

VFFF  
2013  
ANNUAL  
REPORT

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**Cover:** Clancy Rowlands rehearsing for Beyond Empathy's annual NO SHAME DAY performance in Armidale (Photograph by Paul McMillan)





**Left:** Primary school students participating in the Musica Viva In Schools program (Photograph by Helen Coetsee)

## ENHANCING LIVES, OPENING MINDS.

IN 1962, VINCENT FAIRFAX ESTABLISHED THE FAMILY CHARITABLE TRUST THAT WOULD LATER BECOME THE VINCENT FAIRFAX FAMILY FOUNDATION.

In a note to his family explaining his motivation in 1973, he wrote:

*'This action was taken on the basis that my children are well provided for and, hopefully, in their turn will contribute further assets to this Family pot of gratitude for all the benefits we have received since landing in Australia in 1838.'*

Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation (VFFF) has distributed in excess of \$109 million to community initiatives since establishment. The torch lit by Sir Vincent and Lady Nancy Fairfax continues in the family today. Their four children have all contributed to the work of VFFF and a third generation (G3), their grandchildren, has emerged to continue family philanthropy into the future. VFFF also benefits from the contributions of independent Directors and support of a professional staff of five.

# SIR VINCENT AND LADY NANCY FAIRFAX

THE TORCH LIT IN 1962 BY SIR VINCENT AND LADY NANCY FAIRFAX CONTINUES IN THE FAMILY TODAY.



At the Oakhurst church site dedication with Rev. Lindsay Stoddart in 1987.

## SIR VINCENT FAIRFAX

Vincent Fairfax (1909-1993) began his life in rural Queensland, at Cambooya near Toowoomba and maintained links with the land throughout his life. He held numerous directorships and official positions including Chairman of AMP and a Director of John Fairfax Limited, publishers of The Sydney Morning Herald. He was made a Commander of St Michael and St George (CMG) in 1960 and created a Knight Bachelor in 1971.

VINCENT FAIRFAX WAS A COMMITTED CHRISTIAN WHICH WAS REFLECTED IN HIS ACTIVITIES AND SUPPORT OF THE ANGLICAN CHURCH. HE BELIEVED STRONGLY IN THE VOLUNTEER SPIRIT, SERVING IN A VOLUNTARY CAPACITY IN NUMEROUS ORGANISATIONS.

He was patient, generous and set people from all walks of life at ease. His integrity and interest in others were strong and as a family man, Vincent Fairfax was in his element. Influenced by four generations of public-spirited men and women before him, Vincent Fairfax touched the hearts and lives of many people.

Sir Vincent's imprint on the VFFF remains strong today. He believed that wealth and position brought responsibility and an obligation to serve the community, as epitomised by the oft-quoted verse in Luke 12:48:

*'When a man has been given much, much will be expected of him; and the more a man has had entrusted to him, the more he will be required to repay.'*

## LADY NANCY FAIRFAX

Nancy Fairfax was an advocate and lobbyist for the needs and rights of young children and a promoter of the value of early childhood education. She was active in both the Australian Pre-School Association and its successor the Australian Early Childhood Association.

LADY FAIRFAX WAS MADE AN OBE FOR HER WORK WITH KINDERGARTEN EDUCATION AND THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES BESTOWED AN HONORARY DOCTORATE OF LETTERS IN 2004.

In 2008, she was appointed AO posthumously in the Australia Day Honours List.

Lady Nancy Fairfax was Chairman of the VFFF from 1993 to 2001 and Patron until her death in 2007. This marked the end of an era as she was the last of the Founding Trustees. Looking for ways to help others, Lady Fairfax bequeathed a large part of her estate to the Foundation, enhancing its ability to contribute to the Australian community over many years to come.



**Above:** Family gathering Christmas 1987, four children and twelve grandchildren

**Left:** Family portrait taken at 'Elaine', Double Bay NSW

**Bottom left:** London Lakes, Tasmania - fly fishing, a favourite pastime

**Bottom right:** 'Elaine' March 1986



# CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



I AM PLEASED AS I MOVE THROUGH DIFFERENT CIRCLES TO HEAR OF THE IMPACT VFFF'S STRATEGIC GRANT MAKING, INCREASED COLLABORATION AND COMMUNICATION HAS HAD IN OUR 51<sup>ST</sup> YEAR.

*Tim Fairfax*

**TIM FAIRFAX AM**  
Chairman

In line with accepted best practice, Directors have approved a more complete and detailed reporting of our grant making and financial metrics. The 2013 Annual Report will be available in full on our website and distributed to our colleagues. I welcome this initiative and the Board's wish that our greater transparency may encourage more giving and assist our grant recipients gain recognition for their work, ultimately assisting our target beneficiary groups.

In the 2012/13 financial year we welcomed two new members to the Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation Ltd, bringing total member numbers to 30 and distributed \$7,557,367 (\$7,676,267 in 2011/12) to 86 organisations (86 in 2011/12).

Conscious of our fiscal responsibility and expecting lower levels of distributable income the Board, on advice from our Audit Finance and Investment Committee (AFIC), has set a reduced distribution target of \$7m for the 2014 and 2015 financial years. Reflecting our continued mindfulness of the founders in the VFFF's work, a new policy was approved during the year which allows as follows:

*Special distributions from the corpus of the Foundation (beyond the annual amount available for distribution) may be considered for projects demonstrating highly catalytic properties or of particular relevance to the founders and the Family.*

This policy recognises that within the VFFF Mission the Board may contemplate distributions from corpus to support an exceptional opportunity. This policy may be applied when the funding of such an opportunity would be beyond our capacity to fund within the annual distribution target amount.

Board meetings were held in September, November, March and June and AFIC also met four times during the year.

I thank my fellow Directors for your commitment to the VFFF. Our meetings are consistently valuable due to your willingness to listen, consider and share insights.

**I AM FREQUENTLY REMINDED OF THE UNIQUENESS OF OUR BOARD, A MIX OF INDEPENDENT AND FAMILY DIRECTORS, ALL OF WHOM DONATE THEIR TIME AND EXPERTISE, IN A COMMITMENT FAR GREATER THAN ATTENDANCE AT BOARD MEETINGS.**

The Board congratulated Annabel Dulhunty for completing her Masters of Business in Philanthropy and welcomed her formal engagement on a part time basis in the VFFF office. We look forward to her insights on how VFFF may most effectively contribute in rural areas, which remain a great interest of VFFF and the Fairfax family.

In accordance with policies Nicholas Fairfax retires from our Board this year after serving two terms totaling eight years. I wish to thank Nick for his thoughtful comments and perceptive views on our themes.

I am pleased that we will continue to have Nick's presence on the Audit, Finance and Investment Committee.

My appreciation to the efforts of James Millar as Chair of AFIC, Nick and Christopher White who provide calm guidance in financial markets where volatility prevails.

The Small Grants Committee (SGC) and Cousins have each made a valuable contribution to the overall impact the VFFF has had this financial year. The SGC has met six times during the year and a successful G3 (third generation) retreat held. These occasions provided an excellent opportunity for learning, shared experiences and fun. Combined grants of \$458,698 have been made by these groups during the 2012/13 financial year (2011/12 \$113,072). Having great participation at the G3 level there is scope to slowly engage, with their parents' assistance, our older G4s (fourth generation) with VFFF during the coming year.

My very sincere thanks to CEO Jenny Wheatley who, while relatively new to philanthropy, has embraced the position with great enthusiasm, intelligent learning and the ability to collaborate with other Foundations and organisations. She is very well supported by an excellent team of Emily Fuller, David Hardie, Rebecca Ninness and Sue Goudie in the VFFF office. Their valuable assistance is very much appreciated by the Board.

It is heartening to see the G3s embracing the work of the Foundation, particularly in such a positive way. My personal thanks to your invaluable engagement.

I look forward to 2013/14 with continued focus on providing impactful opportunities to our target beneficiary groups, sharing with other like-minded members of the philanthropic sector and encouraging giving in the wider community.

# CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT



VFFF STRIVES FOR BEST PRACTICE IN OUR WORK WHILE STAYING TRUE TO THE VALUES OF THE FOUNDERS AND SATISFYING OUR CURRENT MEMBERS.

**JENNY WHEATLEY**  
Chief Executive Officer

The purpose of the VFFF as expressed on settlement was to relieve poverty, advance education and religion and this purpose has lost none of its clarity or relevance in 51 years. However the manner in which the opportunities are identified and actions implemented to fulfill this purpose, has moved with the passage of time.

Included in this report is the VFFF "At a glance" which neatly summarises all aspects of VFFF's current schedule of work and shows how these fit with the Vision. In the office we reflect on this document when conducting our day to day operations, providing a road map and first test point for proposed new endeavours.

Analysis of VFFF's work in the period since our new themes were adopted demonstrates VFFF makes grants which benefit and care for Australians through philanthropic practice that is responsive to grant recipients.

We look to provide funding that analysis suggests has the greatest impact for the ultimate beneficiaries.

We also carefully engage with like-minded organisations to learn and share our knowledge and resources, always with a view to assisting our recipient organisations and their beneficiaries. It is deeply satisfying to hear that the often considerable time we invest in gaining a full understanding of a funding opportunity may be used by other philanthropic organisations to streamline their processes. Ultimately this knowledge sharing benefits the recipients of philanthropic funds by decreasing the administrative burden for grant makers and grant seekers.

THE BOARD IS EXAMINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR SPEAKING UP IN SUPPORT OF TARGET BENEFICIARY GROUPS WHEN IT WOULD ASSIST THEM AND IS OPEN TO SOCIAL IMPACT INVESTING SHOULD THE RIGHT OPPORTUNITY PRESENT ITSELF. WHILE ADVOCACY AND SOCIAL IMPACT INVESTING ARE NEW CONCEPTS FOR VFFF THEIR APPLICATION REMAINS CONSISTENT WITH THE FOUNDERS' VISION.

We have welcomed the opportunities our leading member contribution to Philanthropy Australia has provided during the year. It has proved stimulating and useful to have an invigorated industry body that seeks to educate and connect its members for the ultimate benefit of grant seekers.

The contribution of Sue-Anne Wallace, the Executive Officer of VFFF until 3 August 2013, was acknowledged in the 2012 Annual Report. At a farewell lunch hosted by Tim Fairfax and attended by staff and directors, Sue-Anne reflected on her marvellous memories of family and achievements.

Thank you to my team for sharing a fabulous year. Your consistently insightful and timely contributions ensure VFFF is constantly on track to achieve our Mission.

WE STRIVE TO LISTEN TO GRANTEEES AND PROVIDE SUPPORT THAT MEETS THEIR KEY NEEDS, OFTEN INCLUDING CORE OPERATIONS, SALARIES OR INFRASTRUCTURE. TWO THIRDS OF OUR FUNDING THIS YEAR WAS FOR MULTI-YEAR COMMITMENTS, THE SECURITY OF WHICH, WE HEAR TIME AND TIME AGAIN, IS WHAT NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANISATIONS REALLY NEED.

Special congratulations to Emily Fuller on her promotion to Foundation Manager and for encouraging us to seek catalytic outcomes by doing a deep dive into the Juvenile Justice system. The engagement and excitement of the G3s about our work is testament to the enthusiasm and skills David Hardie applies every day in his work with this group. We provide a model for other Foundations who seek family engagement. Welcome to Rebecca Ninness, we are glad you have entrusted your career development to the VFFF. Your enthusiasm is catching as are (I hope) your technological skills. Sue Goudie, thank you for your ongoing support of me and welcome liaison with all Board members. You continue to find ways to make our lives more efficient and effective.

To our Chairman, Trustee Emeritus and Directors, thank you for challenging and encouraging us as we go about our work. Your willingness to hear directly from those that the VFFF seeks to work with is unique and reflective of the quality of our Board members both past and present. Thank you especially to Nick Fairfax, your kindness, particularly at my first VFFF meeting, was very much appreciated as was your endorsement of my "good egg" policy. I hope you will continue to be active in the Cousins and Small Grants Committee and remain available as a valuable sounding board for the team's ideas.

As we head into 2013/14 we strive to continue identifying and presenting the right opportunities to deliver the VFFF Vision.

