

LOOKING BACK

LOOKING FORWARD

20 YEARS
CREATING
POSITIVE
COMMUNITY
CHANGE

BENNELONG FOUNDATION

Annual Report 21/22





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The Bennelong Foundation and Bangarra Family Office are located on Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung, and Gadigal land.

The Bennelong Foundation acknowledges Australia's First Nations Peoples as the custodians of the Country on which we live, learn and work. We recognise their continuing connection to the lands and waters throughout Australia, their culture and their communities. We pay our respects to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and to Elders past, present and emerging.

About Us

About the Bennelong Foundation & Bennelong Foundation UK

Creating a healthier, more productive and inclusive community

The philanthropic activities of the Bangarra Family Office are delivered via two foundations: the Bennelong Foundation, a private ancillary fund (PAF) established in 2002, and the Bennelong Foundation UK, a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO) established in 2020.

Core to the operations and impact of the Bennelong Foundation and Bennelong Foundation UK is our community. The Bennelong Foundation and Bangarra Family Office community consists of staff of the Family Office and its subsidiaries, their family members, clients, colleagues, friends and grant partners. Our community actively participates in the activities of the Foundations, enhancing the philanthropic activities and impact beyond grant making through volunteering, mentoring, learning and utilising the businesses' assets.

The activities of each foundation are overseen by independent boards made up of the following individuals:

Bennelong Foundation

- Carena Shankar, Chairperson
- Jeff Chapman, Founder Director
- Sandra Jacobs, Executive Director
- Christine Flear
- Craig Bingham
- Kelly Chapman
- The Hon. Phil Honeywood

Key advisers to the Board

- Omar Al Kassab
- Greg Thomas

Bennelong Foundation UK trustees

- Jeff Chapman
- Carena Shankar
- Greg Thomas
- Sandra Jacobs (CEO)

P.A.C.E. Committee

- Jeff Phillips (Chair)
- David Whitby
- Jodie Saw
- Marta Galli
- Meredith Williams
- Monique Malouf
- Peter Aquilina
- Scott Lillingston
- Stuart Fechner

Delivering support across Australia and the United Kingdom

The Bennelong Foundation provides support to a number of organisations and community projects across Australia and the United Kingdom via several grant rounds each year. The Foundations seek to support organisations that create equity opportunities for people to reach their educational and economic potential; support long-term health outcomes; and strengthen community, cultural identity and social cohesion.

The Bennelong Foundation UK has a particular focus on projects in London and Cornwall that provide support for:

- General welfare, in particular addressing food insecurity
- Addressing challenges for young people so that they can achieve their best

Information on all aspects of the Bennelong Foundation and Bennelong Foundation UK – including areas of interest, grant rounds, funding, principles and exclusions – can be found on our website.

bennelongfoundation.com

About Bangarra Family Office

Bangarra Family Office is a private family business founded by Jeff Chapman and Carena Shankar in 2000 with the intention of preserving and generating wealth in order to further their philanthropic pursuits of building a healthier, more productive and inclusive community.

Today Bangarra Family Office sustains these pursuits through three global businesses that are underpinned by a commitment to responsible business and through the Bennelong Foundation and Bennelong Foundation UK.

Subsidiaries of Bangarra Family Office

- Bennelong Funds Management (Australia)
- BennBridge (UK)
- Crown Golf (UK)

Philanthropic subsidiaries

- Bennelong Foundation (Australia)
- Bennelong Foundation UK

bangarragroup.com

20 years of the Bennelong Foundation

After two decades, creating a more equitable society is still our focus. We have grown in size, scope and vision, and have not shied away from the lessons learned along the way.



LOOKING BACK

LOOKING FORWARD

Right. Image courtesy of Talent Beyond Boundaries





Chair's Report

CEO's Report



I sit down to write this note with a smile on my face and a great sense of achievement and pride. The Bennelong Foundation recently celebrated a very significant milestone — 20 years since it was established by my husband Jeff Chapman and I!

I would like to thank everyone who has made this possible over the 20 years, sharing knowledge and expertise, partnering with us and working with us, and most importantly teaching us that there is always another point of view. Our core values and areas of focus remain the same but we are constantly evolving and improving how we do things... Education, Training & Employment has always been a key focus area so the Board decided to mark this special moment with 20 scholarships.

We compiled a snapshot of the projects funded since inception and I was most struck by the SMILES! SMILES of pride and achievement. SMILES of self-worth and self-fulfilment. SMILES of happiness! We have shared some of these images in this report and I am sure you will be as wowed by them as I was!

Looking back over the last 20 years there is a very clear pattern to the work of the Bennelong Foundation. Our mantra has always been CHANGE — not CHARITY. We remain committed to that goal.

On the Australian front, we are planning ahead for the next 20 years and beyond! I would like to take the opportunity to acknowledge and thank Alice Wong for her unwavering diligence and hard work during the five years that she served as Special Adviser to the Board of the Bennelong Foundation Australia before retiring earlier this year. Anyone who has worked with Alice will know that she will continue to be a valuable ally and friend and we look forward to her continued participation in the work of the Foundation.

There is no doubt that the Bennelong Foundation's next 20 years will be significantly different to the first. We shall keep our commitment to and involvement in small, grassroots projects because... well, that's what we do!

But our desire to be at the leading edge of work that has a global effect and impact will force us into new and exciting fields. We are also keen to use our other attributes — voice, size, influence etc — to work in close collaboration with our fellow foundations and family offices to do good.

We want to be a positive force in the world and we can use the size of our company, to do good and influence others

DOUG MCMILLON, CEO WALMART

In the UK, we continue to grow, and it gives me great pleasure to welcome Maurice Wren as Trustee to the Bennelong Foundation UK. Maurice's experience as CEO of the British Refugee Council as well as in the areas of homelessness and statelessness, is very much aligned with the work of the Bennelong Foundation in providing opportunities and a fair go for all.

Great progress is measured in small increments. The year 2021/22 has been a good year. 2022/23 will be even better!

Carena Shankar
Chairperson

On 31 May 2022, the Bennelong Foundation celebrated its 20th anniversary. Twenty years is a significant milestone for any organisation, and for the Bennelong Foundation it's provided the gift of time. Time to learn, time to develop and nurture relationships, and most importantly the time to support over 650 projects that address barriers to a healthier, more productive and inclusive community.

The Foundation will use the experience and learnings of the past 20 years to inform the next 20 and beyond as we begin to plan and develop strategies for our growth in Australia, the UK and within a global context. The theme of this report — 'Looking Back, Looking Forward' — is a marker of this significant point in the Bennelong Foundation's journey.

It's important to acknowledge that for the Bennelong Foundation community, the first part of FY22 was experienced, once again, through long periods of Covid-19 lockdowns. While Covid-19 is still prevalent, I am extremely grateful lockdowns are no longer part of the virus's management, and that the world and borders began to open up again in 2022.

However, the impacts of the pandemic — as well as that of the rising cost of living — continues to remain front of mind when we consider our granting programs.

During FY22 the Bennelong Foundation continued to deepen its impact beyond grant making. We engaged staff through mentoring programs; committed to working towards a carbon-neutral footprint through TRACE; and formalised our commitment to reconciliation with our first Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan, which will launch in the second half of 2022.

In FY22 we also expanded our grant program in the UK. Through the Bennelong Foundation UK, we have continued to support grass-roots community organisations in Cornwall, and we have helped young people in inner London via our staff at our UK-based subsidiary businesses.

In June 2022 I was privileged to travel to the UK. On the visit I spent time with our UK-based philanthropic colleagues and met our grant partners. We also hosted several events with the staff of our subsidiary businesses, BennBridge and Crown Golf.

We were received openly by the UK philanthropic community who generously shared its time and knowledge to support our expansion into the UK — my visit reminded me how unique, special and inclusive the philanthropic community is. I am grateful to work with and alongside so many inspiring people and organisations that are improving people's lives, and the planet.

I am pleased to present the 2021/22 Bennelong Foundation annual report highlighting our work over the past year and recognising the valuable work our grant partners provide for the community.

As always, I would like to acknowledge and thank the directors of the Bennelong Foundation, the directors and team of Bangarra Family Office, our grant partners, and the members of the Bennelong Foundation community for their ongoing support and inspiration throughout the year. I hope you enjoy reading about our work.

