



vfff

annual

report

2016

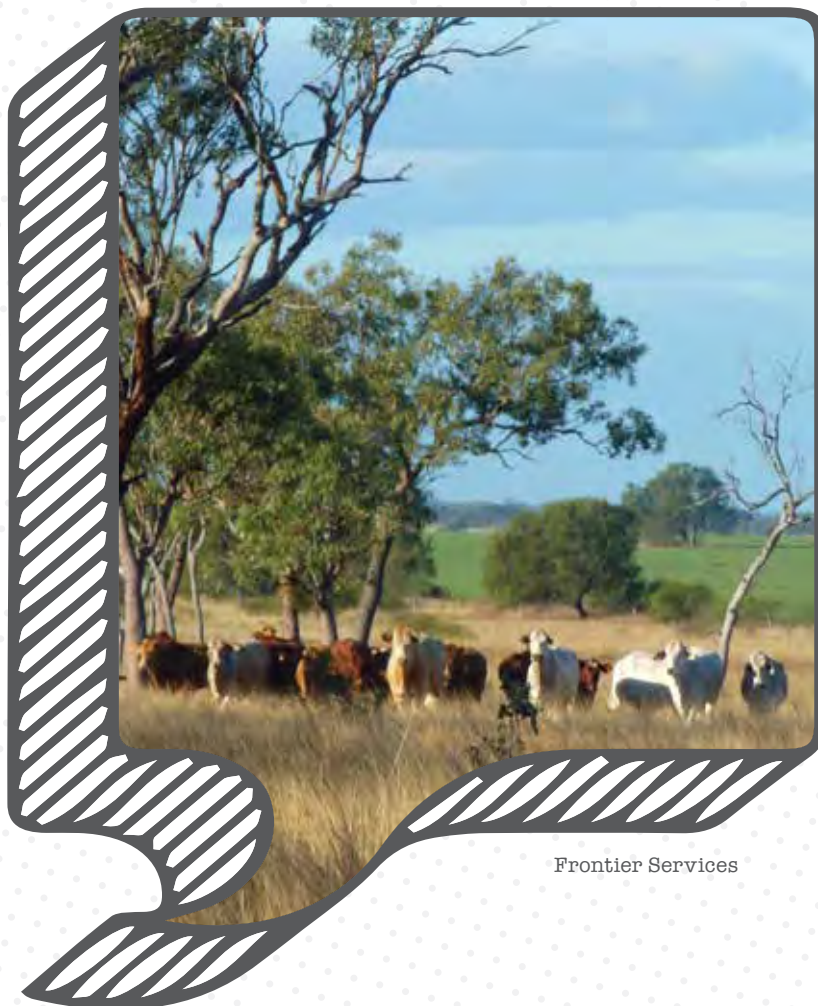


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vision and

mission



Frontier Services

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 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 the viability of the Australian agricultural sector. We support a spiritually rich society that values Christian faith in action.



working

side by

side

VFFF strives to honour its Founders' legacy and to play the most useful role it can, joining the efforts of many to meet contemporary Australia's challenges and opportunities.

A pioneer of NSW philanthropy, Sir Vincent Fairfax established a family charitable trust in 1962. Although small to begin with, he hoped it would become a mighty fund for charitable distribution.

'...a family pot of gratitude for all the benefits we have received since landing in Australia in 1838.'

Sir Vincent and Lady Fairfax's children, grandchildren and great grandchildren are building on the philanthropic foundations they laid. VFFF has distributed over \$130 million to Australian communities.

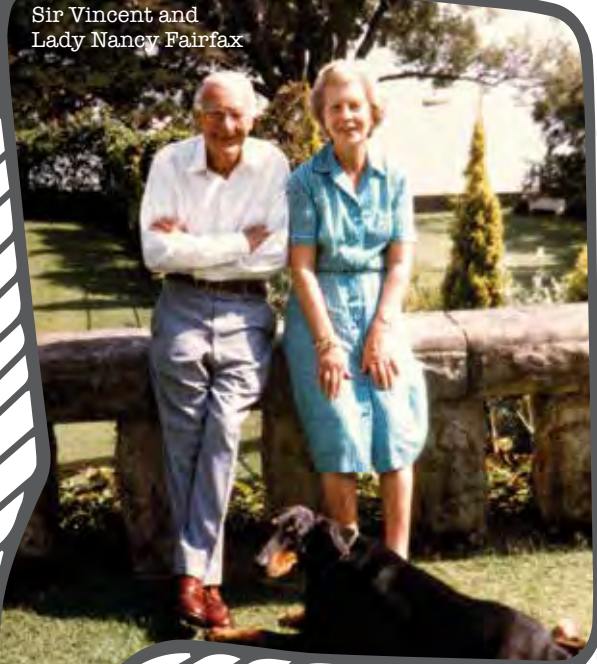
As we grow, we strive to listen and learn more, and work side by side with others for a better Australia.

sir vincent

and

lady nancy fairfax

Sir Vincent and
Lady Nancy Fairfax



The imprint of Sir Vincent and Lady Nancy Fairfax remains strong across the work of the VFFF today.

Born in rural Queensland, **Vincent Fairfax** had the bush inside him and maintained links with the land all his life. As a Christian man who kept things simple, he set people from all walks of life at ease. He was conscientious and had an instinct about the right thing to do. Vincent Fairfax held various directorships and official positions in business and the media. He liked 'goers' and volunteering was important to him. In 1960 he was made a Commander of St Michael and St George (CMG) and created a Knight Bachelor in 1971.

Nancy Fairfax was an advocate for young children's rights and early childhood education. She was awarded an OBE, an Honorary Doctorate of Letters and an Order of Australia for her work. Lady Fairfax was VFFF Chairman from 1993 to 2001 and Patron until her death in 2007. She was forward thinking, open to new ideas and bequeathed a large part of her estate to the Foundation.

'The easy way is not always the best way. The mind and body need to exercise their inbuilt qualities if their owner is to grow into a citizen of any consequence.' Sir Vincent Fairfax 1967



family

philanthropy

VFFF works closely with the Vincent Fairfax family to encourage their participation in the work of the Foundation.

The younger generations play an active role in VFFF work, to honour the legacy of their predecessors and to bring their ideas and experiences to the table. The Foundation provides a variety of options for family members to be involved. This includes hands-on grants assessment and site visits, participation in working groups, exposure to expert guest speakers and formal training in governance and philanthropy.

The Grants Committee offers practical development for family members, who conduct due diligence and make decisions on VFFF grants up to \$50,000. More than half of Sir Vincent and Lady Fairfax's grandchildren have participated as Grants Committee members since its inception in 2012.

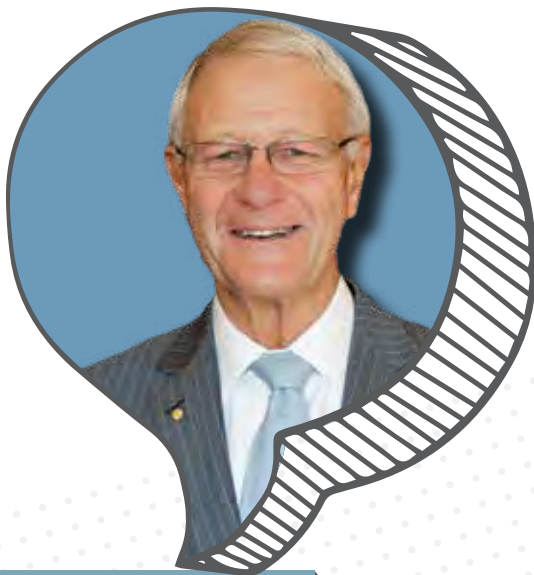
Grants Committee 2016

Left to right:
Angus White
Annabel Dulhunty
Andy Fairfax
Stephanie Fairfax
Emilia Kefford
Lucy Coulson
Prue Pateras

(Not pictured
Emma White and
Joseph O'Brien)

'I called the Yeoval Men's Shed about the grant and to say they were beside themselves would be a massive understatement! It was one of the best things I've ever had the pleasure of doing. Thanks for the meeting yesterday, it was really interesting and I enjoyed it.'

Grants Committee member



chairman's report

It is gratifying to lead a Board that readily applies its collective muscle to consider new ways of delivering the VFFF Mission.

Always open to innovation and collaboration, we remain firmly focussed on supporting impactful opportunities to benefit and care for Australians and our country.

