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FOUNDATION

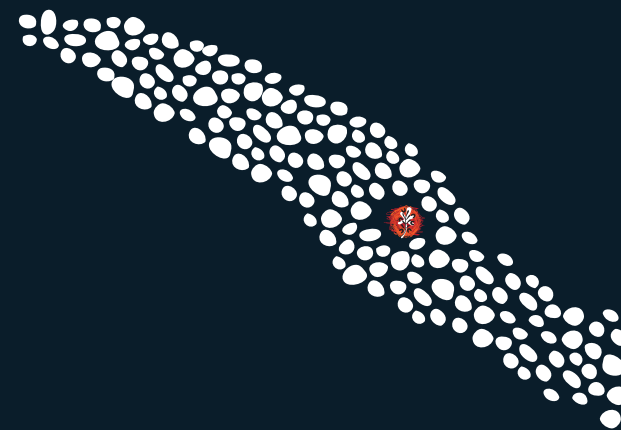
ANNUAL REVIEW 2024

Image courtesy of Koordak Aboriginal Corporation



CAGES Foundation acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we work and respects Elders past, present, and future. They hold the stories, the knowledge, the traditions, the culture, and the hopes of Aboriginal Australia.

This Annual Review may contain images of people who have passed away.



CONTENTS

Message from our Chair	4
Message from our CEO	5
Our purpose statement and values	6
Our funding partners	8
The Early Years	9
Economic Inclusion	18
Sector Development	22
CAGES Foundation People	23



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At the foundation we continue to come together and ponder how we articulate our philanthropic purpose.

This year CAGES Foundation Board, Advisers and team have had an opportunity, through the development of the community led Understanding Measurement and Evaluation Framework, to reflect on our 14-year journey and all that we have learned and gained. We are delighted to report that this year 88% of all donations made by the foundation were to Aboriginal controlled or led organisations. The focus on funding community controlled and led initiatives has become intentional as we are guided by more than 60 thousand years of wisdom and expertise that sits within communities and the organisations that represent them.

We are deeply grateful for the opportunities to learn from First Nations people working in the organisations we support, living in the communities we visit and leading the sectors we invest in.

At the foundation we continue to come together and ponder how we articulate our philanthropic purpose. Initially we did this in terms of our aspirations for First Nations children, families and Communities. We now understand how this cannot be viewed from a western, non-Indigenous perspective.

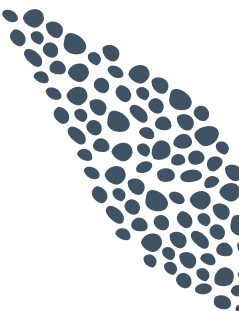
Our role is to support the aspirations held by families, children and Communities and not to assume what these are. At times insights like these can feel uncomfortable however this is also a sign of a great opportunity for reflection and progress.

We now openly acknowledge the historical and ongoing detrimental impact of colonisation. Recognising this, we see that the purpose of the foundation is to **support** initiatives designed, led and controlled by First Nations' peoples, **amplify** First Nations' voices by investing in strong communities connected to kin, culture

and country and to **influence** the philanthropic sector to disrupt the power imbalance of funders.

It is an honour to walk behind and sometimes alongside the world's oldest living culture. We now know that to do this requires us to come to each moment from a position of learning and not one of knowing. In letting go of our power, we gained so much more in terms of what the foundation can achieve.

Paul Salteri AO
Chair





In addition to funding the outstanding initiatives you will see listed in our Annual Review, the past year has been one of great curiosity and growth for CAGES Foundation.

Grant-making with flexibility, autonomy and trust drives us to be better partners. Organisations we support define their points of impact and measures for success which leads to more sustainable and meaningful outcomes. Most importantly, it recognises the immense assets in Community.

Accountability to our partners and communities ensures we are deeply embedding this funding practice through our relationships and across our strategy and process.

Kowa Collaboration an Aboriginal owned consultancy specialising in First Nations' led impact measurement, consulted with various organisations we support who provided feedback saying they believe we are building relationships based on trust and that we are genuinely endeavouring to

shift power. It is important to consider how we measure whether we truly doing this and whether it has made a difference? How could we ensure the foundation is First Nations' driven over the long-term?

Kowa Collaboration is helping to answer some of our questions. The community led Understanding, Measurement, Evaluation and Learning Framework (UMEL) they are facilitating centres Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ways of knowing, being and doing and the results of this project will be a resource for the organisations and communities who participate.