Sandra Jacobs
CEO

Impact Snapshot

Total Grants 21/22

39



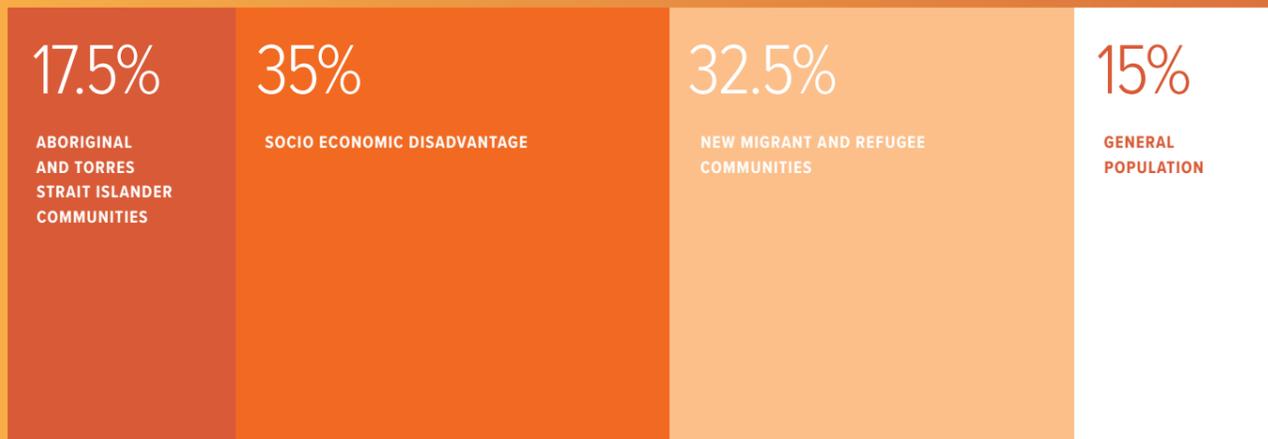
Number of Beneficiaries 2,639



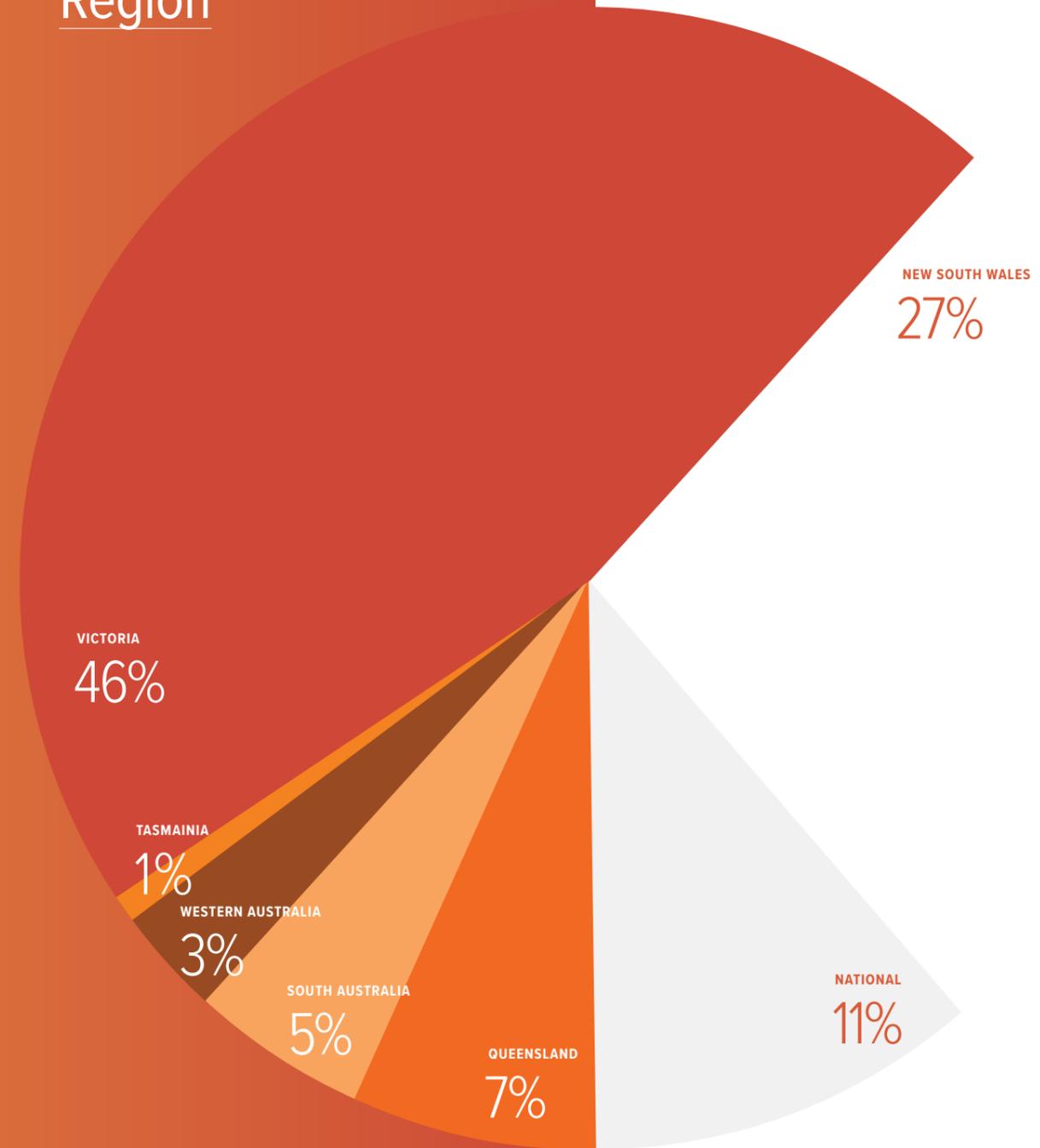
Direct Beneficiaries



Target Groups



Funding by Region



LOOKING BACK

LOOKING FORWARD



As we reflect on the past 20 years, it is also time to plan for the next 20.

On 31 May 2002, the Bennelong Foundation was registered as private ancillary fund (PAF) number 53. Today there are more than 3,000 PAFs registered in Australia with assets of over \$12 billion. The Bennelong Foundation was there at the forefront of a significant movement towards public support of the community, and our purpose still is to act for change that makes society more equitable.

Twenty years is a remarkable milestone – the gift of time provides knowledge, experience and most importantly impact. We have learned, reflected and grown along the way, and through our 300-plus grant partners have provided opportunities for better health care, better access to education, and pathways to employment for close to 400,000 people.

Alongside this, the people of the Bennelong Foundation and Bangarra Family Office community have had the opportunity to be a part of something greater than themselves.

Beyond grant making

Creating a culture of caring by involving the people and assets of the Bennelong Foundation and Bangarra Family Office community in what we do has been key to the impact we have been able to create.

Actively engaging our staff in our work began in 2006, and every year since then we've had a full calendar of events, engagement activities, and learning and volunteering opportunities that have supported our philanthropic impact beyond grant making.

- We celebrate our cultural diversity through a Taste of Harmony Day each year
- We are committed to reconciliation through our Reconciliation Action Plan
- We promote health and fitness through our annual Tan Track Challenge and participation in sporting events
- We involve our community in grant making through our Pitch In events and staff committees
- We leverage the assets and knowledge of our business and people through volunteering, mentoring opportunities and in-house internships
- We have undertaken a project to become carbon neutral
- We take the time to meet with and learn from our grantees – and always with a sense of curiosity and fun.

In 2020 we established our sister foundation, Bennelong Foundation UK, to expand our philanthropic footprint and to provide real opportunities for the staff and community of our UK-based subsidiaries to actively engage in philanthropy.



L2R Participants in 2018. Image Credit: L2R.

Where we came from

Looking back is as important as looking forward, so that we can see where we have come from and why we have chosen to take the paths that we have.

The Bennelong Foundation's focus has always been on enhancing community wellbeing and providing opportunities for positive and lasting change in our community. Initially our grant making focused on supporting young people in crisis, medical research, and buying medical equipment. It was in the mid-2000s that the Bennelong Foundation started granting to smaller grassroots organisations and saw firsthand programs that impacted directly the people they supported. That was when the Bennelong Foundation truly found its place and philanthropic rhythm. And our focus today continues to be supporting smaller innovative community-led organisations that give individuals direct and practical opportunities and support that contributes to a more equitable society.

Where we are headed

This 20-year milestone has prompted us to start thinking about the next 20 years for the Bennelong Foundation. And to begin developing the next evolution of our strategy to meet the needs of the community today and into the future.

Last year we developed an investment philosophy and framework that will further support using all the Foundation's assets to create lasting change for our community.

And to mark the occasion of our 20th anniversary, this year we have partnered with four organisations to provide 20 scholarships to 20 young people. Our goal is to provide opportunities for them to achieve their goals and dreams.

Thank you

The Bennelong Foundation Board would like thank and acknowledge all the past and present members of the Bennelong Foundation community that have been a part of the journey.

Staff and employees of the group, whose hard work and endeavours make this possible.

Our grantees, who have allowed us to work alongside them and with them.

Our executive team, board and special advisers, whose commitment, guidance and rigour keeps us focused and always striving to do better.

Our peers, whose generosity in sharing knowledge and advice cannot be underestimated.

You have all helped the Bennelong Foundation to achieve what we have to date and set a strong framework for the next 20 years and beyond.



Above. Jeff Chapman and Sandra Jacobs present at the Big 4 Fundraising and Philanthropy Conference, October 2019
Right. Pitch In Melbourne 2018.



20th Anniversary Scholarships

To mark our 20th anniversary, the Bennelong Foundation has partnered with four organisations to provide 20 scholarships to 20 aspirational young people who have overcome hardship, personal challenges, language barriers and disadvantage to help them achieve their educational goals and dreams.

LOOKING BACK

LOOKING FORWARD

ABCN



Left and above: ABCN scholarship recipients Raegan and Omid with Bennelong Funds Management mentors Hannah Pietsch and Stuart Fechner at the ABCN leadership summit in Sydney May 2022 Image Credit: ABCN.

Accelerate is a three-year scholarship program for exceptional students whose economic, family or social challenges impact their study or capacity to pursue tertiary pathways. Scholarship recipients are supported by a dedicated corporate mentor and are given \$7,000 for educational expenses, amortised across Years 11, 12 and their first year of tertiary education. Scholarship recipients have barriers to completing education such as family financial stress, family breakdown, caring for unwell parents and siblings, a refugee background, and being the first in their families to pursue tertiary education. Five corporate mentors from Bennelong Funds Management have also volunteered to participate. They are: Peter Aquilina, Andrew Devonport, Stuart Fechner, Hannah Pietsch and Ron Sargeant.

Raegan: Through the Accelerate program I have been able to meet new people and learn more about future pathways. Hannah has been an amazing mentor, always reaching out and finding activities for us to do and information to share. She always has a listening ear and shares so many valuable ideas. I was also recently introduced through Accelerate to Dave, a Detective Sergeant in the Crime Investigation Unit, who was amazing to talk to. He helped me get more understanding and information on a future I am definitely interested in.

Western Chances



Western Chances Pursuit scholarship recipients, Ian Nguyen, Michael Do and Leesa Ward with Bennelong Foundation and Western Chances team and directors.

The Pursuit Award Program enables five young people to participate in an extraordinary opportunity that would otherwise be prohibitively expensive given their financial circumstances. Each award consists of a \$5,000 scholarship, which can be used to fund once-in-a-lifetime opportunities that help accelerate their learning and development. Some have chosen to study overseas with their scholarship, chasing opportunities at Oxford University that would otherwise not be an option for them. And some will attend conferences, workshops and forums to learn from and connect with the best in their fields.