The aim of the Ethical Development Working Group was to make a catalytic contribution towards the ethical development of young people. The Group invested five months growing their knowledge, to develop a program brief with the goal that young teenagers use communications technology ethically. In 2016/17 VFFF will partner with organisations to deliver a pilot project over two years in line with the goal, outcomes and theory of change defined by the Group.

The month of April saw the culmination of 18 months of VFFF support to Australian Futures Project and 60 Australians who aimed to build agriculture's capabilities to thrive.

Forging new connections between participants, eleven teams presented their ideas for action to senior representatives from government, the commercial sector and philanthropy. A number of these ideas are in development with a view to commercial investment and others are being supported philanthropically.

These are two of a number of initiatives completed alongside VFFF's thematic grant making. The annual report also highlights our Fair Education Program, where we partner with Australian Schools Plus, the continuation of our place based work in Lachlan, the Children and Prison Program and working group based in Dubbo, and the assistance of our investment advisors with the Social Impact Investment program. I acknowledge the considerable time and effort of the VFFF team, external advisors, organisations and community members to enable this strategic work. My hope is that by exploring ways of working outside of our usual approach, we improve VFFF's practice and these models may be of interest to others in the philanthropic sector.

I am grateful for the contribution of my fellow Directors and Audit and Finance Committee Members. VFFF continues to be well served by **Jenny Wheatley**, **Emily Fuller** and **David Hardie**. Grants Officer **Candice Van Doosselaere** made a lasting contribution to the strategic focus of VFFF during her tenure.

After 22 years of service **Sally White** retired from the Board in accordance with the rotation policy. Sally's significant contribution to VFFF is greatly admired by the Members, grant recipients and the philanthropic community. Sally attended 121 Board meetings and was party to resolutions making gifts of over \$110 million. Sally worked alongside Sir Vincent, four Chairmen, including her mother Lady Nancy Fairfax, and three Chief Executive Officers, including her husband, now Trustee Emeritus **Geoffrey White**. Since her retirement Sally maintains regular contact with VFFF and the Board appreciates her willingness to represent the Foundation and continued interest in VFFF's work.

During the year **Annabel Dulhunty** and **Joseph O'Brien** joined the Board. We welcome Annabel's candour and deep understanding, particularly for our work in agriculture. Joseph O'Brien showed great insight as he enthusiastically chaired the Ethical Development Working Group. Joseph is married to Sir Vincent's granddaughter Sarah O'Brien. I look forward to the new thinking Annabel and Joseph bring to the Board.

This year, the Board approved gifts of \$13.9 million to 43 organisations. I am delighted that we work collaboratively with grantees and like-minded members of the philanthropic sector and in ways that continue to honour the Founder.

Tim Fairfax AC
Chairman



chief executive officer's report

During the year eighty percent of funding approved by the VFFF Board will have capacity building outcomes for grantee organisations.

These grants were predominantly multi-year grants and ranged in quantum from \$60,000 to over \$5 million in one case. It is one of the best parts of our work to observe the growth of grantees during and beyond the VFFF funding period. This highlights the exponential value of responding to the internal needs of an organisation at critical times in their development. I hope you enjoy the selection of case studies included in this report that highlight our capacity building grants including The Bible Society Australia, Beacon and Youth Food Movement.

We accept that philanthropic funders should take risks where business and government cannot. In 2012 VFFF took an informed risk to back CareerTrackers during its proof of concept phase, with an initial grant of \$150,000 towards start-up costs. In 2016 CareerTrackers supports 1,138 students across 86 employers and 37 universities and is financially self-sustaining.

We were pleased that the VFFF grant to CareerTrackers was recognised in the 2016 Philanthropy Australia Awards as one of two Best Large Grants.

Determined effective local collaboration continues to underwrite the Children and Prison Program in Dubbo. Our place-based work in Lachlan Shire was focussed by the Growing Lachlan Conversations. The resources of the VFFF team are enhanced by **Shane Phillips** and **Alyson Noll** in Lachlan Shire and **Sharon Tomas** in Dubbo. The guidance and support of Emily Fuller for Shane, Alyson and Sharon is key to their successes and continued motivation.

The year saw VFFF extend its impact by using a small part of Corpus to make mission aligned investments with a focus on social returns. We also actively seek out opportunities to support those building the social impact investment pipeline.

We value the skills, commitment and diligence that **Rosemary Conn**, **Eric Jamieson** and **Kristin Gomes** of Australian Schools Plus brought to the implementation of the Fair Education Program. 29 schools will shortly receive funding to test the theory that children's learning outcomes improve with an increased level of parent and community engagement in a school.

The high levels of satisfaction expressed in the Philanthropy Benchmark Initiative by both successful and unsuccessful organisations who applied to VFFF for funding is a credit to the care **Emily Fuller** and **David Hardie** apply every day in their work for VFFF. I am privileged to work with each of them.

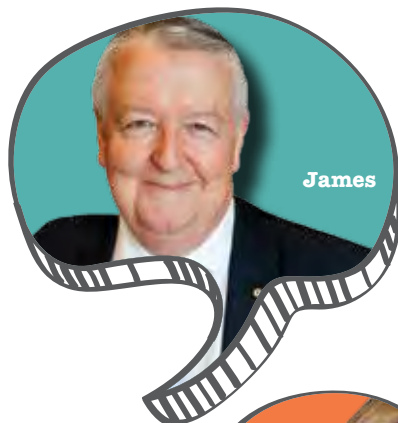
The success of the Ethical Development Working Group completing its scope of work on time is a credit to the skill and determined focus of **Candice Van Doosselaere** and I wish her well in her next adventure, confident it will be similarly successful.

Sue Goudie provides the logistical backbone and brings heart to the considerable administration required by VFFF. Responding with a smile to all sorts of requests for assistance from the large group of VFFF stakeholders including Members, Directors, the team, working group members and me (particularly me), Sue delivers and is unflappable. At the end of the year Sue chose to take a period of extended leave to respond to a health issue. We look forward to Sue's return to the office when she is ready.

Jenny Wheatley
Chief Executive Officer



Angus



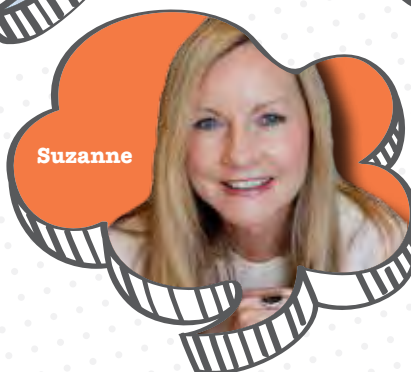
James



Ruth



Tim



Suzanne



David



Jenny

2016

highlights

Tim Fairfax AC, Chairman

The excellent research and due diligence that the staff of VFFF perform on all submissions is outstanding. Recipients are sometimes unaware of this work which is very comprehensive and thorough, with a final recommendation from the CEO. I salute all staff and thank you.

Angus White, VFFF Director and VFELF Chairman

BackTrack's visit to the Foundation was astounding. Their success in providing life changing outcomes for young people was captured by founder Bernie Shakeshaft and his brother Professor Anthony Shakeshaft, both coming from different perspectives and skill sets. This was topped off by their team of young people and their dogs in our CBD office.

James Millar AM, Director

It was very encouraging to see the way Landcare NSW leveraged VFFF's support to attract significant funds from the New South Wales Government, something I didn't believe possible when the grant was made. We can now observe as they reinvent the organisation.

Suzanne Gridge, Director

Visiting Condobolin with Jenny was indeed a highlight. It was inspiring to see the work in action, the challenges being addressed and the outcomes being achieved.

The conversations with the elders and community at Wiradjuri Study Centre particularly were deep and thoughtful. It was a great opportunity to gain insight about the complexities and potential impact of this important place-based work.

Jenny Wheatley, CEO

Being part of Philanthropy Australia's inaugural 'Philanthropy Meets Parliament Summit' where VFFF supported Krystian Seibert to bring together Australian funders, political leaders, and policy makers for a meeting at Parliament House in Canberra. There is much to be gained by philanthropy and government working more closely and my hope is that VFFF continues to build meaningful relationships with policy makers.

Ruth Armytage AM, Director

From a family point of view my highlight is the engagement of the G3 (and spouses), plus many of the G4. The founders would be pleased knowing that their values are being instilled in their grandchildren and great grandchildren. The G4's went on a bus tour and saw two organisations in action that VFFF had supported. I think it laid some foundations for their own philanthropic ideals and provided an insight into the work the VFFF team do.