The UMEL unpacks our relationship with organisations and Community, of how we work, and draws out the impact of this through the lens of those that we fund. It will capture

the immensely valuable work of community led organisations, that can go unnoticed or ignored by western ways of viewing success. Through this we can build narratives to amplify this work when appropriate and, over time, shift the way others work.

It is important to acknowledge that not all our curiosities are answered, and our journey of learning and evolving is ongoing. We continue this journey with First Nations' people working with CAGES Foundation. We know this is a privilege and we hope to do this in the spirit of reciprocity and ensure that our learning is not extractive but something that adds value and centres First Nations' perspectives.

Rachel Kerry CEO

OUR PURPOSE

We **acknowledge** the ongoing impact of colonisation. We **support** initiatives designed, led and controlled by First Nations' peoples. We **amplify** First Nations' voices by investing in strong communities connected to culture and country. We **influence** the philanthropic sector to disrupt the historical power imbalance of funders.

OUR VALUES

CAGES Foundation is a values driven organisation and our values underpin how we work



LISTEN AND LEARN

We take time to get to know the communities we fund in, to understand their objectives, and are guided by what they need.



HUMILITY

We recognise that we do not have the answers or hold the knowledge. We will be guided by First Nations people.



HONESTY

We strive to be open and honest in our two-way communication to build trusting, respectful and successful relationships. We will acknowledge our limitations.



TRANSPARENCY

We are transparent and share our learnings, our failures, and our successes.



ACCOUNTABILITY

We are accountable and committed to good governance in the administration and management of our foundation and our funding decisions and advocacy. We are accountable to the communities we fund.

Taking back power

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ways of being, knowing and doing grounds Original Power's work.

"Our renewables work is about doing different tactics and building a power guide" says Executive Director and Yorta Yorta woman Karrina Nolan.

From running campaigns to community organising and lobbying, Original Power is driven by a strong conviction their work will make a lasting difference. "We look at the methods of making change - sharpening skills, resources and capacity to self-determine what happens on country, to defend and protect it," says Nolan.

Protection of community and country is the core focus of Original Power's work as we collectively wrestle with climate change and its impact on First Nations' peoples.

"Renewables are going to be the biggest transition of energy that we will see in our whole lifetime."

Nolan also holds a position on the Steering Group for The First Nations' Clean Energy Network.

"We are running to get in front of the clean energy revolution to make sure Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples shape it, and I feel upbeat."

The First Nations' Clean Energy Network is built around three pillars: industry, community and government. Its goal is to address chronic energy poverty and insecure energy access, to provide economic development options and to protect country and community.

"Mob are making a difference. We've changed the story. We are empowered and powerful to provide and implement solutions, working in partnership with government and industry."

“

We connected with CAGES Foundation at the right time. They funded a coordinator to work with the Borroloola community, which is designing and building its own grid-connected utility scale solar microgrid. The community's knowledge, skills and ideas will cut local energy costs and reduce reliance on the town's ageing and polluting diesel generators. It will help Borroloola pursue sustainable economic development.

Karrina Nolan, Executive Director, Original Power

”



We provide flexible funding to community-led solutions through our strategic partnerships and community grants in two focus areas; early years and economic inclusion. We also provide funding, at times, for initiatives outside these areas which will support community led systems change within the philanthropic, government or not-for-profit sector.

CAGES Foundation distributed \$3,106,000 in 2024. 88% of all donations went to Aboriginal controlled or led organisations

CAGES donated \$2,466,000 in our key focus areas of Early Years and Economic Inclusion. 97% of donations went to Aboriginal controlled or led organisations



In 2024, we distributed a total of **\$3,106,000**.

Our priority funding area remains the Early Years where we gifted **\$923,000** in long-term strategic grants. A further **\$893,000** was donated in one-off community grants to organisations working with families and children in the first five years of their life.

In the wake of the October referendum vote, we distributed **\$200,500** to 40 Aboriginal controlled and led organisations who had received a grant from us during the year.

Our additional priority funding area is Economic Inclusion where we gifted **\$650,000** to organisations creating and/or furthering wealth creation, enterprise opportunities and employment.

In these priority areas **97%** of donations went to Aboriginal controlled or led organisations with remaining funding supporting community-led initiatives with non-Aboriginal organisations.

Sector development gifts totalled **\$319,500** for organisations furthering opportunities in community-led systems change and First Nations philanthropy and government partnerships.

