

COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS

Supporting community by
connecting people who care
with causes that matter



Australian
Community
Philanthropy

What is a Community Foundation?

A SIMPLE CONCEPT

The concept of a Community Foundation is simple.

They make it easy for people to contribute to a pool of funds which is used to support charitable projects through purposeful grantmaking.

They are governed by independent volunteer trustees that steward the growth of the fund, or endowment, to benefit the community in perpetuity.

Community Foundations work in partnership with donors, local organisations and community leaders to strengthen communities and increase opportunities.

They are uniquely placed to understand and respond to the immediate and long term needs of the community.

INSPIRING AND CREATING CHANGE

Community Foundations:

- can respond quickly to critical community issues
- can address community needs in a particular location or cause area
- enable collaborative philanthropy by making powerful connections between donors and community organisations for the long-term benefit of the community
- make it easy for people to give back to the community and support the causes they care about
- provide knowledgeable and effective grants to community organisations and projects
- provide leadership by advocating for and supporting important social issues.

The Community Foundation Difference

GOOD FOR DONORS

Donors are supported in their giving and can see their tax deductible donations at work in the community.

GOOD FOR COMMUNITIES

Community Foundations mobilise leadership and, because of their deep local knowledge, are uniquely placed to bring people, ideas, and resources together to address important issues effectively.

GOOD FOR COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

Community Foundations deliver funding, support local organisations doing great work, encourage innovation and new ways of doing things.

Australia's Community Foundations are part of a thriving global movement



Making Giving Easy

SUB FUNDS & NAMED FUNDS

Community Foundations offer donors the opportunity to establish a Sub Fund or Named Fund, which could be named in honour of an individual, family, a cause or a place. With a Sub Fund or a Named Fund you can recommend the preferred charities or causes you wish to support.

BEQUESTS

Bequests are gifts you make from your Will, intestacy or settlement. Bequests of any amount can have a significant and lasting impact and are a great way to provide ongoing support to the community. Including a charitable gift in your Will is very straightforward. Some people choose to leave a percentage of their estate (say 10%) others specify a dollar amount. Whatever you decide, you can be assured that your Bequest will create positive change for current and future generations.

OTHER WAYS TO GIVE

- make a general donation which can be used to support a broad range of local projects
- make a donation to an existing Named Fund that is already supporting a charity or cause you care about
- join a Giving or Donor Circle to maximise your impact
- volunteer your time and skills or become an champion for your Community Foundation.

Because they take care of any compliance and administration obligations, Community Foundations free donors up to concentrate on supporting the causes they are passionate about.

THE MERENDA FUND, FREMANTLE FOUNDATION

The Merenda Fund is a wonderful example of a Named Fund inspiring local young people.

The Merenda family have a long and proud association with Fremantle after stepping off the boat at Fremantle Port as Italian migrants in the 1960's.

Santo and Joyce were keen to give back to the community that they have been a part of for many years.

In the Merenda Fund's first year, support was given to establish the Circus Workshop at the Fremantle PCYC inspiring Indigenous young people with the magic of circus.

Through the joy of learning new skills, the Circus Workshop is a meaningful and rewarding experience providing genuine opportunities for kids in the area.



“Our fund allows us to be involved with decision-making and see the impact our giving makes. We are also proud to be leaving a legacy for future generations.”
Santo Merenda

COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS

- committed to building resilient, strong and inclusive communities
- supporting organisations and projects that make a difference
- building community assets as a sustainable resource
- believe that everyone can and should be a philanthropist
- working with community and meeting people where they are





Australian Community Philanthropy

Australian Community Philanthropy is a national network of Community Foundations in Australia.

We provide information, education and access to a rich pool of resources.

We are committed to building awareness and growing the capacity of the Community Foundation movement.

If you would like more information on Community Foundations or contact details for your local Community Foundation:

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