David Hardie, Senior Program Officer

It is very satisfying seeing the Fair Education Program become an exciting reality. This education partnership with Australian Schools Plus has taken the thoughtful research of a VFFF working group and turned it into a substantial grants and capacity building program for 29 NSW schools.



**The Honourable
Robert Cartwright, Director**

It has been a privilege to support refugees through the Refugee Advice and Casework Service. It may not be trendy, but the VFFF seeks to help those with little public fundraising profile or capacity, and this is a case in point in line with VFFF's values – "I was hungry and you fed me, thirsty and you gave me a drink, a stranger and you took me in, naked and you clothed me."

Sue Goudie, Executive Assistant

I was pleased that VFFF chose to support the Literacy for Life Foundation which has been established to help improve literacy levels for Aboriginal adults. This important work assists to level the playing field which is something I truly value.

Annabel Dulhunty, Director

My favourite was a grant to Australian Futures Project for *Actions for NSW Agriculture*. This initiative has shown a different way to convene, collaborate and innovate. It highlights the value of intangible outcomes that come

from a group of people with different perspectives, sharing knowledge and mentoring each other – creating positive change in the agricultural system.

Emily Fuller, Foundation Manager

It's a good day at the office when you survive a Rex flight and a road trip to find yourself in Dubbo, Condo, Bourke or Armidale with people who fight against the odds all day, every day to make Australia a better place. Thanks to all our grantees and to VFFF, for so many highlights.

Geoffrey White OAM, Trustee Emeritus

I am delighted that VFFF agreed to support the Outward Bound Program for Muslim girls inaugurated in 2015. The 11 bubbling girls supported by the VFFF for the second Outward Bound course have had a life-changing experience: most had never been challenged in a bush setting.

Joseph O'Brien, Director

The VFFF highlight for me was the formation and completion of the Ethical Development Working Group. Having been conceived as the result of family input in 2014, the working group was comprised of insightful and enthusiastic members, including external people who contributed well, and generously with their time. The area is an important but challenging facet of the VFFF's long-term objectives.

Ally Newton, Grants Trainee

Attending the CareerSeekers 1st Annual Gala Dinner, and hearing first-hand the barriers people seeking asylum have experienced, and continue to overcome during their resettlement process in Australia. It's great to see an organisation that is dedicated to providing opportunities for people seeking asylum to regain purpose in life through meaningful employment.

2016 highlights

fair

ed



Hilltop Road
Public School

An ambitious partnership with Australian School Plus

Over two days in mid-2014, the VFFF Board and members of the Fairfax family discussed 'being catalytic' in philanthropy. People were passionate about VFFF making bold contributions in two areas: education inequality and ethical development. Education inequality was the first area to be explored through a working group process.

Two years on and after extensive research, learning and debate, the establishment of the Fair Education Program is a significant milestone in VFFF history.

It aims to *build the capacity of school leadership teams* in low socio-economic areas in NSW to design and implement activities to *strengthen family and community involvement* in education. Three year school grants will be accompanied by expert coaching from Australian Schools Plus to support school leaders develop and realise their projects.

The first grants round in February had an outstanding response - 107 NSW schools seeking support for projects to better engage with their families and communities. Of these, 29 schools across government, Catholic and independent school sectors were awarded funding.

VFFF has engaged the Victoria University Centre for International Research on Education Systems to lead an independent evaluation of the program. The purpose is to contribute to a national evidence base on the impact of parent and community engagement on student learning.



'Fair Ed' is VFFF's largest single investment to date - a \$5.2 million grant to Australian Schools Plus for a multi-year schools funding and coaching program.

key: school funding recipients



St Joseph's Primary School, Bombala

east ballina

NSW

dubbo

orange

blayney

hanwood

canberra

bombala

marulan

oberon

bathurst

kelso

lithgow

portland

woy woy

sydney

hassall grove

panania

granville

merrylands

wakeley

woonona

port kembla

tuncurry

forster

boomerang beach

Schools Plus

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY
MELBOURNE AUSTRALIA

CIRES
Centre for International Research
on Education Systems

Shane Phillips and Alyson Noll are working across the Shire to address community identified priorities



2016 highlights

growing lachlan

Conversations about community priorities

Lachlan Shire, the heart of NSW

VFFF has been working with Lachlan communities since 2012. The focus this year has been supporting Shane Phillips, Community Connection Officer – Lake Cargelligo, realise the Growing Lachlan research project.

Growing Lachlan measures the vitality of the Shire's communities in key areas, providing locals with critical information that can help set priorities and opportunities for action. An evidence base about how things are in Lachlan is an important step towards the higher level aim of the Community Connection initiative – to influence investment into community identified priorities and need.

“The Growing Lachlan Report is an invaluable asset for our Council and will greatly assist in developing our ten year Community Strategic Plan. The Report provides information on specific areas that Council needs to either advocate for or allocate its limited resources to. The actions developed by Council as a result of this community consultation will increase social and economic opportunities and ensure a strong and sustainable future for our community.” Robert Hunt, General Manager, Lachlan Shire Council



Identifying community priorities

Data gathered to understand 'health and wellbeing' of Lachlan communities

Survey discovered what Lachlan locals see as important

Community 'conversations' identified four priority areas for action

Investing in community renewal

Taking care of older and younger generations

Business and workforce development

Crime and crime-related issues

2016 highlights

flourish



(Photo credit: Australian Futures Project)

Convening an unconventional group



In 2014, VFFF approached the Australian Futures Project to explore how we could work with farmers and other stakeholders to generate ideas for agriculture's future.

Agriculture and philanthropy are not an obvious pair, and VFFF was hoping to raise its profile in the sector as well as explore whether, as a neutral party, we could convene an unconventional group that would spark new ideas. The result was Actions for NSW Agriculture. The response from the agricultural sector was outstanding. A public call for participants – made through *The Land* – had three times as many applicants as places available. Sixty people volunteered their time for ten months of robust discussion, idea generation and prototyping.

In April 2016, the work culminated with Flourish – an event at which eleven teams pitched their ideas for agriculture's future to a capacity audience of 120 investors, government, industry and philanthropy representatives.

Their efforts were recognised in addresses by the NSW Minister for Primary Industries the Hon Niall Blair and VFFF Chairman Tim Fairfax. Backing a process with an undefined outcome at this scale was a new frontier for VFFF – the level of interest, commitment, resulting ideas and new connections – made it a terrific maiden voyage. For participants, great value came from making new connections, leading to opportunities to work together – inside and outside the project. The positive ripple effect will continue in the sector long after the challenge of nutting out the ideas and the excitement of the pitch. In 2016/17, VFFF will support three of the ideas with seed funding and coaching by Australian Futures Project.

“I have taken steps since starting this process that I would never have done without it, and developed a sense of responsibility instead of just a want, for the industry's success.” Actions for NSW Agriculture participant

2016 highlights

children and

prison program



Pioneers in Western NSW

VFFF's investment in the Children and Prison Program (CAPP) has increased substantially this year.

We are encouraged by the momentum building for the big changes required to reduce the unacceptable incarceration rates of Aboriginal children in NSW and across the country. With our partner, Dusseldorp Forum, we are especially inspired by the pioneering hard yakka of these communities in Western NSW.

BOURKE

Half of VFFF's investment in the CAPP this year was made across three initiatives in Bourke – that all emanate from the community's agenda to reduce incarceration of young people through a justice reinvestment approach. The Maranguka Justice Reinvestment Project has kicked up a gear, building on two years of successful ground work – with the community, young people, Council, schools, Police, judiciary, various Government and other agencies.

The community's plan to reduce incarceration among Bourke's young people has four focus areas; Early childhood, 8-18 year olds, the Role of Men and Service Delivery Reform. The implementation phase, coordinated by the Maranguka team, aims to move resources into the community's strategies in each of these focus areas.

Obtaining a licence seems straightforward but many Aboriginal people face big barriers; not having ID, owing fines, low literacy, lack of driving supervision and feeling intimidated. Low rates of licencing is especially problematic in remote places where there is no public transport.



Bourke High School, Eternity Aid support program

Peter Mackay and
Sammi Jo,
Maranguka Driving
Licensing Initiative



Maranguka consultations identified driver licensing as one of three 'circuit-breakers' – a practical thing that could be done to reduce juvenile incarceration in Bourke. The Maranguka Driving Licensing Initiative, a partnership between Birrang, Maranguka and The George Institute will deliver a comprehensive driver licensing support program over the next three years, to reduce licence and driving offences and improve employment prospects.

