Local Heroes

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Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation Annual Report 2018



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For 56 years VFFF has supported passionate people making positive changes in regional areas and urban communities across our country.

We are proud to showcase some of those people in this report and to champion the hard work they do to make a difference every day.

Honouring our founders' legacy, we strive to play the most useful role we can, joining the efforts of so many working for a better Australia.

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Our Founders



As the inheritor of a long family tradition of philanthropy, Sir Vincent Fairfax established a charitable trust in 1962.

Lady Nancy Fairfax bequeathed a large amount of her estate to VFFF on her death in 2007, transforming its potential to benefit generations of Australians. Today, Sir Vincent and Lady Nancy Fairfax's children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren continue to build their legacy.

VFFF has distributed over \$155 million to support people's lives in communities across Australia.

As we grow, we seek to listen and learn, working alongside others for a better Australia.

'Let us remember that the power and wealth of a democracy is measured not only by the number and quality of its eminent leaders but by thousands of "little" leaders who provide its real strength.' Sir Vincent Fairfax, 1983



VISION

In honouring our founders' beliefs and intentions, VFFF seeks opportunities to benefit and care for Australians and our country.

MISSION

VFFF aspires to a stronger and brighter future for people and places experiencing disadvantage, enabling them to reach their educational, social and economic potential and build thriving communities. We support a spiritually rich society that values Christian faith in action.

Fairfax Family Philanthropy: looking back and looking forward





Vincent Fairfax Family 1987

Sir Vincent Fairfax was the first of the Fairfax family in Australia to set up a charitable trust and it was his intention to encourage his four children to be involved in its work.

Today, VFFF has a strategic goal to be a thriving multi-generational family foundation. The beliefs and values of Sir Vincent and Lady Nancy continue to guide the work of VFFF.

Vincent Fairfax Family 2018

This year, we initiated projects to capture family stories from the past and identify family aspirations for the future.

Sharing stories has been pivotal in passing on history and values for the Fairfax family.

To capture the vibrant family history, VFFF is creating a series of digital media resources that will help future generations answer the question: 'what would Sir Vincent and Lady Nancy have thought...' 'There is a strong thirst for knowledge from the younger generations as to the values and personalities of Sir Vincent and Lady Nancy Fairfax. It has been meaningful to relive memories, re-read letters and speeches from our parents, and share some examples of the extraordinary role models we had.' Ruth Armytage, 2nd generation



Next generation philanthropy with the Myer, Snow and English families

The founders' grandchildren and great-grandchildren have been actively involved in a range of initiatives to build their level of participation in VFFF and philanthropy more broadly.

This year, we worked with family members to review these initiatives, build on their success and identify new priorities. Through a range of activities, including a family survey across the third and fourth generations and connecting with other family foundations, VFFF is capturing the aspirations of the next generation of Fairfax philanthropy. 'We want to be effective in our giving, leave an impression, a lasting legacy. We have to be strategic in our giving, we have to collaborate with others and take ownership of our learnings on what has and has not worked. Good philanthropy is leading by example, particularly as the new wealth of young entrepreneurs is increasing. Our role is also to encourage others to give.' Fairfax family member, 3rd generation

Chairman's Report



As we review the first 12 months of our new strategic direction set by the VFFF Board, I am pleased that this way of working balances Sir Vincent Fairfax's wishes with embracing philanthropy's role in assisting modern society.

In honouring our long standing interest in ethics, VFFF engaged the Behavioural Insights Team (BIT) to explore ways we might equip young people with tools to assist in their use of technology. A highlight of the work was a two day forum held at Western Sydney University where 60 young people gave us two days of their school holidays to provide feedback that will be used by BIT to develop initiatives that will assist young people navigate the online world. I spent time with a diverse group of 12 to 16 year olds and observed their awareness of the issues and openness to meaningfully engage with adults. I am excited about what this program will produce as we move into phase four.

Christian faith was a central pillar of the life and character of Sir Vincent Fairfax. In 1968 Sir Vincent noted that *'nearly every young person before reaching adulthood comes to a point of decision about religion'*. The Board has refined the focus of VFFF's Christianity giving to support initiatives that provide young people with the opportunity to make life choices underpinned by an understanding of Christian faith and belief. I am grateful for the contribution and wisdom of my fellow Directors and the willingness of the team to enthusiastically implement the strategy of the Board. A very valuable initiative this year was the establishment of the Cambooya Investment Committee, enabling the contribution of independent investment experts to Cambooya's management of the Foundation's investments. I thank Richard Brandweiner, Susan Roberts, Rosemary Vilgan and John Coombe for their contribution to this important aspect of VFFF.

It is an honour to Chair VFFF and work alongside the Fairfax family in their great philanthropic gift to our community. They demonstrate a unique ability to pass on family values and are committed to the Foundation's vision. It is with pleasure that I note all eligible family are Members of VFFF Ltd and many actively contribute to our work by generously giving their time and expertise.

James Millar AM Chairman

Chief Executive Officer's Report



In 2013 the Board met with locals in Condobolin where Tim Fairfax, the then Foundation Chairman, noted the Fairfax family's rural heritage, their respect for those on the land and belief in the sustainability of rural towns.

