community bonding, and skill development. This grant will support the delivery of programs and surf club sessions.

THE POWER IN YOU PROJECT \$30,000

The Power In You Project received a \$30,000 grant that will form part of their open-ended day program which supports the mental health of participants and engages them in positive activities whilst interrupting drug/alcohol use.

RIDING FOR THE DISABLED - BARWON \$10,000

Aiming to address the social isolation of young people with a disability, the \$10,000 grant will support participants who could not otherwise afford the luxury of riding.

SAMARITAN HOUSE GEELONG \$22,900

Samaritan House Geelong's grant funding of \$22,900 will support their Accommodation Living Skills Program which is a 12-week residential program that provides homeless men with the knowledge and skills to help them find long term stable accommodation to break the cycle of homelessness.

READ THE PLAY \$21,342

Funding will support the Colac & District Football Netball League clubs to deliver the Read The Play educational program "Huddle Up" to 14-16 year old football and netball players.

Grants supporting food relief

BELLARINE LIVING & LEARNING CENTRE INC \$30,000

Bellarine Living and Learning Centre received a \$30,000 grant to further develop food security programs. In addition to increasing support through food relief and encouraging strong social and community connections, this project will focus on building resilience and empowerment for community members.

DRYSDALE FAMILY SUPPORT INC \$25,000

Drysdale Family Support received a grant for \$25,000 to further assist their foodbank program to provide relief to those on the Bellarine Peninsula experiencing food insecurity. It will allow for the expansion of the program, increase community engagement, and ensure the food relief service is sustainable.

HESSE RURAL HEALTH \$10,000

In a bid to reduce the number of people experiencing food insecurity in Winchelsea, this \$10,000 grant will enable Hesse Rural Health to employ a Project Coordinator who will scope and develop strategies to provide sustainable food relief services to the community.

UNITING VIC TAS \$40,000

Uniting VicTas received a \$40,000 grant to pilot a mobile emergency relief service for the Norlane and Corio areas with potential to expand to other locations with vulnerable communities. The mobile service will provide food relief, material aid, and act as a gateway to other support services.

FARM MY SCHOOL LTD \$40,000

Farm My School is working to transform unused land within schools into regenerative market gardens providing food to the local community. The \$40,000 grant will support Farm My School to build organisational capacity to successfully expand to other schools and contribute to food security in a greater number of communities.

GEELONG FOOD RELIEF CENTRE \$40,000

Geelong Food Relief is the main food distribution centre for those in need of emergency food relief. \$40,000 in grant funding will build the centre's capacity for professional communication by hiring a resource to connect and understand stakeholders and create engaging communication material to increase the confidence of those facing food insecurity.

THE OUTPOST INC \$18,000

An \$18,000 grant will support homelessness and food insecurity in our community through The Outpost. It will allow for the provision of sufficient food and operational costs to ensure that doors remain open, the heaters on, drinks warm and food available to all who access this service.



YOUR DONATIONS AT WORK

Bellarine Living and Learning Centre

THE BELLARINE LIVING AND LEARNING CENTRE IS A NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE LOCATED IN WHITTINGTON.

FUNDING FROM THE FOUNDATION SUPPORTS FOOD SECURITY PROGRAMS IN THE COMMUNITY.

BELOW: MELISSA IS NOW A VOLUNTEER AT THE BELLARINE LIVING & LEARNING CENTRE



We couldn't afford petrol to drive to another food bank. The food bank here was a place where I could go to get fresh veggies and groceries for my family and have a chat with everyone there."

- Melissa, Bellarine Living & Learning Centre



ONE OF THE LATEST 15 COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS TO RECEIVE A GRANT from the Foundation is Bellarine Living and Learning Centre, who received a \$30,000 grant to employ a project coordinator to further develop food security programs in the 3219 postcode.

In addition to increasing support to meet basic economic needs through food relief and encouraging strong social and community connections, this project will focus on building resilience and empowerment for community members.

Bellarine Living and Learning Centre's Foodbank service is in Melissa's community.

Melissa and her husband have four children under the age of 11, including young twins. During the COVID pandemic Melissa's husband was out of work for over 12 months.

"We were left to rely on our savings. We couldn't afford petrol to drive to another Foodbank. The Foodbank here was a place where I could go to get fresh veggies and groceries for my family and have a chat with everyone there."

Two years on and Melissa and her family are thriving. As a result of the care and sense of community experienced at Bellarine Living and Learning Centre, Melissa now gives back to the community that helped her by volunteering at the Bellarine Living and Learning Centre Foodbank. The same place she turned to for help when things weren't so great.

"I feel blessed that this service is available. It has made us stronger as a family", Melissa said.

"I now volunteer here and it's a real community that helps each other."