Operating since 2005, Eternity Aid came from an invitation by a young detainee to Lee Bromley, Chaplain at Reiby Juvenile Justice Centre 'to come to Bourke and see how I can live there'. Described as 'quietly getting on with it', Eternity Aid's work has developed over 10 years in response to community need. Their voluntary team brings expertise not otherwise available in Bourke – speech & occupational therapy, physio, psychology, mental health, art and play therapy. They work where children and families are comfortable – at school, pre-school and on the mission – and train local workers so they can better support young people and families.

DUBBO

Sharon Tomas, Coordinator of the Children and Prison Program in Dubbo explains what it's all about.

What is CAPP Dubbo?

The Children and Prison Program (CAPP) is a collaboration between Dusseldorp Forum, VFFF and a group of people trusted in Dubbo to work with young people. High rates of youth recidivism as well as many thriving young Aboriginal people, brought VFFF and DF to Dubbo in 2015 to find out what locals thought could be done to change the path of children on track for juvenile incarceration. What they heard was that better service coordination could improve the outcomes for young people getting into trouble – and I couldn't agree more!

What difference is it making so far?

By bringing together many different people who work with young Aboriginal people at risk or already offending – Police, education, NGOs, legal and other services – there's a much better understanding of what everyone does and we can now reinforce each other's work. Every month, we are encountering ways to tighten the support net in Dubbo so less young people fall through. The Group is working on better bail outcomes for young people, activities for young men at high risk times and assisting young people to get a licence. We are also working with the NSW Children's Court to establish a Youth Koori Court in Dubbo.



What do you hope it will achieve?

"I hope we can put the pressures of our own systems aside to put our young people first. I hope that the learning and trust we are building up as a group emboldens us to take brave action to keep young people out of the justice system and in our community."

Sharon Tomas, Coordinator of the Children and Prison Program

2016 highlights

backtrack

residence



BackTrack
(Photo credit: Paul Matthews)

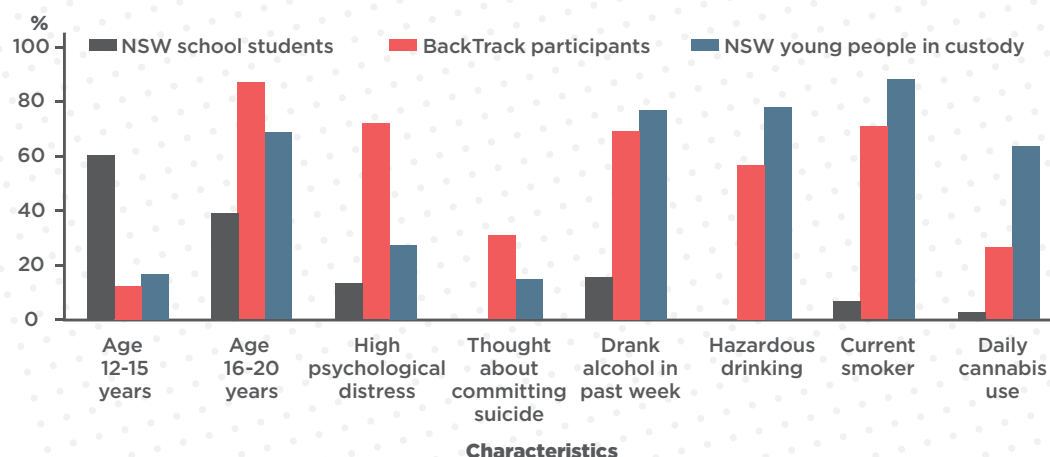


Government House, August 2016

Working up our first social impact investment

10 year old BackTrack in Armidale is a leading youth service, supported by VFFF since 2013.

Research by UNE found the psychological profile of BackTrack participants to be closer to young people in jail than young people in school. However, as the chart below demonstrates, BackTrack participants exhibit even higher levels of psychological stress than children who are incarcerated. BackTrack and the researchers attribute this to the unstable or unsafe home situation of many participants. BackTrack decided that it needed to be able to meet these participants' basic needs of food, shelter and safety through a residential component. VFFF saw this as an impact investment opportunity.



We floated the idea of purchasing a property and leasing it to BackTrack in such a way that would meet three conditions determined for VFFF's social impact investments: 1) ability to protect capital 2) an exit strategy and 3) provide a yield.

Apart from enabling the residence to start immediately, the structure of the deal is designed to incentivise BackTrack to eventually acquire the asset.

VFFF will purchase an 8 hectare property just outside Armidale to lease to BackTrack at \$400 per week. BackTrack will run a residence for up to 10 young people on the property. They will care for the award-winning Paws Up dogs, also in residence. At any time after five years and before the eighth anniversary of our agreement, BackTrack may acquire the property from VFFF for the original purchase price of \$570,000. At year eight, VFFF will offer BackTrack the first right to purchase the property for \$570,000. If BackTrack do not want to buy the property, VFFF has the option to enter a new agreement with BackTrack or sell the property.



Warrah, Armidale, NSW

2016 highlights

ethical

development

working group

Work in progress

Invigorated by the 2015 Fair Education Working Group, VFFF ran an Ethical Development Working Group process over a five month period in 2016. The Working Group included experts in the areas of philosophy for children and applied workplace ethics, working alongside members of the Fairfax family and VFFF Board. Lisa Boothby acted as a facilitator for the Group.

'This is a multi-faceted and rapidly changing issue with potential to break new ground...'

With the aim of identifying a *catalytic contribution towards the ethical development of young people*, the Working Group used a Theory of Change framework to guide its work. Benefiting from an array of guest presenters and a skilled facilitator, the Group 'lurked in the learning' before agreeing a specific *goal, outcomes* required to achieve the goal, and a set of *principles* for the design and delivery of activities.

The resulting theory of change has a future orientation, focused on young teenagers and the moral choices they make using online communications technology. In 2016/17, VFFF will work with an expert partner and teens on the design of a pilot based on the mandate provided by the Working Group.

Co-design program with expert partners and teens

Knowledge
recognise ethical issues and understand the ethical dimensions of communications technology

Action
act as positive moral agents, influencing their peers and environment

Capacity
have skills to make sound moral decisions

Young teenagers use communications technology ethically

2016 highlights

philanthropy

benchmark initiative

Hearing from grantees and other applicants

As a grant maker, it is not easy to get feedback on how you are doing and what you could do better.

This year VFFF joined six other foundations in the Philanthropy Benchmark Initiative (PBI) – a tool to measure foundation performance and build a comparative industry benchmark. The core of the PBI is an online survey for grantees and other applicants that is independently administered by *Pollinate*. 97 VFFF grantees and other applicants completed the survey, which had a sample size of 295.

VFFF performed on par with the current philanthropy benchmark. The qualitative aspect of the PBI gave us valuable pointers on where we are hitting the mark for grant seekers and where we are not quite there yet.

When you think of your relationship with the Foundation, what are the first three words that come to mind?



Strengths

- Providing funding for:
 - what organisations say they need
 - activities that would not otherwise be funded
 - operational costs
 - organisational capacity
- Managing expectations and being clear about grant requirements
- Being helpful but not overbearing
- Strategic value add – helping organisations focus on strategy, outcomes and measurability
- Creating a two way process in which grantees feel heard, supported and sometimes challenged

Things to work on

- Providing feedback on applications
- Providing feedback on acquittals
- Giving information about the work we support and do
- Being more vocal to promote grantees work and philanthropy
- Having a realistic expectation of not-for-profit-organisations' ability to reach self-sufficiency or sustainability

We'd like to thank everyone for their input. We are now providing feedback on applications and acquittals and in 2016/17, will work on communicating more effectively about the work we support and do.

2016 highlights

vincent fairfax fellowship



The past and future come together

The Vincent Fairfax Ethics in Leadership Oration given by Race Discrimination Commissioner Dr Timothy Soutphommasane in June 2016, saw the past and future come together.

Celebrating 20 years since their graduation, members of the inaugural Vincent Fairfax Fellowship met with both the graduating and incoming groups for 2016 at Ormond College, Melbourne.

John Landmark, of group one, joined me on stage and shared details of The Wisdom Project, his book capturing the group's stories, reflections and wisdom two decades on. This gift is a result of a highly productive sabbatical reconnecting with his cohort across Australia and internationally. Thanks to *Our Community* the book is being shared across the Vincent Fairfax Fellowship Alumni.