Finally, **\$120,000** was distributed across **12** organisations nominated by family members and employees as part of our program to encourage intergenerational philanthropy and employee engagement.



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children have the right to grow up healthy, happy and safe, strong in culture and identity.

Our Early Years funding supports Aboriginal controlled organisations and community-led initiatives who have the skills, knowledge and experience to create nurturing spaces for children, their families and communities.

THE EARLY YEARS STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

OUR STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS provide long-term funding to organisations working on community-driven early childhood initiatives.

AWABAKAL PRESCHOOL

AWABAKAL COUNTRY (NSW)

FY24 \$75,000

Total funding: \$335,000 over 4 years

Awabakal Ltd is dedicated to advancing the wellbeing of the Awabakal Community. Within their whole of community strategy, Awabakal Preschool has been providing a culturally appropriate and supportive learning environment for children in the community for over 35 years. They understand the value of a community led service and an interdisciplinary response. CAGES Foundation provided support to Awabakal Preschool for further strategy development and to develop a Measurement, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) framework.

CONTACT INC AND GAINMARA BIRRILEE PRESCHOOL

WIRADJURI COUNTRY AND ACROSS NGEMBA AND WAILWAN LANDS (NSW)

FY24 \$75,000

Total funding: \$230,000 over 3 years

Gainmara Birrilee Preschool in Brewarrina has an established partnership with Contact Inc called Murra in Murra (Hand in Hand). Contact Inc takes a whole of community approach to define and develop responsive early years services and, in collaboration with Gainmara Birrilee Preschool, designs solutions to support children, families, and community in Brewarrina. CAGES Foundation supports this partnership which ensures Gainmara Birrilee continues to deliver responsive programs based in culture and informed by ongoing child and family community consultation findings.

CULLUNGHUTTI ABORIGINAL CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICE

WADI WADI WANDANDIAN COUNTRY (NSW)

FY24 \$125,000

Total funding: \$576,000 over 5 years

Cullunghutti Aboriginal Child and Family Centre provides early childhood, health, and family support services to Aboriginal children and families in Nowra. CAGES Foundation provides general operational funding toward organisational strategy, programs and resources, increasing workplace capacity, workforce training and professional development. This year, Cullunghutti experienced organisational growth developing the Boori Milumba program which provides interdisciplinary support based in culture which aims to improve Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children's developmental and learning outcomes.

DALAIGUR PRESCHOOL

DUNGHUTTI COUNTRY (NSW)

FY24 \$75,000

Total funding: \$549,075 over 14 years

Dalaigur Preschool and Children's Services Aboriginal Corporation own and operate two Early Childhood Services in Kempsey, providing culturally safe, early childhood education and care to children and their families on Dunghutti Country. CAGES Foundation continues a longstanding partnership with Dalaigur Preschool, supporting their playgroup, outreach and allied health services. Alongside this, Dalaigur Preschool continue to evolve their organisational strategy and network to develop greater agency around partnerships and added services for children and families.

THE EARLY YEARS STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

DEADLY CONNECTIONS

GADIGAL COUNTRY (NSW)

FY24 \$100,000

Total funding: \$641,000 over 5 years

Deadly Connections Community and Justice Services aims to positively disrupt cycles of systemic racism, disadvantage and systems involvement. CAGES foundation supports the Deadly Families Project providing early intervention to improve the social and emotional well-being of Aboriginal parents with children 0-5. The Deadly Families Project well-being facilitators work alongside community to provide intensive, culturally safe and responsive holistic support.

JARJUM CENTRE

BUNDJALUNG AND WIDJABUL COUNTRY (NSW)

FY24 \$50,000

Total funding: \$382,929 over 5 years

Jarjum Centre integrates a transformative approach to early childhood education which is based in culture and connection to community. CAGES Foundation has supported Jarjum Centre to work with trusted local community member in the Box Ridge community to build and lead a supported playgroup for families with children aged 0-5 years old. This playgroup is now being run independently by the community and will develop a sustainability plan to underpin the long-term outcomes in the community.

MAARI MA HEALTH ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

WILYAKALI AND BARKINDJI COUNTRY (NSW)

FY24 \$103,000

Total funding: \$1,366,875 over 13 years

Maari Ma is an Aboriginal community-controlled health organisation supporting individuals and families across Wilyakali and Barkindji country (far west region of NSW). CAGES Foundation has supported various aspects of Maari Ma's comprehensive and holistic Early Years Strategy for many years. Currently CAGES supports the Early Start program, including wrap around family support, to extend beyond Broken Hill to Wilcannia and across far western region to Menindee and Balranald.