Deanne Linde, Bellarine Living and Learning Centre Manager said that the increasing cost of living is impacting the number of people accessing their services.

"What we are finding in this community is that there are people coming here that never would normally, and there's a lot of embarrassment and shame around having to use services like a Foodbank, but we just say to people that this is circumstantial. The cost of living has increased enormously."

"Our Foodbank is funded by the Give Where You Live Foundation. We use the funding to fund a Foodbank worker position. That person needs to organize all the food, has to order the food through Foodbank Victoria, we have to pay for that food. So Give Where You Live Foundation actually ends up paying for all the food, for the worker and for the vouchers. So we actually wouldn't be able to run it without the money."



STAFF FROM THE GIVE WHERE YOU LIVE FOUNDATION & ITS CORPORATE PARTNER TAC VISITED THE RDA BARWON PROGRAM TO CONGRATULATE THEM ON THEIR GRANT AND SEE THEIR DONATIONS AT WORK.

BLUEBIRD FOUNDATION

THE BLUEBIRD FOUNDATION RECEIVED A \$40,000 GRANT

The Bluebird Foundation received a \$40,000 Education and Employment grant to support parents in the 3214 and 3219 postcodes develop their capacity as their child's first and most important teacher.

Helping to build the confidence of parents to engage meaningfully with formal education settings, the interactive music sessions provide a rich learning environment for children and adults alike. With a focus on learning, this program ultimately empowers parents to give children in these areas of Geelong, the best start in life.

Bron Lawson, Program Manager from Bluebird Foundation said the Give Where You Live Foundation grant funding was so important to their program.

"The funding from Give Where You Live is so important because the families that we work with don't have the financial resources to access these sorts of arts programs. Our classes are provided free of charge for families and level the playing field so that little people who are growing up in families without financial resources still have the best start in life."



YOUR DONATIONS AT WORK

Supporting young people in our community

RIDING FOR THE DISABLED

RIDING FOR THE DISABLED BARWON RECEIVED A \$10,000 GRANT

Riding for the Disabled provides opportunities for children with a disability, to enjoy safe, therapeutic, horse-related activities. Horse riding improves the quality of life of participants by building social skills and developing physical capacity.

The Give Where You Live Foundation is proud to continue its support of Riding for the Disabled's Barwon program, with a Survive and Thrive grant in its 2023 grant round. This grant will support children with a disability to participate in the program, covering the costs for riders to ensure that financial circumstances are not a barrier to entering the program.

Staff from Give Where You Live Foundation and corporate partner TAC visited the RDA Barwon program to congratulate them on their grant and see their donations at work.



STAFF FROM THE GIVE WHERE YOU LIVE FOUNDATION & ITS CORPORATE PARTNER DEAKIN JOINED IN THE BLUEBIRD FOUNDATION PROGRAM TO SEE THE IMPACT THE SUPPORT

PARTNERING FOR A FAIRER COMMUNITY

FUNDRAISING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

As a Community Foundation, nothing warms our hearts quite like seeing our community band together to raise funds for their region.

From individuals, to sporting clubs, schools and local businesses we are so thankful to be the recipient of funds raised through their fundraising activities.



Dawnbusters Fun Run

Running into the New Year

Thanks to the Geelong Cross Country Club, who once again organised the Dawnbusters Fun run, which saw hundreds of runners get up early on New Year's Eve, to complete the 5km course along the Geelong Waterfront.

Their amazing efforts raised \$3000 for our community. We couldn't think of a better way to spend the last morning of the year!

Give Geelong Appeal

Kicking goals for our community!

The 2023 Give Geelong Appeal kicked off in March with local businesses from across the region donning their footy gear to raise funds for the community.

Fagg's Mitre 10 (pictured), Hamilton Group, Geelong Broadcasters and Lyons Construction were among the businesses who encouraged their staff to come dressed in their footy gear to kick goals for our community.

The Foundation was inspired by the generosity of the community in getting behind the Give Geelong Appeal and helping those most in need. Thanks to generous matched giving partners GMHBA and CLOS, every dollar donated during the appeal was doubled, raising over \$40,000.

The Foundation's work is not possible without the generosity of the community. Because of this support, we will be able to make real change to many people's lives.

Nikole Ramsay Exhibition

Opening night fundraiser

In May, The Give Where You Live Foundation was delighted to be the recipient of funds raised at the opening of Nikole Ramsay's photographic exhibition, 'Beyond the Surface'.

Displayed at Lon Retreat, the amazing photographs depict a connection to the ocean and Nikole's interpretation of the awe and wonder experienced while swimming. The event raised over \$1200 for our community.

Geelong College

Supporting the community

Geelong College students and staff have been showing their support for the Give Where You Live Foundation, raising funds and supporting our work to create a fairer community.

