



2026

**GRANT PARTNER**  
*Summary*



**GEE LONG COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**



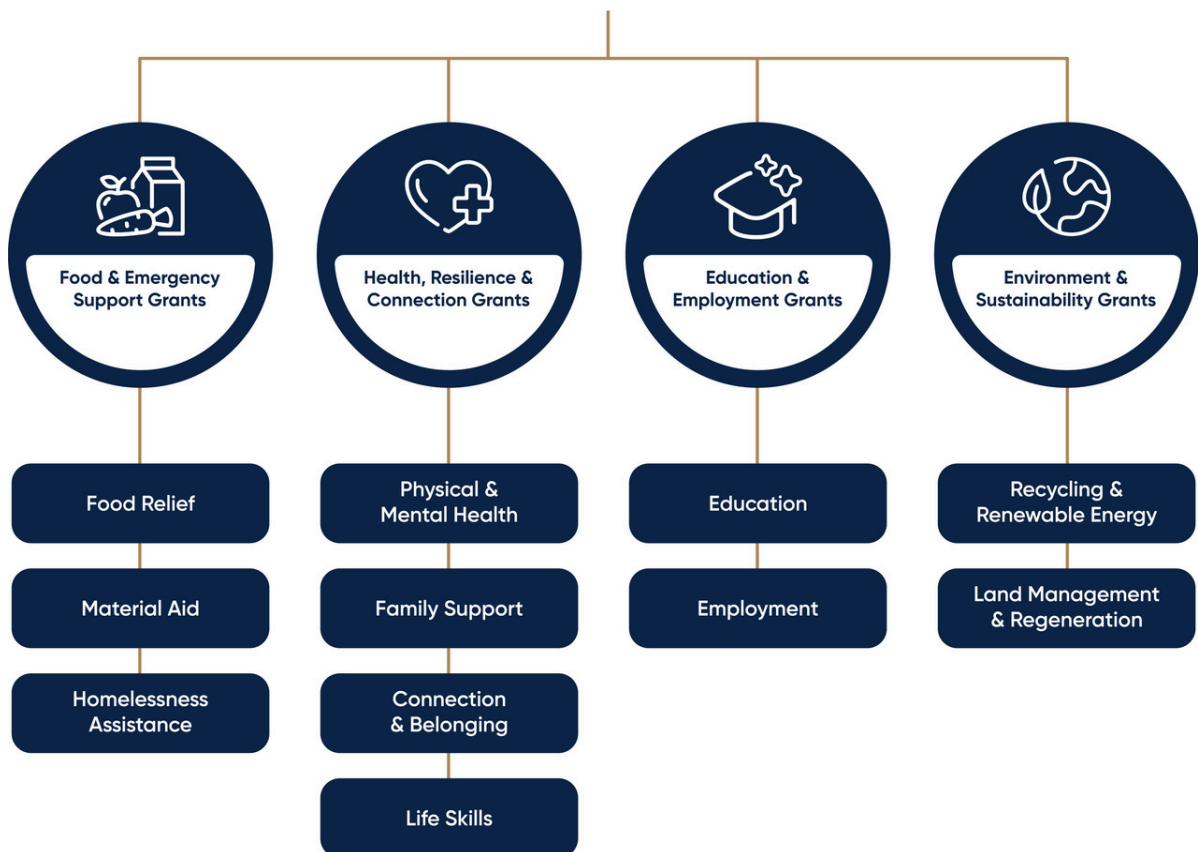
# GEELONG COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

*Giving. Forever.*

Guided by our vision for a connected, fair and thriving community, Geelong Community Foundation invests in local organisations creating lasting change across our region.

Our grant streams reflect key areas of community need and opportunity, supporting initiatives that strengthen wellbeing, resilience and connection for local people

