



AMPLIFY

Annual Grants Report
2022-23



The Ian Potter Foundation acknowledges the Wurundjeri people as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we work. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

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WELCOME

The Ian Potter Foundation Annual Grants Report 2022–23

The Foundation makes grants nationally to support charitable organisations working to benefit the community across a wide range of sectors and endeavours.

OUR VISION

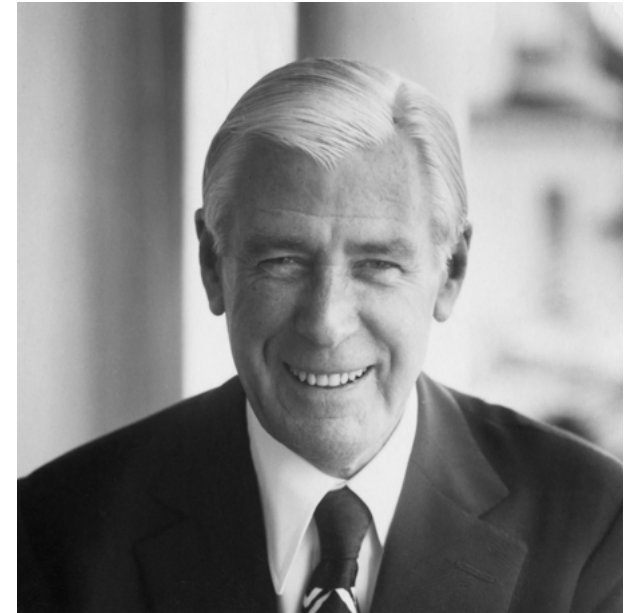
A fair, healthy, sustainable and vibrant Australia.

OUR MISSION

Honour the legacy of founder and benefactor, Sir Ian Potter, and his commitment that the Foundation make a difference to Australia.

Maintain a tradition of encouraging excellence and enabling innovation to facilitate positive social change and develop Australia's creativity and capacity as a nation.

Support outstanding charitable organisations, invest in Australia's innovative and creative people, protect the environment and alleviate disadvantage.



Sir Ian Potter, Founder 1902–1994.

GRANTS DISTRIBUTED SINCE 1964

\$450+M

GOVERNORS



CHAIRMAN

Mr Charles B Goode AC

GOVERNORS

Lady Potter AC, CMRI (Life Governor)

Mr Anthony Burgess

Professor Sir Edward Byrne AC, Kt

The Hon Alex Chernov AC, KC

The Hon Susan Crennan AC, KC

Mr Leon Davis AO

Professor Karen Day AM

Mr Craig Drummond

Professor Emma Johnston AO

Professor Richard Larkins AC

Mr Allan Myers AC, KC

Professor Brian Schmidt AC

FRONT (L-R): Prof Emma Johnston AO, Lady Potter AC, CMRI, Mr Charles Goode AC, Prof Karen Day AM, The Hon. Susan Crennan AC, KC.

REAR (L-R): Mr Allan Myers AC, KC, Prof Sir Edward Byrne AC, Kt, Mr Craig Drummond, Prof Richard Larkins AC, Mr Anthony Burgess, The Hon. Alex Chernov AC, KC.

ABSENT: Prof Brian Schmidt AC, Mr Leon Davis AO.

Image credit: Hynesite Photography.

