

CAGES FOUNDATION



**ANNUAL
REPORT
2015**

 **cages**



CAGES FOUNDATION'S MISSION IS TO IMPROVE LIFE OUTCOMES FOR ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER CHILDREN

CAGES Foundation acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land on which we work and thank them for sharing this land. We pay our respects to the Elders, past present and future.

FROM THE FOUNDERS

It is with great pleasure that CAGES Foundation presents its first annual report. Our decision to create an annual report was in response to our values around sharing and transparency. We have provided gifts to, and learnt from, many inspiring organisations and communities and we believe there is value in telling others about our experiences.

We established CAGES Foundation in 2009. Together with our three children we decided that we wanted to contribute to improving life outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children. We soon realised that to have the greatest impact we needed to become more focused and have real purpose in our giving. So after consultation we decided to focus on providing gifts to organisations working on the critical early years before school.

We have had the privilege of providing gifts to organisations, communities and people who are able to make a real difference in their community. Through their commitment and leadership we have evolved our funding principles around Aboriginal leadership, genuine partnerships and capacity building, which have become core to everything that we do. Through these we hope to

make worthwhile and effective funding decisions, which address real issues and create solutions owned and delivered by community.

Paul Salteri AM and Sandra Salteri
Founders
CAGES Foundation



OUR VALUES

We **RESPECT** the traditions and ideas of Indigenous people and their right to self-determination.

We endeavor to **LISTEN** and **LEARN** from the communities we fund to gain understanding and knowledge about issues and solutions.

We believe that open and **HONEST** two-way communication is integral to building successful and trusting partnerships.

We value working **COLLABORATIVELY** with stakeholders in community and other funders to enhance learning and impact.

We aim to be **TRANSPARENT** and share our learnings and activities with community to promote knowledge transfer.

We will be **ACCOUNTABLE** and are committed to good governance in the administration and management of our foundation as well as in our funding decisions and advocacy.

We will demonstrate **HUMILITY** as we recognise the virtues and talents of others and honour their inherent value.

RESPECT LISTEN LEARN HONEST COLLABORATIVELY
TRANSPARENT ACCOUNTABLE HUMILITY

In November 2015 the CAGES team came together for a day of cultural education with Ngroo Education Inc. The opportunity to listen, learn and witness the wonderful work of Ngroo provided a deeper understanding of community.



From L to R, Gemma Salteri, Julie Jones, Jan Wright, Rachel Kerry, Aunty Rita Wright, Sandra Salteri, Anthony Salteri, Deb Mann, Carla Salteri, Paul Salteri and Paul Biancardi

OUR FUNDING PRINCIPLES

Our values underpin our strategy and decision-making. Together with what we have learnt from our partners, we have developed funding principles which we believe are critical to achieving our objective.

ABORIGINAL LEADERSHIP AND PARTICIPATION

When we consider which organisations to fund we look for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participation, influence, identity and leadership. When we fund non-Indigenous organisations we look for respectful partnerships.

DEMONSTRATE A DEDICATION TO CAPACITY BUILDING

It is intended that the organisations we fund will leave behind a greater ability for Aboriginal individuals, organisations and communities to achieve improved

life outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children. We recognise, at times, there is a need to build skills and capabilities in organisations and communities and we look for intentional two-way learning when considering which organisations to fund.

CAGES Foundation also endeavors to take a **long-term view** in its funding strategy. We value organisations who endeavor to develop program logic and **evaluate their outcomes** however we understand that at times these may evolve and as a funder we commit to being **responsive** and **flexible** wherever possible.

SINCE ITS ESTABLISHMENT CAGES FOUNDATION HAS DISTRIBUTED \$5.7MILLION. IN 2015 WE DISTRIBUTED JUST OVER \$1MILLION

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIPS DEVELOP MEANINGFUL SYNERGY AND REAL RESULTS

AUSTRALIAN LITERACY AND NUMERACY FOUNDATION (ALNF) (FUNDING COMMENCED 2011)

The ALNF's Early Language and Literacy Program in the Macleay, has demonstrated success, and is now being taken up across the region (2015 Funding \$170,000 Total funding \$932,500)

DALAIGUR PRESCHOOL (FUNDING COMMENCED 2011)

A supported playgroup, which demonstrates that smaller gifts can make an enormous difference (2015 Funding \$15,000 Total funding \$111,800)