## Grant Streams



## FOOD AND EMERGENCY SUPPORT GRANTS

<b>Food Relief</b>	
<p><b>Feed Me Bellarine - \$60,000</b>  <i>(\$60,000 Year 1, \$55,000 Year 2, \$55,000 Year 3)</i>            A local organisation addressing food insecurity across Geelong, the Bellarine and Surf Coast through rescued food, community meals, markets and home deliveries.</p>	<p>Funding will support Feed Me food rescue, meal preparation and community market programs, helping people experiencing hardship access nutritious food while reducing food waste and strengthening community connection across the region.</p>
<p><b>Food Assist 3223 - \$5,000</b>            A volunteer-run charity providing food relief and essential pantry supplies for individuals and families across Portarlington and the North Bellarine.</p>	<p>Funding will improve access to fresh, nutritious food by enabling the safe storage of perishable food items, reducing waste and increasing the quality and consistency of food available to the local community.</p>
<p><b>Geelong Foodshare - \$65,000</b>  <i>(\$65,000 Year 1, \$60,000 Year 2, \$60,000 Year 3)</i>            Geelong Foodshare is the central food relief distribution organisation for the region, supplying nutritious food to local community agencies and supporting dignified access to food for people experiencing hardship.</p>	<p>Funding will strengthen Geelong Foodshare's large-scale food sourcing and community food programs, including social supermarkets, cooking and growing initiatives that improve food security, skills and community participation.</p>
<p><b>Hesse Rural Health in partnership with Winchelsea Community Health - \$30,000</b>            A community organisation supporting the wellbeing and connection of people in Winchelsea through health, learning and community development programs.</p>	<p>Funding will support a dedicated Foodbank Coordinator to oversee volunteers and daily operations, helping ensure local residents experiencing hardship can continue to access reliable and dignified food relief.</p>
<p><b>Hesse Rural Health in Partnership with YMCA Geelong - \$30,000</b>            A locally based food relief initiative supporting people experiencing food insecurity in Bannockburn and surrounding communities.</p>	<p>Funding will establish a new community-led food pantry, including a part-time coordinator role to manage volunteers, oversee operations and improve access to dignified food support.</p>
<p><b>Pass the Snacks Geelong Incorporated - \$10,000</b>            A community-led charity supporting children and families experiencing food insecurity during school holidays across Geelong.</p>	<p>Funding will provide food relief boxes to families during school holidays, helping ensure children continue to access nutritious meals when school-based food programs are unavailable.</p>
<p><b>Rosewall Neighbourhood Centre Inc. - \$3,600</b>            A Corio-based community hub providing education, wellbeing and support programs that strengthen inclusion, participation and local connection.</p>	<p>Funding will improve the organisation's food relief capacity through the purchase of a chest freezer, expanded pantry storage and new garden beds to increase access to fresh produce.</p>

## Homelessness Assistance

<p><b>Lazarus Community Centre - \$30,000</b>  <i>(Year 2 of 3 Year Grant)</i>            A drop-in centre supporting people experiencing homelessness, disadvantage and social isolation through meals, practical support and a safe place to connect.</p>	<p>Funding will help continue the centre's day-to-day operations, including food relief, material aid, laundry and shower facilities, referrals and social support for people experiencing hardship.</p>
<p><b>Samaritan House Geelong- \$60,000</b>  <i>(\$60,000 Year 1, \$60,000 Year 2)</i>            A crisis and transitional accommodation service supporting men experiencing homelessness in Geelong with safe housing and wraparound care.</p>	<p>Funding will provide crisis accommodation and intensive support services that help residents stabilise their lives, strengthen wellbeing and transition toward long-term housing and independence.</p>
<p><b>Street Side Medics - \$50,000</b>            A GP-led mobile healthcare service delivering free medical care to people experiencing homelessness and disadvantage.</p>	<p>Funding will establish a new mobile health clinic in Geelong, improving access to free healthcare, treatment and referrals for people who face significant barriers to accessing traditional medical services.</p>
<p><b>The Outpost - \$41,396</b>  <i>(\$41,396 Year 1, \$30,000 Year 2)</i>            A Geelong organisation providing free community meals and connection for people experiencing homelessness, hardship and social isolation.</p>	<p>Funding will support volunteer-led meal services and a welcoming place of connection for vulnerable community members, including food supplies, utilities and essential operational costs.</p>

## Material Aid

<p><b>Our Village - \$50,000</b>            A volunteer-led organisation collecting and rehoming essential baby and children's items for families experiencing hardship.</p>	<p>Funding will support the collection, sorting and distribution of essential items including cots, prams, clothing and car seats for vulnerable babies and children across Geelong.</p>
<p><b>Team Sports 4 All Pty Ltd - \$25,000</b>            A purpose-driven organisation helping children from low-income families participate in community sport.</p>	<p>Funding will cover registration fees, uniforms and equipment, helping children and young people access the social, physical and emotional benefits of community sport.</p>
<p><b>Thread Together - \$45,000</b>  <i>(\$45,000 Year 1, \$45,000 Year 2)</i>            A national organisation providing brand-new clothing to people experiencing hardship while reducing textile waste.</p>	<p>Funding will expand access to new clothing across Geelong through agency partnerships, mobile wardrobe outreach and a local clothing hub that promotes dignity, choice and confidence.</p>

## EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT GRANTS

### Education

**EdConnect - \$25,000**

*(Year 2 of 2 Year Grant)*

A national organisation connecting volunteers with primary school students needing additional educational and wellbeing support.