STAFF

The Ian Potter Foundation Annual Grants Report 2022–23

Paul Conroy
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

Rohan Martyres
MAJOR GRANTS MANAGER

Dr Alberto Furlan
SENIOR PROGRAM MANAGER

Louise Arkles
SENIOR PROGRAM MANAGER

Nicole Bortone
SENIOR PROGRAM MANAGER

Lauren Monaghan
PROGRAM MANAGER

Louise Joel
PROGRAM MANAGER

Mairead Phillips
THE GEORGE ALEXANDER
FOUNDATION
PROGRAM MANAGER

Paula Cruz Manrique
PROGRAM OFFICER

RESEARCH AND EVALUATION

Caroline Henwood
RESEARCH AND EVALUATION
MANAGER

Ximena Avalos Mendez
RESEARCH AND EVALUATION
OFFICER

COMMUNICATIONS

Sara Hearn
COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER

Nina Beer
COMMUNICATIONS &
ENGAGEMENT COORDINATOR

ADMINISTRATION

Gail Lewry
ADMINISTRATION MANAGER

Sue Wilkinson
ADMINISTRATION OFFICER

Nicole Hunter
RECEPTION AND OFFICE
COORDINATOR

Suzanne Girling
ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT

FINANCE

Anna McCallum
CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

Viktoria Kritharelis
FINANCE OFFICER



FRONT (L-R) Paula Cruz Manrique, Viktoria Kritharelis, Alberto Furlan; MIDDLE (L-R): Nicole Hunter, Gail Lewry, Ximena Avalos Mendez, Paul Conroy, Mairead Phillips, Nicole Bortone. REAR (L-R standing): Caroline Henwood, Lauren Monaghan, Sara Hearn, Suzanne Girling, Rohan Martyres, Nina Beer, Louise Joel, Anna McCallum, Louise Arkles.
Image credit: Hynesite Photography.

FINANCE & INVESTMENT

During the financial year, the Finance Committee met on four occasions and the Audit & Risk Committee met on two occasions.

MEMBERS OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE IN 2022-2023 WERE:

Mr Anthony Burgess (Chair)
Mr Craig Drummond
Mr Charles Goode AC
Mr Allan Myers AC, KC

MEMBERS OF THE AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE IN 2022-2023 WERE:

Mr Craig Drummond (Chair)
Mr Anthony Burgess
Mr Charles Goode AC
Mr Allan J Myers AC KC

The Board extend their appreciation to Pitcher Partners who provide audit services to the Foundation and administered entities.

Directors have approved a distribution budget of \$38,100,000* for IPF in the 2023-2024 financial year.

*Includes a refund that will be redistributed in the FY2024 year.

The corpus of The Ian Potter Foundation is invested in a diversified portfolio, including listed investment companies, managed funds and Exchange-Traded Funds. The corpus is managed by members of the Finance Committee.

	2022-2023	2021-2022	NOTES
	\$	\$	
Portfolio market value	827,349,684	784,026,982	
Distributions	33,349,269	36,650,000	
Cumulative distributions	454m	421m	
Investment Income	41,153,867	37,524,645	
Future Commitments	104,458,361	88,626,775	1
COMBINED OPERATING EXPENSES			
Operating expenses	3,259,476	2,868,329	
Operating expenses as a % of distributions made	9.8%	7.8%	
Operating expenses as a % of net Assets	0.39%	0.35%	2

1. Note - future commitments include current and non-current combined
2. Net assets - Total assets less liabilities (excluding grant commitments)

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

The Ian Potter Foundation was established in 1964 by Australian financier, businessman and philanthropist, Sir Ian Potter (1902–1994). The Foundation continues to be one of Australia’s major philanthropic foundations.

Based in Melbourne, the Foundation makes grants nationally to support charitable organisations working to benefit the community across a wide range of sectors and endeavours.

Through its grants, the Foundation seeks to invest in Australia’s intellectual capital, encouraging excellence and supporting Australia’s talent: the visionaries, social entrepreneurs, scientists, academics and researchers, artists and educators, and those who dedicate themselves to bettering our communities for the benefit of all.

Grants are made through program areas that reflect Sir Ian’s interest in the arts, and his visionary approach to issues concerning the environment, public health and medical research, education and community wellbeing.

Through its Major Grants stream, the Foundation funds iconic or significant projects, often over a number of years and sometimes where the project does not fit defined program area funding guidelines. These projects are proactively sought out by the Foundation from which select applications are considered once a year by the Foundation’s Board of Governors.

Since 1964, The Ian Potter Foundation has contributed over \$450 million to thousands of projects, both large and small. Led by its Board of Governors, the Foundation has a strong track record of funding projects that respond decisively to key issues and develop our creativity and capacity as a nation.

FUNDING PRINCIPLES

Grantmaking across all program areas is underpinned by the following principles:

EXCELLENCE We support organisations, programs and individuals who are outstanding in their field.