MUDGIN-GAL

GADIGAL COUNTRY (NSW)

FY24 \$50,000

Total funding: \$225,000 over 5 years

Mudgin-Gal Women's Service is an Aboriginal organisation on Gadigal country (Redfern) run by and for Aboriginal women. Their work strengthens Aboriginal women's connection to culture and community, fosters healing and supports self-determination. CAGES Foundation provided funding toward its 1000 Days Program and Family Support Program which provides culturally appropriate activities for children, support for expectant mothers and organisational capacity building, with the aim to enhance the well-being of Aboriginal women and their families.



Image courtesy of Contact Inc and Gainmara Birrilee Preschool

THE EARLY YEARS STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

MUDYALA ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

YAEGL COUNTRY (NSW)

FY24 \$100,000

Total funding: \$331,105 over 5 years

Mudyala supports young people and their families on Yaegl country (in the Clarence Valley) to connect and engage with education in a comfortable and culturally appropriate manner. CAGES Foundation funds toward building local Aboriginal workforce capacity in early childhood care via traineeship opportunities. Additionally, CAGES funding has supported activities aiming to improve health outcomes through Sensory Play activities with allied health workers.

SNAICC

WURUNDJERI WOI WURRUNG COUNTRY (VIC)

FY24 \$170,000

Total funding: \$1,280,000 over 11 years

SNAICC is the national voice for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children. CAGES Foundation continues to support the leadership development, communications capacity and advocacy so that SNAICC can continue to deliver outcomes that see Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children thriving, connected to culture and community. SNAICC continue to grow their media and advocacy presence and have also taken a leadership role with the Investment Dialogue for Australia's Children.

VARIOUS ORGANISATIONS (SNAICC CONFERENCE)

FY24 \$30,000

CAGES Foundation provided one-off \$5,000 professional development grants to six of our current partners to attend the SNAICC conference in September 2023 on Larrakia Country. These included: Awabakal Preschool, Contact Inc and Gainmara Birrilee Preschool, Cullunghutti Aboriginal Child And Family Service, Dalaigur Preschool, Jarjum Centre, and Mudyala Aboriginal Corporation.

Image courtesy of Contact Inc and Gainmara Birrilee Preschool



Providing a platform to be empowered

The Jarjum Centre, an Aboriginal preschool in east Lismore has been caring for local children and their families for over 40 years.

Indigenous designed and lead, a donated old house and tenacity to create a positive and safe place for the local community has seen the centre flourish.

Bundjalung woman Maurita Cavanough is passionate about community-capacity building in early childhood learning.

The former director now shares her time between the Jarjum Centre and SNAICC, the national peak body for Aboriginal community-controlled organisation working to improve outcomes and opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.

The Jarjum Centre has a strong local support network and parents are encouraged to sit on the Board to build capacity in the community.

"It's about the Elders and yarning with aunts and uncles, the people who have the cultural and community knowledge," says Ms Cavanough.

"We wrap around them to develop their own strategy to support their kids."

Now in a new space, the Jarjum Centre is helping to strengthen not just the local community but the early childhood sector.

"It's about sharing information and skills and making sure we are respecting Aboriginal community-controlled and lead services to help Aboriginal communities develop their own early learning strategies."

"That means we don't have to do it the way that's been set out for us, which is often a government top-down model," says Ms Cavanough.

"That has really opened our eyes to other partnerships. We can develop our own way of doing things. We can advocate and it is achievable."

Ms Cavanough says through the partnership with CAGES Foundation, Jarjum Centre has seen the power of impact investment built on honest and genuine relationships.

"It's about working with people who have lived experience, the cultural knowledge and expertise."

"When people's voices are heard, you're providing a platform for them to be empowered."



Image courtesy of Jarjum Centre

“At the start it was hard to get funding. We didn't have any peaks to advocate for us and we had to do it for ourselves. But with strong community foundations, connections and allies, doors have opened to help the centre grow.”

Maurita Cavanough



THE EARLY YEARS COMMUNITY GRANTS

COMMUNITY GRANTS provides one-off grants to Aboriginal controlled or led organisations providing early years services.

