

**Featuring A
SPOTLIGHT ON
MIGRANT AND
INDIGENOUS
COMMUNITY
WELFARE**



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ABOUT THE BENNELONG FOUNDATION

Established in 2002 by the Chapman family and the Bennelong Group, the Bennelong Foundation's mission is:

To enhance community wellbeing and provide opportunities for positive and lasting change in our community.

The Bennelong Foundation also aims to provide opportunities for employees within the Bennelong Group to personally get involved in the activities of the organisations it supports.

Since inception, the Foundation has made a wide variety of grants over our seven areas of interest, which are:

- » community health;
- » crisis support;
- » education, training and employment;
- » international aid and assistance;
- » medical research;
- » migrant and Indigenous community welfare; and
- » youth at risk.

At present, we are concentrating on three of those areas of focus:

- » community health;
- » education, training and employment; and
- » migrant and Indigenous community welfare.

Each year we provide a spotlight on one of our key focus areas. This year we are focusing on migrant and Indigenous community welfare, a funding area that regularly permeates through so many of our areas of interest.

The activities of the Foundation are overseen by an independent Board made up of the following individuals:

- » Jeff Chapman, Chairman;
- » Carena Shankar, Deputy Chairperson;
- » Chris Cunningham, Non-Executive Director;
- » Malcolm Gray, Non-Executive Director; and
- » Michael Pratt, Non-Executive Director.

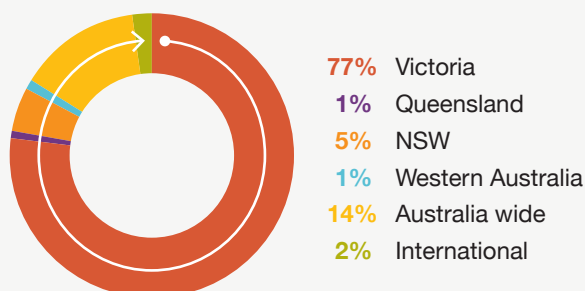
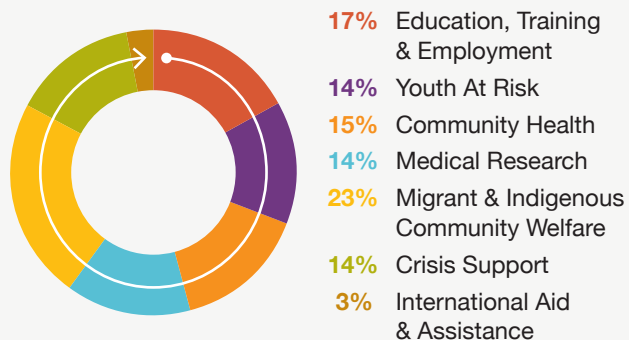
Key Advisers to the Board are:

- » Hon. Phil Honeywood;
- » Dr Bruce Reid;
- » Fiona Rowland, CEO; and
- » Susan Frances, General Manager.

This year, a new development was the formation of two 'Bubbles', made up of volunteer members of the Bennelong Group and its subsidiaries. As the Foundation grows and expands its activities, so will the involvement of staff in its grant-making process. The 'Bubbles' are already actively engaged in finding grass-roots projects and bringing the Foundation into the digital age with their exciting 'Pitch In' events. The first event will be held in Melbourne in August 2014 and a second one in Sydney later in the 2014/15 financial year. More about that in our next Annual Report!

Information on all aspects of the Foundation including areas of interest, grant rounds, funding principles and exclusions can be found on our website www.bennelongfoundation.com

Allocation of grants since the Foundation's inception in 2002 by focus area and geographic location.



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

I am very pleased and privileged to present the Chairman's Report of the Bennelong Foundation for the year ended 30th June 2014, the twelfth year of the Foundation's operations.

In last year's report, I noted the underlying importance of education, training and employment in the Foundation's work, and the perceived critical nature of these areas in seeking and effecting sustainable positive change in our community. A pleasing feature of the Foundation's managed approach to philanthropy is the fact that this concentration on education, training and employment can be overlaid with the Foundation's other areas of focus, such as migrant and Indigenous community welfare. A number of grants highlighting the interplay between these two areas are featured later in this Annual Report.