PREVENTION To maximise the value of our grants, we try to identify and support projects that address the causes of any problems rather than treat the symptoms. Supporting research is fundamental to this approach.

INNOVATION We seek to fund programs and projects that take a new approach to solving problems, especially those that can be evaluated and have potential for expansion and further development.

LEVERAGE Our grants have greater impact when combined with support from other sources such as other trusts and foundations, government, and business. We are happy to be one of a number of supporters of a program.

We encourage grantees to have collaborations and partnerships that facilitate combining knowledge and resources to achieve a shared goal.

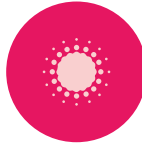
LONG-TERM THINKING We try to fund projects that will continue to have an impact well beyond the period of our grant. The long-term sustainability of the project is an important consideration.

Using these principles, the Foundation partners with not-for-profit organisations:

- funding capacity building, supporting established organisations to expand operations
- working with grantees to set clear goals and appropriate measures to track progress
- and assisting grantees with non-financial support where appropriate.

FUNDING PILLARS AND PROGRAM AREAS

The Ian Potter Foundation has four funding pillars that align with the four elements of its vision: Fair, Healthy, Sustainable and Vibrant. Within each pillar there are specific funding areas each with focussed funding objectives.

			
FAIR	HEALTHY	SUSTAINABLE	VIBRANT
FAIR	COMMUNITY WELLBEING EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT		
HEALTHY	MEDICAL RESEARCH PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCH		
SUSTAINABLE	ENVIRONMENT		
VIBRANT	ARTS		

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



Charles Goode AC
Chairman

In the financial year ending 30 June 2023, eight major grants totalling \$15,305,000 were awarded to projects spanning capital works for medical research institutes and large-scale public health programs, and capacity building of leading not-for-profit organisations in the community wellbeing, early childhood development and arts sectors.

The most significant single funding commitment in this period supported the establishment of the Cumming Global Centre for Pandemic Therapeutics, which will be housed in the Doherty Institute at the University of Melbourne. The Centre will create a home for the best global research talent to focus on developing the therapeutics we will need at speed for any future pandemic. Following the exceptional generosity of philanthropist Mr Geoffrey Cumming, the Foundation's Board agreed to contribute \$5 million towards this transformational initiative.

A further \$1.1 million in funding was committed to the capital campaign for The Aikenhead Centre for Medical Discovery (ACMD). This commitment follows two previous major grants of \$2.5 million (2022) and \$2.5 million (2016) towards establishing ACMD, Australia's first hospital-based bio-engineering research and education hub.

The Seed Foundation was awarded \$2.5 million in capacity-building support to consolidate and expand its programs that provide wrap-around support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students seeking careers in health or social services across Queensland and the Northern Territory. The Cerebral Palsy Alliance (CPA) was awarded \$2.5 million to expand the capacity of Remarkable, a CPA program that facilitates the development of technological solutions for people with disabilities, by incubating start-up enterprises that employ as well as service the end users.

Two further major grants were awarded to existing partners of the Foundation that focus on improving outcomes for Australian children. The largest of these grants was a \$2.66 million investment in Secretariat of National Aboriginal and Islander Child Care (SNAICC) to strengthen the organisation's capacity and the broader Aboriginal Controlled Community services sector, helping to drive improvements nationally for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children through policy and practice reform.

Smiling Mind's early years and schools' mindfulness programs have proven to be valuable for teachers and families to combat children's anxiety and fear during the pandemic. Capacity-building funding of \$1.5 million from the Foundation will further support Smiling Mind over the next five years to grow and develop to meet the community's future needs.

An exciting development has been the creation of the Investment Dialogue for Australian Children (Investment Dialogue), announced in May 2023. The Investment Dialogue is a joint commitment by the Australian Government and a growing number of philanthropic foundations to invest in innovative programs to reduce inter-generational disadvantage. The Ian Potter Foundation is proud to be part of this collaborative effort, and we are providing \$1.6 million to ARACY to be the convenor of the Investment Dialogue. You can read more about the Investment Dialogue on page 10-12.