# VFFF 2013

## VISION

IN HONOURING OUR  
FOUNDERS' BELIEFS AND  
INTENTIONS, THE VINCENT  
FAIRFAX FAMILY FOUNDATION  
SEEKS OPPORTUNITIES  
TO BENEFIT AND CARE  
FOR AUSTRALIANS AND  
OUR COUNTRY.

## MISSION

VFFF aspires to a stronger and brighter future for  
Australians in NSW and remote areas of the north.

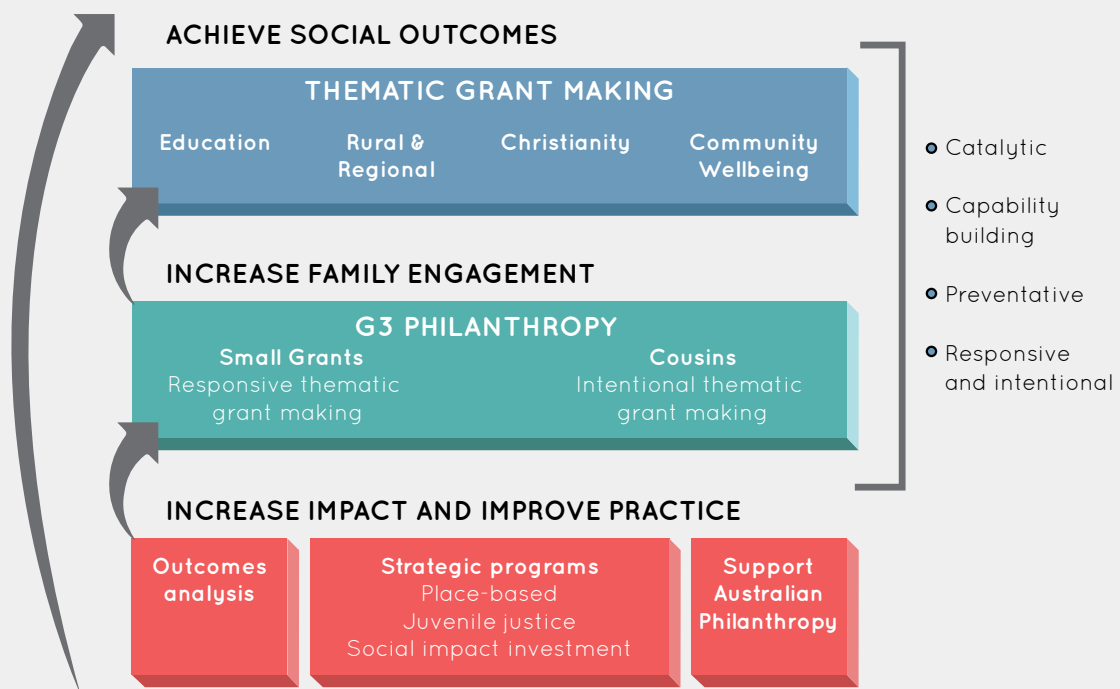
We help disadvantaged young people reach their  
educational and social potential.

We enhance services and opportunities for rural  
and regional communities and support a resilient  
and sustainable agricultural sector.

We support a spiritually rich society that  
values Christian faith in action.



## AT A GLANCE – OUR WORK IN 2013



### ACHIEVE SOCIAL OUTCOMES

#### Thematic grant making

The majority of VFFF's resources are distributed across four themes: Education, Rural and Regional, Christianity and Community Wellbeing. Seeking to maximise the impact of limited funds within these four themes, VFFF supports initiatives that meet specific priority outcomes for particular beneficiaries, as detailed in the coming pages. Within these priorities, VFFF seeks to be catalytic, capacity building and preventative with its funding, time and other resources. While the majority of VFFF's distributions are 'intentional' (specifically sought due to their alignment with the Foundation's aims), VFFF maintains an open application process for 'responsive' grant making.

### INCREASE FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

#### Third Generation (G3) philanthropy

VFFF works with the Vincent Fairfax family to encourage family involvement in the work of the Foundation. Since 2010, members of the third generation have been actively involved in developing a range of initiatives to build the level of family participation in VFFF and philanthropy more broadly. G3 members conduct grants assessment and decision-making for VFFF's small grants (under \$25,000) as well as undertake intentional 'cousins' grant making.

### INCREASE IMPACT AND IMPROVE PRACTICE

#### Strategic programs

Apart from thematic grant making, VFFF has a number of strategic initiatives that aim to increase its impact and improve its philanthropic practice. The first of these is a Place-based Program, begun in 2011 which supports specific localities to bring about the social outcomes they seek for their communities. Two other initiatives have commenced this year, a Juvenile Justice Program, through which the Foundation aims to contribute to reducing the over-representation of Aboriginal children in the justice system and early exploration into opportunities for Social Impact Investment.

VFFF regards these programs as 'Grants Plus' opportunities in which the Foundation can invest resources beyond the financial including its networks, time, expertise and voice towards achieving greater outcomes.

#### Outcomes analysis

VFFF seeks to increase its effectiveness as a grant maker and conducts analysis on all grants to understand what works, what doesn't, in what circumstances and why. VFFF appreciates recipient organisations sharing their challenges and achievements to assist the Foundation learn and improve its practice.

#### Support for Australian philanthropy

VFFF hopes to encourage others' involvement in philanthropy and undertakes a number of formal and informal activities to support the growth and professionalism of the sector. This includes financial support for Philanthropy Australia through leading membership and sponsorship of the NewGen and Program Manager Mentoring Programs. VFFF shares its tools, facilities and expertise with other philanthropic and not-for-profit organisations and benefits from the counsel and support of peer organisations.

# DISTRIBUTION OVERVIEW

WHERE DID THE MONEY GO IN 2013?

## DISTRIBUTION SNAPSHOT 2012-2013

\$7,557,367

71% OF FUNDING GIFTED THROUGH 'INTENTIONAL' GRANT MAKING<sup>1</sup>

2/3 OF DISTRIBUTIONS WERE MULTI-YEAR COMMITMENTS

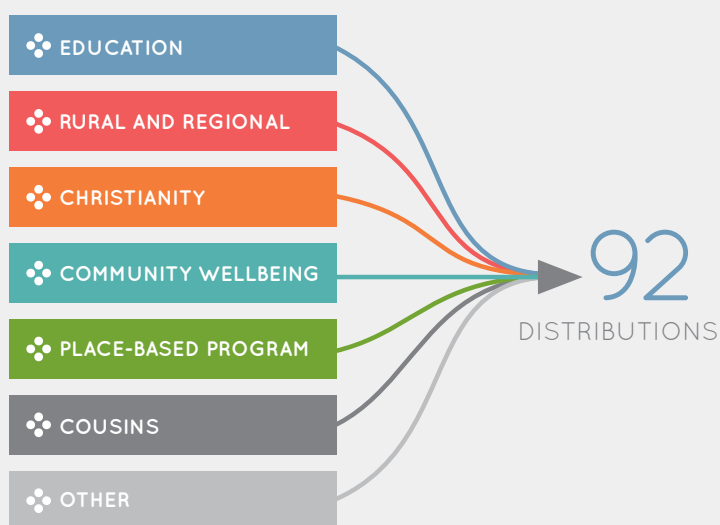
60% OF DISTRIBUTIONS WERE AMOUNTS OVER \$50,000

60%<sup>2</sup> OF FUNDS WERE FOR ACTIVITIES IN RURAL AND REGIONAL AREAS

\$82,145 AVERAGE DISTRIBUTION SIZE

<sup>1</sup> Specifically sought due to their alignment with the Foundation's aims

<sup>2</sup> Figure between 55% and 64%



## FUNDING BY THEME

		NO. DISTRIBUTIONS	TOTAL FUNDING
39%	EDUCATION	37	2,951,680
30%	COMMUNITY WELLBEING	26	2,274,671
16%	RURAL AND REGIONAL	10	1,195,946
4%	CHRISTIANITY	6	307,000
9%	PLACE-BASED PROGRAM	8	673,070
2%	COUSINS	4	130,000
0.3%	OTHER	1	25,000
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>7,557,367</b>

## GEOGRAPHIC SPREAD

VFFF MAKES DISTRIBUTIONS WITHIN AUSTRALIA, WITH PRIORITY GIVEN TO NSW, REMOTE AREAS OF NORTHERN AUSTRALIA OR, IN SOME CASES, TO NATIONAL LEVEL PROGRAMS.

AUSTRALIA REGION	NO. DISTRIBUTIONS	% OF FUNDING	\$
NEW SOUTH WALES	71	73%	5,538,907
NATIONAL	17	21%	1,579,364
REMOTE NORTHERN AUSTRALIA	4	6%	439,096
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>7,557,367</b>

3/4

OF FUNDS DIRECTED  
TO INITIATIVES IN NSW

NSW REGION	NO. DISTRIBUTIONS	% OF FUNDING	\$
GREATER SYDNEY	14	24%	1,335,436
MULTIPLE REGIONAL LOCATIONS	6	20%	1,093,449
NORTHERN NSW	15	14%	796,474
CENTRAL AND FAR WEST NSW	11	13%	712,627
MULTIPLE LOCATIONS (METRO AND REGIONAL)	8	13%	708,000
METRO SYDNEY	9	11%	588,643
SOUTHERN NSW	8	5%	304,278
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>5,538,907</b>

50%

OF NSW FUNDS WERE  
FOR ACTIVITIES IN RURAL  
AND REGIONAL AREAS

SYDNEY REGION	NO. DISTRIBUTIONS	% OF FUNDING	\$
WESTERN SYDNEY	5	38%	734,210
METRO SYDNEY	9	31%	588,643
MULTIPLE SYDNEY LOCATIONS	5	21%	411,086
SOUTH WEST SYDNEY	2	5%	90,000
NORTHERN SYDNEY	1	3%	50,140
SOUTH EAST SYDNEY	1	3%	50,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,924,079</b>

43%

OF FUNDS IN SYDNEY  
WERE FOR WORK IN THE  
WEST AND SOUTH WEST

# THEMATIC GRANT MAKING

THE MAJORITY OF VFFF'S  
RESOURCES ARE DISTRIBUTED  
ACROSS FOUR THEMES.

## EDUCATION



### PHILANTHROPIC OBJECTIVE

TO PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES  
FOR DISADVANTAGED YOUNG  
PEOPLE (0-25 YEARS) TO  
REACH THEIR EDUCATIONAL  
AND SOCIAL POTENTIAL.

### TOTAL FUNDING

\$2,951,680

### BENEFICIARIES

- Indigenous young people
- Young people with disabilities
- Young people in rural and regional areas
- Young people in disadvantaged areas of Greater Sydney

### PRIORITY OUTCOMES

- School readiness
- Retention in education or training
- Access and opportunity

### DISTRIBUTIONS

37



## RURAL AND REGIONAL



### PHILANTHROPIC OBJECTIVE

TO ASSIST AGRICULTURAL  
SUSTAINABILITY AND  
PRODUCTIVITY.

### TOTAL FUNDING

\$1,195,946

### BENEFICIARIES

- Rural workers
- Farming communities
- Young people

### PRIORITY OUTCOMES

- Economic development
- Workforce development
- Food security
- Sustainable land use

### DISTRIBUTIONS

10



## CHRISTIANITY



### PHILANTHROPIC OBJECTIVE

TO DEVELOP PUBLIC INTEREST IN CHRISTIANITY.

### TOTAL FUNDING

\$307,000

### BENEFICIARIES

- Young people
- Anglican Dioceses

### PRIORITY OUTCOMES

- Pastoral care
- Leadership development

### DISTRIBUTIONS

6



## COMMUNITY WELLBEING



### PHILANTHROPIC OBJECTIVE

TO CONTRIBUTE TO A STRONGER AND BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR AUSTRALIANS, PARTICULARLY THOSE EXPERIENCING SIGNIFICANT DISADVANTAGE.