ABORIGINAL WOMENS AND CHILDRENS CRISIS SERVICE

(AUSPICE MARRICKVILLE WOMENS REFUGE LTD (NSW)

\$10,000

Aboriginal Women's and Children's Crisis Service is a safe place for Aboriginal women and children escaping family violence. CAGES Foundation supported establishing a fund for childcare bonds to eliminate financial barriers and promote equitable access to childcare, empowering women to make choices for their families.

ABSEC (NSW)

\$40,000

AbSec's objective is to empower Aboriginal children, families, and communities in New South Wales. CAGES Foundation contributed to phase 1 of the development of a data platform and Indigenous Data Sovereignty.

AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINAL CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES (NSW)

\$40,000

Australian Aboriginal Child and Family Services provides crisis and emergency care services for children and families in intensive family services and Out of Home Care. CAGES Foundation funding allowed services to be maintained while recruitment for Head of Out of Home Care commenced.

BLUE MOUNTAINS ABORIGINAL CULTURE AND RESOURCE CENTRE (NSW)

\$30,000

Blue Mountains Aboriginal Culture and Resource Centre provide a range of services for Aboriginal community from Penrith to Lithgow, including targeted early intervention programs, community home support, and transport. CAGES Foundation funded resources for culturally safe programs for children aged 0-5 and their carers.

THE EARLY YEARS COMMUNITY GRANTS

BULARRI MUURLAY NYANGGAN ABORIGINAL CORPORATION (NSW)

\$40,000

Bularri Muurlay Nyanggan Aboriginal Corporation (BMNAC). BMNAC plays an active and vital role in the revitalisation of Gumbaynggirr language facilitating lessons at Kulai Aboriginal Preschool and developing the Gumbaynggirr Giingana Freedom School (GGFS). CAGES Foundation funded BMNAC to create written and audio-visual resources to support teaching of Gumbaynggirr language across their education centres.

COMMUNITYXCHANGE LTD (NSW)

\$45,000

CommunityXchange Ltd operate Murray-Toola Damana Preschool, a meeting place which embeds AATSI spirituality, philosophy and culture. CAGES Foundation provided funding to support allied health workers.

COOLAMON COMMUNITY INCORPORATED (NSW)

\$50,000

Coolamon Community makes a real difference at the very start of life for an Aboriginal mother and baby through the gift of The Coolamon. CAGES Foundation funded the contents and distribution of 200 Coolamons to First Nations families, helping to create better health and well-being outcomes for mother and baby and keep families together.

DERBARL YERRIGAN HEALTH SERVICE ABORIGINAL CORPORATION (WA)

\$40,000

Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service Aboriginal Corporation is a health service focused on prevention, early intervention, and care for Aboriginal people living on Noongar country. CAGES Foundation provided funding toward an ear-health pilot program in Perth's northern suburbs based on the program in the East Perth clinic.

GUJAGA FOUNDATION LIMITED (NSW)

\$30,000

Gujaga Foundation leads language, culture and research activities within the La Perouse Aboriginal community. CAGES Foundation funded minor capital works to improve childcare facilities, including kitchen and play equipment, and enhance sun protection in outdoor areas.

KARRKAD KANJDJI TRUST (NT)

\$40,000

The Karrkad Kanjdji Trust ("gada-gut guny-jee") was established by the Traditional Owners of the Warddeken and Djelk Indigenous Protected Areas (IPAs) in 2010, to support their vision for healthy Country. Traditional Owners of the Djelk IPA in West Arnhem Land have established a new organisation, the Homeland School Company, and CAGES Foundation contributed to KKTs fundraising effort to help establish three community owned schools with tailored bicultural and on-Country curriculum.



Image courtesy of Kulai Preschool Aboriginal Corporation

THE EARLY YEARS COMMUNITY GRANTS

KINCHELA BOYS HOME (NSW)

\$25,000

Kinchela Boys Home Aboriginal Corporation (KBHAC) was established to help restore and reconstruct the identity, dignity and integrity of Aboriginal men who were forcibly removed from their families and put into the Kinchela Boys Home (KBH) and to address the intergenerational trauma that adversely impacts on the lives of the men's families and descendants. CAGES Foundation funded a gathering of the CEOs from Kinchela Boys Home Aboriginal Corporation, Coota Girls and Children of the Bombaderry Aboriginal Children's Home to collectively plan a survivor led approach to healing.