The grant to ARACY was the largest of six grants (totalling \$4,241,000) awarded within the Early Childhood Development program in fiscal 2023.

The Community Wellbeing program awarded \$3.5 million across 12 grants, including \$1 million to Children's Ground as core funding support to expand the Children's Ground model of education, employment pathways and wellbeing for Aboriginal children and their families.

Seven Public Health Research grants totalling \$3.5 million will fund projects to support better health for all Australians, from children to adults 65+ years, and will serve a range of demographic groups, including culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD), Indigenous Australians, at-risk youth and the chronically ill (see more on page 20). In Medical Research, 17 grants (\$2 million) were awarded to leading research institutes nationwide to fund the state-of-the-art equipment they need to investigate debilitating diseases and develop new and better treatments.

Ten Environment grants totalling over \$7.7 million were awarded. The funded projects span large-scale research, on-ground conservation, cross-sectoral partnerships to protect fragile ecosystems and capacity building of established organisations. The majority of projects supported are based in outer regional or remote areas, from the University of Western Australia's 'Protecting Peatland Ecosystems in Southwestern Australia' (\$1.36 million) to the University of Tasmania's 'Safeguarding Natural Values of the Great Southern Reef' (\$2 million). Further details on these and other Environment grants in fiscal 2023 can be found on page 24.

Of the eleven Arts program area grants awarded, four (totalling \$2.3 million) are supporting first-time grant recipients of the Foundation and all leading organisations in their fields (read more on page 26). A further \$1.5 million was awarded to existing partners to complete successful programs. In addition, \$1.8 million in funding went to The Ian Potter Cultural Trust to fund professional development for emerging artists.

I would like to welcome Paul Conroy, who assumed the role of Chief Executive Officer in March 2023. Paul came to the Foundation with a strong background in the commercial, professional services and not-for-profit sectors. Most recently, Paul was Chief Executive Officer of FareShare, a volunteer-led organisation (and a previous grantee of the Foundation) that converts rescued food into nutritious meals for people in need.

On behalf of our Board of Governors, I thank Craig Connelly for his outstanding contribution to the Foundation as Chief Executive Officer over the past seven years. Craig's dedication to improving the Foundation's internal capability and processes during his tenure will enhance the impact of our grant making for many years to come.

Lastly, I thank my fellow Board members and the Foundation's staff for their continued hard work and commitment to The Ian Potter Foundation and its goals.

Riley Saban – Co-Founder of Polyspine – a startup in the Remarkable Accelerator Program. Image: Remarkable.

GRANTS AWARDED

75

TOTAL VALUE

\$41,851,500

GRANTS PAID

167

TOTAL VALUE

\$33,349,269

The Ian Potter Foundation Annual Grants Report 2022–23



CEO REPORT

I am delighted to share my first Chief Executive Officer's report of The Ian Potter Foundation, having now been in the role for just over six months.

Since commencing my role in March 2023, I have focused on getting to know the wonderful team at the Foundation, including the members of the Board of Governors. I have enjoyed the opportunity to visit many of our grantees and learn about their great work in the community. I have also valued meeting with several other philanthropic foundations and learning how The Ian Potter Foundation fits within the wider philanthropic sector.

Coming from the not-for-profit sector and, before that, the commercial world, I have immersed myself in learning about the unique requirements of managing a philanthropic foundation. I am very conscious of the responsibility that comes with this role. There are so many not-for-profit organisations doing incredible work for our community and society at large – it is incumbent on the Foundation and its staff to identify and support a diverse range of opportunities that will make a meaningful impact on the lives of Australians now and in the future.

In May 2023, we were excited by the Federal Government's budget announcement supporting the Investment Dialogue for Australia's Children: a collaboration between Government and philanthropy to improve the wellbeing of children, young people, and their families by working with communities to reduce intergenerational disadvantage in Australia.

The Federal Government and 20 philanthropic organisations are the current partners of the Investment Dialogue, and there is an open invitation to other governments and philanthropic funders to join.

The Investment Dialogue seeks to coordinate efforts through sharing expertise, data and resources to translate and measure what works and what matters. We will be supported by ARACY – Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth as our Strategic Convenor.