### TOTAL FUNDING

\$2,274,671

### BENEFICIARIES

- Rural and regional populations
- Refugees and asylum seekers
- Older Australians
- Future Australians

### PRIORITY OUTCOMES

- Economic development
- Opportunity and participation
- Innovation

### DISTRIBUTIONS

26





EDUCATION  
FUNDING  
SNAPSHOT

1+1=

\$2,951,680

39%  
OF FUNDING

37  
DISTRIBUTIONS

26  
NEW INITIATIVES

24  
MULTI-YEAR COMMITMENTS

\$79,775  
AVERAGE SIZE



**Left:** Plumpton High students participating in the Beacon Program. (Photograph by Helen Coetzee)

# EDUCATION

TO PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISADVANTAGED YOUNG PEOPLE (0-25 YEARS) TO REACH THEIR EDUCATIONAL AND SOCIAL POTENTIAL.

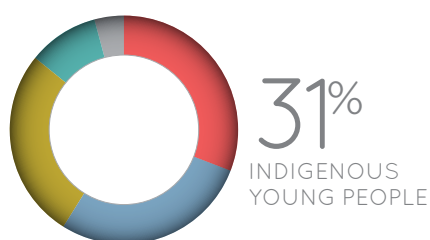
## BENEFICIARIES

- Indigenous young people
- Young people with disabilities
- Young people in rural and regional areas
- Young people in disadvantaged areas of Greater Sydney

## PRIORITY OUTCOMES

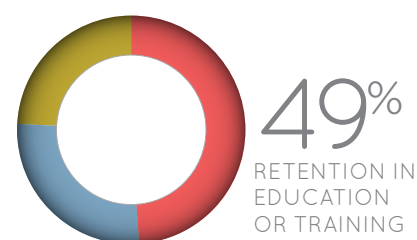
- School readiness
- Retention in education or training
- Access and opportunity

### 2013 FUNDING BY TARGET BENEFICIARIES



- 31% INDIGENOUS YOUNG PEOPLE
- 28% YOUNG PEOPLE IN DISADVANTAGED AREAS OF GREATER SYDNEY
- 27% YOUNG PEOPLE IN RURAL AND REGIONAL AREAS
- 10% OTHER (MULTIPLE BENEFICIARY GROUPS)
- 4% YOUNG PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

### 2013 FUNDING BY PRIORITY OUTCOMES



- 49% RETENTION IN EDUCATION OR TRAINING
- 27% ACCESS AND OPPORTUNITY
- 24% SCHOOL READINESS

### 2013 DISTRIBUTIONS



THE FOLLOWING EDUCATION DISTRIBUTIONS WERE INITIATED IN 2013.



#### BELL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY

**Regional Teacher Scholarship \$100,000  
(total \$225,000)**

Regional teacher development residency in Sydney and two annual residencies in remote schools.



#### CAPE YORK ABORIGINAL AUSTRALIAN ACADEMY

**Culture Domain \$150,000 (total \$450,000)**

Further implementation of the Culture Domain in the curriculum at Academy schools. This builds on previous support for the development and establishment of the Culture Domain.

#### JOBS AUSTRALIA ENTERPRISES

**BackTrack \$150,000 (total \$300,000)**

A program reconnecting youth with education and training in the New England region.

#### MUSICA VIVA

**In Schools Program in regional NSW \$35,000  
(total \$105,000)**

A music education program including live performances and Musicaessentials online.



CASE STUDY:

# BACKTRACK

## What is BackTrack?

FOUNDED IN ARMIDALE IN 2006, BACKTRACK ASSISTS YOUNG PEOPLE RE-CONNECT WITH EDUCATION AND TRAINING, BECOME WORK READY AND FIND JOBS, LEAD HAPPY AND PRODUCTIVE LIVES PARTICIPATING FULLY IN THE COMMUNITY.

Participants access programs with a uniquely rural focus – including training farm dogs (winning many awards), engineering and welding, fencing and other agriculture skills as well as an alternate school model focusing on literacy and numeracy. Participants' skills, qualifications and experience are relevant to local work opportunities and they contribute to meeting skills shortages across New England and Northwest NSW. From 2006 to 2010, BackTrack worked with over 90 young people: 19% began (13% remain) in apprenticeships or traineeships, 47% found jobs (42% remain) and 34% remained successfully in school. In 2013 there are 95 young people engaged in BackTrack programs across five communities.

## What was the request?

Seeking to achieve a viable and diverse, if not self-sustaining financial model, BackTrack developed two income streams; work team contracting and consultancy to other communities keen to replicate their outcomes with young people. VFFF support was sought towards their operating shortfall over three years, to accelerate progress towards their goals of generating 30% of their own income and developing a best practice model that could be adapted for different rural communities.

## Why did VFFF support BackTrack?

BackTrack leads to educational achievement and real jobs for young people who have struggled to thrive in mainstream school and society – priorities for VFFF. Also motivating was the reduction in antisocial behaviour, crime, welfare and justice costs that were recognised by the local community including police, as well as the participants' increased relationship competency and involvement in the local community.

THE BACKTRACK BOYS ARE BRILLIANT ROLE MODELS AND THEIR PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS ARE CREATING A POSITIVE RIPPLE EFFECT INTO COMMUNITIES THAT EXPERIENCE INTERGENERATIONAL WELFARE, OFFENDING AND UNEMPLOYMENT ACROSS REGIONAL NSW.

VFFF saw this as an opportunity for catalytic and capacity building grant making, supporting BackTrack as it develops as an organisation, expanding its reach and enhancing its financial viability.

## What does BackTrack say?

*Every community has the potential to create opportunities for themselves and their young people that builds social and economic capacity as demonstrated by BackTrack in the regional community of Armidale. Inspiring people to take the lead and create unique community solutions of their own is our future direction. Our new programs servicing communities in the region are being embraced by both the young people and the wider community. After seven years, the long term, positive community effects of individual outcomes for young people are being seen in Armidale, and other communities are aspiring to similar outcomes. It is an exciting time. Regional communities are embracing the opportunity to reinvigorate their futures and care for those who are struggling. BackTrack is doing for others what VFFF is doing for us – giving us a hand up to create sustainable change.*

BACKTRACK LEADS TO EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AND REAL JOBS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE WHO HAVE STRUGGLED TO THRIVE IN MAINSTREAM SCHOOL AND SOCIETY – PRIORITIES FOR VFFF.



## \$300,000

OVER THREE YEARS TOWARDS THE CORE OPERATING COSTS OF BACKTRACK (JOBS AUSTRALIA ENTERPRISES)



## 2013 DISTRIBUTIONS

1+1=



### NORDOFF-ROBBINS MUSIC THERAPY

**Taking Nordoff-Robbins to the Hills \$50,140 (total \$75,220)**

To establish a music therapy clinic in the Hills District of Sydney to support young people with disabilities.

### PRIMARY ETHICS

**Operational funding \$150,000**

Operational costs of Primary Ethics in 2013, building on a distribution made in 2012.



### ST ANDREW'S CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

**Gawura student scholarship \$26,450 (total \$79,710)**

For a Gawura graduate to complete their secondary schooling.

### SYDNEY STORY FACTORY

**Fundraising position \$42,750 (total \$74,283)**

To establish a fundraising position.

### THE BENEVOLENT SOCIETY

**Cluey Kids \$75,000 (total \$160,000)**

A program providing academic support for at-risk children and their families in South West Sydney.

### THE INFANTS' HOME ASHFIELD

**Operational funding \$291,000 (total \$534,000)**

Towards The Infants' Home's operating shortfall while its new facility (integrated early childhood service) reaches full operational capacity.

### UNIVERSITY OF CANBERRA

**The Aspiration Initiative - NSW \$200,000 (total \$350,000)**

A pilot academic enrichment program providing educational support for high performing Indigenous secondary school students.

### WEAVE YOUTH FAMILY COMMUNITY

**Kool Kids Club \$50,000 (total \$100,000)**

A program supporting vulnerable children in South East Sydney suburbs engage in education.

### YWCA OF NSW

**Community in the Kitchen \$60,000 (total \$150,000)**

A program providing accredited hospitality training for at-risk young people in the Lismore region.

### ANGLICARE NORTHERN INLAND

**Dollar Value \$25,000**

A program providing education about the responsible use and understanding of money for regional TAFE and high school students in Tamworth and Armidale.

## 2013 DISTRIBUTIONS

1+1=



### BIG PICTURE EDUCATION AUSTRALIA

#### Leadership and professional development \$25,000

Leadership development and teacher training in the Hunter region and at Silkwood School in QLD.

### CREATE FOUNDATION

#### CREATE Your Future Grants Scheme \$25,000

A grants program to support young people transition out of foster, kinship or residential care.

### GUNAWIRRA

#### Art Therapy training \$18,000

Educating preschool teachers to use art as a medium to assist indigenous children who have experienced trauma.

### HEAPS DECENT

#### Keys To Home \$15,000

A new weekly music production and training program for at-risk young people in Redfern.

### MONARO EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICE

#### Sandner Cottage \$25,000

To expand early childhood related therapy services for children with a disability or developmental delay in the Cooma region.

### NATIONAL ABORIGINAL SPORTING CHANCE ACADEMY

#### Gambirrang Academy administration \$20,000

Employment of a program administrator at the Gambirrang Academy in the Dubbo region.

### NEW ENGLAND CONSERVATORIUM OF MUSIC

#### Breaking the Arts Barrier: Peer Support Music Program \$21,491

A program to engage teenagers with disabilities in the New England in music activities to further their educational and social engagement.

### REDFERN JARJUM COLLEGE

#### Purchase a bus \$50,000

The purchase of a bus to transport students to and from Redfern Jarjum College.

### SHOPFRONT THEATRE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

#### Travel Songs of Sea and Land \$15,000

An arts education project that explores the transition process for young refugees as they pass between an Intensive English Centre and mainstream education.

### THE AUSTRALIAN YOUTH ORCHESTRA

#### Regional Residencies: From City to Outback \$18,072

Brass and String residency workshops with school children in the Armidale region.



### THE SONG ROOM

#### Deadly Arts, Western Sydney \$24,960

An arts, music and traditional culture program to enhance disadvantaged and indigenous students' engagement in education in a number of Western Sydney primary schools.

### TOP BLOKES FOUNDATION

#### Junior Top Blokes Leadership Program \$22,000

A workshop and peer mentoring program for teenage males in the Illawarra Region, focusing on high risk behaviours and mental health issues.

# PRIMARY ETHICS

PRIMARY ETHICS WAS FOUNDED BY ST JAMES ETHICS CENTRE IN 2010 AFTER THE NSW GOVERNMENT TASKED IT WITH DELIVERING ETHICS EDUCATION IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS.



## \$150,000

CORE FUNDING IN 2012, FOLLOWED BY A FURTHER \$150,000 IN 2013.



### What is Primary Ethics?

PRIMARY ETHICS' ESTABLISHMENT FOLLOWED AMENDMENT OF THE NSW EDUCATION ACT 1990 GIVING STUDENTS WHO DO NOT ATTEND SPECIAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SRE) CLASSES THE LEGAL RIGHT TO ATTEND PHILOSOPHICAL ETHICS CLASSES.

While the NSW curriculum aims to educate children in values and principles, those attending SRE classes have this work extended. At the time of the request in November 2011, it was estimated that 100,000 NSW primary students in NSW were not benefiting from religious education at school. Primary Ethics is developing K-6 curriculum and teaching materials and coordinates the delivery of lessons via a network of volunteers who it recruits, vets, trains and mentors.

### What was the request?

Primary Ethics came to VFFF with a plan to develop a community-sustained income of \$1.3 million per annum within five years. The financial model proposed initial support from philanthropy being progressively replaced by general public support which would sustain classes to 70,000 students by 2017. While ambitious, this strategy was based on decades of experience of SRE classes and an extraordinary groundswell of public support for ethics classes, including 400 volunteers coming forward and classes underway in 150 schools in less than a year. The strategy relied on Primary Ethics receiving Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status so it could raise funds from philanthropic entities and the general public.

### Why did VFFF support Primary Ethics?

Developing ethical capability in individuals was a particular interest of Sir Vincent Fairfax and led to the creation of the Vincent Fairfax Fellowship nearly 20 years ago, which supports the development of ethical leaders in positions of influence in Australia.