Ian Nguyen: The Pursuit Award will help me participate in the 2022 One Young World Summit, held in Manchester, UK. It brings together thousands of young leaders from nearly 200 countries to develop them as change-makers, and to accelerate social change. The Manchester Summit will allow me to learn from and work alongside those who have life-changing ideas, and help make them a reality. This opportunity will assist me to fulfil my lifetime goal – to make an impact in the world as a community leader.

University of South Australia



Bennelong Foundation grant recipient Anis Gul Ehsan with University of South Australia Chancellor Ms Pauline Carr Image Credit: University of South Australia.

This program offers five scholarships of \$5,000 to inspiring students with refugee backgrounds to reduce barriers to achieving their educational and career goals.

Barriers can include financial disadvantage, difficulty navigating the education system, uncertainty about the future, visa status, family dislocation and lack of support. The funds assist with the costs of textbooks, transport, computers, internet, rent, bills and other living expenses.

Anis Gul, Bachelor of Laws (Honours): I studied at the primary school level in Afghanistan, and in Year 12 in Pakistan. I have not been able to undertake any studies in Australia as, with my other sisters, have been working to earn a living for our family due to financial crises. My dream is to become a Human Rights Lawyer so I can assist people such as myself and our family who face immense difficulties.

Chances



Image courtesy of Chances Scholarship recipient Kieran Simpson.

This scholarship program provides \$1,500 a year to support talented and motivated students who may otherwise miss out on the opportunity to pursue their educational dreams. Scholarships have been awarded to five students across Tasmania.

Kieran: I am extremely honoured to have been awarded this scholarship. My goal is to study Bachelor of Medicine and a Bachelor of Surgery at university, or a Bachelor of Medical Imaging

Living on a farm, in north-west Tasmania, I will need to relocate to continue my study next year, and this scholarship will help with that significant cost. I aspire to help rural and remote Australia because there is a real need for doctors and health professionals there.

Beyond grant making



LOOKING BACK

Throughout the year the Bennelong Foundation's community members – including staff, colleagues, clients, friends and family of our subsidiaries and associated businesses – actively support the Foundation's work.

This involvement is fundamental to the soul and culture of the Bennelong Foundation community. Community members participate in staff-engagement activities, educational and learning opportunities, volunteering, mentoring, visiting grant partners, and by supporting individual and team fundraising events. Using our collective skills, assets, time and wisdom, the Bennelong Foundation community extends its philanthropic footprint beyond grant making.

FEATURE EVENT

Mudyala Workshop to create the artwork for the Reconciliation Action Plan

In May the Bennelong Foundation supported grant partners Mudyala Aboriginal Corporation to work with Maclean Public School students and Yaegl artist Frances Belle Parker to create the artwork for the Bennelong Foundation and Bangarra Family Office Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP). The artwork was created through a workshop held during Reconciliation Week and encouraged the students to talk about what reconciliation means and what role a RAP plays within businesses.

The process allowed the students to explore cultural art and intellectual property rights of culture, and why it was important to consult with community members. Commissioning the artwork also taught the Bennelong Foundation about licensing and Indigenous cultural and intellectual property protocols relating to Aboriginal art.



Left: The Bennelong Foundation & Bangarra Family office Reconciliation Action Plan. Artwork. Above: Images courtesy of Mudyala Aboriginal Corporation.

LOOKING FORWARD

NOVEMBER

Pitch In Melbourne – webinar 2021

On 18 November 2021, the Bennelong Foundation held its annual Melbourne Pitch In event. The event was held once again via webinar due to ongoing Covid-19 restrictions. A Brave Life, McAuley Community Services for Women and The Beautiful Bunch were selected to share their stories with the Bennelong Foundation’s staff and friends for a share of \$50,000.

Carbon neutral

The Bennelong Foundation, together with the Bangarra Family Office, has partnered with Trace to become a climate-positive organisation. We have measured the carbon emissions of our general office operations, energy usage, suppliers and travel, and we have offset those emissions through certified carbon credits and tree planting.

Our carbon credits support a range of hand-picked projects that deliver measurable benefits aligned to the goals of the Paris Agreement and the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Some of these projects include sustainable savanna burning on the Tiwi Islands that empowers traditional land owners to manage fire risk and boost their native biodiversity; a land-conservation partnership with the traditional land owners, the Ngarrindjeri people, in Mount Sandy; and a clean water supply project in Rwanda focusing on restoring and repairing existing boreholes to provide clean drinking water.

FEBRUARY

Seat at the Table

The Bennelong Foundation is participating in Seat at the Table (SAT), a leadership program that addresses the under-representation of multicultural young women in formal leadership roles. SAT provides tailored training as well as observership placements on boards/committees or other governance structures. We are pleased to be working with Deborah Zhang this year as our board observer.

Tan Track Challenge

On Tuesday 22 February, the Bennelong Foundation hosted its 11th Tan Track Challenge, an annual event that gets the community active and out enjoying our beautiful city. The event celebrates the installation of the digital Tan Track Clocks that the Bennelong Foundation gifted to the City of Melbourne in 2012 to inspire and encourage people to get out and get active. Lunch following the event was by local caterers Mabu Mabu, a Torres Strait Islander-owned business with a mission to make Indigenous food the hero of Australian kitchens.

MARCH

Hunger Ride

Bennelong Foundation director and Bennelong Funds Management CEO Craig Bingham participated in the Hunger Ride in March, raising \$129,200 to support emergency food relief through Foodbank Victoria. The Hunger Ride is a corporate cycling challenge through 185 kilometres of Victoria’s most beautiful and difficult cycling terrain, in the Victorian High Country.

Craig was joined by cycling champions Baden Cooke and Cadel Evans, and cycling commentator Matt Keenan.

Pitch In Sydney

At the Bennelong Foundation Sydney Pitch In event the Foundation’s community heard from three inspiring community organisations from around Sydney, pitching for a share of a \$50,000 grant: ASSIDA, sister2sister, and The Settlement. Flashpoint Labs was the event photographer – a social enterprise that employs and mentors Indigenous or diverse youth to work as paid apprentices alongside professional photographers and filmmakers.

APRIL

Oakhill Food Justice Farm visit

The Bennelong Foundation community and their family members spent a day volunteering at Oakhill Food Justice Farm, an urban farm in Preston, Melbourne, that distributes 100% of the produce grown to the local community and food relief initiatives. It also offers training in urban agriculture and builds food systems literacy to empower and connect local community members. On the day participants learned from the local farmers about urban farming, built wicker plant boxes and made signs for the gardens. Participants also joined the Oakhill team for a lunch of homemade soup and salad made with handpicked vegetables from the farm.

MAY

ABCN volunteering/mentoring

This year five staff members from Bennelong Funds Management have volunteered as mentors for the ABCN Accelerate Scholarship recipients. The mentorship offers career advice, goal setting, and connections to the corporate and professional service sectors. A highlight of the mentoring program was the 2022 ABCN Accelerate Leadership Summit. Forty-two Year 11 scholars and their mentors from all over Australia met in Sydney for two days of leadership training, activities and conversations to support the personal and professional development of aspiring and inspiring young people.

Bennelong Foundation’s Reconciliation

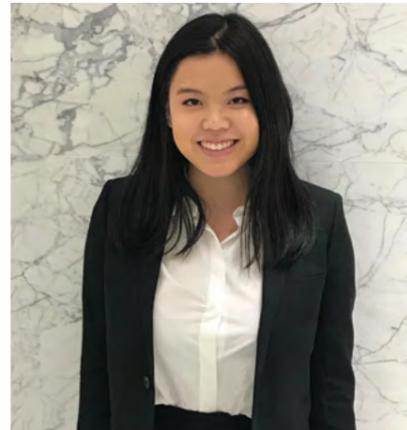
Action Plan (RAP)

Since 2006, the Bennelong Foundation and Bangarra Family Office have been committed to supporting First Nation’s communities. Over the past several years the Foundation has extended that commitment to listening and learning. In 2021 the commitment was formalised through a commitment to develop our first Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP). This will create a framework for supporting our community and networks to be a part of this journey too. The Reflect RAP will be launched in the first quarter of financial year 2023.

Thank you Alice Wong

The Bennelong Foundation would like to acknowledge and thank Alice Wong as she completes her tenure as Special Adviser to the Bennelong Foundation.

Alice commenced her role as a Special Adviser to the Foundation in 2017, offering her years of corporate and governance experience and her passion and experience in the Not-for-Profit sector to effectively offer guidance and share her wisdom. Alice has always been a committed member of the Bennelong Foundation community, and an active participant at our events and activities beyond grant making. Alice loved to get her hands dirty with the work of the Foundation, literally! As an avid gardener, Alice would be the first to put her hand up to join a volunteering day, especially if it involved gardening!



Above. Seat at the Table Bennelong Foundation board observer Deborah Zheng. Above Right. Tan Track Challenge 2022. Right. Pitch In Melbourne 2021 webinar.



Left to Right. Foodbank Victoria Hunger Ride. Alice Wong. Staff and family members volunteer at Oakhill Food Justice Farm.

Grants

Through our grants program we aim to enhance community wellbeing and provide opportunities for positive and lasting change in our community.

TYPES OF GRANTS

Strategic grants

Our strategic grants are three to five-year partnerships with organisations that develop and deliver innovative solutions to create a more productive and inclusive community.

General grants

Our general grants program is an opportunity for open and unsolicited grant applications. The Foundation prioritises projects delivering equity opportunities in education and employment, and programs supporting the health and wellbeing of our target communities.

Pitch In grants

Pitch In is a Bennelong Foundation event held twice a year in Australia (and once in the UK). It is led by the staff representative council, the P.A.C.E. Committee, which provides a voice to the Foundation for the employees of the subsidiaries of Bangarra Family Office.