The breadth of organisations that the Foundation provides key financial support towards is truly impressive, but we are consistently focused on identifying organisations that are pursuing excellence and innovation and anchored in capable and passionate management with a clear vision. It is also evident that our most impactful grantees have a learning culture where they constantly monitor and evaluate their evidence base and adapt their activities as appropriate.

While the direct financial support from the Foundation is often what we report on, we are also aware of the enormous value grantees place on pro bono or non-financial support provided by the Foundation.

Paul Conroy
Chief Executive
Officer



We know that not all grantees have the same priorities and needs at any given time, so any non-financial support we offer must be timely and 'fit for purpose' to be truly effective. We continue to review how the Foundation's resources can best be utilised for the benefit of our grantees – from convening networking forums to assisting grantees in setting up evaluation frameworks and providing introductions or letters of support at different times.

We are also making some changes to the timing of our open rounds, including extending the period of time grantseekers can engage with program managers before submitting Expressions of Interest to allow greater flexibility for all parties.

In recent months, the management team has been implementing our new grants management system, GivingData. The new system is now live, and I want to pass on a special thanks to the extended team, from Foundation staff to grantee organisations (that offered to test the new system and provide valuable feedback) for all their hard work and persistence. This was a big one-off project, but we, and our grantees, are already seeing the benefits of GivingData.

I would particularly like to thank outgoing CEO Craig Connelly for his hard work and professionalism over his seven years with the Foundation and for ensuring a smooth transition when I started. It has been wonderful to get to know the talented and motivated staff at the Foundation, and we all look forward to working with our community partners in the year ahead.

Professor Sharon Lewin from
the Peter Doherty Institute
for Infection and Immunity
and Paul Conroy, CEO of
The Ian Potter Foundation



CUMMING GLOBAL CENTRE FOR PANDEMIC THERAPEUTICS

A centre of the Doherty Institute



AMPLIFYING OUR EFFORTS

The Australian Government has committed to collaborating with some of the country's largest philanthropic foundations to transform services and supports for children across Australia in order to give them the best start to life.

The Investment Dialogue for Australia's Children (Investment Dialogue) will bring together Government, philanthropic investors, and the community sector to coordinate efforts to help tackle the impact of intergenerational disadvantage affecting children, young people, and their families.

One in 5 children in Australia starts school developmentally behind their peers and then face multiple costly barriers that further inhibit their ability to grow, learn, participate, and contribute throughout their lives. These challenges can compound further for some children and families, particularly for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and in communities experiencing place-based disadvantage.

A collaborative and long-term approach is needed to ensure all children and young people across Australia can fulfil their potential. The Investment Dialogue will work with existing organisations to help grow the programs and services already demonstrating strong outcomes and empower communities to lead the way and build solutions that respond to local need.

The Ian Potter Foundation is a founding member of the Investment Dialogue and has already committed \$1.8 million to ARACY to provide facilitation and secretariat support for the initiative, including the appointment of a Strategic Convenor.

We are excited by the potential of the Investment Dialogue, seeing it as a real opportunity to better coordinate the critical work of our grantees and work together with Government to improve outcomes for children and young people.

The Foundation has supported programs for children and young people since our inception over 60 years ago. Despite significant Government and philanthropic investment in children and young people in Australia, we are not seeing significant improvement in the lives of many Australian children. We are hopeful that by working and investing differently and being led by community, this will begin to change.

Collaboration is a longstanding funding principle of the Foundation. We strongly encourage our grantees to collaborate to improve their impact, and we have always sought to be a co-funder of projects. In 2018, the Foundation started the Early Childhood Impact Alliance to improve collaboration between philanthropic funders to drive more strategic funding in early childhood initiatives. The Investment Dialogue will build on this and go further, bringing governments to the table.

We recognise that philanthropic funding is a drop in the bucket compared to Government support. If we want to drive meaningful and sustainable change for children and young people, we need both Government and philanthropy working together, playing to our respective strengths.

The Investment Dialogue is a vehicle for collaboration, enabling Government and philanthropy to learn from each other, align existing investments, co-invest in new initiatives, and improve systems and processes to improve outcomes for children and young people over the next decade.

PRIORITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES WILL BE FOCUSED ACROSS FOUR AREAS:

Projects and Programs:

We will look for opportunities to align our investments to reduce duplication, appropriately allocate resources, incentivise innovation and maximise our collective impact.

Place:

We will work in partnership to deliver targeted, place-specific solutions that are community-led. We will invest in capability and will share leadership with communities and people with lived experience of the challenges we seek to address.

Policy and system level reforms:

We will create the conditions necessary for systems change and aim to better deliver solutions in genuine partnerships with local communities. We will work to ensure services and systems are adjusted to meet the needs of local communities where required.

Data and evaluation:

We will prioritise improvements to data and evaluation practices, including improved community access to data, to help identify priority areas for reform enable effective investment decisions, and support community decision making.



Representatives of the 20 philanthropic partners of the Investment Dialogue for Australia's Children with the Hon Amanda Rishworth, Minister for Families and Social Services Australia, and the Hon Jim Chalmers, Federal Treasurer at the first Roundtable held on 4 December 2023.

“Our vision for the Investment Dialogue is that it will help to build evidence, reform systems, improve data access and enhance (targeted and universal) programs and supports for children and young people in Australia. If this cooperation model works, we hope to see it replicated across other areas of the Foundation’s work”.

— Charles Goode AC, Chairman of The Ian Potter Foundation

“The Investment Dialogue will support systemic change, helping create a more integrated approach to supporting families. Current programs and policy approaches result in silos, with some communities getting a lot of attention but not always the service they need, while others get a little support that works but can’t be shared.

“Everybody wants to see Australia’s children thriving, but we are unlikely to make meaningful headway if we go about it in different and disconnected ways.”

— Paul Conroy, Chief Executive Officer, The Ian Potter Foundation



The Hon Amanda Rishworth speaking at the first Roundtable of the Investment Dialogue.

MAJOR GRANTS

The Foundation's major grants provide significant funding to amplify the impact of existing partners with proven track records in their sectors. The eight major grants awarded in fiscal 2023 support leading organisations focused on improving Australians' health and well-being.

The largest major grant this year was \$5 million towards the new Cumming Global Centre for Pandemic Therapeutics to be housed at the Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity in Melbourne. A further five sector-leading organisations were awarded \$1.1–2.5 million each for organisational capacity building or program development. Each of these grants is described over the following few pages.

Climateworks and Hello Sunday Morning each also received a \$25,000 impact enhancement grant as additional core funding for a specific purpose in relation to current major grants.

GRANTS: 8
VALUE: \$15,305,000

FEATURE GRANTS

The Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity, The University of Melbourne

**The Cumming Global Centre for
Pandemic Therapeutics**

\$5 MILLION OVER 7 YEARS

In late 2022, The Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity (Doherty Institute) announced the establishment of the Cumming Global Centre for Pandemic Therapeutics (CGCPT). This new centre has been made possible by a cornerstone gift of \$250 million from philanthropist Geoff Cummings that seeks 5:1 leverage from other funders. The Ian Potter Foundation supports the Doherty Institute in this mission, awarding a \$5 million major grant.

The vision of CGCPT is a world in which therapeutics for new viruses are ready to save lives at scale within months. COVID-19 has highlighted that while therapeutics are a vital complementary tool in fighting pandemics, innovation in anti-pathogen therapeutics has lagged behind vaccines.

Led by the Doherty Institute, the CGCPT will address this gap with a research model that will galvanise top global talent to focus entirely on developing the therapeutics we will need at speed for any future pandemic. With this approach, the Doherty Institute envisions a previously unimaginable future where novel therapeutics are generated within weeks of identifying a new virus and are swiftly delivered to patients in need, providing equitable access to treatments and saving millions of lives.