KOORDAK ABORIGINAL CORPORATION (WA)

\$30,000

Koordak Aboriginal Corporation is Community-led centre focusing on education, identity, and culture promoting empowerment, strength and pride. CAGES Foundation contributed funds toward consumable and liability costs associated with childhood development programs, including food boxes.

KULAI PRESCHOOL ABORIGINAL CORPORATION (NSW)

\$30,000

Kulai Preschool Aboriginal Corporation provide a unique Aboriginal Early Childhood Educational program for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children 0 - 5 years with an emphasis on cultural aspects reflective of local Gumbaynggirr community. CAGES Foundation provided funds to assist in updating language resources and maintaining operational costs, including their free bus service helping children and families access 0-5 preschool programs.

LULLA'S ABORIGINAL CHILD AND FAMILY CENTRE (AUSPICE ABORIGINES ADVANCEMENT LEAGUE) (VIC)

\$13,000

Lulla's is dedicated to giving aboriginal children access to high-quality education and care aiming to reinforce cultural identity while building confidence and self-esteem, the perfect foundation for a life of learning. CAGES Foundation provided funding for much needed repairs at the centre.

MAINGIRBA EARLY LEARNING CENTRE (AUSPICE WINANGA-LI ABORIGINAL CHILD & FAMILY CENTRE) (NSW)

\$30,000

Maingirba's objective is to provide accessible childcare to the local Aboriginal Community of Brewarrina. CAGES Foundation funded MELC to improve their current playground with new indoor and outdoor playground equipment suitable for the 0-5 age group.

MENTAL HEALTH FOR MOB (ACT)

\$50,000

Mental Health for Mob provides therapeutic mental health interventions for families engaged with the child protection system. CAGES Foundation provided funds toward their Parenting and Children Program, a culturally appropriate support and intervention for families with the aim to preserve families, build on strengths, and develop secure relationships in cultural attachment.

REDFERN YOUTH CONNECT (NSW)

\$10,000

Redfern Youth Connect is a grassroots Aboriginal community-controlled youth centre based in Redfern NSW on Gadigal Land. CAGES Foundation funding contributed toward operational costs and ensuring the viability to open their historic centre which is the first of its kind in NSW.

REMOTE AREA HEALTH CORPS, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH NT ABORIGINAL HEALTH SERVICES (AUSPICE ASPEN MEDICAL FOUNDATION) (NT STATEWIDE)

\$50,000

Remote Area Health Corps is an Indigenous-focused health workforce specialising in health services mostly in remote and very remote Northern Territory Aboriginal communities. CAGES Foundation co-funded with Aspen Medical and the Aspen Medical Foundation to ensure the clinical placements were maintained whilst the contract was renegotiated with government.



THE EARLY YEARS COMMUNITY GRANTS

THE RETURNING INDIGENOUS CORPORATION (NSW)

\$10,000

The Returning Indigenous Corporation is an Indigenous women and mother-led not-for-profit organisation with the objective to bring all people back into right relationship with self, community and Country, creating healing for ourselves and for the planet. CAGES Foundation provided a small donation to the post partum program supporting new mothers and families with weekly meal drops.

VICTORIAN ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE AGENCY CO-OPERATIVE LTD (VIC)

\$45,000

VACCA is an Aboriginal child welfare agency and works in service delivery, advocacy, and training. CAGES Foundation funding supported enhancing the existing Koorie Kids playgroup with the addition of Bush Warriors program, taking learning activities onto Country and understanding traditional Aboriginal Ways of the Land and Water.

WILLUM WARRAIN ABORIGINAL ASSOCIATION (VIC)

\$45,000

Willum Warrain Aboriginal Gathering Place aims to establish a lifetime connection with local Aboriginal families on the Mornington Peninsula. CAGES Foundation contributed funds toward operational costs for Bush Play Group and to run their annual Welcome Baby to Country event which connects children and families to culture, including children in out-of-home care.

WOOMERA ABORIGINAL CORPORATION (NSW)

\$50,000

Woomera's objective is to inspire and empower Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities by fostering their leadership skills and preserving their cultural identity. CAGES Foundation funded a 10-week program of capability building activities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander fathers with children aged 3-5 years, focussing on culture, health, hygiene, and breaking down perceptions around parental roles, and fostering strong relationships.

YENU ALLOWAH ABORIGINAL CHILD & FAMILY CENTRE (NSW)

\$30,000

Yenu Allowah Aboriginal Child & Family Centre support children and families unable to access treatment. CAGES Foundation provided funds toward group sessions on culture, stories, language, song, and dance.