Three grassroots Not-for-Profit organisations are invited to pitch their project live to the Bangarra Family Office and the Bennelong Foundation community. Each person at the event can then shape the direction of the Foundation by voting to allocate a portion of the available funds to the organisation they feel creates the most meaningful impact.

Special consideration grants

Grants distributed to any cause in support of the personal fundraising efforts of members of the Bennelong Foundation and Bangarra Family Office community.

Target communities

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities
- People with a refugee background, newly arrived migrants, and culturally and linguistically diverse communities
- Communities/groups experiencing socio-economic disadvantage

PROGRAM FUNDING AREAS

Education Training & Employment

Programs providing access, equity and inclusion opportunities to Education and Training or that support and build Pathways to Sustainable Employment

- Build numeracy and literacy skills for pre-school, primary school and secondary school students
- Build numeracy and literacy skills for adolescents and adults
- Building STEM capabilities for pre-school, primary school and secondary school students
- Supporting student wellbeing and fostering school engagement
- Scholarship, Internship or Bursary Program
- Building interpersonal, employability and life skills for adolescents and adults (personal grooming, interview skills, and other workplace skills)
- Mentoring and coaching
- Access to vocational training opportunities for adolescents and adults
- Building learning skills through art or music programs
- Programs providing access to entrepreneurial and business foundations

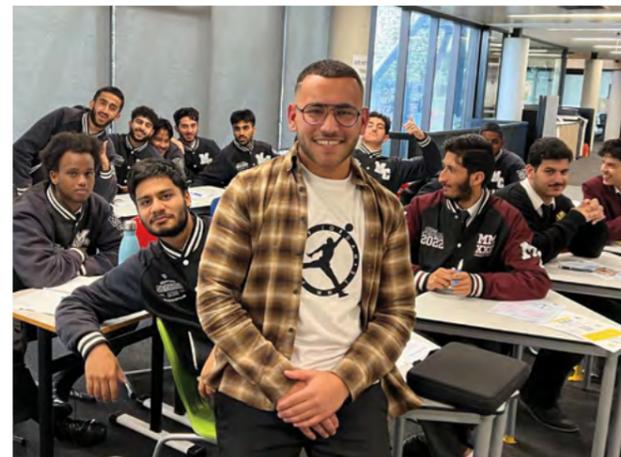
Community Health & Wellbeing

To assist organisations that conduct programs with the express purpose of improving the physical health, nutrition, and wellbeing of the Australian community.

- Programs promoting participation in physical activity and sport
- Improved nutrition intake
- Programs promoting social inclusion and cohesion
- Settlement and transition support for new Australians
- Programs promoting cultural identity

Left. Image courtesy of The Settlement.

Empowering young people with a refugee background to achieve their potential through tutoring and community



Images courtesy of Happy Brain Education.

Happy Brain Education believes that meaningful learning opportunities and mentoring by others with similar lived experiences can transform young people's lives.

Happy Brain Education's mission is to provide equitable access to quality education for young people with a migrant or refugee background via tutoring and mentoring.

Teba Mazin, Happy Brain's CEO, migrated to Australia from Iran when she was 13. She knows first-hand how hard it is to settle into a new life, a new country and a new language while also trying to succeed at school. "When we talk about students coming from migrant backgrounds there's an issue with accessibility to high-quality education," says Teba. "But there's also an issue with understanding how to even navigate that space."

The tutoring at Happy Brain can be one-on-one or in a group setting. Sessions are heavily discounted to be more accessible, and all the tutors are volunteers – university students with a migrant or refugee background. They cater to students who prefer ongoing, holistic support for the entire subject or unit, and enjoy small group learning environments.

The Bennelong Foundation has funded Happy Brain for three years, allowing it to offer a scholarship program that gives tutoring, mentoring and wellbeing services to a selected number of students every year. The scholarship includes subject-specific tutoring and sessions that focus on areas of personal growth and mental health – elements of student wellbeing that are often overlooked. Bennelong's support has also allowed Happy Brain to expand its suite of programs and build an online system that allows students to buy affordable classes online.

The academic training is first-class at Happy Brain, but it's the community it builds for students with a migrant background that is the foundation for their success. "What we hear most in feedback is that we don't just provide a good-quality service, it's that it's being delivered by people who look and speak like those that we support. And that's really special and unique. It's what really connects us with the people we support and empower through our programs." Happy Brain knows it's hard for young people to be what they can't see.

This is where Happy Brain's mentoring program comes in. "Representation is really important for us, particularly representation from people with lived experience throughout the team," says Teba. "There are people who have experienced your journey who are helping you through that."

At Happy Brain achievement doesn't only look like academic success. It's defined by the young person and whatever they are striving towards. "We've had success with students who end up securing a job they were after, or going through VCE, going on to university or securing the courses they wanted." One went on to start her own business with support from her mentor.

"We do a mentoring and tutoring plan with the student to identify their goals because what we really want is for students to achieve any goals they've set for themselves," says Teba. "For some students it is the ATAR [Australian Tertiary Admission Rank] and university. But we've had success with students getting into TAFE and feeling engaged and socially connected and not socially isolated in school."

Overall Happy Brain has seen an increase in students completing VCE, a rise in the number of students pursuing university and employment, and all of its mentees who wanted a job after leaving school were able to secure one.

Covid-19 caused an uptick in need for educational support, and Happy Brain was there to provide that for students, some of whom were behind and feeling isolated before the pandemic even began. Teba says Happy Brain has seen a 300% increase in revenue since lockdown, and a 50% increase in the number of students seeking support. The volunteer team has grown by 40%. In 2022 Happy Brain's program extended to include years 7 through to 12.

"What we do differently is we really understand young people's needs," says Teba. "We ensure that the voices of the youth are heard ... through actually involving them in decision making, involving them in the board. From mentors to a program director, to a CEO, it's young people running this for other young people."

What we hear most in feedback is that we don't just provide good-quality service, it's that it's being delivered by people who look and speak like those that we support.

LOOKING BACK

LOOKING FORWARD

RuffTRACK is helping young people in south-west Sydney to break the cycle of violence



LOOKING BACK

The power of trust, and the companionship of humans' best friend, come together at RuffTRACK Farm to help young people in need of support, guidance and the life skills that will help them avoid a life of crime and violence.

"Turning a young person's life around is like trying to turn a freight train around. They're locked on this pathway of early death and incarceration and you've got to get that derailed and have a flexible safety net so they've got somewhere to bounce back up into," says Dave Graham, known to the teens he works with as Farmer Dave. "We work really, really hard. The kids work hard and the support adults work really hard. And it's through that blood, sweat and tears that the transformation really comes," he says.

Dave is a farmer, expert dog trainer, and the heart and soul of RuffTRACK, a program for young people in south-west Sydney based at RuffTRACK Farm. At the farm teens at risk of violence, incarceration and perpetuating anti-social behaviour are taught to train and care for dogs and other animals, learning self-confidence and life skills along the way.

For Dave it started on a 100,000-acre cattle station 100 kilometres north of Gundawindi in Queensland, where he grew up. After travelling the world and coming back to farming at 22, a friend reached out to him about the kids in the local community.

"She was trying to get opportunities for teenagers who were not attending school, who were doing a lot of anti-social behaviour in the town and said she was having real trouble giving these kids opportunities, can we come up to your station? It opened up my eyes to the kids in our local community who didn't have the opportunities that I had, and that's where it started 20 years ago."

Then came BackTrack in Armadale, NSW – the program the current RuffTRACK in south-west Sydney would eventually be based on. The Armadale iteration of BackTrack caught the attention of a group of community members in the Hawkesbury, in western Sydney, who were trying to address youth crime in the area. One of them was police officer Belinda Flynn ("Copper Belinda"), who is now a youth-liaison officer with RuffTRACK.

Past support from the Bennelong Foundation for BackTrack meant they had been able to develop the program for other communities. So when Belinda contacted Dave about running the program in the Hawkesbury he was ready to go with a scalable core program. Dave secured a lease on a farm in Windsor and built it from the ground up.

For Bennelong it's wonderful to see the success of the program from its BackTrack days, and to support it again and see its successes with the newer RuffTRACK.

"Youth crime is often to do with kids not being engaged and connected to the local community, and RuffTRACK Farm is an oasis for kids to get away from the difficulties of the city," says Dave. "A lot of the time it's contact with police, not having the guidance and supervision that is often needed for young kids. It's a place where they can express themselves, learn important life skills, learn employability skills and get on career pathways. But the heart of the program is the dogs."

RuffTRACK has 36 dogs and 26 young people in its programs. The farm is also home to guinea pigs, alpacas, Penny the horse and all types of other animals in-between. RuffTRACK also offers horticultural plots and agriculture training, metal fabrication, woodwork, art, and literacy and maths teachers. "But it's not school – it's a place they choose to come to learn skills like violence reduction and communicating without anger," says Dave. It's an opportunity to build family and build connections that maybe have been broken for them."

There are four pathways into RuffTRACK: via police and/or the juvenile justice system; family and community; schools and individual teachers; and kids' families.

RuffTRACK Farm is an oasis for kids to get away from the difficulties of the city.

Through animals RuffTRACK participants learn trust and social skills that they then use when interacting with their peers, their support adults at the program and the broader community.

"You build up trust with another creature you can bond with. And they need care. You're relied upon and that builds up responsibility," says Dave. "If you're mean to an animal it moves away from you, and if you're kind to an animal it moves closer and it teaches the skills of how to relate to others. You can build on that to communicate effectively with other people."

Training dogs is a rewards-based, step-by-step process that helps Ruff Track's young people work towards their goals. "Often these kids have no hope, and training a dog shows that you take small steps to success rather than giant leaps to failure. They're assisted all the way so that if they get frustrated there's someone there to take the pressure off, and when the young person is ready, put the pressure back on to instil in them the idea of steps towards a goal."

A grant from the Bennelong Foundation allowed RuffTRACK to increase its intake in 2021 from six to 13. And to employ two teachers: one for literacy twice a week, and one for maths.