SNAICC – National Voice for our Children



*Children playing with the Aboriginal Children's Day bags at the SNAICC's 2023 Children's Day event.
Image: Jacinta Keefe Photography.*

**Capacity building grant to strengthen
SNAICC's operating model at a time of
significant opportunity**

\$2,655,000 OVER 5 YEARS

The Secretariat of National Aboriginal and Islander Child Care (SNAICC) is the national non-government peak body for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and the organisations and communities that support them. Its goal is to see strong, safe, healthy, self-determining Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children connected to family and culture.

SNAICC has been in operation for over 40 years and works in partnership with all levels of government as a national member of the Coalition of Peaks. It currently represents over 240 member services across Australia and works with several strategic partners from across the sector in research, policy, and practice.

Over the last few years, SNAICC has experienced significant growth in its scale and scope, enabling the organisation to drive large-scale change for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families across Australia. As a result, their systems, processes and structures need to be strengthened and tailored to a much larger program of work and a more complex organisation. At the same time, additional capacity and resourcing are required to run the organisation and deliver core functions.

This major grant invests in SNAICC's organisational capacity and the broader Aboriginal Controlled Community services sector, helping to drive improvements nationally for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children through policy and practice reform.

Seed Foundation Australia



First People's Health Program students supported by Seed Foundation. Image: Seed Foundation.

Capacity Building for Seed Foundation \$2.5 MILLION OVER 5 YEARS

Seed Foundation Australia (Seed) is a not-for-profit organisation providing end-to-end wrap-around support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students seeking careers in health or social services across Queensland and in Alice Springs, Northern Territory.

Seed uniquely takes students from school through training to employment. Its operations involve collaboration between Seed, CnG Employment and Connect'n'Grow (a Registered Training Organisation specialising in health education) removing the barriers many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students face in becoming job-ready and employed.

This is the second major grant the Foundation has awarded to Seed. The first was a foundational grant in 2017 for \$1.75 million in conjunction with \$750,000 from the Tim Fairfax Family Foundation, which enabled Seed to support a large cohort (approx. 1400) of students in-school and post-school to undertake its pathway program.

This \$2.5 million major grant will provide additional core funding to allow Seed to consolidate the outcomes achieved in the last five years. With this support to build its systems and capacity, Seed is now in a strong position to service the needs of more students/young people and grow over the next five years to a size that will ensure ongoing sustainability through traineeship/apprenticeship fees for services and government contracts.

Cerebral Palsy Alliance



Remarkable Online Startup Showcase (Demo Day). Image: Cerebral Palsy Alliance.

Remarkable – accelerating disability technology to drive inclusion for all \$2.5 MILLION OVER 6 YEARS

Cerebral Palsy Alliance (CPA) is a global centre of expertise for cerebral palsy research, advocacy, intervention and assistive-technology innovation. CPA operates through four pillars: Service intervention, Research, Advocacy and Innovation. This funding will be directed to CPA's Remarkable division, which focuses on developing technology, product design and innovation that can significantly reset the future for people with disability.

Remarkable facilitates the development of technological solutions (products, services and platforms) by enterprises that employ and service people with disabilities. Remarkable

has created a unique ecosystem that includes researchers, designers, engineers, clinicians, and people with disabilities.

Remarkable is an incubator that allows people with disabilities to create solutions that fill a gap not covered by existing mainstream non-profit, government and commercial services or products. This venture-building approach leads to the translation of research into commercially viable technology products and services that improve lives.

This major grant supports Remarkable to build its core capacity and achieve impact at scale.

Smiling Mind



A teacher engaging her students in social and emotional learning supported by the Smiling Mind digital curriculum resources. Image: Smiling Mind.

Capacity building grant to support Smiling Mind to expand its reach and impact

\$1.5 MILLION OVER 5 YEARS

Launched in 2012, Smiling Mind has cemented its role in the mental health and educational landscape as a highly impactful, evidence-based, accessible and engaging provider of preventative mental health programs for all ages. Taking a digital-led approach, Smiling Mind's goal is to take evidence-based psychological interventions and approaches to the public at scale. Smiling Mind's app and programs equip Australians with the skills they need to thrive, face challenges with resilience, and reduce the prevalence of mental ill-health across our communities.

The organisation has made significant progress towards its goals, achieving more than 5 million downloads of the Smiling Mind app. It has also delivered its structured school-based programs into more than 1,200 Australian primary schools, reaching more than 7 million Australian children and young people through the app and school-based programs.