VFFF WAS MOTIVATED BY PRIMARY ETHICS' AIMS TO ENCOURAGE THE DEVELOPMENT OF MORAL REASONING AND CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS FROM AN EARLY AGE, LAYING A FOUNDATION FOR ETHICAL JUDGEMENT AND RESPONSIBLE BEHAVIOUR. WITH 25% OF STUDENTS CURRENTLY OPTING OUT, THIS WAS A HIGHLY CATALYTIC AND LARGE-SCALE OPPORTUNITY.

### What were the outcomes?

By March 2013, the organisation was supporting 700 volunteers teaching more than 7,000 students a week. This impressive growth was achieved with a small staff and strong volunteer support but few financial supporters as Primary Ethics had not been successful in gaining DGR status. Despite its tenuous financial position, Primary Ethics was determined to continue expanding the reach of ethics classes, the trajectory of which it saw as tempered only by its limited operational capacity. VFFF was conscious that without DGR status, it was one of few private funding options available and in March 2013 approved a further \$150,000, giving Primary Ethics another year to develop its sustainability and scalability. In April 2013, the Government announced 'We are amending the existing category that exists in relation to religious based instruction to open that up to include all providers of ethics-based instruction in schools.' Since its DGR status became effective in June, Primary Ethics has raised \$2.5m and now reaches over 11,000 children in 234 schools in NSW weekly via a network of 1,000 volunteers.

### What does Primary Ethics say?

*Without the timely and generous funding we received from the VFFF and the donations of a few individual philanthropists, Primary Ethics would now be a small program running in 100 schools in NSW, unable to meet the community's demand for ethics classes across the state. Receipt of both VFFF grants allowed us to employ more staff to support our ever-increasing number of volunteers. It gave us a lifeline until we were granted DGR status. We are now well placed to source funding from foundations and the general public, diversifying our income stream and minimising our reliance on the ongoing generosity of just a few.*

## EDUCATION (CONTINUED)

### CONTINUING DISTRIBUTIONS

#### AUSTRALIAN CHILDREN'S MUSIC FOUNDATION

Establishing a music program in five Taree schools \$30,000 (total \$100,000)

#### AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM TRUST

Pacific Youth Cultural Reconnection Program \$71,086 (total \$140,438)

#### AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH ALLIANCE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

right@home (Nurse Family Partnership) \$250,000 (total \$1,000,000)

#### CAREERTRACKERS INDIGENOUS INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Organisational development \$50,000 (total \$150,000)

#### CENTRE FOR NON-VIOLENCE

Establishing Solving the Jigsaw in NSW \$70,000 (total \$193,175)

#### HIGH RESOLVES INITIATIVE

Global Citizenship and Leadership Program \$332,000 (total \$991,417)

#### KIDSPRESS

Expressive Therapy Program \$60,000 (total \$180,000)

#### OPERA QUEENSLAND

Vocal Threads Program in Walgett and Wilcannia \$25,000 (total \$50,000)

#### ST ANDREW'S CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

Gawura student scholarship \$22,682 (total \$92,130)

#### SYDNEY THEATRE COMPANY

Theatre in Communities and School Drama \$50,000 (total \$150,000)

#### YALARI FOUNDATION

Boarding scholarships for 21 NSW students \$306,049 (total \$2,392,016)

### SCHOLARSHIPS

#### TOOWOOMBA PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Two scholarships for Indigenous students (funding 2007 to 2014 for six different students)

#### UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN SYDNEY

Vincent Fairfax Scholarship awarded to Heather Taylor from Emu Plains to study a Bachelor of Science (Zoology), with a focus on large animal care, particularly cattle, sheep and horses.

### RECIPIENTS



RURAL AND  
REGIONAL  
FUNDING  
SNAPSHOT



\$1,195,946

16%  
OF FUNDING

10  
DISTRIBUTIONS

2  
NEW INITIATIVES

8  
MULTI-YEAR COMMITMENTS

\$119,595  
AVERAGE SIZE



**Left:** Broadacre farming underpins a large part of rural and regional New South Wales (Photograph thanks to Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal).

# RURAL AND REGIONAL

TO ASSIST AGRICULTURAL SUSTAINABILITY AND PRODUCTIVITY.

## BENEFICIARIES

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- Rural workers
- Farming communities
- Young people

## PRIORITY OUTCOMES

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- Economic development
- Workforce development
- Food security
- Sustainable land use



#### CENTRAL WEST LACHLAN LANDCARE

##### **Harnessing Water in the Central West \$24,557**

A program of farmer delivered workshops to empower local landholders to improve water management on their landholdings in Central West NSW.

#### MIDLANDS CONSERVATION FUND

##### **Midlands Conservation Fund \$500,000 (Bush Heritage Australia)**

To establish a capital fund to provide ongoing payments to landholders for land management and conservation services in the Tasmanian Midlands.

## RECIPIENTS



BUSH HERITAGE  
AUSTRALIA

## CASE STUDY:

# PAYMENT FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

### What is Payment for Ecosystem Services?

WHILE FARMERS RECEIVE PAYMENT FOR TRADITIONAL SERVICES, INCLUDING FOOD PRODUCTION, NEW SERVICES SUCH AS CARBON SEQUESTRATION AND CONSERVATION SEE LITTLE OR NO MONETARY RETURN. IMPLEMENTATION OF PAYMENT FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES (PES) INVOLVES DEVELOPING NEW MARKET MECHANISMS TO TURN SUCH AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS INTO PROFITABLE COMMODITIES, PROVIDING DIRECT PAYMENT TO FARMERS IN RETURN FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES THEY DELIVER.

### What was the request?

PES initiatives are in their infancy in Australia and the potential economic impact for rural communities is unexplored, leaving scepticism as to how this system could work at the farm level. The University of Western Sydney proposed that research into the profitability and viability of a payment system at the community level would return valuable insights.

### Why did VFFF support this?

PES has the potential to contribute to rural community viability through employment and income generation while also having positive effects on the land, both priorities for VFFF. This was an opportunity to explore an innovative approach to supporting agricultural communities.

### What does the University of Western Sydney say?

*Society increasingly demands that agricultural lands serve multiple purposes. This research will generate information on: farmers' perceptions and current PES schemes, features that are attractive to them, their willingness to participate, net benefit of conservation activities on farms and socio-economic outcomes from PES participation. Our aim is that the research will help design or modify current PES schemes that are effective and farmer friendly; thus helping society manage our valuable natural resources that provide food as well as environmental conservation.*



## \$294,697

OVER THREE YEARS  
TO INVESTIGATE THE  
APPLICATION OF 'PAYMENT  
FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES'  
IN REGIONAL NSW.

## CASE STUDY:

# REMOTE AND RURAL ENTERPRISE PROGRAM

### What is RARE?

THE REMOTE AND RURAL ENTERPRISE PROGRAM (RARE) CREATES TWO-WAY LEARNING EXCHANGES BETWEEN GRADUATE STUDENTS FROM SYDNEY UNIVERSITY AND ENTERPRISES IN REMOTE AND RURAL AUSTRALIA.

The aim is to build sustainable businesses that support and enhance local communities. Students work with the enterprises to address their current business challenge; exploring new markets, business planning, risk assessment and supply chain analysis, adapting their business skills to specific community needs and new socio-cultural contexts.

### What was the request?

VFFF was approached to provide one year of funding to expand the number of communities, students and businesses supported by RARE. At the time, the program had been running for 18 months but required operational support to expand in line with growing interest from communities and students.



## \$50,000

TOWARDS BUILDING THE CAPACITY OF THE REMOTE AND RURAL ENTERPRISE PROGRAM.

### Why did VFFF support RARE?

VFFF has a longstanding commitment to supporting the economic development and wellbeing of rural and regional communities. The RARE model offered a cost effective way of providing an ongoing injection of current business thinking and entrepreneurial energy to enterprises facing unique challenges due to their isolation and limited access to resources. RARE's focus on supporting enterprises through various stages across a number of years was of particular interest to VFFF.

### What were the outcomes?

RARE grew rapidly and surpassed its original targets – a diverse range of remote enterprises were supported, including a sustainably farmed meat enterprise and an enterprise delivering cost effective solutions to the land management of invasive native species. Additional funding was secured from external donors, fee-for-service contracts and increasing University support.

### What does RARE say?

*The support of VFFF has enabled the RARE Program to secure additional funding from the University Business School, extend our impact and reach into additional rural and remote communities, and improve the quality of student deliverables.*

## CONTINUING DISTRIBUTIONS

### AUSTRALIAN RURAL LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION

Program scholarships and fundraising feasibility study \$100,000 (total \$325,000)

### CHARLES STURT UNIVERSITY

Accommodation scholarships for 20 dentistry students \$202,400 (total \$1,013,077)

### MOORAMBILLA VOICES

Moorambilla Mum to support choir participants in North West NSW \$30,000 (total \$90,000)

### ROYAL AUSTRALASIAN COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS

Two rural health research entry scholarships \$40,000 (total \$80,000)

### STATE LIBRARY OF NSW

Australian Agricultural & Rural Life Digitisation Project \$100,000 (total \$300,000)

### THE NORMAN WETTENHALL FOUNDATION

Small Environmental (sustainable agriculture) Grant Scheme \$50,000 (total \$150,000)

### UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN SYDNEY HAWKESBURY FOUNDATION

Payment for Ecosystem Services \$98,989 (total \$294,697)

### UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN SYDNEY HAWKESBURY FOUNDATION

Rural student participation in tertiary agriculture studies \$50,000 (total \$150,000)

## ONGOING FELLOWSHIP

### UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN SYDNEY

Vincent Fairfax Chair in Sustainable Agriculture & Rural Development: Professor Bill Bellotti

CHRISTIANITY  
FUNDING  
SNAPSHOT



\$307,000

4%  
OF FUNDING

6  
DISTRIBUTIONS

3  
NEW INITIATIVES

5  
MULTI-YEAR COMMITMENTS

\$51,167  
AVERAGE SIZE



Left: St Barnabas Church, Broadway  
(Photograph by Helen Coetzee)

# CHRISTIANITY

TO DEVELOP PUBLIC INTEREST  
IN CHRISTIANITY.

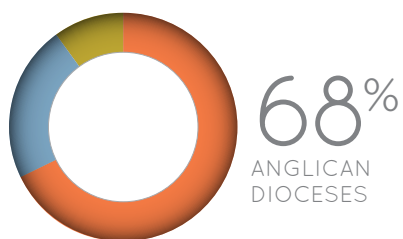
## BENEFICIARIES

- Young people
- Anglican Dioceses

## PRIORITY OUTCOMES

- Pastoral care
- Leadership development

### 2013 FUNDING BY TARGET BENEFICIARIES



68% ANGLICAN DIOCESES

22% OTHER (GENERAL PUBLIC)

10% YOUNG PEOPLE

### 2013 FUNDING BY PRIORITY OUTCOMES



77% PASTORAL CARE

23% OTHER (PUBLIC INTEREST)

## CHRISTIANITY (CONTINUED)

### 2013 DISTRIBUTIONS



THE FOLLOWING CHRISTIANITY DISTRIBUTIONS WERE INITIATED IN 2013.

#### CENTRE FOR INDEPENDENT STUDIES

**Religion and Free Society Program**  
**\$40,000 (total \$120,000)**

To reinvigorate the Religion and Free Society Program.

#### ST PETER'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, SHOALHAVEN HEADS

**Children's and Youth Worker \$17,000 (total \$39,000)**

To establish a Children's and Youth Ministry position.



#### CHRIST CHURCH ANGLICAN CATHEDRAL, DARWIN

**Cathedral Administration Block Upgrade \$120,000**

Towards repairs to the administration building of the Cathedral.

## RECIPIENTS



### CASE STUDY:

# RELIGION AND FREE SOCIETY PROGRAM

#### What is the Centre for Independent Studies?

THE CENTRE FOR INDEPENDENT STUDIES (CIS) WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1976 AND IS A LEADING INDEPENDENT PUBLIC POLICY RESEARCH INSTITUTE COVERING ECONOMICS, INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS, HEALTH, EDUCATION, WELFARE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS. IT HAS A TRACK RECORD OF GETTING IMPORTANT ISSUES INTO PUBLIC DEBATE.