It is hard to watch VFFF's friends in rural and regional areas suffer as drought conditions continue throughout rural New South Wales and Queensland. I am pleased to dedicate our 2018 Annual Report to the local heroes we are privileged to meet through our work, particularly those in rural and regional areas. VFFF recognises the hard work and commitment of those living and working in rural Australia.

I am excited that VFFF and the Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal (FRRR) have entered a five year partnership to build the capacity of organisations in rural and regional NSW. Natalie Egleton, CEO of FRRR, and her team are on the ground working in these areas every day. VFFF and FRRR have a long history of shared Directors, mission and values, including a strong belief in the importance of Australia's rural communities. We enter this partnership confident that it will bring increased impact for our gifting in rural and regional areas. The essential ingredients of a successful partnership are evident in the relationships VFFF has with Australian Schools Plus, the Behavioural Insights Team and now FRRR. Open communication, strong governance, long term commitment and demonstration of shared values result in partnerships that work to enhance the benefit of VFFF's funding to grantees.

The team are grateful to our Directors, who regularly contribute to VFFF's work outside of Board meetings, in a meaningful and insightful way. In particular, I extend my thanks to our Chairman James Millar, who despite many competing commitments for his time, consistently meets VFFF's requests for guidance. Similarly Ruth Armytage, our Deputy Chair, brings her unique skills and enthusiasm to representing VFFF with our grantees.

In October Foundation Manager Emily Fuller and her husband Eduardo welcomed the delightful Camila to their family. We look forward to Emily returning to the VFFF office in early 2019. The Board and I are grateful to David Hardie who seamlessly assumed the role of managing VFFF. David is a joy to work with and his commitment and respect for VFFF's work, the team, the Board and family are demonstrated in all aspects of his work. Ally Newton extended her time with VFFF and stepped capably into the role of Grants Officer, thoughtfully analysing requests from grantees and managing a number of key administrative matters for VFFF, including this Annual Report. We welcomed Wendy Mason to oversee our place-based programs and Children and Prison Program. Wendy has contributed on many fronts to VFFF's work. Sue Goudie moved to a part-time role with Cambooya and Galya Okladnikov joined VFFF to provide important assistance with administration and communication matters.

I hope you enjoy reading about the local heroes that VFFF supports and find them as much of an inspiration as I do.

Jenny Wheatley Chief Executive Officer



VFFF Team (left to right): Ally Newton, Wendy Mason, David Hardie, Jenny Wheatley, Emily Fuller and Galya Okladnikov

Social Impact Investment

The 2018 Global Impact Investment Network (GIIN) signals a diverse and dynamic impact investing market of leading organisations that together manage \$USD228 billion of impact investments.

VFFF is pleased to play a small part in encouraging this emerging and diverse market in Australia. It is exciting to see a shift in the broader financial markets, where it is becoming increasingly unacceptable to invest without regard to social and environmental impacts.

During 2018, VFFF reached the goal set by the Board in 2015 to have 5% of corpus invested on an impact first basis. With the assistance of Cambooya, the Foundation's investment advisors, we held five investments across three asset classes which amounted to a commitment of \$10.3 million. Achieving this goal required an expanded definition of what constitutes a mission aligned investment and acceptance of risk across the full spectrum.

Our first impact investment was to purchase a property in Armidale for BackTrack to provide food, shelter and safety for young people. In the case of Yume, we invested true risk capital in a start-up business which aims to reduce food wastage and benefit farmers. VFFF established finance facilities to Crusaders and Moore College, both organisations aligned to VFFF's Christianity goal of providing young people with an opportunity to understand Christian faith and belief. An introduction to Evolve Housing by Cambooya Investment Committee Member, Richard Brandweiner, led to the identification of an investment opportunity for VFFF to provide a finance facility which will assist to increase the supply of social housing.



Moore College, Newtown NSW

VFFF believes that mission aligned investment is a powerful addition to our impact toolkit. A well-executed impact investment strategy over time will generate income from investments which also deliver social outcomes. We will continue to look for opportunities to invest VFFF's corpus on an impact first mission aligned basis.



Finance and Investment



\$215m

Combined corpus

\$10.1m

2018/19 distribution target VFFF and VFELF portfolios continued to meet their return and risk objectives over all investment horizons. The VFFF Board is grateful for the oversight provided by Cambooya Services Pty Ltd, John Coombe of Jana Asset Consultants and the Cambooya Investment Committee (CIC). The CIC was established at the end of the 2016/17 financial year and we are grateful for the enhanced process and rigour provided by members Richard Brandweiner, Susan Roberts and Rosemary Vilgan. Below is the broad asset allocation of the VFFF corpus. We set an investment target of CPI + 5% for our advisors. Investment guidelines require environmental, social and governance matters be taken into account by external investment managers. The investments made on an impact first basis are included across the property, equities and liquid defensive alternates asset classes.

ASSET ALLOCATION

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Australian equities	37%
Direct property	20%
Global equities	13%
Liquid growth alternates	12%

Liquid defensive alternates	7%
Private equity	4%
Infrastructure	4%
Cash	3%



The VFFF and VFELF Boards are grateful for the audit services provided by David Sinclair and KPMG on an honorary basis.