YILIYAPINYA INDIGENOUS CORPORATION (QLD)

\$40,000

Yiliyapinya Indigenous Corporation is a not-for-profit registered charity delivering scientifically validated neuroplasticity programs. CAGES Foundation contributed funds toward operational costs, supporting administration of service.

CAGES Foundation has learnt that the most effective investment is one into the assets of culture, leadership and connection through Aboriginal controlled or led organisations and community-led initiatives.



ECONOMIC INCLUSION

First Nations people are the first entrepreneurs and business people in Australia. Colonisation created structures that continue to prevent and exclude Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people from wealth creation.

Our Economic Inclusion grants are designed to support the development of Indigenous-led solutions that encourage First Nations wealth creation.

The organisations we fund are working on a range of innovative economic solutions that celebrate First Nation thinking.

In FY24, we distributed \$650,000 in our Economic Inclusion grants scheme.



Photo Courtesy of Waminda South Coast Women's Health and Wellbeing Aboriginal Corporation

ECONOMIC INCLUSION

FIRST AUSTRALIANS CAPITAL

OFFICE LOCATED ON AWABAKAL
AND WORIMI LANDS (NSW)

FY24 \$100,000

Total funding: \$845,000 over 8 years

First Australians Capital's (FAC) aim is to empower First Australians to create and drive their own prosperity through the strength and assets of First Australians' cultural, creative and economic capital, and in turn, contributing to the nation's economic growth. CAGES Foundation has supported operational expenses allowing FAC further autonomy in decision making and investment.

FIRST HAND SOLUTIONS

GADIGAL COUNTRY (NSW)

FY24 \$80,000

Total funding: \$300,000 over 6 years

First Hand Solutions exists to improve the lives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people through employment and training, financial inclusion and economic development underpinned by culture, connection to country and caring for country. CAGES Foundation provided funding toward operational costs, building capacity internally, and support the sustainability of business growth with regional investment opportunities.



Photo Courtesy of Miyay Birray Youth Service

ECONOMIC INCLUSION

FIRST NATIONS FUTURES

WURUNDJERI COUNTRY (VIC)

FY24 \$100,000

Total funding: \$200,000 over 3 years

First Nations Futures provides a new funding platform that drives economic justice for First Nations communities. CAGES Foundation funded toward operational expenditure to support a governance gathering and narrative change campaigns.

WARRAMA-LI GROUP

GAMILAROI NATION (NSW)

FY24 \$70,000

Total funding: \$110,000 over 2 years

Warrama-li is a social enterprise providing opportunities for young people to engage with training and employment opportunities in the Moree Plains area. CAGES Foundation funded towards Miyay Birray Youth Service, to sustain employment and business opportunities for young Aboriginal people, particularly to undertake local construction work in the community. Note: Warrama-Li were listed as Miyay Birray in the 2023 Annual Review.

NGARRIMILI LTD

WADAWURRUNG COUNTRY (VIC)

FY24 \$40,000

Total funding: \$100,000 over 3 years

Ngarrimili nurture business and entrepreneurship opportunities amongst Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. CAGES Foundation supported First Nations Employment pathways within the First Nations Business, Retail & Arts Hub (Murran).

ORIGINAL POWER

(BORROLOOLA) YANYUWA COUNTRY (NT)

FY24 \$75,000

Total funding: over 6 years

Original Power builds the skills, capacity and collective capability of First Nations peoples to determine what happens in their communities and on their country. CAGES Foundation funding supported professional development and consultancy to assist with governance structures and the establishment of a locally owned registered Cooperative to guide decision making around the solar project in Borroloola.

SEVGEN INDIGENOUS CORPORATION

KABI KABI COUNTRY (QLD)

FY24 \$60,000

Total funding: \$502,500 over 9 years

SevGen's stated dual mission is to honour the full, true and creative self and to celebrate, validate and reinvigorate Indigenous ways of being. CAGES Foundation provided core operational funding toward employment, equipment purchase, project coordination and training

WAMINDA SOUTH COAST WOMEN'S HEALTH AND WELLBEING ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

YUIN COUNTRY (NSW)

FY24 \$50,000

First year funded

Waminda is an Aboriginal women-led community-controlled health organisation that aims to raise the health, wellbeing and spiritual status of women and their Aboriginal families on the South Coast of New South Wales, addressing issues of chronic disease and poor health. CAGES Foundation funded toward operational

costs for Blak Cede, a social enterprise creating opportunities for Aboriginal women in the Shoalhaven to participate in culturally meaningful employment.

