

2023 - 2024 GRANTS

Giving. Forever.

ORGANISATION & GRANT	PROGRAM SUMMARY
AGED CARE	
Volunteering Geelong - \$18,000 A volunteer resource centre for the Greater Geelong, region, offering a referral service for volunteers looking for volunteer roles and organisations looking for volunteers.	To fund the delivery of an aged care volunteer assisted recreation program. The program will support aged care providers to deliver recreational programs to their residents while also providing volunteers with a pathway to employment in the aged care sector.
COMMUNITY WELLBEING	
Art of the Minds - \$15,000 Activate, educate and engage people of the Surf Coast and the wider community to creatively manage mental health and wellbeing. The organisation's message includes the prevention of mental illness and supporting those in recovery.	To support the delivery of the Art of The Minds Festival during National Mental Health Week in October 2023. The festival aims to raise awareness of mental illness, reduce stigma and increase help-seeking behaviors.
Barwon Disability Resource Council - \$43,000 An organisation that works with individuals with all disabilities, of all ages, including their parents/carers. Aims to assist positive change in the lives of people with disabilities, their families and carers by promoting rights, social and economic inclusion for all.	To deliver the Speaking Up project, that provides self-advocacy training for people with disability. The training will build participants' capacity and confidence to speak up for themselves and the issues affecting them across our local community.
Bellarine Living and Learning Centre - \$5,000 Located in Whittington, a friendly neighbourhood centre and Learn Local Not for Profit organisation, established in 1984. Provides local residents with opportunities to learn, develop and socialise.	To support the 3219 Health and Wellbeing Program that provides the 3219 community with access to affordable activities to reduce stress, support mental health, improve their physical health and wellbeing and offer an opportunity to connect with others in their community.
Bravehearts Foundation - \$7,500 National children's charity dedicated to the prevention of child sexual assault.	To support the delivery of the Ditto's Keep Safe Adventure Education program for children from age 3-8 in kindergartens and schools across the Geelong region. The program teaches children vital personal safety education through a live show, inclass teacher and child-led lesson modules and information resources for parents and carers.
Feed Me Bellarine - \$50,000 (year 2 of 2 year grant) Established in 2019, a community food project operating throughout the Geelong, Surf Coast and Bellarine regions, collecting spare food and excess produce, and sharing with the community who need it, no questions asked.	To support an increase in meal capacity with the purchase of a larger oven, and employment of a part-time administration worker to answer calls for assistance and co-ordinate volunteer deliveries.
Foundation 61 - \$32,500 Located on the outskirts of Geelong, an organisation that provides live-in community offering hope and direction for people dealing with life controlling issues, providing an individually focused rehabilitation program.	To assist with the purchase of a minibus for transporting women receiving care at Foundation 61's House of Hope. The minibus will be used to transport clients to appointments, events and recreational activities.
Geelong Ethnic Communities Council - Multicultural Community Services Geelong - \$45,000 In 2022 Diversitat and Multicultural Aged Care Services (MACS) merged to become Cultura. A not-for-profit community organisation providing a support network and programs for multicultural communities in Greater Geelong.	To contribute to the refurbishment of an existing space at the Cultura Northern Hub. The newly refurbished space will provide an area for new, existing and emerging communities to participate in meetings, workshops, classes and cultural activities.

Geelong Food Relief Centre - \$50,000

The Geelong Food Relief Centre (GFRC) was established in 1990 providing food aid services throughout the Geelong Region. GFRC assists members of the community who are experiencing food insecurity.

To increase capacity to provide food to those in need, within Geelong and surrounding regions through the purchase and construction of additional warehouse freezer space and the installation of a new high quality customer freezer.

Hope Bereavement Services – \$45,000 (year 2 of 2 year grant)

Believes that "no-one should be alone in grief." Qualified, free bereavement advice, support and counsel is offered to any person in the G21 Region impacted by the death of a loved one

To fund employment of a Community Development and Engagement Coordinator for the Hope Community Pathways program, a proactive and community-responsive model of care to meet the needs of the bereaved and their carers.

Lazarus Community Centre - \$25,000 (year 2 of 3 year grant)

A community centre established as a safe and welcoming drop-in facility for those in our community experiencing hardship related to homelessness and isolation.

To fund organisational operational costs to sustain critical support services for homeless and people of disadvantage in a safe and welcoming place.

Lifeboat Geelong Foundation - \$11,000

To provide a pastoral support service for adult victims/survivors of church-related sexual abuse.

To support the delivery of psychological and alternate therapies to victims of church related child sexual abuse, providing opportunities to re-engage in the community through supported activities.