MAARI MA HEALTH ABORIGINAL CORPORATION (FUNDING COMMENCED 2012)

Funding Maari Ma's Early Childhood strategy for the next three years is an opportunity for them to sustain and grow (2015 funding \$100,000 Total funding \$435,600)

NANGALA PROJECT INC (FUNDING COMMENCED 2012)

The Indi Kindi Program has been an emerging program demonstrating fabulous community engagement, ownership and leadership (2015 funding \$80,000 Total funding \$400,000)

NGROO (FUNDING COMMENCED 2013)

Funding for underpinning internal operational processes so that Ngroo can continue to make cultural and systemic change in the early childhood system (2015 funding \$96,000 Total funding \$396,500)

SHINE FOR KIDS (FUNDING COMMENCED 2014)

Support for children with a parent in the criminal justice system continuing over three years. A complex issue needing local, practical support (2015 funding \$100,000 Total funding \$200,000)



LOOKING FOR NEW OPPORTUNITIES AND INNOVATIVE WAYS TO WORK IN THE SECTOR

BARNARDOS

Over the next three years funding will be provided for critical capacity building with Aboriginal agencies and communities in the child protection sector **(2015 FUNDING \$81,400)**

FOUNDATION FOR RURAL AND REGIONAL RENEWAL

In partnership with NSW State Government and other foundations CAGES has provided funding to "Innovation for Community Impact" program **(2015 funding \$20,000)**



SNAICC - SECRETARIAT OF NATIONAL ABORIGINAL AND ISLANDER CHILD CARE

Provide funds over two years for this Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisation to build internal capacity around online communications and advocacy **(2015 funding \$50,000)**



UNIVERSITY OF NSW, THE GUDAGA PROGRAM

An exciting long-term funding initiative, which will translate longitudinal research findings to services in partnership with Tharawal Aboriginal Corporation **(2015 funding \$160,000)**



CONTACT INC

A donation to assist in evolving early childhood learning programs that respond directly to rural and remote community need **(2015 funding \$25,000)**

IN ADDITION TO ITS FUNDING PRINCIPLES CAGES FOUNDATION HAS DEVELOPED SIMPLE CRITERIA TO ASSIST THOSE APPROACHING THE FOUNDATION FOR FUNDING...

CAGES is most interested in organisations who fulfill our funding principles and:

- Work with children in their early stages (aged pre-natal to 5)
- Focus on disadvantaged communities with high representation of Aboriginal children
- Are willing to share learning and program frameworks for greater impact
- Have, or are willing to develop, identifiable goals to measure the outcomes and effectiveness of activities.



A PRIORITY FOR CAGES FOUNDATION HAS BEEN ENABLING IDEAS AND SOLUTIONS FROM GRASSROOT COMMUNITY MEMBERS. THIS HAS PROMOTED LOCAL OWNERSHIP AND LEADERSHIP RESULTING IN MORE SUSTAINABLE OUTCOMES.

TURNING IDEAS INTO REALITY – THE MARULU STRATEGY, FITZROY CROSSING

Marulu means 'Precious, worth nurturing' in the Bunuba language

The idea for the Marulu Strategy was given form by James Fitzpatrick, a Paediatrician working in the Fitzroy Valley, and local Aboriginal leaders Maureen Carter and June Oscar, the CEOs of Nindilingarri Cultural Health Services and Marninwarntikura Fitzroy Women's Resource Centre, respectively. It was born from the need for a more comprehensive and holistic approach to improving child development services for the

children of the Fitzroy Valley, in the wake of a study of fetal alcohol spectrum disorders that documented among the world's highest rates of the condition in the region. Seed funding over three years from CAGES Foundation enabled this idea to transition to reality. PATCHES Paediatrics led the implementation of the Marulu School Clinic. The model of the clinic found its basis in close collaboration between families, allied health professionals, nurses and doctors in health, and teachers and Aboriginal and Islander Education Officers.

Telethon Kids Institute were part of the project using their translational research skills to add an additional layer of support to local solutions and development of local community capacity. The formal research on the Marulu School Clinic is

evaluating, for the first time, the clinical effectiveness of multidisciplinary child health services in remote communities, and the perceptions of families who access these services.

We are delighted that the WA Health Department have provided ongoing funding for the Marulu School Clinic, which is now led locally. It has been suggested that if the model continues to be viable in the Fitzroy Valley, it may be replicated in other remote areas.