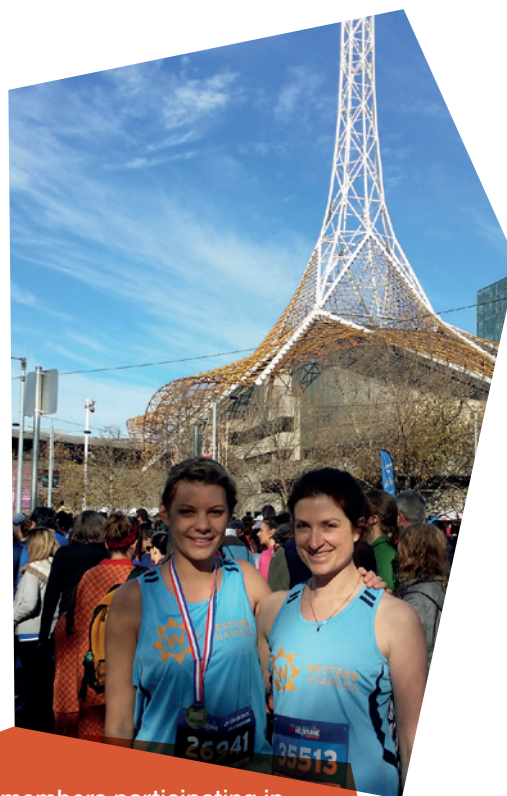
The former American President, Lyndon B. Johnson, when speaking of the enormous benefit of immigration to the building of America, got it right when he said: "The land flourished because it was fed from so many sources – because it was nourished by so many cultures and traditions and people". Such has also undoubtedly been the case with the building of Australia, and a number of the Foundation's grants this year have supported this theme.

Of at least equal note has been the opportunity to form a major partnership with the Cathy Freeman Foundation to support the great educational and community results they have achieved on Palm Island, and to extend their acclaimed 'Starting Block' and 'Horizons' programmes to Indigenous communities in mainland Queensland and the Northern Territory in 2015 and beyond.



Jeff Chapman and Susan Frances
with representatives of the
Vietnamese Parents Support Group
[Mackillop Family Services]

This year has been a highly successful one at all levels for the Bennelong Foundation and the current year to 30th June 2015 promises to be even better. In order to stay relevant to, and engaged with, the changing community, the Foundation is soon to have its own social media platform and is holding a live digital grant application event called 'Pitch In'. Stay tuned!



Staff members participating in
'Run Melbourne', helping to raise
money for Western Chances

My thanks go to fellow Directors and Advisers to the Board, to the management team of the Foundation, and especially to the staff of the wider Bennelong Group who have volunteered their time and energy to promote and support the Foundation and its work.

Jeff Chapman

CEO'S REPORT

COLLABORATION, INNOVATION AND THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

Over the year, the Foundation through its independent Board and Advisers, has undertaken a strategic review. The impetus for our review was our perennial quest to improve how we communicate and interact with our community partners, philanthropic peers and staff and enhance community outcomes from our grant making. Our overarching strategic objective was, and will continue to be, to enhance community wellbeing, provide opportunities for positive and lasting change and encourage philanthropy amongst our peers, staff and the broader community.

Collaboration, Innovation and Thought Leadership have been our guiding themes in driving the strategic direction we have agreed on and are now implementing.

Collaboration

We interpret collaboration in the broadest sense – partnering with peer foundations, organisations and government bodies with a true alignment of values, knowledge sharing, co-funding, shared project responsibility and all forms of support. A number of the projects that we have funded this year have included such collaboration.

Innovation

We take the view that the Foundation, just as any other business, must innovate to stay relevant in a market that is evolving at a rapid speed – with evolving fundraising methods such as crowd funding and social media movements like the ice bucket challenges, in addition to new developments in relation to project funding and investment opportunities.

Thought Leadership

Aligned to our vision of broadening Australia's philanthropic base, we would also like to broaden this sector's understanding of social venture philanthropy and impact investing. We acknowledge this as a nascent area and we wish to be an active supporter joining with key stakeholders, globally and domestically, to grow this space.