Norlane Community Initiatives - \$49,000

Community led place making organisation with the vision to create healthy, sustainable and inclusive neighbourhoods. Their mission is to cultivate and generate community and place.

To support the employment of local community development practitioners to work alongside Norlane residents to develop activities, projects and initiatives which address local priorities around social, environmental and economic challenges in Norlane.

Portarlington Neighbourhood House - \$1,500

Established in 2007 and part of the Barwon Network of Neighbourhood Houses to provide convivial access, amenities and administration for special interest community groups in and around Portarlington.

To fund the purchase of portable audio equipment for music groups, supporting the groups to provide informal musical performance to local community organisations.

Riding for the Disabled Barwon - \$7,500

A voluntary, nonprofit organisation providing safe riding lessons for children with a diverse range of disabilities in the Barwon Region.

To support the delivery of Riding for the Disabled program in the Barwon region. The program supports increased social interaction and increased confidence and resilience for young people with disability.

Samaritan House Geelong - \$22,000

Provides a welcoming and safe home for homeless men experiencing crisis and enables their transition to a better future. The men are supported to transition to, and keep, stable accommodation, access appropriate services and develop the skills to find employment and live independent, meaningful lives.

To fund the delivery of a 12-week Accommodation Living Skills Program. The program supports men experiencing homelessness to learn basic living skills and work to build on their personal strengths in order to support their rehabilitation and prepare them for independent living

Sikh Community of Greater Geelong - \$10,000

Operating for over 10 years, provides support and services to the local SIKH community and many other organisations and individuals in the local region. To assist with updating the community kitchen and dining facilities at the Lovely Banks location, supporting the preparation of meals that are distributed to those in need across the Geelong region.

SOLVE-TAD - \$13,200

Founded in 1975, merger of two charities (Solve Disability Solutions and TAD) to solve equipment problems for people with disabilities of all ages through the design, construction, or modification of equipment.

To fund custom-built Freedom Wheels Bikes for children with physical and cognitive disabilities in the Geelong region.

The Empowerment Challenge - \$30,000

Provides younger mums with a safe space to feel empowered, connected, respected and valued. Long term accessibility to services providing mental health and well-being support, mentorship and community connection are provided.

To support continued employment of key workers to provide valuable outreach services to vulnerable younger mums in the Geelong region,

The Power In You Project - \$30,000

Assists individuals battling addiction. A day program is provided in South Geelong to help build the basic skills lost during this difficult time.

To support the delivery of the 'New Directions' program, a peer led group designed to assist people affected by the justice system to make a positive and lasting change and be contributing members of the Geelong community.

The Sexual Assault & Family Violence Centre – \$28,000 (yr1) \$48,000 (yr2)

Established in 1978 offering a wide range of free and confidential services for adults, children and young people who have experienced sexual assault or family violence.

To fund the 'Respect Starts Here' program. A two-year project supporting 3 football and netball clubs to take action to promote gender equality and address violence against women. Activities include gender equality needs assessment, action plans, and active bystander training workshops to empower members to speak up against sexist, homophobic, and discriminatory attitudes.

Tiny Dots Early Intervention - \$50,000

A newly established organisation providing assessment, referral and short-term intervention services to babies and toddlers who are significantly at risk of disability or developmental delay. Due to financial, educational and other barriers, those using the service would otherwise be unable to access assessment and therapy.

To assist in establishing the Tiny Dots Infant and Toddler Early Intervention program. The program supports the early identification, assessment and delivery of therapy of children at risk of disability or developmental delay.

EDUCATION & TRAINING

CatholicCare Victoria - \$50.000

Service provision to the vulnerable, marginalised, and disadvantaged children, adolescents and families in the Victorian community.

To support the salary of a Bi-Cultural Worker to improve the transition of refugee/asylum seeker youth and their mothers into further education and meaningful employment pathways.

MacKillop Family Services - \$49,000

MacKillop's specialist schools provide a positive learning environment to support students disengaged, or at risk of disengaging from school. The Geelong setting supports 70 primary and secondary school students.

To fund the 'Bittersweet Project' providing hands-on hospitality experience to engage (or re-engage) students to encourage Year 12 completion and offering young people with the skills and knowledge to continue further education and/or be workplace ready.

Skyline Education Foundation - \$16,000

Provide intensive financial, educational, emotional and practical support to gifted and academically talented students, whose potential to complete VCE, transition to tertiary education or employment is compromised by entrenched disadvantage.

To contribute to the delivery of life changing education support to students in the Geelong region by providing study skills training and mentoring for students, through the 'Hatch' program.

The Song Room - \$35,000

National organisation that brightens the future of vulnerable children with tailored high-quality music and arts programs delivered in partnership with schools.