Funding will provide in-classroom volunteer support, including literacy, numeracy and mentoring assistance, while strengthening school partnerships and volunteer coordination across Geelong.

**CatholicCare Victoria - \$40,000**

*(Year 2 of 2 Year Grant)*

A social service organisation supporting children, young people and families through education, employment and wellbeing programs.

Funding will deliver the Settle Well Next Phase Program, supporting asylum seeker and refugee young people and mothers to access English classes, education and employment pathways.

**Somebody's Daughter Theatre Company - \$50,000**

*(\$50,000 Year 1, \$50,000 Year 2, \$50,000 Year 3)*

A Geelong arts organisation supporting vulnerable young people and women through creative programs that build confidence, connection and pathways back into education.

Funding will support a full-time arts-based education program for disengaged young people, helping participants re-engage with learning through theatre, creative workshops and performance.

**The Song Room - \$35,000**

*(\$35,000 Year 1, \$35,000 Year 2, \$35,000 Year 3)*

A national organisation delivering arts education programs that improve student engagement and build teacher capability.

Funding will deliver in-school arts programs that help teachers strengthen arts learning opportunities for students while improving engagement and participation in the classroom.

**Western Chances - \$50,000**

Western Chances supports young people facing financial barriers through scholarships, mentoring and educational enrichment programs.

Funding will expand the Geelong Chances Program into additional schools, providing scholarships, tutoring, camps and career experiences that help young people stay engaged in education and build pathways to future employment.

### Employment

**Meli - \$50,000**

*(\$50,000 Year 1, \$50,000 Year 2, \$50,000 Year 3)*

A leading community service organisation supporting people across the Geelong region through family support, housing, mental health, education and employment programs.

Funding will deliver the Northern Futures Employment Program, helping people facing barriers to work build skills, confidence and pathways into sustainable employment.

**Common Ground Project - \$50,000**

A regenerative farm and social enterprise creating pathways to employment, food security and community connection.

Funding will deliver paid hospitality training and employment pathway programs for migrant and refugee women in Geelong, providing practical skills, work experience and job readiness support.

## ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY GRANTS

### Environment and Sustainability

**Geelong Sustainability Group - \$50,000**

*(\$50,000 Year 1, \$50,000 Year 2)*

A community-led organisation driving practical climate action and sustainability initiatives across the Barwon region.

Funding will support the Community Power Hub, helping local not-for-profits reduce energy costs and emissions through expert advice, energy assessments and upgrade planning.

## HEALTH, RESILIENCE AND CONNECTION GRANTS

### Physical Health

**Active Geelong Limited - \$10,000**

A community organisation promoting physical activity and social connection through walking groups, events and wellbeing initiatives.

Funding will expand community programs that encourage physical activity, reduce social isolation and strengthen wellbeing across the Geelong region.

**Cottage by the Sea - \$22,000**

A long-standing children's charity providing camps and wellbeing programs for young people experiencing vulnerability.

Funding will provide overnight camps for children from Whittington and Norlane, helping participants build confidence, resilience and social connection through safe and supportive outdoor experiences.

**Farm My School - \$90,000**

*(\$30,000 Year 1, \$30,000 Year 2, \$30,000 Year 3)*

An innovative social enterprise transforming schools into regenerative farming hubs that connect education, food security and community wellbeing.

Funding will expand Farm My School's regional hub model across the G21 region, delivering education programs, traineeships, food access initiatives and community workshops.

**Reclink Australia - \$15,000**

An organisation delivering inclusive sport and recreation programs for people experiencing disadvantage, disability and social isolation.

Funding will deliver free mindful movement and yoga programs in Corio and Norlane, supporting wellbeing and social connection for culturally diverse women, older adults and people with disabilities.

### Mental Health

**Cherished Pets - \$35,000**

An Ocean Grove organisation supporting people experiencing crisis or vulnerability to remain safely connected with their pets.

Funding will provide temporary pet care, veterinary support and practical assistance for people experiencing homelessness, family violence, mental health challenges and other crises, helping individuals access support services without fear of losing their pets.