	VFFF		VFELF	
	2017/18	2016/17	2017/18	2016/17
Portfolio market value	\$207.7m	\$196.7m	\$7.5m	\$6.4m
Distributions	\$10.4m	\$8.8m	\$0.4 m	\$0.4m
Cumulative distributions	\$150.2m	\$139.8m	\$6.1m	\$5.7m
Future commitments ¹	\$9.3 m	\$8.0m	\$0.4 m	\$0.7m

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

2018Highlights

Our Board and team share their highlights from the year.



Geoffrey White OAM, Trustee Emeritus

It was very pleasing to see how the Crusader's distribution was an important lever for that organisation in gaining significant support from



James Millar AM, Chairman Truly understanding the power of philanthropy from others. The VFFF team granted funds to three organisations (The Crusader Union of Australia, St Andrews Chapter House and Generate Ministries) and structured these grants to leverage the giving of others. The Foundation has been bold in using its power to



The Honourable Robert Cartwright,

Director Providing pivotal support for the redevelopment of the Crusader's Lake Macquarie campsite. The Crusader's camping program has benefited several generations and the redevelopment allows expansion of this work for further generations to come.



Jenny Wheatley, CEO Working alongside FRRR's CEO Natalie Egleton to develop the Investing in Rural Community Futures Program, a structure that plays to the strengths of our organisations and will assist rural and regional communities to flourish.



David Hardie, Senior Program Manager

The opportunity to lead the VFFF team for a year has been one of the highlights of my career. It is such a treat to have a *job in which you meet inspiring people* and can support their vision, passion and ideas to enhance people's lives.



Ruth Armytage AM, Deputy Chair Participating in the 2017 Philanthropy Australia Study Tour and learning outcomes of several foundations in London, York and Edinburgh. It was also very insightful to spend time with colleagues from a small number of Australian family foundations and hear their mission statements, goals and achievements.



Angus White, VFFF Director and **VFELF** Chairman

Logan Together's Director Matthew Cox shared an insightful update into how this project is addressing developmental delays of children in Logan, QLD. I love the way it brings together many potential solutions via a diverse range of stakeholders. For VFFF it also mirrors many of our own strategic learnings in helping communities thrive.



Suzanne Cridge, Director It is a privilege to watch and understand how the investment in Fair Education continues to empower school leaders to grow remarkable actions in schools to engage families and communities in learning partnerships. The full value of this initiative is so hard to capture given the ripple effect of the impact of the positive actions and relationships that it continues to build across school communities.



Annabel Dulhunty, Director I am really proud of all the organisations we have worked with this year, but a highlight as a family board member has been assisting with our strategic goal to be a multi-generational foundation. This has involved working with family, spouses, VFFF staff and other family foundations to share experiences and ideas, all of which we hope will assist in encouraging a love of philanthropy across the generations.



Tim Fairfax AC, Director It gives me great satisfaction to see the next generations becoming involved and contributing to all facets of the Foundation. I am continually impressed with the work that is undertaken by the Grants Committee, especially with the research that is involved in assessing applications. This is a wonderful introduction to granting and hopefully making a change to our society.



Joseph O'Brien, Director Witnessing the unique ability of the Foundation to participate in complex issues such as the ethical development of young people, while continuing to deliver grassroots benefits to our rural and regional communities via the FRRR, two grants of significance.



Galya Okladnikov, Executive Assistant

It has been very interesting to develop my understanding of the wide range of activities that the Foundation supports. I am particularly inspired by how the Foundation touches so many young lives in rural communities and at the same time engages the family's younger generations in this work.



Wendy Mason, Program Manager Working in partnership with The Australian Centre for Social Innovation to build social innovation capability in communities in western NSW has been a real highlight. It's inspiring to see the impact this work is having on the ground and the supportive network that is being built.



Emily Fuller, Foundation Manager Seeing the brilliant boys from BackTrack on the big screen at the Sydney Film Festival, telling their stories with courage, heart and humour.



Ally Newton, Grants Officer Organising a day out for the fourth generation of the Fairfax family with WEAVE Youth Community Services and The Social Outfit. It's a privilege to be involved in engaging the younger generations in a long family tradition of such humble and generous philanthropy

Ethical Development – online technology, ethics and teenagers

Ethical development is how young people grow up to be good friends, good parents and good citizens.

VFFF has a long standing interest in ethics and in 2016 a VFFF working group set an ambitious goal: Young teenagers use communications technology ethically. Last year, VFFF launched the Code for Online Decision & Ethics (CODE) program in partnership with the Behavioural Insights Team (BIT), to find a way to meet this goal and help answer one of the pressing questions facing society:

How can we spur the ethical development of young people and do so in a world of rapid technological change?

The backdrop to this work is an international debate about technology and ethics that has taken on new intensity. The effects of technology on mental health and educational outcomes are gathering sustained attention from policymakers. The status of technology companies as neutral platforms with limited responsibilities towards their users is being increasingly challenged.