This pioneer group was selected in 1994 for their leadership, humility, compassion and potential for moral courage. An eclectic mix of backgrounds, they were the first of more than 300 participants in the Vincent Fairfax Fellowship, a national ethical leadership program developed firstly by St James Ethics Centre and in recent years, the Centre for Ethical Leadership.

The original program was considerably longer in duration and targeted emerging leaders, in contrast to the current program which recruits established C-suite leaders and those approaching these responsibilities. The diversity across industries and ideologies has been a constant throughout and remains of critical appeal to participants, as they delve into ethical leadership and ways to embed sound principles into their organisations, industries and communities.

The Vincent Fairfax Fellowship, now working with its 22nd cohort, is the flagship program of the Centre for Ethical Leadership which also offers other related programs and research covering a range of topics from gender diversity to philosophical ethics and moral psychology.

Angus White

Chairman

Vincent Fairfax Ethics in Leadership Foundation (VFELF)

VFELF Board of Directors

Angus White, Chairman

The Honourable Robert Cartwright

Deborah King-Rowley

Peter Wilson AM

our work

in 2016



Shine for Kids

Distribution snapshot

\$8,374,942

Distributed

82%

Funds approved for
multi-year grants

74%

Funds approved for NSW

49%

Funds approved for
regional areas

\$20k–\$5.2m

Range of grants approved

\$113,174

Average distribution size

Achieve social outcomes

Education

Agriculture

Christianity

Community
wellbeing

THEMATIC GRANT MAKING

Continue family philanthropy

GRANTS COMMITTEE
Thematic grants <\$50,000

FAMILY PHILANTHROPY

Increase impact and improve practice

OUTCOMES
ANALYSIS

STRATEGIC PROGRAMS
Place-based
Children and prison
Social impact investment
Fair education

SUPPORT
AUSTRALIAN
PHILANTHROPY

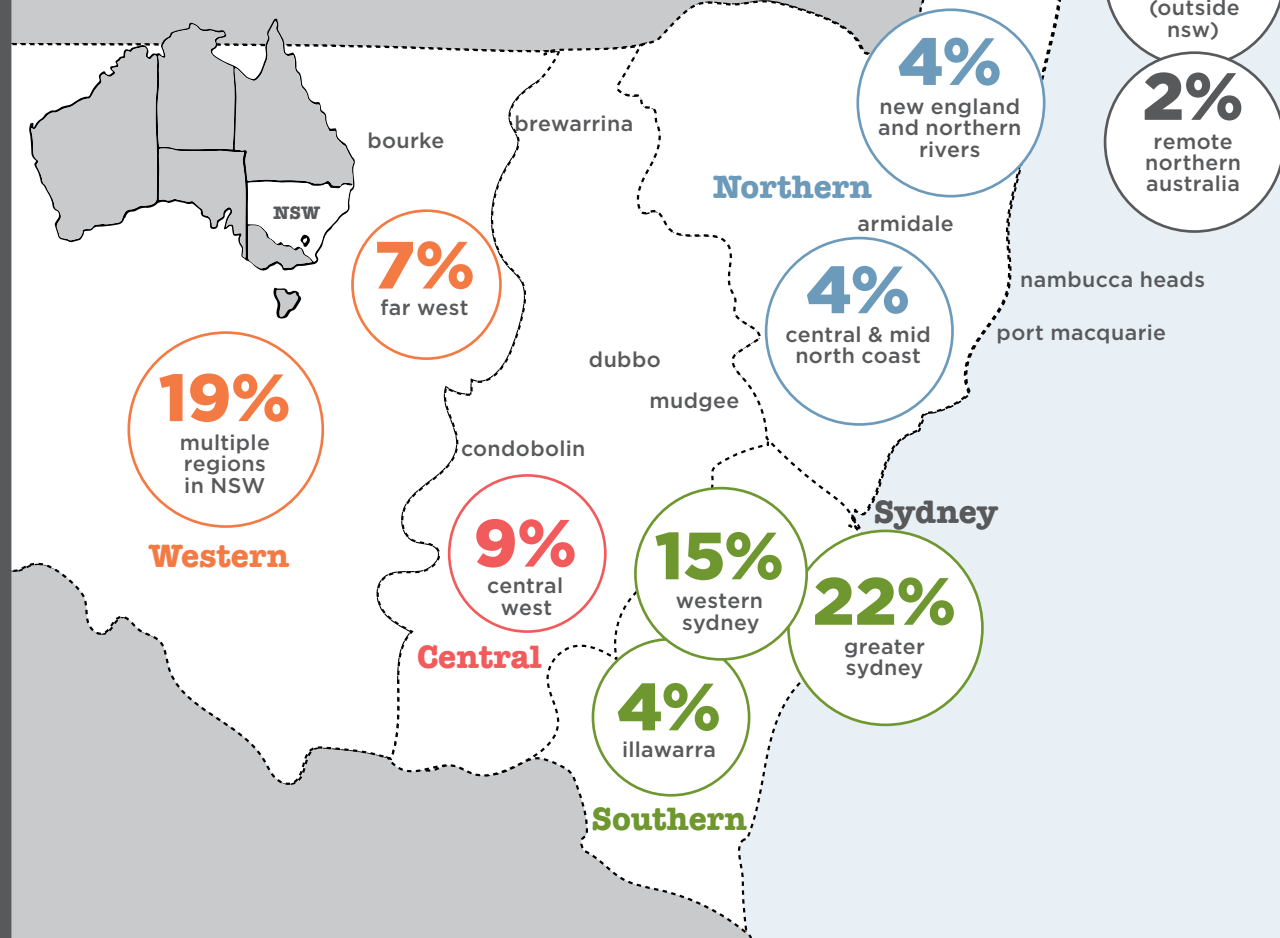
STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

Catalytic

Capacity
building

Preventative

Distribution by geography



Distribution by theme



Theme	No. distributions	Total funding	% of funding
Community wellbeing	22	2,684,240	32%
Education	28	2,408,627	29%
Christianity	9	1,668,580	20%
Children & Prison Program	6	739,458	9%
Agriculture	3	495,600	6%
Place-based Program	3	173,437	2%
Supporting Australian philanthropy	2	125,000	1%
Social impact investment	1	80,000	1%
TOTAL	74	8,374,942	100%



Early Language and Literacy Program,
Kempsey, NSW. (Photo credit: Australian
Literacy and Numeracy Foundation)

thematic grants

education



KidsXpress
(Photo credit:
Chris Magan)

Objective

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

Funding snapshot

\$2,408,627

Total funding

29%

Proportion of funding

28

Distributions

64%

Multi-year
distributions

56%

Of funds
reach regional areas

\$86,022

Average
distribution size

Beneficiaries

24%

21%

18%

10%

8%

18%

- Indigenous young people
- Young people in rural and regional areas
- Young people in disadvantaged areas of Greater Sydney
- Young people with disabilities
- Multiple beneficiaries
- Fair Education Program

Outcomes

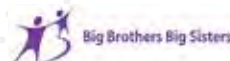
46%

23%

13%

18%

- Access and opportunity
- Retention in education and training
- School readiness
- Fair Education Program





Redfern
Jarjum College

2016

education

distributions

Afghan Fajar Association

We Reform - Multicultural youth anti-bullying program \$50,000

A program of workshops for young people in Western Sydney to learn about and address bullying in their communities and schools.

Australian Schools Plus

Fair Education Program \$360,360 (total \$5,238,327)

To support school leadership teams in low socio-economic areas in NSW to design and implement activities to strengthen family and community involvement in education.

Australian Theatre for Young People

Sugarland education materials \$37,461

To develop education resources to accompany Sugarland, a play by Katherine, NT residents about young people growing up in remote Australia.

Beacon Foundation

eBeacon \$300,000 (total \$900,000)

A new online platform to substantially expand Beacon's reach to young people in regional and remote Australia.

Centre for Independent Studies

FIVE from FIVE: Teach Reading

Effectively \$100,000 (total \$200,000)

A program to bridge the gap between research, policy and practice to ensure every child in every classroom is given the most effective instruction in reading.

CuriousWorks

Social Enterprise Program \$90,000 (total \$200,000)

To develop a social enterprise business plan and employ a Business Development Manager, to grow income and provide professional development for young people in Western Sydney.

Gondwana Choirs

Inner Sydney Gondwana Indigenous Children's Choir \$20,000

To provide high calibre music education and performance opportunities for Indigenous youth in inner Sydney.