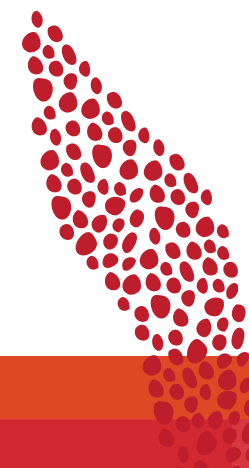
WELCOME TO COUNTRY PTY LTD

OFFICE LOCATED ON GADIGAL COUNTRY (NSW)

FY24 \$75,000

First year funded

Welcome to Country's supports greater economic independence of First Nations entrepreneurs to continue maintaining their cultural practices and sharing culture to the world on their own terms. CAGES Foundation funded toward operational costs.



SECTOR DEVELOPMENT

AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH ALLIANCE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE (ARACY) (ECIA)

NATIONAL

FY24 \$2,500

Total funding: \$7,500 over 3 years

ARACY brings people and knowledge together to grow capability across the sector, influencing decision making to help children thrive. CAGES Foundation supported its facilitation of the Early Childhood Impact Alliance.

AUSTRALIAN PROGRESS - COMMON THREADS (AUSPICE FIRST AUSTRALIANS CAPITAL)

NATIONAL

FY24 \$50,000

Total funding: \$175,000 over 4 years

CAGES Foundation provided support for the early establishment of Common Threads, a new organisation that will harness the power of First Nations leadership and changemaking. It will centre First Nations ways of knowing, being and doing driving transformative change for First Nations justice by building the power, capability and collaboration of First Nations social movements.

SUNRISE PROJECT

NATIONAL

FY24 \$50,000

First year funded

CAGES Foundation donation to Sunrise Project to further its charitable purposes.

INTERNATIONAL FUNDERS FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES (AUSPICE UNITY OF FIRST PEOPLES OF AUSTRALIA)

NATIONAL

FY24 \$42,000

Total funding: \$63,000 over 2 years

The International Funders for Indigenous Peoples (IFIP) is a global community of funders dedicated to Indigenous Peoples worldwide. With other IFIP members CAGES Foundation has supported the establishment of an Australian Working Group and the appointment of a Regional Manager to actively deepen our engagement with the philanthropic sector and Indigenous communities in Australia.

SECTOR DEVELOPMENT

MANIFERRA

NATIONAL

FY24 \$100,000

Total funding: \$360,000 over 4 years

CAGES Foundation participates as a member of Mannifera, a collective of Australian funders supporting civil society organisations pushing to strengthen our democracy and build a more inclusive economy. The collective is also committed to respectfully funding in the First Nations space through its First Nations-led grant making practice.

QUEENSLAND ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PROTECTION PEAK (QATSI CPP)

NATIONAL

FY24 \$75,000

Total funding: \$150,000 over 2 years

QATSI CPP is the peak body representing, advocating and supporting the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander child protection and family support sector in Queensland.

CAGES Foundation is providing funding for Identifying and developing the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child and Family Support Evidence Base within the recently established QATSI CPP Centre of Excellence.

TRANBY ABORIGINAL COOPERATIVE

NSW

FY24 \$40,000

First year funded

Tranby Aboriginal Co-operative exists to help amplify the voices of diverse Indigenous communities, providing adult education and training pathways necessary to develop stronger individuals and communities. CAGES Foundation supported Tranby for general operational expenses during a period of growth and to build a First Nations Co-operative Alliance to encourage collaboration for stronger outcomes in community.

Image courtesy of Tranby Aboriginal Cooperative



CAGES FOUNDATION PEOPLE

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CAGES Foundation Board

Paul Salteri AO, Founder and Chairman

Sandra Salteri, Founder and Director

Paul Biancardi, Director

Gemma Salteri, Executive Director

Anthony Salteri, Company Secretary

Team

Rachel Kerry, Chief Executive Officer

Sime Knezevic, Grants Manager

Kerry Klimm, Guguu Yalanji and Koko
Lamalama, Strategic Communications
Consultant

CAGES investments portfolio is managed by the Finance Committee appointed by the CAGES Board. The Finance Committee is Chaired by an Independent Director.

Our audited financial statements are available upon request or on our ACNC page.



www.cagesfoundation.org



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