#### What was the request?

VFFF support was sought to increase the scale and impact of the Religion and Free Society Program, towards building a greater understanding of issues related to freedom of religion and belief in Australia. Activities would include roundtable discussions, lectures, media interviews, the annual Acton Lecture on Religion and Freedom, opinion pieces and policy articles.

#### Why did VFFF support this program?

VFFF values public discussion related to religion and Christianity and this request was directly related to the objective of the Christianity funding theme, 'to develop public interest in Christianity'. VFFF has supported a number of CIS programs, including the inception of this program in 2000.

#### What does the Centre for Independent Studies say?

Key researcher, Rev Peter Kurti has significantly increased the scope of activities and we have been able to leverage further funding. The Acton lecture saw Dr Ryan Messmore speaking on "What Kind of Religion Is Free in the Public Square? A Warning From the States". Media reach has expanded through opinion pieces and the Religion and Ethics Report on Radio National. We continue to work towards a greater understanding of freedom of religion and its contribution to civil society in Australia.



# \$120,000

OVER THREE YEARS TOWARDS THE CENTRE FOR INDEPENDENT STUDIES' RELIGION AND FREE SOCIETY PROGRAM.

## CASE STUDY:

# ST BARNABAS CHURCH



## \$1,500,000

TOWARDS THE REDEVELOPMENT OF ST BARNABAS CHURCH, BROADWAY

### What is St Barnabas Church?

ST BARNABAS ANGLICAN CHURCH AT BROADWAY, AFFECTIONATELY KNOWN AS 'BARNEYS', IS A COMMUNITY SOME 600 MEMBERS STRONG. THE RECTOR OF ST BARNABAS, REVEREND MIKE PAGET, IS ALSO THE ANGLICAN CHAPLAIN TO THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY AND TO THE UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, SYDNEY.

St Barnabas works to serve the congregation who worship there and the wider community. Barneys provides a range of programs and services for university students, including Unite talks encouraging open dialogue on current hot topics. Congregation members provide important support to the community through Special Religious Education programs, holiday programs for school children and ministry services to the aged living in nursing homes in the area.

### What was the request?

On 10 May 2006 St Barnabas was destroyed by fire. The original church, which had served parishioners in Sydney's inner west for 150 years, was an iconic landmark and important place of celebration and worship for the congregation and wider community.

IN THE WAKE OF THE FIRE BARNEYS RESOLVED TO REBUILD A NEW FACILITY ON THE SITE OF THE ORIGINAL CHURCH THAT WOULD ACT AS A HUB FOR CHRISTIAN MINISTRY AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES INTO THE FUTURE.

The new facility would include a 600 seat church and 200 seat hall, spaces to serve as classrooms and meeting rooms, and outdoor space for use by the congregation and community.

The church's insurance policy would provide approximately 60% of the total cost of rebuilding, estimated at \$14.6 million, and Barneys sought community support to meet the shortfall.

### Why did VFFF support Barneys?

Supporting the redevelopment of such an iconic Sydney church was a unique opportunity to develop public interest in Christianity, the objective of VFFF's Christianity theme. Furthermore, VFFF recognised the importance of the church not only as a place of worship but also as a significant asset for the local community. As one of few philanthropic organisations focusing on Christianity and willing to fund capital works, Directors were further motivated to support Barneys' efforts.

### What were the outcomes?

On 3 June 2012 Barneys reopened its doors. Since reopening, attendance has increased by approximately 30%. The new facilities allow greater numbers to participate in programs run by the church, including a 10-fold increase in the numbers attending the Introduction to Christianity course. Furthermore, the facilities have been able to accommodate new community activities, such as playgroups and public concerts.

### What does Barneys say?

*It is impossible not to notice passers-by pausing to notice the new building. In contrast to the previous, almost invisible, facilities, the new St Barnabas has established a vigorous and engaging presence in the area. There has been an enormous influx of visitors to church, some simply to admire the architecture, and others to explore church itself and the distinctive Barneys expression of Christianity.*

## CONTINUING DISTRIBUTIONS

### EVANGELISM AND NEW CHURCHES

Aboriginal Trainee Minister at the Shoalhaven  
Aboriginal Community Church \$20,000 (total \$40,000)

### GENR8 MINISTRIES

School Chaplaincy \$50,000 (total \$150,000)

### GOSPEL PATRONS SOCIETY

Scholarships for Ministry Apprentices \$60,000  
(Year 2 of 2, total \$120,000)

COMMUNITY  
WELLBEING  
FUNDING  
SNAPSHOT



\$2,274,671

30%  
OF FUNDING

26  
DISTRIBUTIONS

15  
NEW INITIATIVES

18  
MULTI-YEAR COMMITMENTS

\$87,487  
AVERAGE SIZE





**Left:** Ma Du, one of the first group of trainees busy at work at The Bread & Butter Project. (Photograph by Alan Benson)

# COMMUNITY WELLBEING

TO CONTRIBUTE TO A STRONGER AND BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR AUSTRALIANS, PARTICULARLY THOSE EXPERIENCING SIGNIFICANT DISADVANTAGE.

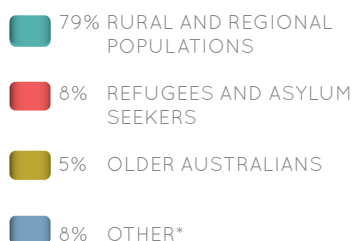
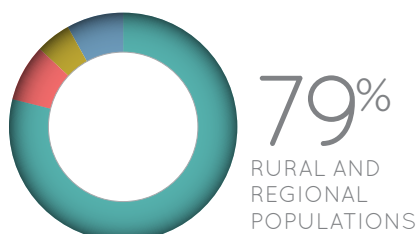
## BENEFICIARIES

- Rural and regional populations
- Refugees and asylum seekers
- Older Australians
- Future Australians

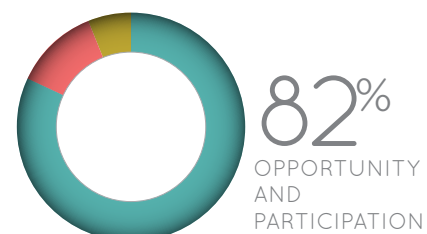
## PRIORITY OUTCOMES

- Economic development
- Opportunity and participation
- Innovation

### 2013 FUNDING BY TARGET BENEFICIARIES



### 2013 FUNDING BY PRIORITY OUTCOMES



\* Refers to a single distribution towards developing a new model of women's shelters.

## 2013 DISTRIBUTIONS



THE FOLLOWING COMMUNITY WELLBEING DISTRIBUTIONS WERE INITIATED IN 2013.

### ASYLUM SEEKERS CENTRE NSW

#### Casework Program \$80,000 (total \$180,000)

Frontline casework support to asylum seekers in Greater Sydney.

### FOUNDATION FOR RURAL & REGIONAL RENEWAL

#### CATCH and CARA grant programs \$400,000 (total \$1,200,000)

Two annual grant programs - Culture Arts Tourism & Community Heritage (CATCH) and Caring for Ageing in Rural Australia (CARA).

### JAWUN

#### Operational funding \$75,000 (total \$225,000)

To support Jawun's recent expansion to the Central Coast, NSW.

### OUTBACK THEATRE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

#### Development Manager \$31,200 (total \$62,400)

To employ a part-time Development Manager.

### PER CAPITA

#### Longevity and Positive Ageing research project \$50,000 (total \$100,000)

To examine the challenges of longevity and to develop new policy approaches for positive ageing.



### UMI ARTS

#### Self-Management Program \$53,192 (total \$133,192)

A program of workshops, exhibitions and training for artists in two remote Indigenous communities in Far North Queensland.

### WOMEN'S COMMUNITY SHELTERS

#### Capacity building \$95,375 (total \$228,900)

To employ the inaugural CEO.

### PHILANTHROPY AUSTRALIA

#### Leading Membership \$25,000 (total \$72,000)

### AUSTRALIAN AFGHAN HASSANIAN YOUTH ASSOCIATION

#### Women on the Road Program \$17,250

To assist newly-arrived Afghani refugee women in the Auburn area qualify for a driver's license.

### BEST EMPLOYMENT

#### Linking Together Centre \$130,000

Construction of a purpose built community centre in the South Inverell housing estate.

### CAN ASSIST

#### Access to radiotherapy treatment \$13,440

Accommodation and transport for eight cancer patients from Inverell/Glen Innes and Hunter regions.

### CHALLENGE SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS

#### Vehicle purchase \$25,000

To transport the Garden Centre work crew, equipment and stock (Australian Disability Enterprise).

### NORTHERN RIVERS PERFORMING ARTS

#### My Radio Heart and The Home Projects \$76,077

Two performing arts projects with homeless people and people with disabilities in Lismore.

### SHINE FOR KIDS

#### Belonging to Family \$60,000

A program in Kempsey, linking Indigenous offenders to their family and community.

### SOUTHERN LIFE CHURCH

#### The Pantry Club \$73,000

Renovations and extensions to the Pantry Club building.

### THE BUTTERY

#### The Buttery Family Program \$22,800

Towards a counselling program for family members of The Buttery's rehabilitation clients.

## CASE STUDY:

# MILK CRATE THEATRE

### What is Milk Crate Theatre?

MILK CRATE THEATRE IS AN ARTS ORGANISATION DEDICATED TO WORKING WITH AN ENSEMBLE OF ARTISTS WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED HOMELESSNESS OR SOCIAL MARGINALISATION.

Milk Crate Theatre began as a joint project between Darlinghurst Theatre Company, Wesley Mission's Edward Eagar Lodge and the South Sydney Council in June 2000. It set out to connect the homeless community to the arts as a means of addressing mental health issues. Recognising homelessness is more than 'houselessness,' Milk Crate Theatre works across sectors towards a socially inclusive community and utilises the creative process to advocate for a better understanding of people experiencing social marginalisation.

### What was the request?

In 2009, Milk Crate Theatre approached VFFF seeking support to embark on its most significant project to date: to grow the core program and become a stand-alone company. The three year timeframe proposed was to enable steady progress and was considered a realistic period in which to develop a best practice model for participants' pathways through the Company. Over this timeframe Milk Crate Theatre sought to set the foundations for a sustainable future and consolidate its role as a leading community cultural development organisation in Australia.

### Why did VFFF support Milk Crate Theatre?

Through its Community theme, VFFF seeks to contribute to a stronger and brighter future for those experiencing significant disadvantage, such as the homeless<sup>3</sup>. In 2008, when VFFF first supported Milk Crate Theatre (\$20,000 distribution), it was a project within Darlinghurst Theatre Company and had an annual budget under \$100,000. VFFF recognises the value of core funding that offers capacity building or organisational development opportunities and Milk Crate Theatre was at a crucial moment – when a secure injection of multi-year untied support could catalyse its development to a new level. VFFF was impressed with the measured growth strategy put forward.

### What were the outcomes?

While all program growth targets were exceeded (numbers of participants, workshops, performances, audience, welfare partners), Milk Crate Theatre has developed beyond what was envisaged. The Company, now independent, with triple the staff and annual turnover of over \$500,000 will engage over 300 Ensemble Artists and an audience of 1,200 through its performances in 2013. Milk Crate Theatre has evolved with the needs of the Ensemble, who have developed new performance and personal capabilities, including employability. This is deep and profound impact for some. In 2012 Milk Crate Theatre was recognised with two prestigious awards: The Macquarie Group Foundation Social Innovation Award (\$100,000) and Australia Council for the Arts Community Partnerships' Key Producer (\$1,080,000 over six years).

### What does Milk Crate Theatre say?

*VFFF's support for Milk Crate Theatre through our three year key developmental phase enabled our transformation from a grass-roots project into an award-winning independent theatre company. Through this period Milk Crate Theatre has become a thriving and sustainable organisation with diverse supporters. We have expanded our reach and impact with the homeless community, increased employment opportunities for the Ensemble, raised public awareness about the complexity of homelessness and become a leader in best-practice community cultural development. The investment by VFFF will be felt for years to come and is one of the key foundations from which we attribute our current success and future possibilities.*

<sup>3</sup> VFFF currently targets other beneficiary groups under this theme (rural and regional populations, refugees and asylum seekers, older and future Australians).