THE BEHAVIOURAL INSIGHTS TEAM •



#NoFilterForum, Western Sydney University

'Young people have embraced the online world and accept it as part of the status quo. Young people know the online element of their world is not going anywhere and feel that adults need to adapt to this idea instead of being resistant.' Behavioural Insights Team

BIT's work to date has articulated the crucial ingredients for ethical development, identified what ethics looks like in an online context and what young people require from a program for it to make a difference to their day-to-day life.

Capturing the voices of young people was a centrepiece of this work in 2018.

The *#NoFilterForum* that took place in April 2018 gave 60 young people aged 12-16 years a unique opportunity to have their views heard. This forum considered the question: *how can we make good choices in an online world?* The input from young people highlighted that these choices are something they grapple with and care about.

'The lessons of this work have reinforced the sense in our team that we are dealing with an issue of real importance and urgency.' Behavioural Insights Team

Young people want more support from industry, schools and parents, and want to be involved in designing changes and solutions that affect them.

They want the chance to pin down their own principles, which they can turn to when things get difficult. They know seeing things from others' perspectives and supporting their peers is important and they wish they could do so more consistently.

A set of promising interventions to support young people online has now been identified, working with potential delivery partners, the Top Blokes Foundation, ReachOut and the Alannah and Madeline Foundation. VFFF is grateful to Rory Gallagher, Sheridan Hartley and Erin Howard for the expertise and intellect they bring to this project.

VFFF is looking forward to trialling and testing those interventions that have the potential to transform the way young people interact in their online environments.

#NoFilterForum, Western Sydney University, Parramatta NSW

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Building Regional Capacity grassroots innovation

VFFF works closely with key people in Lachlan Shire, Dubbo and Bourke to combat complex issues in their communities with new approaches.

Their work is new and challenging, and the people and organisations tasked with achieving outcomes for our persistent social issues need to be well equipped.

Seeing an opportunity to support these key initiatives, VFFF invited The Australian Centre for Social Innovation (TACSI) to develop the capability of local people and coach them through projects taking place in their communities.

TACSI's aim was to knit together these initiatives and benefit those working on the ground through mutual support.

Over the last year a regional network has been formed, helping connect community workers to peers and providing support to use new techniques and skills in implementing new approaches.

Investment in capability building is required in the regions if change is to be made and sustained.

TACSI is now entering the final delivery phase. This phase will focus on embedding key projects that have community members and organisations at the centre of the work, and build the capability of individuals to influence the wider community and social service systems.





Growing Lachlan Alliance, Lachlan Shire NSW

'The language is not about loss, it's not about challenge, it's about learning and it's about opportunities, and that's what I try to apply to everything.' Shane Phillips, Community Connector, Lake Cargelligo



because we needed help finding our purpose. Now we have organisations working together to tackle hard issues with no isolated efforts.' Sharon Tomas, Coordinator of the Children and Prison Program in Dubbo

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PCYC Bourke, NSW



Superintendent Greg Moore, Bourke NSW





Main street flower pot murals, Condobolin NSW

TACSI Workshop with Children and Prison Working Group, Dubbo NSW

Investing in Rural Community Futures – a five year partnership with the Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal

Drawing upon our grantmaking learnings, VFFF's 2017 strategic review resulted in new goals and a number of refinements to our work.

A key learning from the review was that philanthropy could provide much needed long-term, independent and flexible support for rural and regional communities.

The Investing in Rural Community Futures Program is a multi-year partnership with the Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal (FRRR) to deliver on our goal of *increased VFFF support for rural and regional communities.*

Established in 2000, FRRR convenes collective investment between government, business and philanthropy to respond to locally identified needs of those living in rural, regional and remote Australia.

FRRR seeks to enable communities to build their social capital and economic resilience by providing resources for projects that create the change that communities aspire to achieve. In 2017, FRRR undertook a strategic review that identified the greatest unmet need across rural, regional and remote Australia is in developing organisational resilience and capacity.



Far West NSW

This partnership with VFFF will see FRRR work with at least three communities over five years to assist local not-for-profit organisations address identified challenges and progress opportunities. These organisations play fundamental roles in building and sustaining the social and economic fabric of their communities. Through a mix of grants, capacity and capability building support, this program seeks to build community resilience and support the selected communities to shift from surviving to thriving.



The Investing in Rural Community Futures Program builds upon FRRR's established programs and will adapt proven frameworks to each community's context. It will have a primary focus to support communities to develop, implement and sustain initiatives that:

Strengthen resourcing and delivery capacity Foster organisational networks and alliances Support strategic operational planning and sustainability

Support organisational and community-level skill and capability development

Invest in infrastructure and equipment to increase cost efficiencies

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Our work in 2018

\$10.36m

Distributed in 2018

82% Of funds for multi-year grants

47% Of funds for regional areas 85% Of funds for activities in NSW

\$470,181

Average size of new grants

59% Of funds for core operations

and capacity building

DISTRIBUTION BY GEOGRAPHY



DISTRIBUTION BY THEME AND STRATEGIC PROGRAM

Program/Theme		% of funding	No. distributions	Total funding
	Christianity	28%	9	\$2,881,500
	Fair Education program	15%	2	\$1,525,568
	Place-based program	12%	4	\$1,264,672
	Education	11%	13	\$1,149,600
	Community Wellbeing	8%	9	\$856,005
	Ethical Development program	8%	1	\$804,587
	Children & Prison program	8%	8	\$800,802
	Thriving People and Places	6%	7	\$621,650
	Agriculture	4%	3	\$434,803
	Supporting Australian Philanthropy	<1%	1	\$25,000
	TOTAL	100%	57	\$10,364,187

Strategic Programs – learning by doing

Over the last seven years, VFFF has supported new ways of working through a number of strategic programs.