The young participants' teachers have reported improved performance, participation and engagement with school, and none of them have offended while in the program. Feedback from local police has been overwhelmingly positive. And the participants' confidence, mental health and wellbeing have increased (self-measured daily) over the course of their time in the program.

"It's all about providing leadership. Then the kids follow, learn the skills and then they've got a basis of respect to work from and that's when they learn the self-development stuff. They learn from the support adults and our elders and then they have the time to build up responsibility and trust. Trust is key to everything."

Images courtesy of RuffTRACK.



LOOKING FORWARD

Worthwhile Ventures is an Aboriginal-controlled organisation supporting start-up Aboriginal-led businesses to flourish

Worthwhile Ventures offers free, tailored business advice to Aboriginal-led businesses. It takes a unique cultural approach to create a sustainable business community that contributes to and benefits from successful Aboriginal enterprise while celebrating Aboriginal self-determination.

Worthwhile Ventures (WV) advises and mentors up-and-coming Aboriginal majority managed and operated businesses, helping them to reach the next level and working with them through business blind spots or barriers. The help means that burgeoning enterprises can flourish, and it celebrates and encourages Aboriginal self-determination.

"I've been around this Aboriginal business space for a while," says Colin Gordon, a business advisor at Worthwhile Ventures. He grew up in the Maitland area in the lower Hunter Valley in NSW, but his roots are in Brewarrina, on Ngemba Country in northern NSW.

He says it's very difficult to start a business and succeed when you haven't come from a business background, even more so when structural inequality actively disenfranchises you, the way it has Aboriginal people.

A grant from the Bennelong Foundation has paid for Colin's role at Worthwhile Ventures. He's owned and run several businesses in his career and he's happy to pass on his knowledge so that more Aboriginal businesses can grow and get to the next stage of their development.

WV puts together a team for a new business, and tailors the experts they provide according to what the business needs: it's individual and bespoke. Colin says the difference between WV and other consultancies is that WV doesn't just give advice on marketing, accounts, pitching for new business, getting access to finance – it provides mentorship that's culturally appropriate and tailored to the business owner's needs.

"You have to spend just as much time on the person as you do on the business. That's part of the difference. You have to spend time building their confidence, skills and resilience. I've never seen anything like it. It's in-depth."

WV also gives entrepreneurs access to Aboriginal leaders and specialists in their fields. The pace is set by the business owner.

"Just knowing you're an Aboriginal person dealing with another Aboriginal person – that carries a lot of weight sometimes too," says Colin.

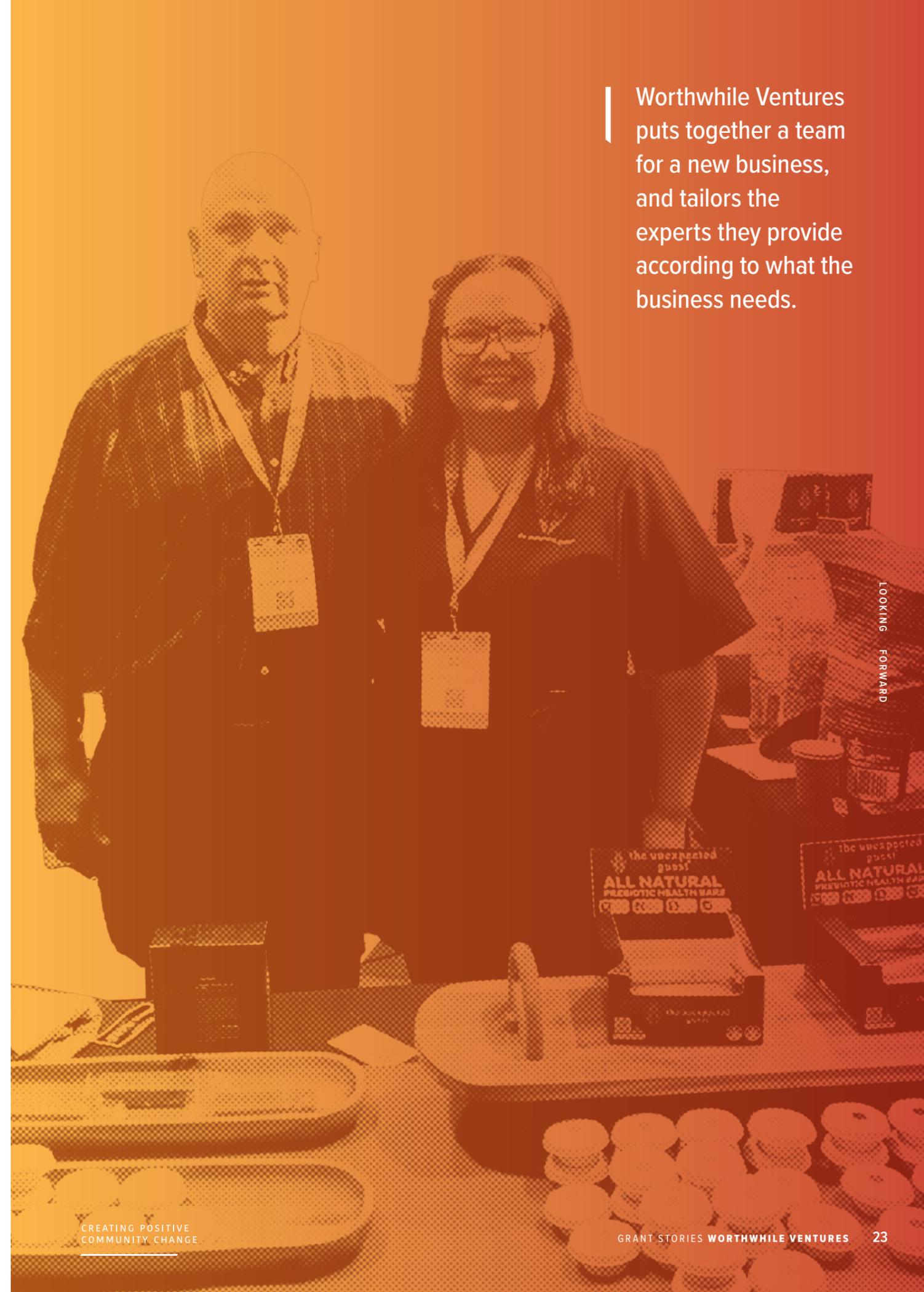
"WV helps a person in business to learn the skills so they can learn to do it themselves," says Colin. "If we can turn an Aboriginal business around and bring income into that community, then they are generally the people who will help others in those communities with advice and even finance. The people who run those businesses that succeed are generally the champions of that community."

Jenny Khan is a Wailwan woman and founder of The Unexpected Guest, an Indigenous health-food business that uses organic fruits, honey and seeds to make its health bars and breakfast foods. She was a client of WV and now has a shop in Warringah Westfield in Sydney.

"Once these people in our communities learn more there will be less need for a business like WV, and by the time I pass away there will be enough Aboriginal people in business to help each other."

Jenny Khan from The Unexpected Guest with Worthwhile Ventures Manager Colin Gordon at Supply Nation Connect. Image Credit: The Unexpected Guest.

Worthwhile Ventures puts together a team for a new business, and tailors the experts they provide according to what the business needs.



Strategic grants update

Free to Feed Ltd

Free to Feed Ltd is a social enterprise supporting new migrants and refugees with a background in hospitality into the workforce. Its work also promotes a more inclusive Australia through cooking classes and catering. This is the third year the Bennelong Foundation has supported Free to Feed's programs.

Over the past financial year Free to Feed has supported a community of 128 new arrivals to Australia through its program activities, which included catering; cooking classes; and BRAVE Meals, the take-home food program delivered during the 2021 Covid-19 lockdowns.

In the financial year 21/22 Free to Feed increased wages for people seeking asylum/refugees from \$240,606 to \$284,358 (an increase of 18.2%) despite the impacts of the pandemic. That's 9,451 additional hours of employment.

Free to Feed also launched a pre-employment program through a collaboration with Box Hill TAFE and its Community Adult Education stream. The partnership has delivered four pre-accredited training programs for those with the most significant barriers to employment. The programs provide knowledge and skills to set participants on a path to employment and education.

Free to Feed also recruited a cultural liaison officer – a staff member with lived migrant experience. This role supports members in their own language and assists with cultural translation, making the space more culturally sensitive and decreasing barriers to access. The cultural liaison officer has initiated partnerships with ethno-specific communities to build access and relationships with the East African, Afghan and recently arrived Ukrainian refugee communities.



Talent Beyond Boundaries

Talent Beyond Boundaries (TBB) works directly with governments to open skilled migration pathways for refugees. Placing refugees into work in Australia benefits individuals, their family members, communities and the economy. TBB matches skilled refugees with companies in need of employees. Employers gain valuable talent and displaced people have a chance to rebuild their careers and lives.

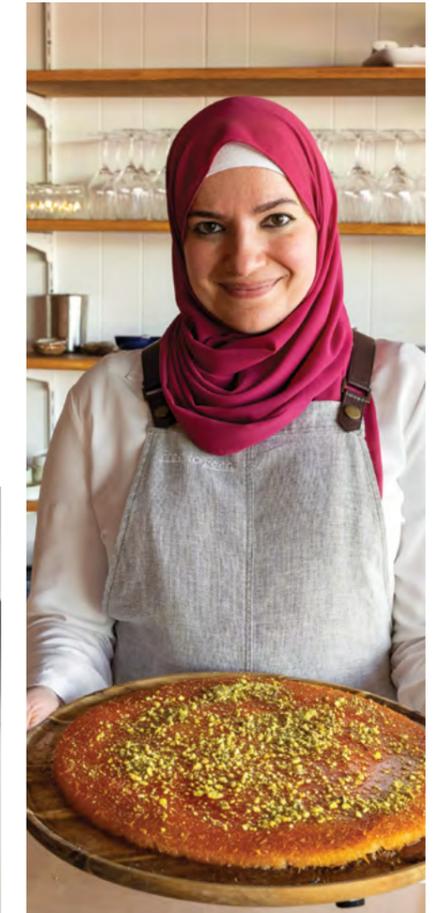
In 2022 TBB hit an important milestone: After six years of connecting refugees with sought-after skills to workplaces in need of talent, it placed its 500th recruit. This includes the 280 or so candidates who have secured jobs with employers in Australia, Canada and the UK, plus their family members.