Although our time as funders on this particular project has been completed we remain keenly interested in the Fitzroy community and continue relationships with those involved. For more information on PATCHES and the Marulu school clinics, visit: www.patches-paediatrics.com.au



"Thanks to the faith and generosity of CAGES foundation in supporting an innovative and coordinated model of service delivery in the Fitzroy Valley, we have been able to sustainably deliver high quality child development and early intervention services to children ... in their place, and on their terms. Thank you CAGES, this could not have happened without you!"

JAMES FITZPATRICK

(Total funding \$475,500)



CAGES FOUNDATION THINKS IT IS CRITICAL THAT ORGANISATIONS TRACK THEIR SUCCESS AND RECOGNISE OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT. AT CAGES FOUNDATION WE HAVE IMPLEMENTED OUR OWN PERFORMANCE INDICATORS AND MEASURE OUR OWN EFFECTIVENESS THROUGH THE PHILANTHROPIC BENCHMARK INITIATIVE.

THE PHILANTHROPIC BENCHMARK INITIATIVE (PBI)

The purpose of a foundation is to enable a positive social impact, but how do we know if we are achieving this? Philanthropic foundations contribute to the wonderful outcomes their beneficiaries or partners in the charitable sector achieve but we are not directly achieving them ourselves so what do we measure when we consider our own effectiveness?

In 2013 CAGES Foundation founded the PBI with Origin Foundation and Dusseldorp Forum. Core to the benchmark is an external and confidential survey of past and present funding recipients and applicants to gather meaningful data to contribute to the measurement of a foundation's own performance and to generate a benchmark for comparative purposes.

The questions around effectiveness were centred on the work of philanthropic foundations including understanding and developing strategy to meet objectives, procuring and managing relationships with communities and charitable partners and facilitating reasonable processes resulting in distribution of gifts and reporting.

Foundations performing well against the benchmarks will contribute to a positive social impact over the long term and will do so appropriately and effectively.

The PBI also provides us with critical feedback in terms of what we can improve at the foundation. Based on our 2015 results we will be reviewing our application and funding processes to ensure greater clarity and understanding and updating our website to increase our transparency.

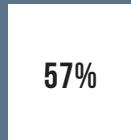
TWO WAY LEARNING

The PBI together with the brief reports on funding help us learn more about the issues and communities we are funding into and assist to evolve our giving strategy in response to need.

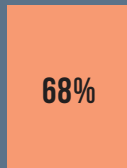
Additionally, our foundation has introduced an exciting opportunity for our partners to nominate value add activities beyond financial support for the foundation to undertake. We believe this will build more long-lasting and valuable relationships with our partners.



PBI RESULTS 2015

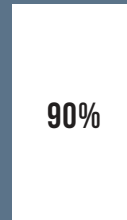


BENCHMARK

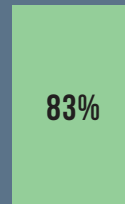


CAGES

ARE THE
FOUNDATION'S
OBJECTIVES CLEAR?

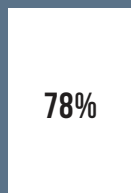


BENCHMARK

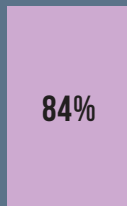


CAGES

IS THERE CLARITY
AROUND APPLYING
FOR FUNDING?

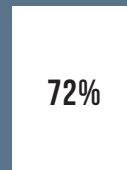


BENCHMARK

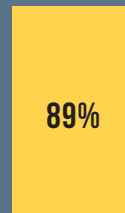


CAGES

CAGES FOUNDATION IS
HIGHLY ENGAGED?

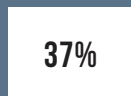


BENCHMARK

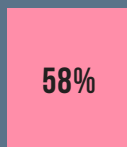


CAGES

EASIER TO WORK
WITH THEN OTHER
FUNDERS?

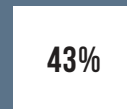


BENCHMARK

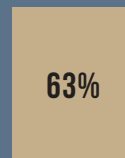


CAGES

DOES THE
FOUNDATION HAVE
INFLUENCE?



BENCHMARK



CAGES

WILL THE FOUNDATION
HELP WITH
OPERATIONS?



