Geelong Community Foundation

Your gift working forever

GCF Newsletter / March 2019 Edition

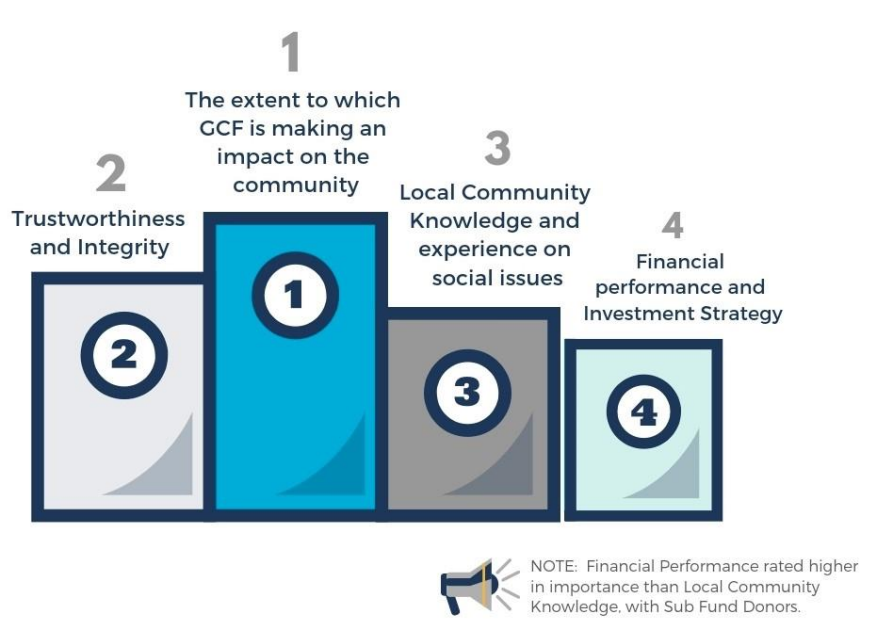
Welcome to the Geelong Community Foundation Newsletter delivered straight to your mailbox. This newsletter provides news and updates on how the Foundation is working to achieve its core purpose, to make a lasting difference to people in the Geelong Region.

Donor Survey Response

We've had some great feedback from those who were able to complete our Donor Survey conducted during December and January. The aim was to take the pulse of your satisfaction with us and gain insight about what really matters to you.

Since your feedback, we've held two workshops with members of the Board. We are working on a number of opportunities which we will share, and at the same time, I will be pleased to provide the survey results. Again, thank you to those who were able to participate.

The Top Four Things Our Donors Value Most About Us



Grant Applications

Applications for the Foundations 2019/20 grant program have closed. This year the program has moved to an online form, simplifying the application process removing the past requirement of organisations to provide 5 hard copies of the application. So pleased we have saved a few trees this year as we continue to improve our systems. Last year we received 90 applications for over $2m and were able to fund 46 community programs providing $932,500 in grants to community organisations across the Geelong region.

This time of year reinforces why we established the Foundation 17 years ago, providing a sustainable funding opportunity for community now and into the future – our donor's gifts working forever.

Schools in Philanthropy Program

After a successful 12 month pilot program in 2018, working with Sacred Heart and their Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) students in 2019 we will deliver an enhanced Schools in Philanthropy (SIP) Program. The program will expand to working with VCAL students at Sacred Heart, Belmont High, Christian College and Bellarine Secondary College.

After briefing the students and their teachers, I have no doubt that our program will continue to deliver an amazing experience for students as they become young grant makers. Following the delivery by the student's teacher of a number of learning modules that will focus on social issues, community organisations, values and team work, the students will then be presented with their community engagement task.

Grant funding of $20,000 is provided to each student group along with three grant applications from the 2019 grant program. The students immerse themselves within these organisations and with a fine tooth comb, review every aspect of their applications. Students will present their recommendations for organisation funding to the Foundation Board at a special event on Tuesday 30th April. The Foundation is grateful for the volunteer support received from Julie Pavletich and John Tabone who have helped improve this program and map the content to the VCAL curriculum.

Back to School Program

The Foundation has delivered the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR) Back to School Program in the Geelong region for many years. With the support from the Glover Family Trust, William Angliss (Victoria) Charitable Fund, a contribution of $41,000 from the Foundation, and matching grants from FRRR, in 2019 we will deliver $81,000 worth of $50 Target vouchers into primary and secondary schools in the Geelong region.

The vouchers are distributed to schools based on the Index of Community Socio-educational Advantage and school enrolments. We ensure, with the support of school Principals and Wellbeing Officers, that we are supporting as many students and families as possible who need some extra support with schools supplies.

Save the Date

Annual Grant Reception at
GMHBA Stadium
Wednesday 22 May 5:30pm

Regards,

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