Fundraising has taken on several forms including selling coffee beans with a percentage of sales supporting the Foundation, while the students of Shannon House raised \$2500 for the Feed Geelong initiative. Staff member Deb Filling, (pictured below with senior students from Shannon House) participated in the Give Where You Live Foundation's Loaned Executive program and continues to be an ambassador for our community by sharing the needs of our community among students and staff.

The Give Where You Live Foundation is grateful for this continued support and ongoing commitment from the Geelong College community.



PICTURED:

1. Dawnbusters Fun Run: Staff from the Foundation join Geelong Cross Country Club organiser Dr John Morton

2. Nikole Ramsay Exhibition: Meg Price from the Foundation join Nikole Ramsay & Claire Gemes from Lon Retreat.

3. Give Geelong Appeal: The Fagg's Mitre 10 team in their footy gear.

4. Give Geelong Appeal: GMHBA's David Greig, Meg Price, CLOS's Renee Gellion and Give Geelong Appeal Ambassadors Lingy & Loggy from KRock.

5. Geelong College: Geelong College staff member Deb Filling with senior students from Shannon House

6. Bridge to Bridge 3: The Foundation's Meg Price with some of the Barwon Heads Cycling Club riders.

If you'd like to run an event or fundraiser in support of the Foundation, please email: marketing@givewhereyoulive.com.au

Over the three Bridge to Bridge charity rides the Barwon Heads Cycling Club have now raised almost \$150,000 for the Geelong community.

Barwon Heads Cycling Club



BRIDGE TO BRIDGE 3 CHARITY RIDE

THE GIVE WHERE YOU LIVE FOUNDATION WERE PROUD RECIPIENTS OF PROCEEDS FROM THE BARWON HEADS CYCLING CLUB'S BRIDGE TO BRIDGE 3 CHARITY RIDE.

The Barwon Heads Cycling Club, in line with its aspiration of being a positive catalyst for change in the community, had a core group of 16 riders undertake the 800km ride from Barwon Heads and around Tasmania raising over \$36,000.

Murray Joseph, President of Barwon Heads Cycling Club said the riders of the Barwon Heads Cycling Club were pleased to be able to support their community and complete the challenge of covering 800kms on a bike.

"It was a pleasure to share the experience with the group, although it was hard work, each day a challenge, the camaraderie and encouragement contributed to a fantastic event. Bring on Bridge to Bridge 4!"

Give Where You Live Foundation CEO, Bill Mithen said the Give

Where You Live Foundation was thankful to the Barwon Heads Cycling Club riders for their amazing effort in helping to support the local community.

Money raised for the Foundation will assist in funding local programs supporting education and employment opportunities, as well as supporting people in our community who are experiencing life-inhibiting crisis to help meet their basic needs.

"We're working hard to create a fairer Geelong and we can only do that with the support of our community. The amazing efforts of the Barwon Heads Cycling Club's Bridge to Bridge charity ride will directly help those most in need in our community. Due to the increased cost of living we're seeing more and more individuals and families facing homelessness and struggling to put food on the table," Bill said.

Over the three Bridge to Bridge charity rides the Barwon Heads Cycling Club has now raised almost \$150,000 for the Geelong community.





CREATING A FAIRER COMMUNITY WITH Workplace Giving

Donate a little from your pay through Workplace Giving to help create a fairer Geelong community.

The difference your donation will make each year:



\$5 PER WEEK

Provides over **50 meals** for people who may otherwise go without food



\$10 PER WEEK

Provides **10 vouchers** for people experiencing crisis to access household goods and furniture



\$15 PER WEEK

Contributes towards providing **mentor support** to young people at risk of disengaging from school



\$20 PER WEEK

Provides **training** for a new **support worker** to assist someone in crisis

Together,
we can make a
BIG
difference

Workplace
Giving:
When we give
a little together,
our community
gets a lot

GIVE
WHERE
YOU LIVE
FOUNDATION

To find out more or to register,
contact your payroll team or email us
at give@givewhereyoulive.com.au



Loaned Executives support our community

When we give
a little together,
our community
gets a lot

For almost 60 years, organisations from across the Geelong region have 'loaned' their employees to support the Give Where You Live Foundation's Loaned Executive Program.



HEAR FROM OUR PREVIOUS LOANED EXECUTIVES.

Prior to the Loaned Executive program, I had been a participant in Workplace Giving for nine years but hadn't quite grasped the impacts my direct contributions had within the community. The Loaned Executive program demonstrates firsthand that the people in need in our community are primarily helped by their community - people and organisations like us.

- Rachel Drady, GMHBA
Loaned Executive 2022



WHY CHOOSE TO BE A LOANED EXECUTIVE?