Currently, more than 40,000 displaced people from around the world are registered on TBB's talent catalogue. It has also launched in the US with an initial focus on supporting Afghans evacuated after the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan. The organisation has been awarded a European Commission grant – together with the International Organization for Migration – to expand its destination countries to include Ireland, Belgium and Portugal.

In 2021 TBB successfully launched displaced talent visa programs with the governments of Australia, Canada and the UK. This will provide safe migration pathways for thousands of refugees and displaced people over the coming years.

TBB is also working with UNHCR and other partners to open its program up to refugees in Latin America and Asia.

In April 2022 TBB announced that it would join the governments of Canada and Australia, along with leaders across the humanitarian and private sectors to launch a Global Taskforce on Refugee Labour Mobility. It joins UNHCR, the International Organization for Migration, the International Chamber of Commerce, Fragomen, and Refuge Point to share information and technical advice with countries interested in adopting such schemes, advocate for hiring refugees in the private sector and through industry and sector-specific initiatives, and conduct research and explore policy solutions to challenges that stand in the way of scaling these initiatives.



Top to bottom: Images courtesy of Free to Feed
Image credit: Sisi Burn, Talent Beyond Boundaries
Image credit: Matt Monfredi, Talent Beyond Boundaries.

Left: Images courtesy of Free to Feed, Image credit: Teagan Glenane, Talent Beyond Boundaries.

General grants



Image courtesy of Common Ground, Bedtime Stories Project.



Sustain Australia – Preston Urban Farm Image Credit: Charlie Brennan, Garden Juju Collective.

TARGET GROUP

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities

Common Ground

FIRST NATIONS BEDTIME STORIES

Focus area: community health & wellbeing

Sub-focus area: programs promoting cultural identity

First Nations Bedtime Stories features five short films of Dreaming stories. Common Ground works with Elders and knowledge custodians to record stories that have been passed down since time immemorial. The stories are told in a mix of English and Indigenous languages, and are distributed to schools and early-learning centres across Australia.

Gidarjil Development Corporation

INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY ACCESS PROGRAM (ICAP)

Focus area: education, training & employment

Sub-focus area: vocational training opportunities

ICAP is designed to help unemployed Indigenous people into work. The 10-week program provides a wrap-around model that focuses initially on getting young people interested, engaged and supported, and includes practical activities such as home cooking, cultural immersion, mentoring from Elders and excursions to other Indigenous-owned sites.

Gimuy Walubara Yidinji Elders

Aboriginal Corporation

YIDINJI LANGUAGE REVIVAL

Focus area: education, training & employment

Sub-focus area: programs promoting cultural identity

Working in partnership with Isabella State School, Gimuy Walubara Yidinji Elders Aboriginal Corporation is developing a Yidinji language and culture curriculum. It aims to reignite love of language, pave the way for new songs and poetry, and expand the scope of Yidinji literature. The program will be delivered at the local primary school and has potential to be rolled out to all schools in Yidinji Territory. The program creates hope and pathways for young Yidinji people who want a career in education, and provides economic opportunities for Yidinji teachers, Elders and artists.

Mudyala Aboriginal Corporation

SKILLS FOR LIFE – STRONG IN CULTURE

Focus area: community health & wellbeing

Sub-focus area: programs promoting cultural identity

Skills for Life – Strong in Culture promotes connection to cultural identity for Aboriginal youth in the Clarence Valley. It engages Aboriginal youth in cultural activities that are appropriate to Country, such as worming, fishing, catching pippis and yabbies, dance, weaving, making tools, and sharing knowledge.

The Torch

INDIGENOUS WOMEN'S ARTS OFFICERS IN PRISONS AND COMMUNITY

Focus area: community health & wellbeing

Sub-focus area: programs promoting cultural identity

This program aims to reduce the disproportionately high incarceration and recidivism rates for Indigenous women in Victoria. The project employs two Indigenous women arts officers, who work with in-prison artists at Dame Phyllis Frost Centre, Tarrengower, and post-release women living in Community across Victoria.

Weave Youth and Community Services

ABORIGINAL CULTURAL MENTORING PROGRAM

Focus area: community health & wellbeing

Sub-focus area: programs promoting cultural identity

Weave's Aboriginal staff facilitates a cultural mentoring program for schools in south-east Sydney. Aboriginal children access the one-to-one program through in-school support and an after-school program. This connects young people to culture and furthers their connection to Country and Kinship.

Worthwhile Ventures

SCALING UP – WV BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

Focus area: education, training & employment

Sub-focus area: building interpersonal, employability and life skills for adolescents and adults

Worthwhile Ventures supports early-stage, Aboriginal businesses to achieve their objectives by the provision of free business advice and customised education. The organisation's aim is to create a sustainable Business Community whose members contribute to and benefit from successful Aboriginal enterprise.

TARGET GROUP

Communities experiencing socio-economic disadvantage

Pathways Melbourne Incorporated

PATH 4 LIFE MENTOR PROGRAM

Focus area: education, training & employment

Sub-focus area: building interpersonal, employability and life skills for adolescents and adults

Pathways was established to address the suffering, isolation and distress of people who have left, or who are considering leaving, Orthodox or Ultra-Orthodox Jewish communities by providing them support. Path 4 Life: Mentor Program covers education, vocational training, job readiness and other related areas to ensure their 'pathfinders' have new opportunities and confidence. The program also provides continued support via a trained mentor, who can help pathfinders choose their future life path.

RuffTRACK Limited

ROUND THE YARD (KEEP KIDS ALIVE)

Focus area: education, training & employment

Sub-focus area: building interpersonal, employability and life skills for adolescents and adults

Round the Yard is a twice-weekly program helping disengaged local youth move away from a cycle of violence and antisocial behaviour. The program teaches young people a sense of self-worth in a fun environment, on the RuffTRACK Farm, by giving them choices that get them closer to their best selves. On the farm the participants train dogs, tend crops, learn metal work, landscaping, domestic skills, numeracy, literacy and more.

Sustain: The Australian Food Network

URBAN FARM FOOD JUSTICE AND TRAINING NETWORK

Focus area: education, training & employment

Sub-focus area: vocational training

The Urban Farm project supports a multi-stakeholder urban-farm network that develops sustainable food systems. The farm offers training and education as well as employment pathways for people experiencing disadvantage. This network shares learnings, builds models for best practice, creates training materials and addresses barriers to entry.

TarraWarra

TARRAWARRA MUSEUM OF ART EDUCATION PROGRAM

Focus area: education, training & employment

Sub-focus area: building learning skills through art or music programs

TarraWarra Museum is developing and delivering a new education program, to be delivered over five years. It is hands-on and explores the natural environment through arts-based workshops.

The Pyjama Foundation

THE LOVE OF LEARNING PROGRAM

Focus area: education, training & employment

Sub-focus area: build numeracy and literacy skills for pre-school, primary school and secondary school students

The Love of Learning Program aims to help children in out-of-home care (OOHC) change the direction of their lives with learning, life skills and confidence. Volunteers, ('pyjama angels'), are screened, trained and recruited to mentor a child in OOHC to support their educational outcomes.

TARGET GROUP

New migrant & refugee communities

Australian Refugee Association

CONNECTED LEARNING – ADULT COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Focus area: education, training & employment

Sub-focus area: settlement and transition support for new Australians

This program delivers tailored English and digital literacy training to migrant and refugee communities in South Australia. In doing so it improves opportunities and pathways to social connection and employment. The program also teaches participants to navigate critical services helping them to settle into their new lives.

Happy Brain Education

HAPPY BRAIN EDUCATION TUTORING AND MENTORING

Focus area: education, training & employment

Sub-focus area: build numeracy and literacy skills for pre-school, primary school and secondary school students

Happy Brain Education has two programs. The mentoring program supports students who are new to Australia who require extra support to navigate the schooling system and higher education pathways.

The tutoring program makes VCE tutoring accessible to students experiencing disadvantage by charging just \$10 per hour, targeting areas in need and creating accessible online tutoring content.

Kensington Neighbourhood House Inc.

THRIVING FAMILIES

Focus area: education, training & employment

Sub-focus area: build numeracy and literacy skills for pre-school, primary school and secondary school students

Thriving Families provides interconnected programs that strengthen educational engagement for families, from pre-schoolers to parents. It is now expanding three educational programs that support children and young people from migrant and refugee backgrounds.

Leading Note Music Education

MOZART STRING AND WOODWIND PROGRAM

Focus area: education, training & employment

Sub-focus area: building learning skills through art or music programs

The program supports 15 students with a refugee background (aged nine to 12) to participate in the Mozart String and Woodwind Program for 12 months.

River Nile Learning Centre (RNLC)

WELFARE OF REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS

Focus area: education, training & employment

Sub-focus area: build numeracy and literacy skills for pre-school, primary school and secondary school students

RNLC educates refugee and asylum seeker women. The program delivers the individual care, compassion and support participants need for successful learning. All participants face difficult personal circumstances, which RNLC helps them to address so that they can attend classes and concentrate on their studies.

St. Merkorious Charity Association Inc.

CONNECTING CALD WOMEN TO TRADES

Focus area: education, training & employment

Sub-focus area: access to vocational training opportunities for adolescents and adults

St. Merkorious Charity sponsors culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) women through trades training, certification and work experience in commercial cookery in partnership with Kenvale College. Further apprenticeship and training opportunities are offered through Kenvale College after graduation. St. Merkorious also offers a six-month apprenticeship.