Within the context of the above strategic themes of Collaboration, Innovation and Thought Leadership, our key strategic areas of focus over the coming years are:

1. Implementing our three defined areas for our Granting Programme – The General Grants Programme, The Strategic Collaboration Programme and The Innovative Small – Medium Grants Programme:

- » Our General Grants Programme will continue with our focus on community health, education, training and employment and migrant and Indigenous community welfare;
- » Our Strategic Collaboration Programme will have a collaborative partner, multiyear time frame with an education and training focus. We are currently working on this project and plan to announce a significant multi stakeholder collaborative project in 2015;
- » Our Innovative Small – Medium Grants Programme will be led by our Bennelong Group staff, known as the 'Bubbles' empowered to seek out innovative, progressive and grass roots organisations and distribute funding through more contemporary mechanisms such as interactive 'dragon den pitch events' and greater use of social media. We see this as the start of a greater understanding of the funding process by our staff – who are the next generation of our Foundation, as well as ensuring we keep abreast of the digital and contemporary approaches to philanthropy; and

2. Committing and implementing, together with key stakeholders, globally and domestically, to grow the social venture philanthropy and impact investing market. We believe that success in this area requires a collaborative approach across investment, philanthropy, government and regulators to ensure that it is supported by common understanding of concepts, the appropriate infrastructure is in place and the development of key services and support. Our goal is to ensure that, together with our collaborators, social venture philanthropy becomes an accepted and understood concept and has a language and rules, just like the concepts of equities and fixed income as asset classes, with their own characteristics, with understood risk and return profiles.

This is a major strategic initiative that we are working on over the coming year and look forward to taking an active public role in early 2015.

It has been a pleasure working with our Board and Advisers, the Youth Committee and new Bubbles as well as staff across the group to arrive at and commence implementation of the Foundation's strategic vision.



Fiona Rowland

NOTE FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

The theme for our 2013/2014 Annual Report is migrant and Indigenous community welfare, one of the three key areas of focus for the Foundation. The other key areas are education, training and employment, and community health. You will note from the 'spotlights' on five organisations further in the Report that these areas are also prominent in the projects we are funding.

We continue to partner the organisations we support not only financially, but with in-kind assistance and administrative and financial advice.

The Foundation hosted a number of events over the last 12 months, with the aim of increasing staff engagement and knowledge of the projects we support. Staff involvement continues to be an integral part of the Foundation's mission. In addition to the financial grants we provide, Bennelong staff are encouraged to volunteer their time and/or expertise to various projects.

Following a strategic review in April, I am looking forward to the year ahead with a number of exciting projects being planned. One of the outcomes has been the launch of a new Bennelong Foundation website – we urge you to take a look at www.bennelongfoundation.com.

I would like to thank the Chairman, Jeff Chapman, Deputy Chairperson, Carena Shankar, the Foundation Board and CEO, Fiona Rowland for their guidance, staff of the wider Bennelong Group for their enthusiastic and active participation in our activities, and the organisations we support for the continued inspiration they provide.



Susan Frances

Timehelp

“

The volunteers themselves are also benefitting; 95% report enhanced mental wellbeing and 80% report enhanced physical wellbeing. They said they feel more connected to their community through Timehelp.

”

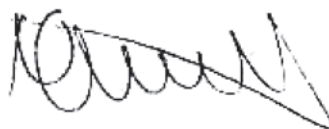
Timehelp staff member



NOTE FROM THE YOUTH COMMITTEE

This year the Youth Committee maintained its focus on small grants and meaningful engagement with the organisations the Foundation supports. The Committee is proud to have supported two new organisations and approved continued funding for three organisations over the 2013/14 financial year. Support included new funding for Ready to Work and Western Chances and continued funding for STREAT, e.Motion21 and the Cathy Freeman Foundation. The Committee also promoted keenly attended volunteer days with the St Kilda Mums and Mirabel organisations.

As the Foundation embarks on a new structure, I would like to thank all the members of the Committee for their support and guidance over the past six and a half years and in particular to prior Chairs, Chris Cunningham and Darlene White, and the Foundation's General Manager, Susan Frances. I am confident the Committee has made a significant contribution to the shape of the Bennelong Foundation.



Nick Chapman

STREAT

“

Today I graduate. Today I actually finish something I started. Today I walk away with friends and knowledge, but most of all, I leave with hope...

”

Trainee Velocity on her graduation day



THE BENNELONG FOUNDATION IN THE COMMUNITY

Make A Difference Day for Mirabel Foundation at Luna Park

When the call went out for volunteers for the Make A Difference Day for the children involved in Mirabel Foundation, Bennelong staff quickly came to the rescue. Our volunteers get as much satisfaction and enjoyment from the day as the children do, and Mirabel Foundation are always very appreciative of our support.

"Thank you for your involvement at Mirabel's Luna Park Big Day Out during the April school holidays. A big thank you also to the volunteers whose energy and enthusiasm helped make this day so special for so many young people, and I wanted to let the whole team know how much they are appreciated."