MILK CRATE THEATRE SOUGHT TO SET THE FOUNDATIONS FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE AND CONSOLIDATE ITS ROLE AS A LEADING COMMUNITY CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANISATION IN AUSTRALIA.



## \$150,000

TO DEVELOP AND GROW MILK CRATE THEATRE'S CORE PROGRAM OVER THREE YEARS (2010 – 2012).



(Photographs by Lucy Parakhina)

CASE STUDY:

# LONGEVITY AND POSITIVE AGEING PROJECT

PER CAPITA IS AN INDEPENDENT, PROGRESSIVE THINK TANK DEDICATED TO BUILDING A NEW VISION FOR AUSTRALIA BASED ON PROSPERITY, FAIRNESS AND COMMUNITY.



## \$100,000

OVER TWO YEARS TOWARDS A RESEARCH PROJECT TO EXAMINE THE POLICY CHALLENGES OF LONGEVITY AND TO DEVELOP NEW APPROACHES FOR POSITIVE AGEING.



(Photographs by Helen Coetzee)

### What is Per Capita?

LAUNCHED IN 2007, PER CAPITA IS AN INDEPENDENT, PROGRESSIVE THINK TANK DEDICATED TO BUILDING A NEW VISION FOR AUSTRALIA BASED ON PROSPERITY, FAIRNESS AND COMMUNITY. COMMITTED TO USING ORIGINAL IDEAS BACKED BY HARD EVIDENCE, PER CAPITA AIMS TO MAKE A SUBSTANTIVE CONTRIBUTION TO NATIONAL POLICY.

They deliver a comprehensive program of research, events and media activities focused on considering the national challenges of the next decade rather than the next election cycle.

### What was the request?

Per Capita approached VFFF with a proposal to launch a major national research project on what it termed *The Sleeping Giants of Public Policy* – longevity and positive ageing. The project will explore three distinct areas of the longevity challenge: Financial Security, Health and Quality of Life and Participation. The overarching question across these distinct research areas is: *how do we maintain a high quality of life for the 'live long society'?* Other studies conducted in this area have tended to focus on workforce participation among older Australians. Per Capita's contribution will take a whole-of-society approach to the issue of longevity, because the physical, mental, economic and social wellbeing of older Australians is intrinsically related to the quality of life for our society.

### Why did VFFF support this project?

Australia is experiencing a significant demographic shift with life expectancy 25 years longer than it was a century ago. Despite this, a 2013 Centre for Social Impact Report<sup>4</sup> found that just 1% of philanthropic grants in Australia were made in the area of 'ageing futures', making it the category with the lowest proportion of philanthropic grants. VFFF is committed to supporting initiatives that contribute to the wellbeing of older Australians. The increasing longevity of the population brings major economic and social challenges, including the changing expectations of retirees and the need to reframe financial security and health systems.

THIS MEANS THAT THERE IS A NEED FOR BOLD IDEAS THAT PROMOTE PUBLIC DEBATE AND BUILD THE PROFILE OF THIS SIGNIFICANT PUBLIC POLICY CHALLENGE.

### What does Per Capita say?

*With VFFF's support, Per Capita is investigating the policy impact of an ageing and longer-living society and will present recommendations to government and to key stakeholders on how best to manage these dual demographic trends. VFFF's grant for this project was a crucial piece of philanthropic funding which enabled it to get off the ground. Many philanthropic grants are for projects with direct, tangible outcomes. However this grant is an excellent example of philanthropy utilising its flexibility to support research and the development of ideas with the potential for long-term societal benefit.*

<sup>4</sup> *Where the Money Goes : Private Wealth for Public Good*, June 2013.

## COMMUNITY WELLBEING (CONTINUED)

### CONTINUING DISTRIBUTIONS

#### AUSTRALIAN SCHOLARSHIPS FOUNDATION

Operational funding \$50,000 (total \$150,000)

#### CREATIVITY AUSTRALIA

Seed funding for Sydney Sings community choir \$20,000 (total \$70,000)

#### ECOTRUST AUSTRALIA

Community capacity building in developing digital knowledge systems \$115,904 (total \$242,169)

#### GRIFFITH BAPTIST CHURCH

Senior Counsellor at Barnabas House Crisis Centre \$91,078 (total \$274,657)

#### JESUIT SOCIAL SERVICES

Senior Manager to establish NSW organisational base \$300,000 (total \$450,000)

#### MARMALADE FOUNDATION

Dual Diagnosis Caseworker at Lou's Place, Kings Cross \$60,000 (total \$120,000)

#### SALTWATER FRESHWATER ARTS ALLIANCE

Corporate Services Manager, Coffs Harbour \$54,594 (total \$163,897)

#### SYDNEY INSTITUTE OF MARINE SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Community Outreach Director, Sydney Harbour Research Project \$150,000 (total \$435,000)

#### THE WAYSIDE CHAPEL

Café Coordinator at the Nomad Café \$60,761 (total \$173,742)

#### WALTER AND ELIZA HALL SUPPLEMENTARY TRUST

Small grants for individuals in necessitous circumstances \$120,000 (total \$360,000)

#### WOMEN IN PRISON ADVOCACY NETWORK

Mentoring for women ex-prisoners in Greater Sydney \$50,000 (total \$100,000)

### SCHOLARSHIPS

#### ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION OF AUSTRALIA

AFA-ARA Heald Fellowship to Ms Laura Laslett from the Menzies Research Institute, Tasmania to research Humira as a treatment for erosive hand osteoarthritis.

#### WINSTON CHURCHILL MEMORIAL TRUST

*The Vincent Fairfax Churchill Fellowship to research new ways to develop and deliver multidisciplinary falls prevention intervention for older Australians discharged from hospital.* Awarded to Dr Nataliya Shkuratova who will visit the UK, USA, Netherlands and France.

*The Vincent Fairfax Churchill Fellowship to explore the use of participatory media toolkits by global Indigenous communities in bridging cultural, political and digital divides, conserve cultural diversity and build community leadership.* Awarded to Mrs Carly Davenport to travel to the UK, USA, Philippines and Canada.

#### ROYAL AUSTRALASIAN COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS

*Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship* to Dr Martin MacDonald to investigate acute exacerbations of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease.

*Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation Research Entry Scholarship* to Dr Christopher Yates to investigate the role of micro RNA in endocrine tumours at Oxford University.

### RECIPIENTS

asylum seekers centre  
of new south wales



# STRATEGIC PROGRAMS

IN THE LAST TWO YEARS, VFFF HAS SOUGHT TO INCREASE ITS IMPACT AND IMPROVE ITS PHILANTHROPIC PRACTICE THROUGH DEVELOPING A NUMBER OF STRATEGIC INITIATIVES.

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VFFF REGARDS THESE PROGRAMS AS OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE FOUNDATION TO INVEST RESOURCES BEYOND THE FINANCIAL INCLUDING ITS NETWORKS, TIME, EXPERTISE AND VOICE TOWARDS ACHIEVING GREATER OUTCOMES.

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**PLACE-BASED** Program, which supports specific localities to bring about the social outcomes they seek for their communities.

**JUVENILE JUSTICE** Program, through which VFFF aims to contribute to reducing the over-representation of Aboriginal children in the justice system.

**SOCIAL IMPACT INVESTMENT**, an early exploration into whether there are opportunities for VFFF to further its mission and generate social returns through its investment portfolio.

## PLACE-BASED

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THIS WORK TAKES TIME AND INVOLVES MORE THAN GIVING MONEY; IT'S A RELATIONSHIP AND THAT INVOLVES LISTENING, SHARED INTERESTS AND RESPECT. WE WORK WITH PEOPLE IN CONDOBOLIN IN THE HOPE THAT OUR COMBINED FORCES WILL CREATE THE OUTCOMES THE COMMUNITY WANTS TO SEE, IN A SUSTAINABLE WAY, ENABLING SOMETHING BEYOND MONEY FOR A GRANTS PROGRAM.

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In 2010, the VFFF Board decided to establish a strategic grant making program that would take a place-based approach, supporting specific communities over a sustained period of time. In doing so, VFFF sought to enhance its impact by investing in a range of organisations and activities in a defined geographical area, as a complement to its broader thematic grant making.

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IN TAKING A PLACE-BASED APPROACH, VFFF WOULD STRIVE TO SUPPORT A COMMUNITY TO MEET ITS GOALS AND ADDRESS THE ISSUES IT REGARDS AS IMPORTANT.

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A program of work resulted in the identification of Condobolin in the Lachlan Shire and Taree on the Mid North Coast and VFFF sought to get to know these communities to understand local needs and opportunities. Both have a high degree of social need as well as effective local leadership and proactivity in aiming to address those needs.



In June 2011, it was agreed to adopt a broad based, community development approach in Condobolin and initially take a more targeted approach in Taree by supporting an existing community-based project. Since then VFFF has worked to progress both those activities. In mid-2012, VFFF became involved in discussions with Sydney Community Foundation about developing a place-based program in Warwick Farm in South West Sydney and subsequently provided funding to help establish the program.

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VFFF HAS WORKED IN DIFFERENT WAYS IN EACH OF THE THREE SITES, IN RESPONSE TO THEIR PARTICULAR CIRCUMSTANCES.

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This has allowed VFFF to trial and learn and balance the associated workload. Since commencing, \$1.17m has been committed across the three sites, representing approximately 6% of all active and committed VFFF funds. Staff time, effort and expertise and operational funds have also been invested.

VFFF is enormously grateful for the openness and warmth of these three communities and appreciates the opportunity to work with them.

CASE STUDY:

# CONDOBOLIN, NSW

## CONDOBOLIN

IN CONDOBOLIN, VFFF HAS ADOPTED A HIGHLY ENGAGED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MODEL. IT WORKS WITH MULTIPLE STAKEHOLDERS ACROSS MULTIPLE ACTIVITIES, TAKING ON A MIX OF CONVENING, FACILITATING AND FUNDING ROLES.

Key to the approach has been investing in people and providing support in a way that allows the community to leverage VFFF's resources and networks without building dependence on its involvement.

The engaged nature of the work with Condobolin is reflected in the time and effort invested by VFFF staff.

THIS HANDS-ON WORK HAS HAD UNANTICIPATED AND WELCOMED BENEFITS, HELPING BUILD VFFF'S UNDERSTANDING OF GRASSROOTS REGIONAL COMMUNITY WORK, INFORMING AND STRENGTHENING OUR OVERALL GRANT MAKING (60% OF WHICH IS DIRECTED TO REGIONAL AND RURAL AREAS).



CONDOBOLIN IS LOCATED IN THE HEART OF NSW IN WIRADJURI COUNTRY. A RESILIENT RURAL TOWN, CONDOBOLIN IS THE HUB OF THE LACHLAN SHIRE, HOME TO 7,000 PEOPLE.



## \$1,028,900

COMMITTED TO DATE ACROSS SEVEN DIFFERENT INITIATIVES



**Above:** Gumbend Lake, Condobolin  
**Left:** Beacon Charter Signing at Condobolin High School

## 2013 DISTRIBUTIONS



### BEACON FOUNDATION

**Beacon Program in Condobolin High School \$98,000 (total \$179,000)**

After discussion among a number of local organisations about transition to work for school leavers, Condobolin High and VFFF sought to garner community support to help students move into further study or work after school. The result was the outline of a Community Supporters Program - matching senior students with a local supporter, coordinated by a Partnership Manager whose role is also to foster stronger community and business links with the school. VFFF approached the Beacon Foundation, a leading national organisation working on school transition for their advice and assistance. Since then, Beacon has worked alongside Condobolin High, Lachlan Shire Council, Wiradjuri Study Centre, numerous local businesses and VFFF to establish a tailored Beacon Foundation Program to support local students onto positive pathways.



### WESTERN PLAINS REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

**Roof insulation \$35,000**

Western Plains is a community hub and home to many important organisations servicing the Lachlan region. These works are an initial step to reducing energy consumption and creating an improved working environment for staff, tenants, visitors, clients and the public.

