

We know that working through crisis, innovating, trying something new and focusing on big picture challenges, is impossible to do alone. We also appreciate that more traditional grant making processes are also not conducive to a try, test and learn approach. This is what has driven the development of the Give Where You Live Foundation Partnership Impact Fund.

Through this funding we hope to be seen as a “critical friend” that walks alongside our partners to understand an issue, provide support at critical points, brainstorm ideas and partner in taking risks and trying something new.

Being bold and taking risks feels easier when you are not alone in the journey!

In undertaking these partnerships, the Give Where You Live Foundation seeks to take a different approach to our grant making, and also to leverage other support and resources to ultimately create a fairer and more equitable G21 community.

Strategic Partnership

Funds under this grant type will seek to support longer term impact on a key issue or problem and will take a collaborative approach to better understand the root causes of social problems, and test new ways of addressing these.

Strategic Partnerships will focus on areas that contribute to one or more of the following:

- ❖ Taking a **systems-change** approach to addressing the underlying causes of inequality and inequity (including support for key research and advocacy).
- ❖ Supporting delivery of key work which contributes towards **place-based change**, in particular:
 - Building social capital and supporting people to shape their own community; or
 - Enabling and catalysing the social economy and community wealth building.
- ❖ Supporting **co-design** initiatives which seek to elevate community voice on critical issues which matter to them, and partner in the testing and trailing of solutions.
- ❖ Support to **innovate** and **catalyse** new ideas through ideation and experimentation.
 - **Ideation:** Starting with posing a problem and supporting the development and testing of an idea.
 - **Experimentation:** Assisting an emerging idea to be further developed and tested.
- ❖ Contribute towards key outcomes of other Give Where You Live **change initiatives** such as Feed Geelong and G21 Region Opportunities for Work, and which do not fall within standard annual grant rounds.

All Strategic Partnerships must contribute towards one of the outcome areas within the Give Where You Live Foundation Theory of Change.

OUR COMMUNITY WILL THRIVE WHEN ALL PEOPLE HAVE...

- + Increased learning opportunities and educational attainment
- + Increased access to, readiness for, and retention of quality employment
- + Increased support to reduce life inhibiting crises

AND WHEN PLACES ARE SUPPORTED TO...

- + Build social capital and support people to shape their own community
- + Enable and catalyse the social economy and community wealth building

Resources available:

The Give Where You Live Foundation will use all it’s energy and resources in support of the initiatives within the Partnership Impact Fund. The exact level and type of support will be discussed and negotiated with relevant parties. Whilst funding will be one element of this, initiatives within this Fund will be supported more specifically across all areas of our work, and therefore could include:

Investing in and supporting local organisations, programs and initiatives

- + Funding and building the capacity of community partners
- + Investing in strategic change initiatives
- + Developing, catalysing and seed funding new ideas

Convening, connecting and creating strategic and effective solutions

- + Bringing people and organisations together and aligning effort behind common change agendas
- + Creating, collecting and sharing evidence to identify collective solutions
- + Connecting, reflecting and learning from our work and the work of our partners
- + Supporting co-design approaches that ensure those with lived experience inform solutions

Building resources and raising awareness

- + Raising awareness and elevating civil society voice
- + Leveraging other funding
- + Advocating with all levels of government on key issues, either directly or through community partners

This is a closed non-competitive grant round. We do not take applications for this grant fund however queries can be forwarded to grants@givewhereyoulive.com.au

Some important definitions:

What do we mean by place-based?

Whilst there is no consistently agreed definition for place-based approaches, or place-based change, there are some characteristics which are increasingly agreed as fundamental. The Give Where You Live Foundation reaffirms and supports the following definitions:

“A collaborative, long-term approach to build thriving communities delivered in a defined geographic location. This approach is ideally characterised by partnering and shared design, shared stewardship, and shared accountability for outcomes and impacts.”

Place-based Evaluation Framework
[A guide for evaluation of place-based approaches in Australia](#)

“Place-based approaches target the specific circumstances of a place and engage local people as active participations in development and implementation...”

[Victorian Government Framework for Place-based Approaches](#)

What underpins these definitions are some key characteristics that remain fundamental for place-based change to occur – a strength-based approach that focuses on the underlying causes that hold an issue in place; identifying and working on community priorities, valuing local knowledge and expertise; committing to shared learning and adaptation; supporting the building of capability of all parties; which ultimately creates greater equity in our community.

What do we mean by systems change?

With the focus on systems change and seeking to shift the underlying conditions that hold a problem in place, the Give Where You Live Foundation seeks to support initiatives which strive to:

- impact government / institutional policies or practices;
- influence people, organisations and networks within the system;
- redistribute resources or power;
- significantly change relationships / connections across the system;
- or influence attitude and behaviour change

As documented within [The Water of Systems Change](#) (Kania, Kramer & Kramer, 2018), for system change to occur we need to understand and seek to change the key and interdependent conditions that typically play a significant role ongoing inequity across our community.

What do we mean by co-design:

Similar to the other terms noted above, the term co-design is increasingly over used and many times refers simply to collaborative approaches and facilitated discussions. Many times it also does not respect, value or acknowledge the importance of lived experience in not only better understanding challenges impacting community, but what possible solutions exist.

Whilst respecting the specific community led approach which has been developed by the [Auckland Co-design Lab](#), the Give Where You Live Foundation reasserts many of the fundamentals that underpin their work:

- For communities to lead and have ownership of effective responses to complex issues.
- This work is best undertaken together, in true partnership with community, businesses, government, philanthropy and other system partners.
- Relationships, and power, need to shift across all system partners for community led change to occur.

Through the Partnership Impact Fund, the Give Where You Live Foundation seeks to help build, trial, model and promote ways of working that enable this to occur.