To contribute to the delivery of the 'Transformational Learning through Creativity' program for students at Grovedale West Primary School to improve education equity; student learning and wellbeing; teacher capacity and whole-school community culture.

ENVIRONMENT

Geelong Sustainability Group - \$50,000

A not-for-profit community association focused on sharing information, building community resilience, advocating for the environment and supporting effective action.

To support the establishment of a Community Power Hub that will employ a dedicated Community Energy Officer to engage not-for-profit organisations, to develop and deliver renewable energy projects, including energy efficiency upgrades, solar and battery, electric vehicles and charging, and community batteries.

FAMILY

Bluebird Foundation - \$40,000

Geelong-based community arts organisation delivering quality arts programs that make a real difference in people's lives through focus on poor educational outcomes that have become entrenched and generational in some communities.

To fund the North Children's Choir, that provides a high-quality music education for children in the 3214 postcode who are experiencing disadvantage. The program builds social and emotional skills as well as musical proficiency, and has a particular focus on providing stability through the transition from primary to secondary school.

Grovedale Toy Library - \$1,000

A volunteer-run Toy Library formed in 1985 providing children aged from newborns to 8 years low-cost access to developmentally appropriate toys to promote healthy child growth through play.

To fund the purchase of new toys that encourage play that supports improved health literacy in children and their carers and host a "Teddy Bears Hospital" Stay & Play with local health profession students and professionals to celebrate the launch of these toys.

Playgroup Victoria – Ocean Grove Playgroup Association - \$2,490

Not-for-profit association in the Bellarine since 1981 providing weekly playgroup sessions for parents with young children in a relaxed, supportive, and caring environment.

To fund the purchase of resources and materials to develop and deliver an all-abilities playgroup that caters to families who have children with additional needs in a play-based environment.

Wombats Wish - \$5,000

Established in 2005, providing bereavement support to children in the Geelong region following the death of a parent.

To fund the delivery of a weekend grief camp to educate, support and empower children and surviving parents, following the death of a parent.

HEALTH

Creativity Australia – With One Voice - \$5,000

A charity founded in 2008 to build a happier, healthier, more inclusive nation, bringing together the fortunate and marginalised together as ONE community to reduce inequality.

To support the operations of the With One Voice Choir by removing the financial barrier for disadvantaged and disabled people to participate in the diverse and inclusive choirs.

Drysdale Family Support - \$10,000

Operating since 2004, the organisation operates a Food Bank to support less fortunate families in the region. Since 2015, the SpringDale Community Garden, which occupies 1200 square metres of church land, has been adding freshly harvested food.

To purchase protein, in the form of meat products, to be available as part of basic food selection for Foodbank clients.

HERITAGE & ARTS

Geelong Art Gallery - \$10,000

Geelong Gallery was established in 1896 and is the leading visual and interdisciplinary arts institution in the fastest growing regional city in Australia. Their reputation rises from the excellence of their collection; acclaimed capacity to deliver scholarly, aesthetically, and conceptually wideranging exhibitions across media and disciplines; commitment to equity and dedication to continual audience diversification and development.

To support the delivery of a specialised vocational training program for young people in the G21 region, to obtain skills and insights vital for job readiness and employment pathways within the creative sector.

Geelong Symphony Orchestra - \$3,200

Established in 2016, a professional and essential entity in the musical life of Geelong, providing musicians with the opportunity to play in an orchestra at a level that fulfils their musical ambitions and enables them to advance their skills through the challenges of complex repertoire.

To fund the purchase of a concert bass drum to add to the percussion set-up. Previously the organisation had relied on the goodwill of other music organisations to borrow their drum for rehearsals and concerts.

RESEARCH & INNOVATION

Kids Plus Foundation – (year 3 of 3 year grant) - \$30,000 Established to support children and young people with neurodevelopmental disabilities to reach their potential and maximise their participation in daily life.

To contribute to a Research Co-ordinator position to oversee the organisation's research agenda, enabling improved therapy service delivery by allied health providers resulting in daily, practical benefits to children and young people with neurophysical disabilities.

MELI - \$14,980

A newly formed Victorian not-for-profit organisation (merging of BCYF and Bethany) committed to strengthening communities through supporting people.

To fund research to determine the best strategies for supporting the restoration of families and preventing further removals of children from women's care.

Youth

Cottage by the Sea - (year 2 of 2 year grant) \$15,000

Provides short-term care through holiday camps and programs for disadvantaged and at-risk children and young people, including those marginalised due to poverty, cultural disadvantage, refugee status, family breakdown, domestic violence and trauma.