## CONTINUING DISTRIBUTIONS

### FOUNDATION FOR RURAL & REGIONAL RENEWAL

Establish the Lachlan Region Community Grants Program \$117,500 (total \$327,500)

### MANY RIVERS MICROFINANCE

Enterprise development in Condobolin and the Central West \$158,500 (total \$317,000)

### PENRITH PERFORMING AND VISUAL ARTS

On the Road, a culture and arts program across the Lachlan Shire \$40,000 (total \$120,000)

### WESTERN PLAINS REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Core funding \$86,511 (total \$253,615)

### WIRADJURI CONDOBOLIN CORPORATION

Teaching and Outreach Coordinator, Wiradjuri Study Centre \$77,559 (total \$237,747)

## RECIPIENTS



**BEACON**



CASE STUDY:

# TAMMY BUGG



WESTERN PLAINS  
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER,  
BAKER, MUM AND  
COMMUNITY LEADER

IF TAMMY BUGG SHOULD EVER DECIDE NOT TO CONTINUE IN HER ROLE AS EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF WESTERN PLAINS REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT (WPRD) THEN SHE SHOULD DEFINITELY ESTABLISH A BAKERY BUSINESS.

Having been lucky enough to sample Tammy's baked goods we guarantee the

business would be a success and add another excellent reason to visit Condobolin.

Tammy is one of the gifted and passionate individuals VFFF works with in Condobolin and her story illustrates the benefit of sustained capacity building support for local leaders in a remote community. Tammy attended the Catholic primary school in Condobolin and then the High School where her talents were recognised by a number of teachers who encouraged her to apply for an Associate Diploma in Wagga after finishing Year 12. Tammy was one of 15 successful applicants from a field of 276 candidates. After completing the course Tammy returned to Condobolin and worked in a number of child care positions before accepting a senior position in childcare at Peak Hill.

Missing her family and friends Tam returned to Condobolin in 2008 and was offered the Executive Assistant role at WPRD, a leading local community development organisation. The Executive Officer position had been vacant since 2007 and with some gentle and persistent encouragement by Anne Coffey (who was acting voluntarily in the position) and the ability to access VFFF funding, Tammy was offered and accepted the role of Acting EO in July 2012. With some more (perhaps less gentle) encouragement from VFFF and FRRR, at the October 2012 Board meeting Tammy presented a compelling argument for her appointment as the EO. The Board unanimously approved this permanent role. Since then, Tammy has grown in confidence and ability and has made a discernible difference to the impact of WPRD and how it works in the community. The inaugural Lachlan Region Community Grants Program, which invested \$100,000 in local community initiatives, was turned around in a few short months in late 2012 thanks to Tammy's steady and committed stewardship.

Tammy is close to her extended family most of whom live in Condobolin and she is an active and valued community member. Her three children are encouraged to adopt her motto 'We are the choices we make'. Her eldest son Joshua successfully matriculated from Condobolin High and now works locally. Committed to Samuel and Kiera continuing their schooling in Condobolin, Tammy is encouraged by the partnership between Condobolin High School, Beacon Foundation and VFFF and its potential to enhance the educational opportunities available to her two youngest.

## TAREE

VFFF HAS TAKEN A MORE TRADITIONAL PHILANTHROPIC APPROACH IN TAREE, INVESTING IN PARTICULAR PROJECTS AND WORKING WITH THEM IN AN ENGAGED WAY TO TRY TO HELP THEM GAIN TRACTION.

### FIRST STEPS COUNT

#### Integrated Child and Family Centre \$49,125 in 2012

Funding was provided to develop architectural plans and secure developmental approvals for First Steps Count Integrated Child and Family Centre in Taree. This would be the first of its kind in NSW and a best practice model for supporting vulnerable families. VFFF has indicated preparedness to make a \$1 million contribution toward construction (approximately a third of the cost), provided assistance writing government funding applications and directly advocated with Government in support of the project. Although efforts to leverage additional funds have been unsuccessful to date, Taree remains an area of high need and opportunity for place-based investment and VFFF continues to support First Steps Count's efforts to realise this landmark project.

### AUSTRALIAN CHILDREN'S MUSIC FOUNDATION

#### Establishing a music program in five Taree schools \$100,000 (noted under Education theme)

ACMF has started convening local agencies and service providers to broaden their each to support local at risk and juvenile justice involved youth.

## WARWICK FARM

THIS IS AN OUTSOURCED FUNDING APPROACH, WITH VFFF PROVIDING FUNDING AND ADVICE TO HELP SYDNEY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION DEVELOP A PLACE-BASED GRANT MAKING PROGRAM IN WARWICK FARM.

### SYDNEY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

#### \$60,000

Sydney Community Foundation has already leveraged VFFF's start-up support to source additional philanthropic and government funding, including a \$500,000 matched funding grant from the Department of Families and Community Services to expand its place-based work into Fairfield and Liverpool. VFFF staff play an ongoing role on the Steering Committee.

# JUVENILE JUSTICE

‘ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE ARE THE FASTEST GROWING PRISON POPULATION IN ALL STATES AND TERRITORIES IN AUSTRALIA.’

The profile of children involved with the justice system is one of multiple and often entrenched intergenerational disadvantage, motivating VFFF to seek a way to make a useful contribution to support them. Throughout this year extensive desk research, site visits and meetings with a range of sector stakeholders including government, service providers, juvenile justice workers, young people, academia and other funding bodies has helped us gain a better understanding of youth justice and the opportunities for philanthropy to encourage change in the trajectory that leads children to courts and prisons.

## THE ISSUE

APPROXIMATELY HALF OF THE DETENTION POPULATION ARE ABORIGINAL YOUNG PEOPLE DESPITE ACCOUNTING FOR ONLY 2.2% OF THE GENERAL POPULATION

Indigenous children are more likely to be incarcerated today than at any other time since the release of the *Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody* in 1991. This rise has occurred despite increased funding and the concern and efforts of community members, government officials, non-government organisations and the judiciary around Australia.

Children who have contact with the criminal justice system are likely to have experienced many disadvantages<sup>5</sup>:

- 87% have at least one psychological disorder
- 60% have a history of child abuse or neglect
- 14% are in the extremely low range of intellectual ability (under 70 IQ) and another 32% were in the borderline range (70 – 79)
- 45% have had a parent in prison
- About a quarter had experienced out-of-home care
- Only 38% were attending school prior to custody

The NSW Audit Office reported that in 2011, the average daily cost of supervising and caring for child offenders in detention was \$652 per person per day or \$237,980 annually. Despite the expense of incarceration, evidence suggests it is not an effective deterrent to recidivism.

## WHAT IS VFFF DOING?

IN JUNE 2013, VFFF DIRECTORS AGREED TO ESTABLISH A JUVENILE JUSTICE PROGRAM WITH AN AIM OF REDUCING THE OVER-REPRESENTATION OF ABORIGINAL CHILDREN IN THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM IN NSW.

Similar to the Place-based Program, this will be an umbrella under which various activities can develop and offers opportunities for ‘beyond-funding’ contributions articulated through a three-part framework:

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| <b>Fund</b> | – grant making  |
| <b>Act</b>  | – research, convene discussion, build relationships and raise awareness |
| <b>Seek</b> | – learning and knowledge, opportunities and collaborators               |

As a first step, we have commissioned research into the current service environment to inform funding decisions and ensure any activity builds on and complements existing effective services. The research is about hearing from those at the coalface – families, children, communities, service providers, police and juvenile justice workers – to understand the reality on the ground across NSW. The aims are to understand current services and gaps, capacity and training requirements and make recommendations regarding investment to meet needs. Our goal is that the research be useful to a wide audience, including the NSW Department of Juvenile Justice, policy makers, service providers and others.

Our hope is that it will provide stimulus for discussion and new thinking about reducing the contact of Aboriginal children with courts and prisons.

VFFF is delighted to work in close partnership with the Dusseldorp Skills Forum on this initiative.

<sup>5</sup> 2009 Young People in Custody Health Survey, NSW Department of Human Services, Juvenile Justice

# SOCIAL IMPACT INVESTMENT

IS VFFF ABLE TO IDENTIFY OPPORTUNITIES TO MAKE IMPACT INVESTMENTS THAT ACHIEVE COMMERCIAL RETURNS AND FURTHER SOCIAL OUTCOMES?

In this financial year VFFF were part of the increased awareness and cautious interest shown by a number of foundations in the possibilities presented by social impact investment. We watched with interest the release of State Government backed Social Benefit Bonds, the continued success of Good Start, became aware of a number of organisations that were incubating impact investment style opportunities and welcomed the educational opportunities provided by Philanthropy Australia in this area.

THE WILLING COLLABORATION AND INFORMATION SHARING BY ALL INVOLVED IN THIS AREA, PARTICULARLY THOSE WHO ARE WELL ALONG THE IMPACT INVESTMENT PATH WAS VERY HELPFUL IN GAINING KNOWLEDGE AND CONFIDENCE.

Along with the Social Benefit Bonds, we were interested in the Social Enterprise Development Fund, offer of funds from the Department of Employment, Education and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) for matching funds provided to emerging social enterprises. Social Ventures Australia, Social Enterprise Finance Australia and Forresters have all created investments in Not-for-Profit organisations that provide a form of return to their investors. We see that the presence of Government support providing a safety net for these types of investment opportunities adds to their attractiveness and this may increase the ability of foundations to become involved. Impact investment may take many forms and may involve using the investment power of our corpus to proactively create social impact and make investments that are specifically aligned to the mission and funding priorities of the VFFF.

THIS STYLE OF INVESTING DOES NOT REQUIRE COMPROMISE ON FINANCIAL RETURNS, NOR DOES IT JEOPARDISE THE FULFILMENT OF FIDUCIARY DUTIES, RATHER IT PRESENTS A WAY TO AMPLIFY EXISTING GRANT MAKING PRACTICES.



The impact investment industry is in its infancy in Australia and we expect a slow emergence of opportunities that may be suitable for the VFFF. This would likely involve collaboration with other foundations and the use of an intermediary organisation to administer the investment. The VFFF themes, priority outcomes and target beneficiaries have sufficient breadth and depth for scope to explore a number of styles of social impact investments and the possibilities this may present over time are encouraging.

In 2013/14 VFFF will continue to explore whether strategic investment opportunities are available to enhance the outcomes of our work within the VFFF mission.



(Photographs by Lucy Leonardi)

# G3 PHILANTHROPY

VFFF WORKS CLOSELY WITH THE VINCENT FAIRFAX FAMILY TO ENCOURAGE THEIR INTEREST AND INVOLVEMENT IN THE WORK OF THE FOUNDATION.

**Right:** Angus and Emilia at the Warwick Farm Neighbourhood Centre **Below:** G3 Retreat 2013



## G3 PHILANTHROPY

Since 2010, members of the third generation (G3 or cousins) have been actively involved in developing a range of initiatives to build family participation. There are a number of ways that family members can participate in VFFF grant making, including two formal mechanisms – 'responsive' grant making through the Small Grants Committee which conducts assessment and makes decisions on all applications up to \$25,000 and cousins 'initiated' grant making.

### SMALL GRANTS COMMITTEE 2013

Lucy Coulson  
Annabel Dulhunty  
Angus White  
Christopher White  
Emma White  
Justin White  
Prue Pateras

## COUSINS

# \$100,000

DELEGATED ANNUALLY FOR VFFF COUSINS GRANT MAKING

All G3 members and their spouses are able to put forward projects for funding consideration by their cousins. This can be small and large grants and cousins may also add their own contribution to VFFF funds.

## 2013 DISTRIBUTIONS

### LA TROBE UNIVERSITY

#### Australian Futures Project \$30,000

To inform the Design Phase of a project examining the reforms, investments and decision-making structures required to create the society Australians desire for the future.

### LA TROBE UNIVERSITY

#### Australian Futures Project \$40,000

Towards the Implementation Phase, including analysis into Australia's future making system and consultation with leaders, experts and the public.