50 Mirabel children attended the day and the feedback from the kids has been very positive. The Mirabel team has debriefed with some great stories and examples of children coming together, joining in and having fun. Luna Park really is so much fun for these children and with the venue being such a big public space, it really would be impossible for Mirabel staff to invite and supervise so many children without the help of the volunteers from Bennelong.

Despite the grey skies and a little bit of rain, all the children seemed to enjoy themselves which was fantastic!"

Rob Johnston
Recreation Programmes, Mirabel Foundation

Harmony Day Lunch

Harmony Day celebrates the cohesive and inclusive nature of our nation and promotes the benefits of cultural diversity. The continuing message of Harmony Week is "Everyone Belongs" – it's about community participation, inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. Our Harmony Day lunch was held on 19 March at social enterprise Feast of Merit in Richmond and featured special guest Fawad Ahmed, Australian and Victorian cricketer, who shared his story of why he came to seek asylum in Australia and his experiences during that journey. Foundation Board member Malcolm Gray interviewed Fawad and everyone who attended the lunch was riveted by his story.

Foundation Board member Malcolm Gray
and Australian cricketer Fawad Ahmed

Ganbina Visit Day

Each year, the Bennelong Foundation hosts the leadership group of Year 10 Indigenous students from Shepparton for a day in Melbourne. The day starts with a tour of Swinburne University where the students can observe the two streams of tertiary education and meet current Indigenous students; then on to Parliament House in Melbourne for an inside peek into Victorian politics; lunch at Bennelong House with employees of various Bennelong Group companies; and finally a tour of the MCG and the Sports Museum. It is a full day and interesting to see how the kids come out of themselves during the visits, asking lots of questions and becoming quite involved. This wouldn't be possible without the assistance of Bennelong Group staff and in particular, Phil Honeywood, an adviser to the Foundation Board, for the tour of Parliament House.



Ganbina kids with participants in
Swinburne University's Indigenous
Youth Integration Programme which
the Foundation is currently funding



THE BENNELONG FOUNDATION IN THE COMMUNITY

Tan Track Challenge

The Tan Track Challenge has become an annual event for the Foundation where we celebrate the installation of the Tan Track clocks in 2012 to promote community health. Employees of the Bennelong Group of companies, their families and guests participate in a walk/run around the Tan Track. An organisation is chosen each year to support and participants are encouraged to donate, with the Foundation dollar matching funds raised. This year, the Gutsy Group was the chosen recipient. The sole purpose of the Gutsy Group is to raise funds for research into the cause(s) and cure of ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease (also known collectively as inflammatory bowel disease).

Charcoal Lane, a social enterprise hospitality venue, also funded by the Foundation through a scholarship for an Indigenous student, provided the catering for the event.

Each year we have a t-shirt design competition for staff members' children and the winner this year was Zara Smith (Fiona Rowland's daughter). The winners of the Tan Track Challenge were Prue and Paul Stone (Bennelong Wealth Partners) with times of 16 minutes and 10 seconds and 16 minutes and 53 seconds respectively.



Prue and Paul Stone
with the Tan Track Cup

Zara Smith and the
winning t-shirt design

Crown Golf's Bag Amnesty

Philanthropy in the UK

Crown Golf is a Bennelong Group company based in the United Kingdom. Its philanthropic activities during the last 12 months include:

- » £500,000 raised by Crown Golf's Club Captains (Ladies and Men's) for local charities: Crown Golf supports each of its 25 Clubs Captains' local charities by providing facilities to enable each club to raise an average of £20,000;
- » Crown Golf's Bag Amnesty Summer 2014 initiative is a Crown Golf initiative to liberate some of the UK's estimated 4 million unwanted golf bags and redeploy them via the Golf Trust charity to disabled golfers and inner-city golf projects across the UK and internationally;
- » £14,340 donation by Crown Golf to the Golf Foundation, which helps the sporting and social development of young people through golf;
- » Support of the "On Course" Foundation by St Mellion for the fourth year running, hosting over 80 people who have been injured in the line of duty;
- » Cornwall College and St Mellion partnership with five community schools in the south east of Cornwall, which is the most socially deprived area of Cornwall and one of the lowest GDP levels within the EU. St Mellion has supported and created the education programme with the College, developing young people to be able to deliver excellence in the tourism and hospitality industries across Cornwall;
- » Sherfield Oaks Golf Club praised by "Facing the World" Charity for the support it has given to many charitable events, with the funds raised bringing children to the UK who have conditions so complex that they cannot be treated in their own countries; and
- » St Mellion Community Sponsorship at the grass-roots level, setting a national example by acting as a sporting foundation for its local community.