We have learnt by investing our time and people as well as funds into this work – gaining insight from strategic delivery partners and local people on the ground to build the futures communities envisage.

Place-based

2018 DISTRIBUTIONS

Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal (FRRR)

Investing in Rural Community Futures Program \$708,925 (total \$5,046,496) A five year partnership with FRRR to strengthen the capacity and capability of grassroots not-for-profit organisations in rural, regional and remote NSW.

The Australian Centre for Social Innovation (TACSI)

Western Region Capability Building \$375,950

The final delivery phase of developing a regional capability building model with the key people and initiatives VFFF works with in Lachlan Shire and Dubbo.



It Takes A Town, Murwillumbah NSW

100%

Of funds for regional areas

FUNDING SNAPSHOT

CONTINUING DISTRIBUTIONS

Family Centre Australia It Takes A Town – mobilising community generosity to support vulnerable families in and around Murwillumbah \$55,461 (total \$110,922)

Lower Lachlan Community Services

To continue the Growing Lachlan initiative into implementation \$124,336 (total \$248,776) \$1,264,672
Distributed in 201812%
Of funding in 20184
Distributions75%
Multi-year distributions

\$8.6m Committed since inception

Children and Prison

Most children who end up in prison are on that path long before committing a crime – simply because of who they are and where they are born.

Since 2013, VFFF and the Dusseldorp Forum have been supporting efforts to reduce the over-representation of Aboriginal children in the NSW justice system. We continue to support a number of organisations and work closely with the communities of Dubbo and Bourke to change the path of children on track for incarceration.

2018 DISTRIBUTIONS

Documentary Australia Foundation The BackTrack Boys documentary \$125,000

Towards production costs of the BackTrack Boys documentary, showcasing the philosophy and methods of the BackTrack program that supports young people at risk of entering the juvenile justice system.



Narromine Public School P&C Connect All \$50,000 An intensive support program for children affected by trauma, grief and separation due to incarceration of a parent or caregiver.

CONTINUING DISTRIBUTIONS

Aboriginal Legal Service Maranguka Justice Reinvestment Project, Bourke \$100,000 (total \$390,000)



Eternity Aid (Apostolic Church) To support young offenders, their families and communities in Bourke, Taree and Reiby JJC \$70,000 (total \$375,000)



BackTrack Youth Works Core funding for BackTrack, Armidale \$150,000 (total \$350,000)

Birrang Enterprise Development Company

Maranguka Driving Licensing Initiative \$90,866 (total \$223,832)



Human Rights Law Centre To address the over-imprisonment of young Indigenous people through legal action, advocacy, research and capacity building \$84,936 (total \$247,460)

WEAVE Youth & Community Services Creating Futures Justice Project





FUNDING SNAPSHOT

\$800,802 Distributed in 2018

> 8 Distributions

73% Of funds for regional areas **8%** Of funding in 2018

75% Multi-year distributions

\$3.1m Committed since inception

Fair Education

Established in 2016, the Fair Education Program supports 74 schools in low socio economic areas across NSW through three year project grants and leadership coaching.

We continue to work in close partnership with our delivery partner Australian Schools Plus who provide the coaching, implementation and management of the Program. The Schools Plus coaches build the capacity of school leadership teams in the design and implementation of schools' priority activities to strengthen parent and community involvement in education.

Fair Education – emerging across Australia

VFFF is delighted that the Fair Education model is expanding to Queensland through the support of the Tim Fairfax Family Foundation and The Bryan Foundation, and to Victoria courtesy of the RE Ross Trust. In March 2018, the Australian Government released its report on the Review to Achieve Educational Excellence in Australian Schools. We are optimistic that the emerging collective Fair Education contribution can affirm the review's findings that *the more parents and* carers engage in learning, the greater the chance that their children are engaged, motivated and confident learners.

VFFF is grateful for the leadership of Rosemary Conn and her team at Australian Schools Plus, particularly Geraldine Baillet and Eric Jamieson, who have created a solid base for the future success of this work.



CONTINUING DISTRIBUTIONS

Australian Schools Plus Fair Education Program \$1,469,232 (total \$5,317,327)

Victoria University – Centre for International Research on Education Systems Evaluation of Fair Education Program \$56,336 (total \$246,847)



Hilltop Road Public School, Merrylands NSW

FUNDING SNAPSHOT

\$1,525,568 Distributed in 2018

> **2** Distributions

15% Of funding in 2018

100% Of funds for regional areas

\$5.6m Committed since inception



Thriving people and places

To support high potential organisations so that more people can reach their educational, social and economic potential and build thriving communities.