<p><b>Foundation 61 - \$60,000</b>  <i>(\$60,000 Year 1, \$60,000 Year 2, \$60,000 Year 3)</i>  A residential rehabilitation program supporting people affected by alcohol and other drug addiction.</p>	<p>Funding will provide residential rehabilitation and post-recovery support services that help participants maintain sobriety, improve wellbeing and transition into stable housing, employment and community life.</p>
<p><b>LifeChanger Foundation - \$30,000</b>  <i>(\$30,000 Year 1, \$30,000 Year 2, \$30,000 Year 3)</i>  A preventative mental health organisation supporting young people through resilience, mentoring and wellbeing programs.</p>	<p>Funding will expand mental health and resilience initiatives across Geelong, helping young people strengthen wellbeing, confidence and social connection through workshops and mentoring.</p>
<p><b>Ocean Mind - \$25,000</b>  <i>(\$25,000 Year 1, \$25,000 Year 2)</i>  A Surf Coast-based organisation delivering surf therapy, mentoring and peer support programs for vulnerable young people.</p>	<p>Funding will provide free surf therapy and mentoring programs that improve mental health, resilience and social connection for vulnerable young people across the Geelong region.</p>
<p><b>Read The Play - \$30,000</b>  <i>(\$30,000 Year 2 of 2 Year Grant)</i>  A mental health organisation improving mental health literacy and help-seeking behaviours among young people through sport.</p>	<p>Funding will deliver evidence-based mental health programs through community sporting clubs, helping young people build awareness, resilience and confidence to seek support.</p>
<p><b>The Reach Foundation - \$48,000</b>  A national youth organisation supporting young people to build resilience, confidence and emotional wellbeing.</p>	<p>Funding will deliver school-based personal development workshops for students experiencing anxiety, disengagement and wellbeing challenges, strengthening resilience and connection to school and community.</p>

## Connection and Belonging

<p><b>Bluebird Foundation - \$40,000</b>  <i>(\$40,000 Year 1, \$40,000 Year 2, \$40,000 Year 3)</i>  A community arts organisation delivering inclusive creative programs that strengthen wellbeing and social connection.</p>	<p>Funding will support music, film, theatre and visual arts programs that build confidence, creativity and a stronger sense of belonging for children, young people and communities experiencing disadvantage.</p>
<p><b>Friends for Good Inc. - \$35,000</b>  Australia's first charity dedicated to reducing loneliness and social isolation through peer support and connection programs.</p>	<p>Funding will establish Regional FriendLine in Geelong, providing free telephone-based social support for people experiencing loneliness and isolation, particularly older members of the community.</p>
<p><b>The Good Neighbourhood Project - \$45,000</b>  <i>(\$45,000 Year 2 of 2 Year Grant)</i>  A place-based community development organisation working alongside residents in Norlane to strengthen connection, participation and local leadership.</p>	<p>Funding will support the Connected Communities Project, helping local residents create and participate in activities that reduce isolation, strengthen inclusion and foster a stronger sense of belonging.</p>

## Family Support

<p><b>Meli - \$50,000</b> A leading community service organisation supporting children, young people and families through housing, mental health and family support services.</p>	<p>Funding will support the Young Men's Behaviour Change Program, helping young men address the use of family violence while improving safety and outcomes for women and children.</p>
<p><b>Hope Bereavement Care - \$40,000</b> <i>(\$40,000 Year 2 of 2 Year Grant)</i> A community organisation providing bereavement counselling and support services across the G21 region.</p>	<p>Funding will expand bereavement counselling support for people experiencing sudden and traumatic loss.</p>
<p><b>The Empowerment Challenge - \$30,000</b> <i>(Year 2 of 2 Year Grant)</i> A Geelong organisation supporting younger mothers through connection, mentoring and practical support.</p>	<p>Funding will support weekly group programs that help vulnerable young mothers access support, build confidence and strengthen community connection.</p>
<p><b>The Sexual Assault &amp; Family Violence Centre - \$50,000</b> <i>(\$50,000 Year 1, \$50,000 Year 2, \$50,000 Year 3)</i> A specialist organisation working to prevent and respond to sexual assault and family violence across the Barwon region.</p>	<p>Funding will support Respect Starts Here, a program working with community sporting clubs to promote gender equality, strengthen respectful relationships and prevent gendered violence.</p>
<p><b>Tiny Dots Early Intervention Ltd - \$35,000</b> An organisation supporting vulnerable babies and toddlers at risk of developmental delay or disability.</p>	<p>Funding will strengthen access to early intervention programs and allied health support for children aged 0-3, helping reduce wait times and improve outcomes for vulnerable children and families.</p>
<p><b>Wombat's Wish - \$30,000</b> A Bellarine-based charity supporting children and young people who have experienced the death of a parent or carer.</p>	<p>Funding will provide grief support programs, counselling and family connection activities that help children and young people strengthen emotional wellbeing, reduce isolation and navigate bereavement.</p>