To support the annual Mentor program camps for participants aged 13-18, offering disadvantaged and vulnerable children and their families, access to programs and resources to help meet their health and wellbeing needs.

Read the Play - \$16,000

A mental health awareness organisation that has been providing free programs to youth in the Geelong sporting community for 15 years.

To expand the delivery of the Read the Play Program by developing a new age-specific program for 16-18 year olds engaged in Basketball that builds mental health literacy and encourage resilience, social and emotional skill development and positive risk taking.

Somebody's Daughter Theatre Company - \$40,000

A unique company of artists whose mission is to work with those who are the most marginalised in our community, empower them and give them a voice. To support the delivery of the Nobody's Fool Theatre that supports young people who are disengaged from mainstream education, to continue their education through an arts-based program.

Surf Coast Energy Group – Farm My School - \$22,000 Established in 2008, the Surf Coast Energy Group is a community-based, not-for-profit organisation encouraging positive behaviour change and promoting an understanding of climate change and resource use.

To contribute to the design and implementation of the Farm My School pilot program 'Community Fruit and Vegetable Distribution Hub' at Bellarine Secondary College, supporting young people and their families with healthy, affordable and accessible food.

The School Volunteer Program – T/A EdConnect - \$23,000 Connecting volunteers to young people in schools, preparing and connecting inter-generational volunteers with disadvantaged or at-risk young people to foster educational success and personal wellbeing.

To support the delivery of the EdConnect program in Geelong, that facilitates in classroom support for children from low socio-economic backgrounds. Through the program volunteers provide meaningful and focussed emotional, social and academic support in the classroom, supporting increased self-esteem and confidence, literacy, numeracy and social skills.

The Scout Association of Australia Victorian Branch – Norlane West - \$13,290

Scouting has operated in Australia since 1907. Scouting offers youth members the opportunity to challenge themselves to explore a variety of activities, to follow pathways of interest, to learn leadership skills and to be great team members.

To fund the Norlane West Cub Scouts group to attend Cuboree, a 5-day state camp in September. The funds will be used to support vulnerable families with fee payment and the purchase of tents for them to cook and sleep in.

The Type 1 Foundation - \$15,000

Established to enhance and empower the lives of children and families living with the incurable type 1 diabetes, raising awareness through education in schools, medical practices and the wider community.

To support the operations of Camp Koala. A camp for teenagers with Type-1 diabetes that aims to empower teenagers to manage their diabetes while also fostering social connections.

Wathaurong Aboriginal Co-operative - \$50,000

An Aboriginal controlled community organisation with a 40 year history in the Geelong community, facilitating, designing and delivering culturally centred community engagement services and activities for Aboriginal people in the region.

To fund the expansion of the Homework Club program including additional staff to deliver learning and other extra-curricular activities after school. It will also offer an opportunity for individual support to students.

Other Grant Initiatives

2022 P500 GRANTS	Program
P500 Grant Recipient Wombats Wish - \$75,000 Established in 2005, providing bereavement support to children in the Geelong region following the death of a parent.	To employ a psychologist as a pilot program for 12 months to provide one-on-one counselling, group counselling and camp counselling support to children/young people residing in the G21 region.
P500 Shortlisted Organisation Foundation 61 - \$1,000	
P500 Shortlisted Organisation Tiny Dots Early Intervention - \$1,000	
SCHOLARSHIPS	
The Gordon Scholarships - \$10,000 Our founding donor Ken Stott was a student of The Gordon. He recognised and believed strongly in the importance of education and lifelong learning. He would be incredibly pleased that we continue this scholarship support of mature age students.	To fund annual scholarships to mature aged students studying at The Gordon. In 2023, five \$2,000 scholarships will be presented.
Back to School Program - \$55,000 The Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR) runs this national program that has been operating since 2005, which helps rural and remote children and young people access quality educational experiences to engage in learning and to strengthen their educational outcomes. The Geelong Community Foundation delivers this program in the broader Geelong region.	Provides \$50 Target Vouchers to primary & secondary Schools. The Foundation in partnership with FRRR, the Glover Foundation and several other supporters allows the distribution of vouchers to 46 schools in the Geelong Region based on the scale of educational advantage. The Foundation contributed \$55,000 which is leveraged through FRRR to receive 2,345 \$50 Target vouchers totaling \$112,000.
Adroit Insurance & Risk Capital Grant	
The Power In You Project - \$75,000 Assists individuals battling addiction. A day program is provided in South Geelong to help build the basic skills lost during this difficult time.	To fund a building renovation, creating a multipurpose room to accommodate the increase in personnel and provide a safe and inclusive space for staff and program participants.

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