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II

Thriving people and places – introducing our new way of working

VFFF's goal, that people and places experiencing disadvantage thrive, was developed following a 2017 review into the learnings from our strategic programs, thematic grant making, and feedback from grantees.

This review highlighted the opportunity for VFFF to transition aspects of our grant-making from a siloed granting structure to a more integrated one that better reflects people's lives and how communities work.

VFFF recognises that despite the best efforts of many people, the social services system is not shifting the dial in places and within groups of people where disadvantage has persisted for many years.

Local people must drive change – but communities require longterm support to grow their ability to drive that change.

We have identified the need to back new ways of thinking, the importance of investing in local capability building and the value of integration and crosssector work.

VFFF directs our funds in this area to:

• Working together on new approaches

- Learning and education
- Jobs and economic development.

We seek to provide responsive and flexible support to high potential organisations so that more people can fully participate in education and work and build the thriving future they envisage.







Logan Together, Logan QLD

2018 DISTRIBUTIONS

Centre for Policy Development Cities and Settlement Program \$200,000

(total \$600,000) An initiative to coordinate government, service providers and NGO's to enhance the delivery of employment and

Logan Child Friendly Community Operational support \$225,000 (total \$692,016)

settlement services for refugees.

Logan Together is a partnership between government, Griffith University and service providers to develop placebased strategies and improve child development outcomes for children aged eight and under in Logan, QLD.

Musicians Making a Difference Breakfree Street Support & Internship Program \$25,000

To pilot a pre-employment training program for 18-25 year olds in the Central Coast, NSW.

Paint the Town REaD Operational support \$48,000

A whole of community approach to build early literacy skills of children in rural and regional communities across NSW.

Bidwill Uniting (Parramatta Nepean Presbytery)

Getting Ahead Program \$50,000 To equip participants with the skills to break the cycle of intergenerational poverty in Bidwell and Mt Druitt, Western Sydney.

Sugarvalley Neighbourhood Advancement Group

Regional Grant Writer \$23,650 To employ a grant writer between a group of neighbourhood centres in the Hunter, Newcastle and Lake Macquarie area.

The Indigenous Marathon Foundation

Deadly Running Footprints \$50,000 To establish a series of running events that create positive local role models and facilitate community engagement in the Northern Rivers, NSW.



Logan Together – a whole of community approach

\$692,016

in operational support for the Logan Together team.

The vision and early stage success of the Logan Together movement provided a compelling case for VFFF to step over the NSW border to provide support for this whole of community, 10-year initiative in south-east Queensland.

The City of Logan is 30 minutes south of Brisbane and represents 7% of the Queensland population, with 45,000 people aged eight years or under. Logan Together is a partnership between three levels of government, private philanthropic funders, Griffith University, community organisations, service providers and the community of Logan to improve long-term outcomes for Logan's youth.

Coordinating action across each age and stage of childhood, Logan Together is focusing on the things that make a real difference in the lives of young children.

The vision of Logan Together is that by 2025, Logan kids will be as healthy and full of potential as any other group of Queensland kids.

Logan Together is a highly sophisticated place-based model that employs many of VFFF's key learnings: the importance of having people and place at the centre, taking an integrated and long term approach, using data, research and public knowledge to engage community and prioritise action and delivery with community stakeholders at the table.

Logan Together's small Backbone Team, led by Matthew Cox, coordinates and organises the efforts of all stakeholders invested in this work. VFFF funding will build the team's capabilities in business engagement, policy influencing and strategic learning.



'It is only through the support and belief shown by foundations such as the VFFF that we are able to tackle the systemic problems of place-based disadvantage. The support shown by the VFFF allows us to ensure all parts of the community are engaged in the solution; that we look at evolving the system to support this; and everything we learn is shared for the benefit of others.' Matthew Cox, Director

The willingness of the Logan Together team to share their work and learnings in a transparent way provides opportunities for similar communities across Australia to grow similar movements. Through its commitment to evaluation and learnings, the project has real potential to grow the evidence base of this way of working and contribute to the bigger goal of government social investment reform.





Christianity

To encourage interest and participation in Christianity.



1

Christianity – a new focus for our giving

VFFF's founder Sir Vincent Fairfax was a committed Christian and actively involved in the Anglican Church. Christian faith was a central pillar of his life and character, providing purpose, a robust ethical framework and the basis of care for others.

Following VFFF's 2017 strategic review process and the adoption of a more integrated funding structure, *Thriving people and places*, VFFF turned its focus to developing a new goal for our Christianity funding.

'In Sir Vincent's day, Christianity was sufficiently mainstream that by adulthood most Australians knew the basics of the Christian faith and knew people who sought, however imperfectly, to put it into practice.' Geoffrey White OAM, Trustee Emeritus

Since 2012, VFFF's Christianity funding has broadly focused on developing public interest in Christianity. Led by a sub-group of the VFFF Board, VFFF thoughtfully considered the role of the Foundation in a modern context. Recognising that Christianity is an important foundation in equipping young people to act ethically, thoughtfully and compassionately, VFFF developed the new goal: *Young people are able to make life choices informed by an understanding of Christian faith and belief.*

VFFF's goal

Young people aged 25 or less are able to make life choices informed by an understanding of Christian faith and belief.