COMMENTS FROM ORGANISATIONS SUPPORTED BY THE BENNELONG FOUNDATION

Western Chances

“

The Bennelong Foundation's grant to Western Chances has been vital in helping 20 financially disadvantaged young people in Melbourne's west the opportunity to fulfil their potential.

”

Rhyll Dorrington, Manager, Western Chances



Charcoal Lane

“

More than 150 young people have been provided with training and employment experiences through Charcoal Lane.

”

Charcoal Lane staff member



Alannah & Madeline Foundation

“

Better Buddies helps students entering their first year of school feel safe, valued and connected to their school community, and is designed to help reduce bullying by creating friendly and caring school environments. The generous support of the Bennelong Foundation has allowed us to implement the Better Buddies Framework into 11 disadvantaged schools.

”

Amanda Johnson, Trust & Foundation Manager



YWCA Queensland

“

The Bennelong Foundation's funding has enabled YWCA Queensland to further our commitment to making our leadership programmes available to young Queensland women everywhere.

”

YWCA Queensland staff member





THE BENNELONG FOUNDATION SPOTLIGHT ON MIGRANT AND INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY WELFARE

One of our key objectives is to support the development and implementation of programmes and projects that assist migrant and Indigenous communities throughout Australia in the areas of:

- » social cohesion;
- » youth issues and family preservation;
- » health;
- » education and training;
- » employment; and
- » cultural identity and cultural conflict.

This area of focus has been a consistent and important one for the Foundation and makes up 23% of total grants provided since inception.

During the 2013/2014 financial year, we worked closely with Swinburne University, VICSEG and Wellsprings for Women, in addition to our established support of the Song Room, the Cathy Freeman Foundation and other projects featured in this report. We are excited to be extending our partnership with the Cathy Freeman Foundation for the next three years, supporting a new Queensland-based project.

CATHY FREEMAN FOUNDATION

Closing the education gap



The Cathy Freeman Foundation (CFF) aims to close the education gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous children. The education barriers for Indigenous children are unacceptably high – only 54 per cent of Indigenous young people between the ages of 20 and 24 have completed year 12. CFF works on improving educational outcomes and providing pathways that are critical to children's success at school.

Since its launch in 2007, CFF has developed a **community-based model of educational support that reaches more than 600 Indigenous children and their families on Palm Island every year.** Palm Island is located 65 km north-east of Townsville and is one of Australia's largest discrete Indigenous communities, with up to 3,500 residents.

CFF aims to help with the education of Indigenous children via five interrelated educational programmes, including the Early Childhood Learning Programme, which focuses on improving the literacy rates of children from preschool through to Year 3, and the Starting Block Programme, which provides classroom resources to measure and ultimately recognise and reward improvements in key areas such as literacy and school attendance.

“Mary has really broadened her horizons, she's ... inspired to go even further.”

Unique long-term focus at a grass-roots level

The focus of CFF is threefold – facilitating strong improvements in literacy, attendance and behaviour for children between the ages of 3-18 years old, working at a grass-roots level and making long-term partnerships with specific communities. CFF recognises that the depth and complexity of challenges faced by remote indigenous communities cannot be overcome without consistent community presence and sustained programme delivery. Working side-by-side with community leaders, Councils, schools, parents and children, CFF has slowly but surely generated positive changes to educational outcomes.

Partnering with the Bennelong Foundation

In partnership with the Australian Indigenous Education Foundation, the CFF Scholarship Programme provides students with scholarships to private boarding schools. This programme is unique, because unlike other scholarships that require academic or sporting excellence, any Indigenous student from Palm Island with the desire to study can apply to receive a scholarship, as long as they are eligible to receive ABSTUDY and their family supports their decision.

Through this programme, the Bennelong Foundation supported Mary*, one of the first young achievers who will graduate from Year 12 at the end of 2014.

Mary commenced as a boarder at a Townsville private school in 2010 and is now an active member of the school community. She works hard at her studies and volunteers in a range of leadership roles.

Mary's mother, Josephine, has noticed big improvements in Mary's dedication to learning and extracurricular activities as a result of the scholarship programme. She said: “Mary has really broadened her horizons, she's able to look outside the box and now she's got all these plans about what she wants to do!”

“When kids like her get a scholarship, they already feel they've achieved something and they're inspired to go even further,” said Josephine.