Heaps Decent

The Best Out West \$35,000

Song writing and electronic music production workshops for young people in Central and Far West NSW.

MTC Australia

Special needs teacher \$30,000

To support young people with special learning needs at Warakirri College, Fairfield.

New England Conservatorium of Music

Breaking the Arts Barrier Program \$20,700

To provide music therapy for young people with disabilities in North West NSW.

Nordoff Robbins Music Therapy

MEXA - Managing Emotions, Expression and Anxiety \$24,325

A music program in Western Sydney for school students who have difficulty understanding, expressing and managing their emotions, due to anxiety.

Outward Bound Australia

Kogarah High School Muslim girls program \$29,490 (total \$93,730)

A five day camp for Muslim girls attending Kogarah High School to build confidence and resilience.

Sydney Community Foundation

Claymore Alternative Learning Centre pilot \$20,000

To re-engage young people who are chronically disengaged or suspended from Eagle Vale High School, Western Sydney.

Outward Bound



beacon foundation

bridging the geographic
divide

\$900,000

over three years towards the development of eBeacon, a new online platform to substantially expand Beacon's reach to young people in regional and remote Australia.

Beacon Foundation has a 28 year history of supporting young people to successfully transition to employment, further education or training. Economic and geographic barriers constrain growth of the Beacon model, especially into those rural and regional communities that typically have the highest rates of youth unemployment.

Having recognised the high potential of rapidly developing technologies to overcome access barriers, Beacon invested time and reserves to test the eBeacon concept. It was quickly apparent that it had the potential to be a transformational project enabling the expansion of the Beacon model to many more schools, communities, businesses and young people.

VFFF is supporting Beacon to work with 20 rural and remote schools and communities in NSW over three years to trial eBeacon components and progressively build product enhancements. By 2018, this tailored product will be fully implemented in the 20 schools and Beacon will be positioned to replicate the learnings and the final product across Australia.

Goodooga Central School, NSW



“Our partnership with VFFF has been instrumental in moving eBeacon from inception to reality. The Executive and Board of VFFF are incredibly authentic in their personal commitment to the work of Beacon that provides us with a great sounding board and confidence in delivery of such a unique project. VFFF’s commitment to social impact and its willingness to invest in innovative solutions has supported Beacon in our efforts to be on the cutting edge in harnessing technology to empower and inspire young Australians to achieve the best possible outcomes”. Scott Harris, CEO Beacon Foundation

queensland university of technology

top teachers for tough
schools

\$199,622

to expand the National Exceptional Teachers for Disadvantaged Schools Program to Western Sydney University.

Research shows that teacher graduates in the top academic quartile are far less likely to accept positions in low SES schools and those that do are retained for shorter periods of time than those in other schools. In other words, the kids who most need great teachers are the least likely to have them.

Established in 2009, National Exceptional Teachers for Disadvantaged Schools (NETDS) is the first systemic attempt in Australia to attract, prepare and employ the most effective teachers for schools in low socio-economic areas. The highest achieving teaching students are offered a specialised curriculum about the impacts of poverty on education, and supported prac in low SES schools throughout the second half of their degree.

In 2013, with support from Social Ventures Australia and Origin Foundation, QUT started sharing the NETDS approach with other universities. Since then, four other universities have successfully adapted NETDS into their teaching programs. VFFF was motivated to assist Western Sydney University, that has a long standing commitment to addressing issues of disadvantage in education, join the program.

The results with QUT graduates have been outstanding with almost 90% of NETDS teachers, choosing to work in low SES schools after graduation (prior this was 35%). These graduates are better prepared and more motivated and confident for the realities of the classroom and community – which can only help to break the attrition cycle in low-SES schools.

NETDS trained teacher,
Lauren Thomas at work



“VFFF has provided critical support for systemic changes in how mainstream Initial Teacher Education in Australia approaches teacher education for high poverty schools. We are excited that the reach of the NETDS program now extends to Western Sydney and look forward to seeing the impact of redistributing high achieving graduate teachers who are passionate and prepared into the schools that need them most”. Associate Professors Jo Lampert and Bruce Burnett



The Northcott Society

Redfern Jarjum College \$20,000

Towards employing a speech and occupational therapist to work with students at Redfern Jarjum College.

The Shepherd Centre

Confident Kids \$130,000 (total \$300,000)

Seed funding a program to develop the social skills of deaf children aged 3-6 years old in NSW & ACT.

Victoria University - Centre for International Research on Education Systems

Evaluation of Fair Education Program \$70,875 (total \$271,525)

To develop and conduct an evaluation of the Fair Education Program that will contribute to a national evidence base on the impact of parent and community engagement on student learning.

Top Blokes Foundation

Social Impact Report: Junior Top Blokes Mentoring Program \$50,000

Evaluating a peer-mentoring program that challenges at-risk young men (14-17 years) to address negative social issues facing them, across schools in Illawarra and South Sydney.



Continuing distributions

Australian Literacy and Numeracy Foundation

Expand the Early Language and Literacy Program to Bowraville and Nambucca Heads \$187,000 (total \$561,000)

Barnardos Australia

Partnerships for Out of Home Care \$200,000 (total \$600,000)

Big Brothers Big Sisters

Big Futures In-school Mentoring Program, NSW Central Coast \$50,000 (total \$100,000)

Good to Great Schools

Culture Domain, Cape York Aboriginal Australian Academy \$150,000 (total \$450,000)

KidsXpress

To support the newly formed KidsXpress Business/Strategic Development Team \$65,075 (total \$195,283)

Monkey Baa Theatre for Young People

Monkey Baa Education Program \$100,000 (total \$300,000)

Moorambilla Voices

Moorambilla Mums to support the choir program in Far West NSW \$15,000 (total \$45,000)

Queensland University of Technology

Expand the National Exceptional Teachers for Disadvantaged Schools Program to Western Sydney University \$64,061 (total \$199,622)

State Library of NSW Foundation

FAR OUT! Treasures to the Bush \$30,000 (total \$90,000)

The Song Room

Arts Connect Program in 10 Primary schools in South West Sydney \$59,280 (total \$118,560)

University of Technology - Health Psychology Unit

'Side by Side' Disruptive Behaviour Disorders Project \$100,000 (total \$300,000)



Coonamble, North West NSW

thematic grants

agriculture



Tim Fairfax,
Flourish

Objective

To support the viability of the Australian agricultural sector.

Funding snapshot

\$495,600

Total funding

6%

Proportion of funding

3

Distributions

100%

Multi-year
distributions

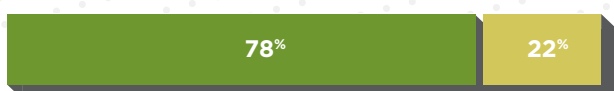
50%

Of funds
reach regional areas

\$165,200

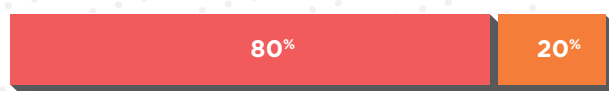
Average
distribution size

Beneficiaries



■ Young people
■ Australian agricultural industries

Outcomes



■ Increased awareness about the national importance of agriculture
■ Agriculture is a career of choice



2016 agriculture distributions



Foundation for Rural
and Regional Renewal

Continuing distributions

Youth Food Movement

Towards salaries and other
operational costs \$287,000
(total \$580,364)

Youth Food Movement Australia aims to
grow young Australians' consciousness
about food and where it comes from.

La Trobe University

Australian Futures Project - Actions
for NSW Agriculture \$108,600
(total \$263,000)

Primary Industries Education Foundation Australia

Towards salaries for the CEO and
new Education Officer \$100,000
(total \$200,000)



Youth Food Movement
(Photo credit: Nikki To)

youth food movement

connecting urbanites to agriculture

\$580,364

over three years to grow young Australians consciousness about food and where it comes from.

Many urban Australians have minimal connections to agriculture and know little about how food gets from the farm to their table each day. Youth Food Movement (YFM) is a national volunteer movement that uses a peer-to-peer learning model with young people to build their skills, knowledge and practical experience with food and agriculture.

In a tangible sense, YFM's goal is to build a generation of young Australians who will cook, read a label, understand the challenges facing farmers, know the basics of how food grows and how it reaches their plate and are connected to the land.