### NAMBUCCA VALLEY YOUTH SERVICES CENTRE

#### Youth Centre Administration Officer \$35,000

To employ an Administration Officer at Nambucca Valley Youth Services Centre.

### PHILANTHROPY AUSTRALIA

#### The New Generation of Giving Program \$25,000

To support the growth and development of the community of young Australian philanthropists.

## RECIPIENTS



## CASE STUDY:

# NEW GENERATION OF GIVING PROGRAM

### What is the New Generation of Giving Program?

AS THE NATIONAL PEAK BODY, PHILANTHROPY AUSTRALIA RECOGNISES THAT THE GIVING WORLD IS SHIFTING, AND THAT THIS IS BEING LED BY THE YOUNGER GENERATIONS.

Philanthropy Australia is committed to supporting the specific needs of this group and sought to develop a specific membership program – the New Generation of Giving (New Gen) Program. The program is designed for people aged 40 years and under who have current and future capacity as leading philanthropic funders and investors.

### Why did the cousins support the New Gen Program?

Philanthropy Australia CEO Louise Walsh approached VFFF to seek founding partner support of \$25,000 for the Program. The opportunity to support the establishment of New Gen was quickly championed by one of the cousins and enthusiastically supported by the others.

AS THE THIRD GENERATION OF THE VINCENT FAIRFAX FAMILY, THE COUSINS ARE DEVELOPING THEIR OWN PHILANTHROPIC INTERESTS AND IMMEDIATELY RECOGNISED THE VALUE OF THIS PROGRAM, IN PARTICULAR THE OPPORTUNITY TO SUPPORT, LEARN FROM AND ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN PEER TO PEER NETWORKS.

### What were the outcomes?

Under the direction of Program Manager Caroline Vu, New Gen has quickly established itself as an influential and innovative program in the Australian philanthropic landscape. Since launching in February 2013, the New Gen program has engaged 130 members across Australia, hosted regular gatherings in Melbourne, Sydney, Adelaide and Brisbane and held its inaugural keynote address in Sydney and Melbourne with speaker Daniel Lurie, 36 year old CEO and Founder of Tipping Point Community, a grant making organisation fighting poverty in the San Francisco Bay Area. National professional development activities provided by New Gen include workshops, speaker series events and international field trips. VFFF cousins are enjoying participating in these activities.

### What does Philanthropy Australia say?

*We truly believe that by investing in this cohort we will have a significant long-term impact. Young philanthropists have an entirely different perspective to traditional philanthropy. It's not just about writing a cheque for social problems, it's about investing for sustainable solutions - collaboration, accountability and sustainability. The founding partner support provided by the VFFF cousins came at a critical time as we sought to establish this Program. We knew it was a program with huge potential and are thrilled with the results achieved in this inaugural year.*

NEW GEN HAS QUICKLY ESTABLISHED ITSELF AS AN INFLUENTIAL AND INNOVATIVE PROGRAM IN THE AUSTRALIAN PHILANTHROPIC LANDSCAPE.



## \$25,000

TO SUPPORT THE GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE COMMUNITY OF YOUNG AUSTRALIAN PHILANTHROPISTS.



# FINANCE AND INVESTMENT REPORT

THE INVESTMENT OF THE CORPUS OF VFFF AND VFELF IN A DIVERSIFIED PORTFOLIO IS OVERSEEN BY THE AUDIT FINANCE AND INVESTMENT COMMITTEE (AFIC) WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS.

	VFFF		VFELF	
	2012/13	2011/12	2012/13	2011/12
Portfolio market value	\$159.3m	\$138.6m	\$6.30m	\$6.10m
Distributions	\$7.5m	\$7.7m	\$0.35m	\$0.31m
Cumulative distributions	\$109m	\$102m	\$4.17m	\$3.82m
Distributable income	\$6.5m	\$5.6m	\$0.36m	\$0.38m
Future commitments*	\$5.6m	\$6.2m	\$0.35m	\$0.70m

Directors have set a distribution target of \$7 million for VFFF in the 2014 financial year.

\* Future commitments are conditional on available funds in the distribution account.

Combined operating expenses	2013	2012
Operating expenses	\$834,353	\$ 707,479
Operating expenses as a % of distributions made	10.5%	8.8%
Operating expenses as a % of net assets	0.5%	0.5%

During the financial year AFIC met on four occasions in relation to the financial governance of VFFF and VFELF. The Boards acknowledge the significant contributions of Cambooya Pty Limited, JANA Investment Advisors, particularly Mr John Coombe, and KPMG (honorary auditor) to the financial governance of VFFF and VFELF.

## AUDIT, FINANCE AND INVESTMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

James Millar AM, Chair  
Nicholas Fairfax  
Christopher White

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

# VINCENT FAIRFAX ETHICS IN LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION



THIS WILL BE MY LAST REPORT AS CHAIRMAN OF VFELF HOWEVER I LEAVE MY POST IN EXCEPTIONALLY GOOD AND THOUGHTFUL HANDS.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "R Cartwright".

**THE HONOURABLE ROBERT  
CARTWRIGHT**

Chairman VFELF

### VFELF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Hon. Robert Cartwright,  
Chairman  
Deborah King-Rowley  
Michael Murray  
Angus White  
Peter Wilson, AM

IN 2012/13 THE VINCENT FAIRFAX ETHICS IN LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION (VFELF) FOCUSED ITS SUPPORT ON THE VINCENT FAIRFAX FELLOWSHIP WHICH WAS SUCCESSFULLY TRANSITIONED BY THE CENTRE FOR ETHICAL LEADERSHIP TO ORMOND COLLEGE DURING THE YEAR.

Group 18 of Vincent Fairfax Fellows graduated in June 2013 from the third program run in Melbourne. The graduation was well attended and held in the magnificent main dining hall at Ormond College, which transported all attendees to the mystical land of Harry Potter. Mr. Tony Cripps, Chief Executive Officer from HSBC Bank Australia, gave the keynote address, entitled "Courageous Integrity", engaging in a direct and probing question and answer session which highlighted the ethical decisions Mr. Cripps took when under considerable public scrutiny.

The discussions of ethical issues continued at The Vincent Fairfax Speakers Series events which attracted audiences in Melbourne and Sydney. A highlight was Dr Chris Sarra's address at the State Library in Sydney, supported by Professor Bob Wood. This event was well attended, including a large number of Fairfax family members and representatives from prominent Sydney philanthropic organisations.

A number of alumni events occurred during the year including lunches in Sydney, Melbourne and Perth hosted by Professor Wood; and a LinkedIn group has been established to assist in connecting Fellows and sharing relevant communications.

The Board appreciates the focus of Professor Wood and his team, notably Jennifer Jones, in continuing to deliver a program that is true to the values expressed by Sir Vincent Fairfax which lead to the establishment of the Vincent Fairfax Fellowship (VFF).

In accordance with our agreement an audit was conducted of the VFF program in July by Mr Paul Shannon, a highly respected corporate auditor. The terms of reference for the audit included review and analysis of the implementation of the Melbourne Business School proposal, the extent to which the agreed objectives and aspirations for the Fellowship are being achieved and early indications of the Fellowship's effectiveness and impact on participants.

PLEASEINGLY, MR SHANNON CONCLUDED THAT THE VINCENT FAIRFAX FELLOWSHIP IS A HIGHLY PRAISED EXPERIENCE FOR PARTICIPANTS, DELIVERING TANGIBLE AND PRACTICAL KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND CAPABILITY.

The participants interviewed were able to clearly and easily articulate the changes the VFF has made, and will continue to make, to their personal capabilities and, through them, the capacity of their organisations to adopt ethical values and ethical leadership. I think Sir Vincent would be pleased with these findings.

Many thanks to my fellow Directors for their insightful contributions. Our meetings are both stimulating and effective. I am particularly grateful for my colleagues' support during my leave of absence from the Board from April until August this year. Thanks also to Jenny Wheatley, her team at Cambooya and Sue Goudie for their assistance in ensuring the smooth running of VFELF during this year.

This will be my last report as Chairman of VFELF. While I will continue in the role of Director, Angus White has agreed at my suggestion and with the full endorsement of VFELF and VFFF Boards to take on the role of VFELF Chairman. I leave my post in exceptionally good and thoughtful hands.

# 2013 HIGHLIGHTS



**NICK FAIRFAX, DIRECTOR, AFIC MEMBER**

*Our support for asylum seekers through the Asylum Seekers Centre NSW and the Women on the Road program. While boat arrivals of asylum seekers have become highly politicised, those programs highlighted the generous and inclusive nature of Australian society with respect to those individuals and families fleeing persecution.*

**THE HON. ROBERT CARTWRIGHT, DIRECTOR, VFELF CHAIRMAN**

*Education and a personal Christian faith are in my view two transforming experiences for the rest of life. So I was pleased to see the VFFF supporting the Beacon Foundation and the Gospel Patrons Society this year.*



**ANNABEL DULHUNTY, DIRECTOR**

*I always enjoy the site visits and the trip to Jawun, Saltwater Freshwater and The Buttery brought our funding to life and allowed me to gain a deeper understanding from some inspirational leaders.*

**EMILY FULLER, FOUNDATION MANAGER**

*Hearing the gusto and power of the CareerTrackers students at their graduation dinner was an awesome, spine-tingling moment – it felt like the tipping point for Indigenous Australia right in front of my eyes.*



**JOY YEO OAM, DIRECTOR**

*A visit to Shine for Kids is a vivid memory. Children whose parents are in prison have so many needs. VFFF's support for such worthy organisations which may find it hard to attract the support they need is most commendable.*



**TIM FAIRFAX AM, CHAIRMAN**

*It is my hope that the distributions this year will have a life changing impact on the many organisations and individuals we enjoy working with.*



**SUE GOUDIE, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT**

*I had the opportunity to experience 'Sydney Sings' during the year as they celebrated their 1st Anniversary. This cheerful and inspiring choir brings together such a diverse group of people from all over Sydney. You can't stop smiling to hear them sing!*



**JAMES MILLAR AM, DIRECTOR, AFIC CHAIR**

*The ongoing work with the Cape York Aboriginal Australia Academy. We took this on in hope, and faith (and with some small opposition from the education sector), and I thoroughly enjoy reading of the successes that are being achieved by this work. This is a great catalytic commitment by the foundation that is changing both lives and the community, over a sustained period.*

**JENNY WHEATLEY, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

*Invited by Sydney Community Foundation, I listened to Pat Hall tell her story of the difference relatively minor levels of funding and plenty of encouragement and collaboration by philanthropic organisations made to her and the Warwick Farm Community. Pat exemplifies the difference one brave person may make to so many.*



**DAVID HARDIE, PROGRAM OFFICER**

*I have followed the work of the Asylum Seekers Centre for a number of years and have such admiration for the work they undertake in a very challenging area. Being able to visit them in their wonderful new premises in Newtown, purchased debt-free through the generosity of their many supporters, was a great reminder of the positive impact that philanthropy can have, not just for beneficiary groups, but also for the staff delivering the frontline work.*

**SALLY WHITE OAM, DIRECTOR**

*Our support of the Beacon Foundation and their encouragement of Condobolin High School students by bringing in local business people to guide positive thinking for their lives ahead. I also like the support of music programs for young people. Examples being the Australian Children's Music Foundation program in Taree schools, Nordoff Robbins Music Therapy helping children with disabilities, and Musica Viva taking music to towns unlikely to hear orchestral music.*



**REBECCA NINNESS, GRANTS TRAINEE**

*My meeting with The Australian Museum Trust where I learnt of their Pacific Youth Reconnection Project. Their passion for the project was infectious and it was encouraging to hear of the successes in reconnecting marginalised Pacific youth with their cultural heritage.*

**GEOFFREY WHITE OAM, TRUSTEE EMERITUS**

*The VFFF's decision to back Noel Pearson's educational and cultural efforts in Far North Queensland seems to have been appropriate risk to take. This year the relevance of Pearson's work has received a significant lift in recognition not only in Queensland but also elsewhere in Australia.*



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Mum, Mel, looks on as her daughter Isabelle takes her first bicycle ride at the Parents' and Children's program at Odyssey House (Photograph by Paul McMillan)

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Vincent Fairfax Family  
Foundation