Many Indigenous children on Palm Island don't have the option of exploring education further afield due to a lack of financial assistance and an absence of choice. The Scholarship Programme provides them with access to a range of quality schooling options, exposing them to greater opportunities and strengthening their prospects for success later in life.

www.cathyfreemanfoundation.org.au

** Please note, in order to honour privacy agreements, the names have been changed in this story.*

SWINBURNE'S INDIGENOUS YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Providing further study for Indigenous men

Operated by the Swinburne University of Technology (Swinburne), the Indigenous Youth Development programme aims to give young Indigenous men from Darwin the opportunity to further their study and community engagement. This is achieved via a mix of education and football club based activities. The project is designed to foster the young men's football abilities, while also giving them practical education they can take back to Darwin (or indeed anywhere) to work within the community.

The project is conducted in partnership with the Palmarty Development Association Programme, which provides mentoring and support, and is connected to the St Mary's Salesian Amateur Football Club.

Helping to realise their aspirations

The young men study towards a Certificate IV in Community Services through Swinburne Vocational Education (TAFE), whilst also actively engaging in regular training sessions and games at the football club throughout the year.



In all areas of activity, Swinburne recognises and respects the history and diversity of spirituality, heritage and contemporary aspirations of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and peoples across Australia. These aspirations include improved health, as well as increased access and achievement in vocational and higher education and employment. The programme is important in helping to realise these aspirations, by providing access to education for talented students who may not otherwise have the opportunity for further study.

Increasing access to quality education

The support of the Foundation has made a significant difference to the Indigenous Youth Development Programme. Receiving the grant has enabled Swinburne to plan for the future with certainty.

The programme is a wonderful cooperation between different organisations, all of whom are focused on the same goal: to increase access to a quality education for young Indigenous men from Darwin.

The young men in the programme are talented, dedicated and willing to work hard to make the most of their opportunities. They are doing themselves and the Swinburne University proud. Thanks to the Foundation, this valuable programme will continue into 2016 and beyond.

For further information about the Indigenous Youth Development programme, visit www.swinburne.edu.au/alumni/annual-appeal/indigenous-youth.htm

THE SONG ROOM

Engaging young people through creativity

The Song Room is a national not-for-profit organisation providing opportunities for enhanced learning and development for disadvantaged children through music and the arts. Their vision is that all Australian children have the opportunity to participate in music and the arts to enhance their education, personal development and community involvement. Overall, the Song Room's programmes aim to:

1. bridge the large equity gap in educational and social outcomes for disadvantaged children by providing evidence-based teaching artist programmes that enhance learning, wellbeing and community involvement; and
2. increase access to quality arts education, particularly in schools where there is limited access to specialist teaching, providing innovative learning opportunities for students, and skills, resources and capacity building for teachers and communities.

The Song Room has delivered arts-based programmes to disadvantaged schools for over 10 years and now delivers programmes to over 20,000 children every week across Australia. The organisation's programmes are currently delivered in approximately 200 schools/communities each year across every State and Territory.

Music Mates, Dandenong South Primary School

The Bennelong Foundation funded Music Mates, a structured, long-term creative arts project. The main objective of the project is to enhance learning and development for students experiencing socio-economic disadvantage, and cultural and linguistic barriers to education, using the arts as a means to further engage students in multiple dimensions of school life. **This project uses creative arts to encourage improved self confidence, engagement with learning, cross-cultural understanding, stronger language acquisition skills and increased social inclusion at school.**

The project involves a number of integrated components including:

- » in-school workshop programme, delivered by the Song Room Teaching Artist one day a week;

- » community performance events, providing opportunities to share school and community achievements; and
- » Capacity Building, a comprehensive teacher support programme.

Breaking socio-economic, cultural and linguistic barriers

Since commencement of the Music Mates project in July 2012, the Song Room has been able to achieve very positive outcomes for students, teachers and the school community of Dandenong South Primary School. A strong programme has been introduced to the students and has gained increasing support and participation amongst teachers and the broader school community.

These comments from a teacher capture the impact of the Song Room's programmes on student engagement and overall welfare:

"I have students with severe language difficulties. Throughout the semester, due to the regular chants and singing, I have seen an increased ability for these students to articulate words and put sentences together. In addition, the Song Room has turned my shy, timid class of boys into confident, 'give anything a go' students. During a visiting performance, a previously shy student volunteered twice to perform on stage."