YFM has a clear strategy to reach young people and build industry partnerships. It uses social media, events and local chapters to connect young people interested in food with producers and industry. At a pivotal point in their growth, VFFF provided YFM with three years of operational funding that will enable them to build their core team.



“ The financial support provided by VFFF has been truly transformational. It has provided us the space to test and learn, allowing the organisation to establish core foundations from which we can secure and scale our social impact for Australian agriculture.” Alexandra Iljadica and Joanna Baker, Executive Directors



Vine Church, Evangelism
and New Churches

thematic grants

christianity



Hope for Sydney BBQ

Objective

To encourage interest and participation in Christianity.

Funding snapshot

\$1,668,580

Total funding

20%

Proportion of funding

9

Distributions

89%

Multi-year distributions

3%

Of funds reach regional areas

\$185,398

Average distribution size

Beneficiaries

44%

22%

15%

19%

- Anglican Dioceses
- Early stage Anglican churches
- Young people
- Multiple beneficiaries

Outcomes

55%

33%

12%

- Leadership development
- Increased interest in Christianity
- Pastoral care





Not for Profit Executive Retreat,
Arrow Leadership

2016

christianity

distributions

Arrow Leadership

**Executive Leaders Program \$169,399
(total \$284,114)**

Residential workshops to develop leaders in faith-based organisations in the education and not for profit sectors.

Bible Society Australia

**Digitisation of Eternity newspaper
\$146,000 (total \$269,000)**

To digitise Eternity newspaper, providing Christian content that can be shared electronically.

Generate Ministries

**Generate Chaplaincy program \$200,000
(total \$525,000)**

Towards salary costs to support the growth and sustainability of the Generate chaplaincy program in NSW public schools.

New Churches for New Communities

**Develop three Anglican church sites
\$335,000 (total \$1,000,000)**

To develop three Anglican churches in northwest and southwest Sydney, fostering faith-based community engagement and support in these areas.

Youth With A Mission Byron Bay

Van purchase \$50,000

To transport volunteers and youth for pastoral care, camps and community initiatives in the Byron Bay region.

Continuing distributions

Church Hill Anglican

**Hope for Sydney \$30,000
(total \$98,000)**

Evangelism and New Churches

**Vine Church Female City Pastor \$30,000
(total \$90,000)**

Harbour Church Shellharbour

**Youth Minister to grow the Harbour
Youth ministry \$8,181 (total \$46,941)**

Moore Theological College

**The Being Moore Campaign,
redeveloping the Newtown campus
\$700,000 (total \$2,000,000)**



Vine Church

bible society australia

digitising the Eternity
newspaper

\$269,000

over two years to employ specialist
digital media skills.

The Eternity newspaper was founded in 2009. Each month the newspaper is sent in bundles to churches, bookstores and individuals. With a monthly circulation of 105,000, Eternity is an established news source for many Christians.

Following a period of testing interest in online Christian news, the Bible Society recognised that the future of Eternity is a digital news product, with its own website and associated digital channels. It sees this transition as the catalyst for an online community amongst existing readers as well as reaching new audiences. The work will include testing and trialling a variety of different platforms in which to share content in different ways, to reach the highest number of people.

VFFF support over two years is providing the Bible Society with the skill set they need to effectively manage this digital transition.



“This support from VFFF has been timed to perfection as our rapidly growing audiences are seeking seriously good news at all times of the week on their mobile phone and on social media, while still grabbing the paper in the back of church on a Sunday. The high level of engagement with video stories on social media has been tremendous. Do check it out on eternitynews.com.au”.

Greg Clarke, CEO of the Bible Society Australia



The Social Outfit
(Photo credit: Georgia Blackie)



thematic grants

community wellbeing

Objective

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

Funding snapshot

\$2,684,240 Total funding	32% Proportion of funding	22 Distributions
59% Multi-year distributions	52% Of funds reach regional areas	\$122,011 Average distribution size

Beneficiaries



- Rural and regional populations
- Refugees and people seeking asylum
- Older Australians
- Multiple beneficiaries

Outcomes



- Opportunity and participation
- Innovation
- Economic development



2016

community

wellbeing

distributions



Home brewing, Hastings
District Respite Centre

**Centre for Policy Development
Track II Dialogue on Forced Migration
in the Asia-Pacific – \$100,000**

To create a regional cooperation framework between Australia, Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand, to respond to forced migration.

**Dress for Success
Outreach Program \$25,000**

To provide virtual and mobile dressing and styling services for women in rural and regional NSW and in correctional centres.

**Foundation for Rural & Regional
Renewal
Heywire 2016 Youth Innovation Grants
\$43,000**

To fund eight youth-led ideas for improving rural and regional communities.

**Lifeskills Plus
Mudgee Community Centre \$495,000**
To complete the refurbishment of a community and disability services centre in Mudgee, serving Central West NSW.

**Literacy for Life Foundation
Yes I Can! Adult Literacy Campaign
\$200,000 (total \$400,000)**

To extend the literacy campaign to Brewarrina, Walgett and Weilmoringle in far west NSW.

**Our Community Project
Seed funding for Tender Funerals
\$285,000**

To establish a not-for-profit funeral service in the Illawarra region.

**Playgroup NSW
Refugee and Asylum Seeker Playgroup
\$49,840**

A multi-cultural playgroup that connects refugee and families seeking asylum with settlement and support services in west and south west Sydney.

**Sanctuary Australia
The Sanctuary Centre \$24,000**

A community meeting space in Coffs Harbour that provides support services for recently resettled refugees.

**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.

Scholarships

**Royal Australasian College
of Physicians**

Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation Research Fellowship awarded to Dr Ingrid Hopper for her research project titled Polypharmacy in elderly Australians – can de-prescribing improve health related outcomes and reduce costs.

Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation Research Entry Scholarship awarded to Dr Ngai Man Annie Wong for her research project titled Melanoma Immunotherapy and Positron Emission Tomography.

literacy for life

a community
campaign

\$400,000

over two years to extend the 'Yes I Can!' community literacy campaign to Brewarrina, Walgett and Weilmoringle in far west NSW.

Research shows literacy is a gateway to improvements in health, education, employment, crime rates and community safety. The children of literate adults perform better in school and the entire community benefits from other outcomes directly linked to adult literacy. With an estimated 40% of Aboriginal adults having minimal English (higher in remote areas), literacy is clearly a major barrier to 'closing the gap'.

The UNESCO-award-winning *Yes I Can!* campaign is designed to raise literacy levels quickly, at low cost, across a region. Over six million people are now literate as a result of implementation in 29 countries in the past 15 years. Literacy for Life's is the first implementation in Australia.

Unlike other literacy programs, the focus is on helping to build a community culture that values and supports learning. The differentiator is the involvement of community members who are trained as campaign teachers or facilitators. From the very beginning, the onus is on the community to take ownership for delivery of the campaign, focusing on long term change rather than a temporary fix.

VFFF was motivated to support Literacy for Life at a crucial point in their development; having completed a successful pilot in Bourke, Wilcannia and Enngonia but requiring a substantial injection to begin the upscale across the far west.

Creative writing class,
Brewarrina NSW
(Photo credit: Stephanie Dale)



"In Western NSW, we are seeing graduates setting personal goals for the first time and taking action on them - to overcome drug and alcohol addiction, regain care of their children, manage welfare payments, meet justice system requirements, avoid destructive behaviours and deal with conflict within the family and community. Literacy is a pathway into a better quality of life and provides people with a sense of empowerment over their own, family and community futures." Jack Beetson, Executive Director



careerseekers

opening the door to
corporate australia

\$200,000

over three years to establish the
CareerSeekers New Australian
Internship Program.

The award-winning CareerTrackers Indigenous internship program demonstrated the effectiveness of meaningful and supported work experience as a pathway to long term employment. This inspired a new vision – CareerSeekers – to create employment opportunities for people seeking asylum and refugees.

CareerSeekers offers two streams of paid internships for individuals who have been granted approval to settle in Australia and possess the necessary work rights:

- University students who undertake paid internships during university breaks in an effort to link their studies with practical work experience
- Mid-career professionals – those with tertiary qualifications and professional work experience who strive to re-establish their careers in Australia

Recognising the transformational impact of having a job, and the pioneering nature of the program, VFFF saw this as a catalytic opportunity to provide meaningful employment for refugees and people seeking asylum to ensure their full participation in Australian life.



“Everyone was telling me about the importance of having an Australian local experience, which I didn’t have yet. It was perfect timing when one of my friends introduced me to CareerSeekers... The 12 week program gave me hands on experience in my industry. I have developed a network of support and I have been able to see how well my skills were transferred to the Australian environment.”