**HELP TO CREATE A
FAIRER GEELONG
COMMUNITY**



**INCREASE YOUR
LEADERSHIP &
COMMUNICATION SKILLS**



**BECOME PART OF
AN ALUMNI OF 1800
LOANED EXECUTIVES**

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS:

PERSONAL & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Participating in the Loaned Executive program offers employees many personal and professional benefits including:



Leadership training:

Increase your confidence and leadership skills through professional development training with Kylie Paatsch.



Communication skills:

Develop your communication and public speaking skills



Make new connections:

Expand your networks within corporate and non-profit community organisations and become part of an alumni of over 1800 Loaned Executives



Support your community:

Make a direct impact to help the Give Where You Live Foundation build a fairer community

ORGANISATION BENEFITS

DEVELOP YOUR FUTURE LEADERS

The Loaned Executive Program supports employees to gain leadership skills and build their professional networks.



Staff development:

Kylie Paatsch delivers training to support employees to deliver confident and inspirational presentations.



Engage your organisation with your community:

Through tours and speakers from the Foundation's community partner organisations.



Build relationships:

Loaned Executives will expand their professional networks and build relationships with people from a range of businesses.



Public recognition:

Loaned Executives and their organisation are recognised across a range of Give Where You Live publications.

TO APPLY AND BE PART OF OUR 2023 PROGRAM CONTACT:

Jackie Price - Partnership Manager

M: 0411716009

E: jackie@givewhereyoulive.com.au



EVENT SOCIAL PAGES

HAVING FUNDRAISING



31ST E&S GOLF CLASSIC

MONDAY 27 FEBRUARY 2023

1. E&S'S ROB SINCLAIR & GIVE WHERE YOU LIVE FOUNDATION'S MEG PRICE WITH THE WINNING TEAM FROM EVANS & PARTNERS

SURF COAST TREK

SATURDAY 13 MAY 2023

2. HERMI'S HEROES

GIVE GEELONG BREAKFAST

THURSDAY 23 MARCH 2023

3. BBC'S NATHAN CANNON & ANDREW HALL WITH GIVE WHERE YOU LIVE FOUNDATION'S MEG PRICE & SARAH WILSON



JANE FITZGERALD PHOTOGRAPHY

3



JANE FITZGERALD PHOTOGRAPHY



JANE FITZGERALD PHOTOGRAPHY

2

CONVERSATIONS THAT MATTER: RECONCILIATION

WEDNESDAY 31 MAY 2023

The Give Where You Live Foundation held its second Conversations That Matter event during Reconciliation Week, with guest speaker **Nova Peris OAM** sharing her family's story and deeply personal experience of being a First Nations person in Australia today.

1. NICK & MARSHA UPPILL
2. GEELONGPORT TEAM
3. RENEE & COLLEEN HOWELL
4. SHANE GIBBONS & MEG PRICE



FERNE MILLEN PHOTOGRAPHY

4

WHAT'S COMING UP?

THERE ARE MANY WAYS TO GET INVOLVED AND SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY

FOR THE LATEST EVENT INFORMATION, SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT [GIVEWHERYOU LIVE.COM.AU/EVENTS](https://givewhereyoulive.com.au/events)



LOANED EXECUTIVE TRAINING

25 & 27 JULY 2023



PITCH UP GEELONG

10 AUGUST 2023



FEED GEELONG APPEAL

16-20 OCTOBER 2023



AUCTION@THE OLD FORD FACTORY

20 OCTOBER 2023

Help create a fairer community

There are many ways you can get involved and make a difference to your community through the Give Where You Live Foundation.



Participate in an Event

The Foundation hosts a number of events including the Surf Coast Trek, Give Geelong Breakfast and Pitch Up Geelong. Find out more online.



Regular Giving

An alternative to Workplace Giving is making a regular monthly donation to the Foundation.



Fundraise for the Foundation

Do you like hosting events? Then why not host an event or campaign with your family and friends to support the Foundation!



Community Grant Review Panels

Volunteers are invited to read and review grant applications to provide feedback on allocating funding.



Our vision is to create a fairer G21 community where all people and places thrive.

Platinum Partners



Gold Donors



Education Partner



Silver Donors



Bronze Donors



Trusts and Foundations

- Anthony Costa Foundation
- Percy Baxter Charitable Trust
- The Muffin Foundation
- The Oswald Hearne Trust
- Howard Glover Perpetual Trust
- The Roy O and Constance M Young Trust

THANK YOU

For helping us create
a fairer community!



SCAN TO DONATE



GIVE WHERE YOU LIVE FOUNDATION

21-23 Fenwick Street, Geelong Vic 3220

givewhereyoulive.com.au

Keep up to date with the Give Where You Live Foundation



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givegeelong



givegeelong



Give Where You Live Foundation