The Song Room recently commenced the programme at Meadow Heights Primary School where it will run from January 2014 to July 2015.

For more information about the work of the Song Room, visit www.songroom.org.au



THE VICTORIAN CO-OPERATIVE ON CHILDREN'S SERVICES FOR ETHNIC GROUPS

Providing pathways to new futures

The Victorian Co-operative on Children's Services for Ethnic Groups (VICSEG) was established more than 30 years ago to assist parents from migrant and refugee backgrounds to understand and access culturally responsive services. VICSEG builds connections between recently settled families and mainstream services for families, children and young people, with an emphasis on the transition periods of early childhood and youth.

Acknowledged as Victoria's peak multicultural organisation for ethnic children's services, VICSEG is committed to partnership approaches and the trialling of new, more inclusive service models that can grow from effective community engagement.

A range of innovative programmes

In 2013, VICSEG's Refugee Family Resource and Mentoring was recognised by the Victorian Minister for Multicultural Affairs and Citizenship, and awarded funding to expand the programme in Melton and Wyndham. Family mentoring offers vital support to families with children during their settlement, ensuring improved education and health for those most isolated or excluded from mainstream community services.

Vital support for families with children during settlement

Another initiative, New Futures Training, provides opportunities for recently arrived migrants and refugees, particularly women, to train for work in care services such as child care and aged care. The annual enrolment of around 3,000 students is an indication of its success in facilitating genuine pathways into employment.

Holistic support for South Sudanese families

This year, the Bennelong Foundation provided resources to support a Demonstration Project in Melton, the western growth corridor of Melbourne. The grant supported VICSEG in developing programmes

for the emerging community of South Sudanese immigrants moving to the area. Three part-time South Sudanese community workers were appointed to support early childhood, community development and youth programmes, with an underlying focus on providing an holistic family approach.

A major component of this developmental work is the Sudanese Student Engagement and Support programme, launched in May 2014. Five secondary colleges participated in engaging 20 students (10 boys and 10 girls) of South Sudanese background. **By encouraging the students to stay in school and achieve their best possible educational results, the programme recognised the social impact this has on the community, and the personal impact on the students' future employment opportunities.** The project actively engaged parents in supporting their teenage children and increased community understanding of education and employment pathways within an Australian context.



At the launch, each school made a presentation about the programme's impact. Some teams made a video, others created a PowerPoint presentation, while some simply spoke to the audience, which comprised of Melton Council officials, representatives from a range of government departments, elders of the Sudanese community, and the students' family members.

In June, project coordinators concentrated on developing a rigorous and accessible evaluation framework that can be used to demonstrate the programme's effectiveness. A strong evaluation will support the sustainability of this approach in Melton and other, similar municipalities. It is anticipated the evaluation report for the first year of this demonstration project will be available in February 2015.

For further information about the Victorian Co-operative on Children's Services for Ethnic Groups, visit www.vicsegnewfutures.org.au

WELLSPRINGS FOR WOMEN

Empowering and uniting refugees and asylum seekers

Wellsprings for Women (Wellsprings) is a community centre for women in the Dandenong area who are traditionally hard to reach due to the trauma of migration, childhood difficulties, mental illness, family breakdown, disability, or are housebound due to their role as a carer for young children or elderly parents.

A Bennelong Foundation grant provided ... a new programme, Learning to Live in Australia

This form of isolation disempowers women and creates many barriers. In 1994, Wellsprings opened its door one day per week as a 'drop-in centre', offering a unique homely atmosphere for women to gather and connect with their peers and the community. The 'women only' space provides a non-threatening, open, nurturing, creative, educative environment which helps build resilience, interpersonal connection and skills.

The importance of connecting isolated women

For 20 years, Wellsprings has delivered programmes that have reached a substantial number of women, with over 200 women currently accessing their services five days a week. The organisation's unique women-focused Neighbourhood House model is committed to working with sensitivity and purpose to meet its mission of empowering women to live their lives more fully.

Wellsprings is based in the heart of Dandenong – the City of Greater Dandenong has a very high number of refugees and asylum seekers living in the local area. Today these families come to Wellsprings in search of hope to rebuild their lives. The forms of isolation that the women and their families present with are very complex – not only do they feel disconnected from their community, but they also lack the ability to speak English and have no work rights. Together with

their limited income, loss of family connections and uncertainty about their future, day-to-day activities can present quite a struggle.