FINANCE AND INVESTMENT REPORT

CAGES FOUNDATION HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED TO OPERATE IN PERPETUITY AND CAREFUL CONSIDERATION IS GIVEN WHEN MANAGING THE CORPUS OF THE FOUNDATION TO ENSURE A DIVERSIFIED PORTFOLIO MINIMISING RISKS WHILE MAXIMISING RETURNS FOR OUR BENEFICIARIES.

	2013/14	2014/15
Portfolio Market Value	\$17.127M	\$23.249M
Investment Gain / (Loss)	\$2.312M	\$2.279M
Contributed Capital	\$2M	\$5M
Distributions	\$1.036M	\$1.057M
Cumulative Distributions from 2009	\$4.577M	\$5.635M
Operating Expenses as a % of net assets	0.7%	0.4%

IMPACT INVESTING

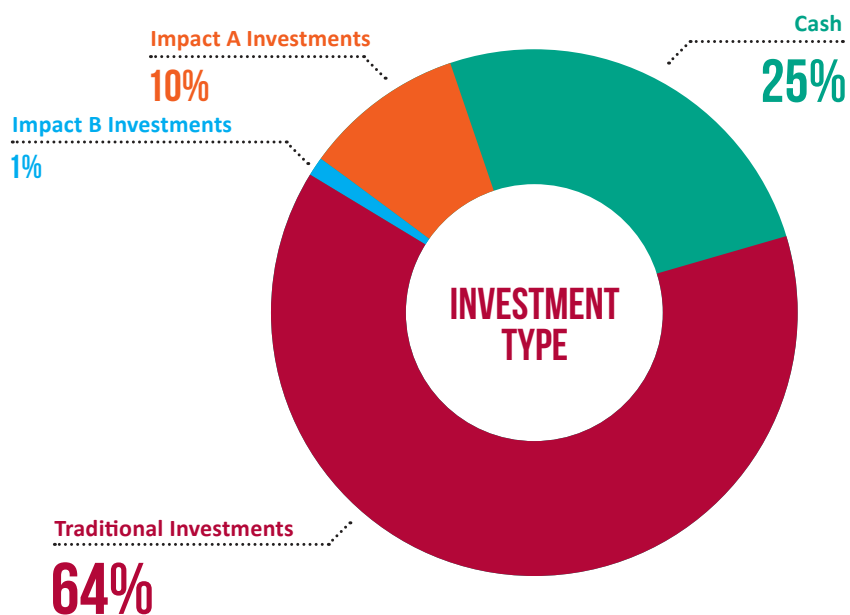
In 2013 the Trustees of CAGES Foundation approved the Foundation exploring the emerging field of impact investing resulting in a strategic decision to move towards making impact investments for the purpose of achieving both a financial and social and or environmental return. The Foundation is invested in both category A impact investments, internally defined as investments which have a market risk return profile and a measurable social or environmental return and category B impact investments which may not offer a market financial return but have the potential to drive significant social or environmental return.

To protect the corpus the Foundation makes investments in category B impact investments from any additional accumulated funds once the foundation has an accumulated return of above 8% of total FUM.

CAGES Foundation thanks its advisors Australian Impact Investments who have been instrumental in the development of our impact investing strategy and provide advice on our impact investments.

CAGES Foundation has made five impact investments addressing a range of social issues and with very different risk profiles. Investments range from a loan to Social Enterprise Finance Australia (SEFA) to support its lending activities to a broad range of social enterprises,

equity in Unitus Impact's Livelihood Impact Fund which is investing in scalable, early stage companies in South East Asia and India servicing and improving the livelihoods of the working poor, and equity in Hire Up which is connecting Australians with disability with support workers through an online platform.



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We would like to acknowledge the following organisations who generously provided the images for our annual report:

- Australian Literacy and Numeracy Foundation
- Maari Ma Health Aboriginal Corporation
- Marninwarntikura Fitzroy Women's Resource Centre
- Nangala Project Inc
- Ngroo Education Incorporated
- Nindilingarri Cultural Health Services
- Secretariat of National Aboriginal and Islander Child Care

Designed by Dreamtime Creative, Proud Member of Supply Nation
www.dreamtimecreative.com.au



PO Box 1068
North Sydney NSW 2059

P: (02) 9919 8181

E: info@cagesfoundation.org

W: www.cagesfoundation.org