## Life Skills

<p><b>Making Waves Foundation - \$15,000</b> An organisation delivering inclusive sailing and maritime programs for young people experiencing disadvantage, disability or disengagement.</p>	<p>Funding will support the Wright of Passage program, helping disengaged young people build confidence, workplace readiness and pathways into further education and employment through hands-on maritime training.</p>
<p><b>Cultura - \$15,000</b> A multicultural community organisation supporting refugee, migrant and asylum seeker communities across the Geelong region.</p>	<p>Funding will support Future Drivers 2026, a culturally safe driving mentor program helping refugee and asylum seeker women build confidence, independence and access to employment, education and community participation.</p>
<p><b>Riding for the Disabled - Barwon - \$12,000</b> An organisation delivering therapeutic horse-riding programs for children with disability across Geelong and the Bellarine.</p>	<p>Funding will provide therapeutic riding sessions that support confidence, emotional wellbeing, social connection and physical development for children with disability.</p>
<p><b>The Power In You Project - \$60,000</b> <i>(\$60,000 Year 1, \$60,000 Year 2, \$60,000 Year 3)</i> A community organisation delivering strengths-based programs for people experiencing mental health challenges, addiction, social disadvantage and involvement in the justice system.</p>	<p>Funding will provide free wellbeing and life skills programs that strengthen recovery, social connection and participation for people experiencing complex disadvantage.</p>

## INAUGURAL GEELONG WOMEN'S IMPACT COLLECTIVE GRANT

### Inaugural Geelong Women's Impact Collective Grant

<p><b>McAuley Community Services For Women - \$40,000</b> A specialist organisation supporting women and children experiencing family violence through housing, advocacy and trauma-informed care.</p>	<p>Funding will support a dedicated Children's Practitioner within the Safe at Home program, helping children impacted by family violence strengthening safety, wellbeing and connection to education and community.</p>
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## OTHER GRANT INITIATIVES

### 2025 P500 Grants

<p><b>The Empowerment Challenge - \$88,000</b> A Geelong organisation supporting younger mothers through connection, mentoring and practical support.</p>	<p>Funding will establish The Empowerment Challenge Hub, creating a dedicated community space where vulnerable young mothers can access mentoring, wellbeing support and community connection.</p>
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<p><b>P500 Runner Up</b> <b>Foundation 61 - \$5,000</b></p>	<p>Funding will contribute to organisational costs that support the delivery of addiction recovery and rehabilitation services.</p>
<p><b>P500 Runner Up</b> <b>Western Chances - \$5,000</b></p>	<p>Funding will contribute to scholarship and mentoring support for young people facing financial barriers to education.</p>
<p><b>2025 Adroit Golf Day Capital Grant</b></p>	
<p><b>Cultura - \$75,000</b> A multicultural community organisation supporting refugee, migrant and culturally diverse communities across Geelong.</p>	<p>Funding will upgrade Cultura's Northern Hub computer lab and digital learning space, improving access to technology, digital literacy and employment pathways for newly arrived communities.</p>
<p><b>Student Support 2026</b></p>	
<p><b>The Gordon Scholarships - \$10,000</b></p>	<p>Funding will provide scholarships for mature age students studying at The Gordon, helping reduce financial barriers to education and lifelong learning.</p>
<p><b>The Smith Family - \$80,000</b> <i>(\$80,000 Year 1, \$80,000 Year 2)</i> A national children's education charity supporting young Australians experiencing disadvantage through evidence-based learning and family support programs.</p>	<p>Funding will support the Learning for Life program, helping students experiencing disadvantage remain engaged in school and strengthen pathways to further education and employment.</p>
<p><b>Collaborative Grants</b> - funded in partnership with members of the Geelong Funders Collaborative</p>	
<p><b>Alcohol &amp; Drug Foundation - \$30,000</b> <i>(\$30,000 Year 2 of 2 Year Grant)</i> A national organisation working to prevent and reduce the harms associated with alcohol and other drug use.</p>	<p>Funding will continue the Geelong Systems Thinking Project, bringing local organisations together to identify and address the systemic causes of entrenched disadvantage across mental health, homelessness, education and employment.</p>
<p><b>Donor Advised Grants</b></p>	
<p>7 donor advised Grants totalling <b>\$50,004</b></p>	