CareerSeekers Intern



Parents' Café Fairfield

Continuing distributions

CareerSeekers

Seed funding to establish CareerSeekers
\$50,000 (total \$200,000)

Charles Sturt University

Five year accommodation scholarships
for dentistry students \$86,275
(total \$986,956)

Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal

Caring for Aged in Rural Australia
small grants program \$144,000
(total \$600,000)

Hastings District Respite Care

The Lighthouse Project, bringing
Montessori methods to aged care
\$67,890 (total \$261,214)

Information and Cultural Exchange

To expand the Community Engagement
Program \$54,200 (total \$108,400)

Museum of Contemporary Art

ARTFUL: An art program for people
living with dementia \$73,021
(total \$220,000)

Parents' Café Fairfield

Towards salaries for the Parents' Café
team \$150,000 (total \$450,000)

Refugee Advice and Casework Service

Fundraising challenge grant \$386,375
(total \$660,000)

The Social Outfit

Towards salaries and rent \$132,141
(total \$356,560)

UMI Arts

Development for artists in two remote
communities in far north Queensland
\$35,000 (total \$133,192)

University of NSW - Centre for Healthy Brain Ageing

The Dementia Momentum \$100,000
(total \$300,000)

Walter and Eliza Hall Supplementary Trust

Small Grants Program \$158,498
(total \$793,184)



Museum of Contemporary Art, ARTFUL. (Photo credit: Anna Kucera)

learning by doing

strategic programs



In the last five years, VFFF has sought to improve its work and increase its impact through a number of strategic initiatives. We invest our time, networks and people power as well as finances into these programs. Highlights from this year are included in the front pages of this report.

place-based

Funding snapshot

\$173,437

Total funding

3

Distributions

2%

Proportion of
funding

\$2.4m

Committed since
inception

To combat entrenched locational disadvantage in Australia, VFFF sees the need for more long term and flexible place-based work that supports:

- Community efforts that cross sectors and silos
- Practical strategies relevant to the place and the problem
- Local decision making about how resources are used
- Coordinated work addressing the multiple causes of social problems
- Real and relevant opportunities for local education and work
- Capacity building to sustain communities' long term ability to improve outcomes

2016 distributions

Central West Family Support Group

Lachlan Shire BackTrack

model \$63,105

To trial an engagement program modelled on and mentored by BackTrack, for young men in Condobolin, Lake Cargelligo and Murrin Bridge.

Lower Lachlan Community Services

Linking the Lachlan Initiative \$88,332

To drive action on addressing the priorities identified in the Growing Lachlan research and consultation.

Western Plains Regional Development

Growing Lachlan \$22,000

To measure the vitality of the Lachlan Shire's communities in key areas, providing locals with critical information that can help set priorities and opportunities for action.

Community conversations, Lake Cargelligo



social impact investment

Funding snapshot

\$80,000

Total funding

1

Distribution

1%

Proportion of
funding

\$540,000

Committed since
inception

As our 2016 Annual Report goes to print, VFFF has a portfolio of mission aligned social impact direct investments across three asset classes; property, credit and equity.

This represents just under 3% of the VFFF Corpus invested on an impact first basis. With the support of **Joel Hassin** and **Matt Wachter** from Cambooya our investment advisors and with encouragement by **John Coombe** of JANA Asset Consultants, VFFF aims to increase the allocation from Corpus for impact first investments to 5% by 30 June 2017. We are committed to regularly measuring and reporting the social and financial performance of these investments.

VFFF has engaged with key organisations to actively assist in building the pipeline of social impact investments and share our knowledge and experiences. The focus and enthusiasm for this work displayed by **Candice Van Doosselaere** deserves special acknowledgment. We are delighted that the sector has a clear view on the definition of social impact investments, accept that these may be focussed on social returns, financial returns or a mixture of both and that regardless, they should be measured and reported. Foundations and intermediaries are sharing their stories and effectively collaborating on investment opportunities. This provides an excellent use of scarce resources.

We failed in our bid to encourage matched funding from the New South Wales Government for a pipeline building opportunity in the State developed by Social Traders*. We will continue to seek to work with government in this way. With community needs increasing and government resources shrinking, a thriving social impact investment sector will benefit everyone.

* VFFF also approved a grant to Social Traders to establish their NSW presence (\$300,000 over 3 years), contingent on securing matched funding from the New South Wales Government.

2016 continuing distributions

School for Social Entrepreneurs
Partnering for Scale & Impact \$80,000 (total \$240,000)

Operational funding for the program which aims to support social enterprises become investment ready.

In addition to the above grant, VFFF has made direct social impact investments in BackTrack Youthworks, Armidale and Moore Theological College, Newtown.



Happy Paws,
Happy Hearts





Eternity Aid,
Manning Gardens
Public School,
Taree NSW

children and prison

Funding snapshot

\$739,458

Total funding

6

Distributions

9%

Proportion of
funding

\$2.5m

Committed since
inception

Maranguka Community Hub,
Bourke NSW



The profile of children involved with the justice system in NSW is generally one of entrenched intergenerational disadvantage. In fact, most children who end up in prison are on the trajectory long before they are old enough to commit a crime – simply because of who they are and where they are born.

In 2013 with Dusseldorp Forum (DF), VFFF made a commitment to provide philanthropic support towards reducing the over-representation of Aboriginal children in the NSW juvenile justice system.

2016 distributions

Aboriginal Legal Service

**Maranguka Justice Reinvestment Project
\$160,000 (total \$390,000)**

Implementation phase: moving resources into the community's agenda to reduce incarceration of young people.

Apostolic Church

Eternity Aid \$165,000 (total \$375,000)

Operational funding to work with young offenders, their families and communities in Bourke, Taree and Reiby JJC – addressing developmental disabilities, educational disengagement and childhood trauma to reduce juvenile incarceration.

Birrang Enterprise Development Company Ltd

**Maranguka Driving Licensing Initiative \$54,397
(total \$223,832)**

To support young people obtain driving licences to increase economic participation and employment prospects, as part of the justice reinvestment work in Bourke, NSW.

Human Rights Law Centre

Human rights of Indigenous young people in the criminal justice system \$80,061 (total \$247,460)

To address the over-imprisonment of Indigenous young people through legal action, advocacy, research and capacity building.

Jobs Australia

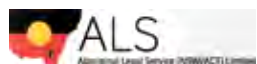
BackTrack, Armidale \$250,000 (total \$600,000)

To support BackTrack's organisational development, including its transition to independence.

Shine for Kids

Measuring Impact \$30,000

To research and evaluate the social and economic impact of early intervention services for children affected by parental involvement in the criminal justice system.





supporting australian philanthropy

Funding snapshot

\$125,000

Total funding

2

Distributions

1%

Proportion of
funding

\$609,000

Committed since
inception

2016 continuing distributions

Documentary Australia Foundation

Good Pitch² Australia \$100,000 (total \$300,000)



Philanthropy Australia

Leading Membership \$25,000 (total \$75,000)



finance and investment report

The corpus of the VFFF and VFELF are invested in a diversified portfolio overseen by the Audit, Finance and Investment Committee (AFIC) with the assistance of Cambooya Pty Limited, John Coombe and JANA Asset Consultants.

	VFFF		VFELF	
	2015/16	2014/15	2015/16	2014/15
Portfolio market value	\$181.9m	\$186.6m	\$6.1m	\$6.4m
Distributions	\$8.4m	\$7.1m	\$0.38m	\$0.4m
Cumulative distributions	\$131.0m	\$122.6m	\$5.3m	\$4.92m
Distributable income 2015/16	\$6.5m	\$7.8m	\$0.32m	\$0.48m
Future commitments	\$10.1m	\$6.1m	\$1.05m	\$1.6m

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

	2016	2015
Operating expenses	\$925,338	\$868,214
Operating expenses as a % of distributions made	10.6%	11.6%
Operating expenses as a % of net assets	0.5%	0.4%

During the financial year AFIC met on four occasions in relation to the financial governance of VFFF and VFELF. The Board extends their appreciation to **Trent Duvall** and **KPMG** who provide their audit services on an honorary basis.

Directors have set a distribution target of \$9 million for VFFF in the 2016/17 financial year.

Audit, Finance and Investment Committee Members

James Millar AM, Chairman
Nicholas Fairfax
Michael Murray
Christopher White



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