The centre has staff to support workers who are from Afghan and African backgrounds. The workers started their relationship with the centre as students, and bring their personal journeys as refugees in Australia as an empowering example of the possibilities and opportunities for refugees and asylum seekers. Wellsprings staff and volunteers work together to reinforce the centre's vision by delivering cross cultural learning programmes for mothers with young children, empowering them as they learn to live in a new country.

Successful pilot programme supported by the Bennelong Foundation

A Bennelong Foundation grant provided Wellsprings with the opportunity to pilot a new programme, Learning to Live in Australia, which engaged around 55 women and 30 preschool aged children each term. The programme runs at two locations and aims to teach recently arrived women about life in Australia, their children's school and education system, vital community resource skills and basic English skills. In addition, the programme aims to provide one-on-one support and future pathway planning for the women involved. The pilot programme has been independently evaluated and continues to successfully support isolated women and empower them to support their families and children's education in Australia.



Built on the ethos of empowering women to live their lives more fully, Wellsprings is continually striving to put this vision into action, believing that when you empower women and connect them in their communities, they will create positive outcomes and benefits for their families and the broader community.

For more information, visit www.wellspringsforwomen.com

GOVERNANCE AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Governance

The Bennelong Foundation is a Private Ancillary Fund and is subject to the Private Ancillary Fund Guidelines 2009.

The Board of Trustees meet twice a year to consider Foundation matters including:

- » administration: to ensure it is meeting its compliance obligations;
- » investing: to ensure its assets are achieving its investment aims and objectives; and
- » grant making: to facilitate the distribution of funds to eligible entities.

Financial reports

The Bennelong Foundation is not a reporting entity. Accordingly, the Trustees prepared a special purpose financial report for the year ended 30 June 2014 to satisfy its reporting requirements under the Trust Deed and compliance with the Private Ancillary Fund Guidelines.

Investment aims and objectives

The Bennelong Foundation operates under a formal investment policy statement. The policy statement sets out the Foundation's investment aims and objectives, approved investments, asset allocation profile approved to meet the Foundation's objectives, and details of the rules governing the management of the Foundation's investments.

The investment aim and objective of the Foundation is to:

- » generate a current year's income consistent with its portfolio asset allocation; and
- » maintain the inflation adjusted earnings base and therefore grant making capacity of the fund.

The Foundation has achieved a return on net assets of 10.9% since inception.

The Foundation would like to acknowledge and thank our investment fund managers, Phil Henty, Carena Shankar, Bennelong Funds Management and Evans & Partners for their professional advice and support during the financial year.

The special purpose financial report is audited by Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu.



The Western Chances Scholarship Awards Ceremony

ORGANISATIONS SUPPORTED

Name	Project
Alannah & Madeline Foundation	Better Buddies Framework
Bestchance	Cheshire Intervention Programme
Brotherhood of St Laurence	Employment Pathways for Young Asylum Seekers
Cathy Freeman Foundation	Scholarship for Palm Island Student
Child Wise	Speak Up: Understanding Child Abuse and Your Response
e-motion21	Volunteer and Site Coordinator
Epworth Medical Foundation	Bioness 200
First Step Programme	Employment Programme
Mission Australia	Charcoal Lane
Operation Newstart Victoria	Operation Newstart Programmes for 2014
Queensland Police Citizens Youth Welfare Association	Alternative Learning Space
Ready to Work	Three Step Programme to Financial Independence
River Nile Learning Centre	Social Worker
Save the Children Australia	Dollar Matching with Staff for Philippines Typhoon
SEACC	Multicultural Homework Programme
Sir David Martin Foundation	CAVE Programme at Triple Care Farm
St John Ambulance	First Aid in Schools Programme
St Kilda Mums	Baby Needs for Migrant and Indigenous Families
STREAT	Youth Programmes
Swinburne University	Indigenous Youth Integration Programme
Sydney Children's Hospital Foundation	Healing Play Programme
The Gutsy Group	Tan Track Challenge
The Song Room	Music Mates: Music & Harmony for Multicultural Kids
Timehelp	Connecting Two Generations
University of Melbourne	Scholarship/Internship Programme
University of Western Sydney	Scholarship/Internship Programme
Very Special Kids	Capacity Building
VICSEG	Student Engagement and Support Programme
Wellsprings for Women	Learning to Live in Australia
Western Chances	Scholarship Programme
Youth Off The Streets	Right on the Inside
YWCA Queensland Inc.	YBloom



Thao Ly
Western Chances Scholarship Recipient
Thao is now working for BDO, realising her
dream of becoming an accountant



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