Think+DO Tank Foundation

CATALYSING THE MULTILINGUAL VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Focus area: education, training & employment

Sub-focus area: access to vocational training opportunities for adolescents and adults

The Think+DO Tank Foundation addresses critical disadvantages that affect CALD women and children in south-west Sydney. It engages with women through a shared concern: their children's education, and their cultural identity and language(s). It covers English proficiency, literacy, accredited skills and job readiness, social isolation, and confidence.



Left: TarraWarra Museum of Art – Education outreach program
Above: Happy Brain Education.

Kensington Neighbourhood House Inc. Image Credit: Phillip Gao Photography.



P.A.C.E. Committee

A Brave Life Ltd

LIVE LIFE BRAVE – MENTORING PROGRAM

Focus area: education, training & employment

Sub-focus area: mentoring & coaching

Target group: communities experiencing socio-economic disadvantage

The Live Life Brave mentoring program provides weekly peer support and mentoring to young mothers (under 18) who are completing high school in the Moreton Bay region.

McAuley Community Services for Women

MCAULEY LEARNING SUPPORT

Focus area: education, training & employment

Sub-focus area: build numeracy and literacy skills for pre-school, primary school and secondary school students

Target group: communities experiencing socio-economic disadvantage

This project builds on McAuley's work helping children whose families have experienced family violence. It reconnects children and families to learning routines and builds self-efficacy in children, helping them to see themselves as learners. A learning support officer works with volunteers to provide lessons.

African Sub-Sahara International Development

Agency (ASSIDA) Ltd

FOSTERING INTEGRATION AND EMPOWERMENT OF AFRICAN YOUTH IN WESTERN SYDNEY

Focus area: community health & wellbeing

Sub-focus area: programs promoting social inclusion & cohesion

Target group: new migrant & refugee communities

The project engages African Australian youth living in Western Sydney and helps them to integrate into wider society via: participation in organised sport, workshops on healthy eating and exercise, connections with mainstream sports organisations, and leadership training for participants.



The Beautiful Bunch, Image Credit: Francois Marx.

Life Changing Experiences Foundation Ltd

SISTER2SISTER PROGRAM

Focus area: community health & wellbeing

Sub-focus area: mentoring & coaching

Target group: communities experiencing socio-economic disadvantage

The Sister2sister Program is an eight-month evidence-based, trauma-informed mentoring program in Sydney for marginalised teenage girls (Little Sisters) experiencing socio-economic disadvantage. The program improves wellbeing, engagement in education and empowers positive change. Little Sisters are from low socio-economic backgrounds, refugee and migrant families, or Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

Merchant Road Events – trading as The Beautiful

Bunch

MANY HANDS BY THE BEAUTIFUL BUNCH

Focus area: education, training & employment

Sub-focus area: access to vocational training opportunities for adolescents and adults

Target group: new migrant & refugee communities

Many Hands by The Beautiful Bunch is a floristry training program. It supports young women from refugee backgrounds to build the skills, self-confidence and the social networks they need to secure a job in Australia. The program focuses on enabling trainees to achieve financial independence and meaningful employment.

The Settlement Neighbourhood Centre

CREATING OPPORTUNITIES AND CONNECTING COMMUNITY – INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY-BASED CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Focus area: education, training & employment

Sub-focus area: supporting student wellbeing & fostering school engagement

Target group: communities experiencing socio-economic disadvantage

This program is a long-established community-based approach that provides inclusive and accessible opportunities and support for children and families who experience socio-economic disadvantage and barriers to access in the Redfern/Waterloo and wider inner-Sydney area.



Left: Image courtesy of The Settlement – Girls Group Program
Above: Image courtesy of A Brave Life Ltd.

Special consideration grants

Australia for UNHCR

Ella Tassi Grant Matching for Afghanistan

Boys to Bush Ltd

Bike access program

Foodbank Victoria

Craig Bingham Contribution to Hunger Ride

Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal

Flood Relief Campaign

Givit Listed Ltd

Contribution to NSW and QLD flood recovery

Mahboba's Promise Incorporated

Bennelong Funds Management grant matching for Afghanistan

Scholarships

Macquarie University

BENNELONG SCHOLARSHIP AND INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Focus area: education, training & employment

Sub-focus area: scholarship, internship or bursary program

Target group: communities experiencing socio-economic disadvantage

Awarded to: Salvatore Aljaidi

RMIT

BENNELONG SCHOLARSHIP AND INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Focus area: education, training & employment

Sub-focus area: scholarship, internship or bursary program

Target group: communities experiencing socio-economic disadvantage

Awarded to: Ajak Peter

LOOKING BACK

Bennelong | **UK**
Foundation

In our second year, the Bennelong Foundation UK continued to expand its grant program, working closely with the teams of the UK-based subsidiaries of the Bangarra Family Office: BennBridge and Crown Golf's St Mellion Estate in Cornwall.

The primary focus for our grants was creating equity and inclusion opportunities for young people and strengthening our relationships with community groups and organisations in inner London and Cornwall where our subsidiaries are located.

Right: Livewire Youth Music Program participant performs at Pitch In, image courtesy of Jamie Haigh.

CREATING POSITIVE
COMMUNITY CHANGE

Bennelong Foundation UK grants

LOOKING BACK



Left: Image courtesy of Jamal Edwards Delve. Above: FutureMe program. Image courtesy of ThinkForward.

LOOKING FORWARD

Grants through the Bennelong Foundation UK were distributed through three streams

Pitch In St Mellion Estate, Cornwall

In June 2022 the UK Foundation hosted its first UK Pitch In event in partnership with St Mellion Estate and Crown Golf. The opportunity to host and experience a Pitch In event in person was a wonderful experience, bringing members of the Bennelong Foundation UK representing Crown Golf and the Cornwall region together to actively participate (for the first time) in giving to projects in the region.

Three inspiring leaders working to address challenges experienced by young people in Cornwall were invited to share their stories and projects with the Bennelong Foundation UK community. More than 70 people attended to support the Bennelong Foundation UK to distribute £30,000 between the three charities. This included staff and members of Cornwall Golf and St Mellion Estate, members of the Cornwall philanthropic community and the 2021 Bennelong Foundation UK Cornwall-based grant recipients.

The event was also an opportunity to invite three young musicians from Livewires Youth Music Project to perform. Guests were overwhelmed by the young performers' talent, and it was a wonderful opportunity to support the work of our grant partners and the young people they are working with beyond grant making.

Trustee Grants

Projects identified directly through the Trustees and Executive team.

P.A.C.E. Committee grants, London

Working closely with staff representatives from BennBridge, a UK-based P.A.C.E. (Philanthropy and Community Engagement Committee) Committee has been established. Over six months the P.A.C.E. Committee worked closely with the Bennelong Foundation UK through a grant round. The journey started with defining a focus for the grant round to address relevant areas of need in inner London, leading to identifying potential grant partners and participating in the due diligence process including site visits and building relationships with the recommended charities. Three projects were recommended and approved for support by the Trustees.

To celebrate the successful outcome of the P.A.C.E. Committee grant round, members of the P.A.C.E. Committee hosted a meet-the-grantees event at the BennBridge office in London. Representatives from the grant recipient organisations were invited to share their stories, the challenges they were seeking to address and the outcomes they hoped to achieve with the BennBridge and the Bennelong Foundation UK London community. P.A.C.E. Committee members include Patrick Matthews and Samantha Usher.

Bennelong Foundation UK grant summaries

TRUSTEE GRANTS

Performance Plus Sport (PPS) UK

PPS SUPPORT THROUGH SPORT

PPS's mission is to get the best out of young people through sport. It is committed to supporting young sportspeople and creating opportunities for those who don't have the chance otherwise. Program one is the Delivery Program to Groups, which gives financial support for coaching qualifications for eight young and in-need participants. Program two is Education and Training to Employment. This is targeted and essential support for young people to help them progress their careers.

UK for UNHCR

UKRAINIAN REFUGEE CRISIS APPEAL

Crisis support funding for Ukrainian Refugees.



Above: Sandra Jacobs (Bennelong Foundation CEO) visit with 2021 grant recipients Lighthouse Community Centre in Cornwall. Right: Image courtesy of Performance Plus Sport.

P.A.C.E. COMMITTEE GRANTS

Jamal Edwards Delve

FINANCIAL EDUCATION PROJECT

Jamal Edwards Delve is a grassroots youth-work charity delivering weekly open-access sessions across youth centres in Acton, West London, for young people aged 11 to 21. It offers a financial-education program to help young people develop a healthy approach to managing their money. The program equips young people with practical skills to increase their financial literacy and to empower them to make sound financial decisions for their future.

The Pedro Club

THE PEDRO CLUB FIGHTING FIT CAMPAIGN

The Pedro Club's vision is to be a sustainable, state-of-the-art community centre that serves multiple generations in Hackney, East London, providing people with a safe place to thrive, lead healthy lives and fulfil their potential. This grant supports a 10-day event for children during the school summer holidays to improve their health. It is also a way of extending the club's regular boxing classes to the wider community and increasing children's – especially girls' – engagement.



ThinkForward UK

FUTUREME – TRANSFORMING THE LIFE CHANCES OF YOUNG PEOPLE FACING MULTIPLE BARRIERS TO EMPLOYMENT

ThinkForward prevents the next generation of youth unemployment across the UK. It supports young people in school at the highest risk of unemployment by providing them with a five-year program of coaching, leadership opportunities and workplace skills training activities. This enables them to succeed in their education and make a successful transition from school to work.

The FutureMe program at George Green's school will support 50 young people experiencing disadvantage who are at risk of future unemployment. They will take part in one-to-one coaching, group work and employability skills training, developing the confidence, skills and aspirations needed to succeed in their education and secure employment or training.

PITCH IN – ST MELLION ESTATE

Liskeard & Looe Foodbank

incorporating Rame Peninsula

RURAL OUTREACH – EAT WELL SPEND LESS

This rural project involves developing partnerships with some of the senior and primary schools across the area, and engaging with families through cooking sessions. These cooking sessions are online and live, and will lead on to a Money Matters course linked to a level-one qualification: Personal Budgeting and Managing Money, which includes teaching household budgeting, spending diaries and money-saving tips. Working in partnership with adult education the progression route will offer Link into Learning courses including basic maths and literacy.