Priority outcomes

Young people gain knowledge of and nterest in Christian faith.

> Young people have positive, engaging experiences that encourage their participation in Christianity.

Activities we support

The following are examples of the types of activities that VFFF supports in our Christianity funding, to achieve the above priority outcomes:

- Provide young people with access to Christian teachings
- Provide young people with opportunity to actively participate in faith based activities.
- Promote discussion with young people of Christianity's place in the development of modern society.
- Provide Christian ministry to educational institutions.
- Facilitate the participation of young people in local church communities.
 - Activities that are youth-led and informed by authentic input from young people.

FUNDING SNAPSHOT



17% Of funds for regional areas



Oran Park NSW

2018 DISTRIBUTIONS

Generate Ministries

Chaplaincy in NSW Public Schools Program \$100,000

To support NSW government schools to secure funding for school chaplains from the Government's Student Wellbeing Support Program.

Hoxton Park Anglican Church

Minibus purchase \$20,000 Towards the purchase of a minibus to support the access of newly arrived community members to local church and support services.

St Andrews Cathedral

Chapter House Redevelopment \$650,000 Towards the St Andrews Chapter House Redevelopment, including a matched funding incentive.

The Crusader Union of Australia

Lake Macquarie Redevelopment \$1,500,000 (total \$3,000,000) A matched funding incentive towards the redevelopment and expansion of the Crusader's Lake Macquarie camp site.

WeBelong Inc

Jesus Club \$45,000 A program providing support, training and resources for local churches in Sydney to reach people with disabilities.

West Ryde Anglican Church

Youth and Family Minister \$50,000 To employ a Youth and Family Minister to grow the children's ministry and provide pastoral care for the local congregation.



CONTINUING DISTRIBUTIONS

Bible Society Australia

Digitisation of Eternity newspaper \$61,500 (total \$269,000)



Generate Ministries Chaplaincy in NSW Public Schools Program \$125,000 (total \$525,000)



New Churches for New Communities

Towards three new Anglican churches in developing areas of Sydney's northwest and southwest \$330,000 (total \$1,000,000)



The Crusader Union of Australia

\$3,000,000

as a matched funding incentive towards the redevelopment and expansion of the Crusader's Lake Macquarie camp site.

Established in 1930, The Crusader Union of Australia is an interdenominational Christian organisation with a long history of connecting young people with Christianity through camps and school ministries.

Serving 185 schools in NSW and the ACT predominantly through their camp sites at Lake Macquarie and Galston, an estimated 13,000 students attend Crusader's camps annually.

In late 2017, VFFF was approached by Crusaders to support the redevelopment of their Lake Macquarie camp site, the final piece of the puzzle to complete their long term strategic goal of achieving organisational selfsufficiency.

The redevelopment would see the Lake Macquarie site expand from 120 beds to 308, with upgraded facilities to better cater for the growing demand of school cohorts.

Encouraged by their comprehensive and sophisticated fundraising strategy, VFFF carefully considered the most useful funding structure that would incentivise Crusaders and other donors to help reach the ambitious target of \$19 million for the first stage of construction.

Working closely with Gary Hill, Anna Wood and Nigel Glasby, VFFF developed a combined granting and investment package suitable to both organisations. VFFF's matched funding is a key contribution to this initiative, and this support has been instrumental in Crusaders successfully accelerating their fundraising campaign for the redevelopment.



'VFFF's visionary leadership has made it possible for Crusaders to proceed with plans to provide a life-changing camping experience to over 1 million young people, whilst simultaneously generating a sustainable revenue source for the organisation. By matching donations VFFF motivated our supporters to dig deep so that the redevelopment could go ahead and young people be reached with the hope of the Christian message.' Gary Hill, Executive Director





Education

To provide opportunities for disadvantaged young people (0-25 years) to reach their educational and social potential.



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2018 DISTRIBUTIONS

Cullunghutti Aboriginal Child and Family Centre

Core operations for the Wellbeing Hub \$168,333 (total \$507,350) The Wellbeing Hub is a collaboration between Nowra East Public School, service providers, local elders and NSW Government to address complex family and health issues and increase school attendance rates.

Sharing Stories Foundation

Paakantji Language Training \$37,500 To build the capacity of teachers across five schools in Western NSW to support children learning the Paakantji language.

The Girls & Boys Brigade Feasibility study \$33,070

To review the Girls & Boys Brigade's current service delivery model, financial plan and fundraising strategy to inform future growth aspirations.

The Pyjama Foundation

Love of Learning program \$45,000 To recruit and train up to 100 new volunteers to provide reading tuition for children in foster care in the greater Sydney area.