Left: Trustees of the Bennelong Foundation UK with presenters at Pitch In St Mellion Estate, image courtesy of Jamie Haigh. Above: Image courtesy of Livewire Youth Music Program.

Livewire Youth Music Project

MAKING MUSIC – CHANGING LIVES

Livewire is an independent, long-standing youth charity based on the banks of the River Tamar in Saltash, Cornwall. It offers support to young people through music and traditional youth work, helping steer them through the trials and tribulations of growing up. It aims to change young lives with free music lessons and using music technology. Funding supports individual music lessons (guitar/drums/vocals/bass/digital music/song writing) five nights a week for young people in Saltash. Participants are also supported by youth workers to address additional needs.

WILD Young Parents Project

ONE-TO-ONE SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS

WILD Young Parents have been working with young mums, dads and their children for 30 years. While all WILD children need support, some need a little bit extra. Nearly one in 10 of the babies and toddlers who join WILD have additional developmental needs, and this can lead to problems throughout their childhood, and health and wellbeing issues later in life.

One-to-one support for these children provides the extra help they need to catch up, so that they will be ready for pre-school and school.

SMALL GRANT

MedGlobal

SYRIAN REFUGEE CAMP – WINTER APPEAL

Funding to support the purchase of heating and cooking equipment for internally displaced Syrians living in tents during winter.



Left: Trustees of the Bennelong Foundation UK with presenters at Pitch In St Mellion Estate, image courtesy of Jamie Haigh. Above: Image courtesy of Livewire Youth Music Program.

Beyond grant making

Much like it is for its Australian counterpart, supporting the Bennelong Foundation UK grant recipients beyond grant making is core to the UK Foundation's work.

This year staff members at BennBridge used their skills, knowledge and experience to mentor five young people who had experienced homelessness. This mentorship helped these young people on their pathway to employment in partnership with Performance Plus Sport. This included monthly meetings to provide career and life skills advice and one mentee was also invited to participate in work experience at the BennBridge office. Mentors were provided with training through Performance Plus Support.

Thank you to the following BennBridge staff members for volunteering their time:

Finn Virgo – mentee Khalid Mohammad

Harry Mortimer – mentee Billy Adams

Michael Dowding – mentee Patris Mughalzi

Naureen Khan – mentee Pablo Benn

Patrick Matthews – mentee Cardisha Dalphin

Appointment of Maurice Wren to the Bennelong Foundation UK Board

In June 2022 the Bennelong Foundation Trustees UK resolved to appoint Maurice Wren as the first UK-based trustee and as the fourth member of the Board. Maurice Wren commenced as a trustee on the 1st of July 2022 and joins the Board after a long career working in the refugee protection and homelessness fields.

Maurice has held several leadership roles in the sector including at Shelter, the Housing Associations Charitable Trust, Asylum Aid and the British Refugee Council, where he was Chief Executive from 2012 until his retirement in 2020.

Maurice is presently a Trustee of the NGOs Migrant Voice and the European Network on Statelessness, having previously chaired the Governing Boards of Innisfree Housing Association and his local primary school in Hackney. He was made a Patron of the charity Action Foundation in 2016 and was awarded an Honorary Doctorate by the University of Edinburgh in 2017 in recognition of his humanitarian work with refugees.



Above: Maurice Wren – Bennelong Foundation UK Trustee.

Left: Sandra Jacobs (Bennelong Foundation CEO) in conversation with John Ede, chairman of Liskeard & Looe Foodbank presenting the Rural Outreach – Eat Well Spend Less program at Pitch In, St Mellion Estate. Image Credit: Jamie Haigh.



Governance

The Bennelong Foundation is a private ancillary fund and is subject to the Private Ancillary Fund Guidelines 2019.

The Board of Trustees has ultimate responsibility for the governance of the Bennelong Foundation and meets three times per year to consider Foundation matters including:

- Administration: to ensure it is meeting its compliance obligations;
- Investment: to ensure its assets are achieving its investment aims and objectives; and
- Distribution/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 June 30, 2022 to satisfy its reporting requirements under the Trust Deed and compliance within the Private Ancillary Fund Guidelines.

The Special Purpose Financial Report is audited by Deloitte Australia.

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 of the Foundation is to generate income and capital returns sufficient to fund and maintain the funding of the Foundation's philanthropic activities both now and into perpetuity.

The investment objectives of the Foundation are:

- Generate a current year's income consistent with its portfolio asset allocation;
- Maintain the inflation-adjusted earnings base and therefore grant-making capacity of the fund; and
- Where possible align the investments with the focus of the Foundation's impact areas.

Bennelong Foundation UK

The Bennelong Foundation UK is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation reporting to the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

The Trustees Report and Financial Statements for the period ended June 30, 2022 is audited by Blick Rothenberg Audit LLP.

IMAGE DESCRIPTIONS

INSIDE FRONT COVER (Left to Right)

1. Talent Beyond Boundaries 2019
2. Wellsprings for Women 2013
3. Malpa Young Doctors 2019
4. Bennelong Foundation Intern Claire Zheng 2013 – 2015
5. Jeff Chapman at site visit 2008
6. Bennelong Foundation Make a Difference day at Cubbies, Fitzroy Adventure Playground 2014
7. Igniting Change partnership – Study Hall and Ball 2012
8. Asylum Seekers Centre NSW 2012
9. Ganbina leadership camp participants with Bennelong Foundation directors at Parliament House 2013
10. New Colombo Plan Mobility Program participants 2017
11. Historical tour of Melbourne's China Town for A Taste of Harmony Day 2019
12. HOMIE 2016
13. Helping Hoops 2017
14. New Stars Basketball Program 2011
15. Think+DO Tank 2020
16. The Best Bunch 2015
17. Bennelong Foundation pro-bono tenants General Sir John Monash Foundation 2019
18. Shout Out! Presenters join the Bennelong Foundation community to share their stories for A Taste of Harmony Day 2018
19. Family Life Youthworx graduates 2011
20. General Sir John Monash Foundation scholarship recipient Sylvia Lockyer with Quentin Bryce, former Governor-General of Australia 2013
21. Tan Track Clocks launch event 2012
22. STREAT 2013 - 2014
23. Make a Difference day with Fareshare 2011
24. Presenters and P.A.C.E. Committee members at Pitch In Sydney 2021
25. Parents Café Fairfield 2018
26. Participants of the Vietnamese Parent Support Group with Mackillop Family Services visit Bennelong House for a Taste of Harmony Day 2012
27. Staff and Directors of the Bennelong Foundation visit Wintoningham Community Housing and Support 2008
28. Sports without Borders 2016
29. Charcoal Lane 2008 – 2016
30. Dymocks Foundation Duck Library 2017

INSIDE BACK COVER (Left to Right)

1. Make a Difference day at Luna Park with the Mirabel Foundation 2009
2. Sandwich making with Eat Up 2017
3. Make a Difference day with members of the Bennelong Foundation Community at FareShare 2011
4. Monash University Castan Centre for Human Rights Law – Bennelong Indigenous internship to the UN in Geneva scholarship recipient and Bennelong team 2017
5. Aroch Foundation Lego Robotics participants at Dandenong West Primary School 2018
6. OZ Harvest Nourish Program 2017
7. Talent Beyond Boundaries 2019
8. Bennelong Funds Management – Kardina Team at the finish line of the inaugural Tan Track Challenge 2012
9. Make a Difference day at Melbourne Zoo for Mirabel Foundation 2016
10. Bennelong Foundation community members and participants of the Ganbina leadership camp visit Parliament House 2016

11. Participants of the Family Life, Youthworx program 2009
12. Bennelong Foundation community members participate in City2Surf in support of the Cathy Freeman Foundation 2019
13. Justin Gladman and family – Royal Flying Doctor Service, Indigenous medical Student scholarship recipient 2008 – 2011
14. Members of the Bennelong Foundation community volunteer at the Wayside Chapel 2018
15. Members of the Bennelong Foundation donate care packages to Share the Dignity 2017
16. Kids Thrive 2013
17. Mareeya Pigram – Yalari Scholarship recipient 2015 – 2020
18. The Social Studio 2015 – 2016
19. Bennelong Foundation Directors with Echocardiography Machine gifted to St Vincent's hospital 2007
20. The Song Room 2013
21. Bennelong Foundation Directors with The Hon. Julie Bishop, Sid Myer and Asialink executives at the New Colombo Plan Cross Cultural Training Program Launch 2016
22. Australian Schools Plus – John Pirie Secondary School, Numeracy Intervention Program 2015
23. Ganbina homework club participant 2018
24. Time Help at Yennora Public School 2013
25. Presenters and P.A.C.E. Committee members at Melbourne Pitch In 2018
26. Participants of the Ygap First Gen program 2018
27. Victoria University – Achievement Scholarship recipients 2010 – 2012
28. Live Wires 2013
29. Make a Difference day with the Basket Brigade 2006
30. Malpa Young Doctors program participant 2019
31. A Taste of Harmony Day lunch 2016
32. Fruit 2 Work 2016
33. Jeff Chapman joins participants of the Song Room in a drumming session 2011
34. The Ponting Foundation 2009 – 2012
35. Refugee Migrant Resource Centre – Homework Club tutor and student 2019
36. Launch of the Bennelong Foundation Deakin CREATE Refugee Higher Education Student guide 2020
37. Time Help Geelong 2013
38. Global Sisters and Sustain pop up food market at Bennelong House 2019
39. Aboriginal Literacy Foundation 2011
40. Jeff Chapman receives an Order of Australia for his contribution to philanthropy 2019
41. Members of the Bennelong Foundation volunteer at the Welcome Football program through the Centre for Multicultural Youth 2018
42. Bennelong Foundation community Run Melbourne team supporting Western Chances 2014





bennelongfoundation.com

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