FUNDING SNAPSHOT



44% Of funds for regional areas



CONTINUING DISTRIBUTIONS

Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth (ARACY) Right@home - phase 2 \$73,175 (\$509,048)

Beacon Foundation eBeacon Online Platform \$300,000 (total \$900,000)



CuriousWorks Social Enterprise Program \$70,000 (\$200,000)

Outward Bound Australia Kogarah High School Muslim Girls Program \$33,025 (total \$93,730) Sydney Story Factory Western Sydney expansion \$53,333 (total \$106,666)



The Northcott Society Redfern Jarjum College \$75,718 (total \$186,416)



The Shepherd Centre Confident Kids \$70,000 (total \$300,000)

Western Sydney University Bulundidi Gudaga Study \$168,446 (total \$336,892)

Winston Churchill Memorial Trust

The Nancy Fairfax Churchill Fellowship \$22,000 (total \$66,000) awarded to Mr Marcus Mulcahy to optimise digital learning and skills in primary schools.



Community wellbeing

To contribute to a stronger and brighter future for Australians, particularly those experiencing significant disadvantage.



2018 DISTRIBUTIONS

Milton Ulladulla Men's Shed

Construction of the Shed \$50,000 To build a community meeting space for men and women in regional NSW.

Rural Aid

The Farm Rescue Program \$40,000 To coordinate tradespeople and other volunteers to carry out small-scale infrastructure projects in regional areas of NSW.

Strategic Community Assistance for Refugee Families (SCARF) Operational support \$239,160

(total \$518,807) To build SCARF's capacity to deliver community led engagement for refugees in the Illawarra community.

The Bower Reuse and Repair Centre

From House to Home \$25,000 To provide recycled and upcycled household goods for refugees and people seeking asylum.

University of NSW – Centre for Healthy Brain Ageing

The Dementia Momentum \$100,000 (total \$200,000)

Seeking to harness international research to identify, develop and validate strategies to delay, ameliorate or prevent dementia.





FUNDING SNAPSHOT



9 Distributions **8%** Of funding in 2018

67% Multi-year distributions

38% Of funds for regional areas



CONTINUING DISTRIBUTIONS

Asylum Seekers Centre Volunteer Program Manager \$90,994 (total \$278,004)



Creativity Australia MyChoir project \$22,700 (total \$86,000)

St Francis Social Services The Humanitarian Hub \$120,000 (\$340,000)



Walter and Eliza Hall Supplementary Trust Small Grants Program \$168,151 (total \$793,184)



SCHOLARSHIPS

Arthritis Foundation of Australia *AFA-ARA Heald Fellowship* awarded to Dr Feitong Wu for the research project: Early life strategies for improving fracture risk factors throughout life.

Royal Australasian College of Physicians

Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation Research Fellowship awarded to Dr Ada Sau-Zhuen Cheung for the research project: Bone and metabolic health in trans and gender diverse individuals receiving testosterone or oestrogen as cross-sex hormone therapy.

Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation Research Entry Scholarship awarded to Dr Emma Foster for the research project: First seizure assessment and management.

Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation Research Entry Scholarship awarded to Dr Subhas Hirani for the research project: The medical and psychosocial health of adolescent refugees resettling in Western Australia. Thematic grants

Agriculture

To support the viability of the Australian agricultural sector.



FUNDING SNAPSHOT

\$434,803 Distributed in 2018

> **3** Distributions

4% Of funding in 2018

100% Multi-year distributions

87% Of funds for regional areas

CONTINUING DISTRIBUTIONS

Australian National University Next Generation Farming Management and Biodiversity Project \$150,000 (total \$300,000)



Youth Food Movement Towards salaries and other core costs \$113,803 (total \$580,364)

Primary Industries Education Foundation Australia Core funding and matched funding incentive \$171,000 (total \$300,000)



Vincent Fairfax Ethics in Leadership Foundation



VFELF Board of Directors Angus White, Chairman Annabel Dulhunty James Millar AM Joseph O'Brien The Honourable Robert Cartwright Ruth Armytage AM Suzanne Cridge Tim Fairfax AC

As the Vincent Fairfax Fellowship prepares to celebrate 25 years of developing ethical leaders across Australia, we reflect on our history.

In doing this, we clearly see its relevance to the present and future landscape of Australia and globally.

In the 1980s, Sir Vincent Fairfax was concerned about the ethics of corporate Australia. It was a time of opportunistic takeovers and huge debt leverage. Having a great moral fortitude, a high sense of duty and purpose, Sir Vincent was fundamentally interested in good leadership. The Vincent Fairfax Fellowship was established in his honour, as a lasting legacy.

This national program develops ethical leaders across a spectrum of industries. These senior and influential participants are able to step out of their everyday roles and engage confidentially with high-level peers on the dimensions of ethical leadership in practice. By the time the current cohort graduates from their 12-month program, they will be part of an alumni of over 350 Fellows.

Peter Collins has done an outstanding job since taking over the role of Director of The Centre for Ethical Leadership located at Ormond College. The result is a greater representation from corporate Australia and a program that is highly regarded by participants. As we celebrate 25 years of this initiative, we ask the question how can the Vincent Fairfax Fellowship become more widely known, so that outstanding Australians can expand their capacity to make a significant impact for the good of the community.

Angus White Chairman



'Ethical leadership has never been so important in an environment of unprecedented corporate mistrust. VFF inspires an enquiring mind to deeply understand ethical dilemmas from new perspectives.' Sema Musson, past VF Fellow



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