This capacity-building funding will support Smiling Mind over the next five years to expand the reach and scope of the organisation, grow its self-generated revenue, and invest in its innovation, leadership capability and impact measurement.

St Vincent's Hospital (Melbourne) Limited



Artist's impression of kinetic lab at ACMD. Image: St Vincent's Hospital (Melbourne) Ltd.

The Aikenhead Centre for Medical Discovery (ACMD) capital campaign

\$1,100,000

This grant enables ACMD to acquire state-of-the-art equipment and contributes to the fit-out of Australia's first hospital-based bio-engineering research and education hub. The ACMD has been formed with the support of major universities, research institutes, St Vincent's Health Australia and industry. This grant follows two previous major grants in 2022 (\$2.5 million) and 2016 (\$2.5 million).



COMMUNITY WELLBEING

Dr Alberto Furlan
PROGRAM MANAGER

The Community Wellbeing program awarded capacity-building and program development grants this year. These included two capacity-building grants (\$600,000 each) to St Kilda Mums and Women's Property Initiatives Ltd to support ambitious growth plans.

Program development grants included a \$230,000 grant to existing partner I CAN Network Ltd to expand the employment pathways program for Autistic school leavers through its Mentor Traineeship Program and establish a Facilitator Internship Program to allow current facilitators to develop their skills with a view to gaining permanent careers in disability, allied care or education fields.

The Foundation also established relationships with three new organisations, awarding program development grants to Sweet Justice, The Torch Project and Tender Funerals Australia Ltd.

GRANTS: 12
VALUE: \$3,543,000

The Torch Project aims to address the over-representation of Indigenous Australians in Victorian prisons, reduce the recidivism rate and improve the cultural, social, emotional and financial wellbeing of its participants. A \$190,000 grant was awarded to support the establishment of a Social Service Partnership Model providing wrap-around support and connection to community services for the participants of The Torch.

A \$150,000 grant to Tender Funerals will assist this social enterprise to train and employ funeral directors in the Tender Funerals network who come from diverse backgrounds, in particular migrant communities, and Indigenous Australians.

Long-time partner the Brotherhood of St Laurence was awarded \$300,000 to develop targeted communications associated with the activities of the Inclusive Pathways to Employment program and National Youth Employment Body, two initiatives that aim to improve pathways to employment for youth with disabilities.

FEATURE GRANTS

Sweet Justice Inc



Sweet Justice bee-boxes and honey jar while Sweet Justice beekeepers attend a hive in the background. Image: Sweet Justice Honey.

Designing a supported employment program for parolees in the beekeeping industry

\$238,000 OVER 3 YEARS

Sweet Justice is a for-purpose enterprise teaching commercial beekeeping within Victoria's justice system. Founded in 2020, Sweet Justice has delivered training to over 100 students in Malmsbury, Parkville, and Beechworth correctional centres.

The main aim of Sweet Justice is to provide training and meaningful employment for people who have been involved in the justice system to reduce recidivism and strengthen the beekeeping industry.

This grant contributes to the case manager's salary, who will provide wrap-around support to the participants and employees of the program, ensuring successful transitions out of the justice system.

Children's Ground Limited



Children's Ground works with communities to deliver an integrated system of Learning, Health, Community Development, Economic Development and Culture to create generational change. Image: Children's Ground.

Capacity Building

\$1 MILLION OVER 5 YEARS

This was the largest Community Wellbeing grant awarded this year and provides multi-year core funding support to Children's Ground to expand its model of education, employment pathways and wellbeing for Aboriginal children and their families to 14 communities across three regions. Children's Ground has an ambitious 25-year agenda to create education and employment pathways and improve the wellbeing of Aboriginal children and their families.

The Foundation has had consistent engagement with Children's Ground for almost 10 years and the outcomes of the program have been excellent. Since 2014, 822 children aged 0–8 have been involved in Children's Ground early years learning.

Established in 2013, Children's Ground has developed a proof of concept and operations in two regions. Evidence indicates that the foundations for long-term change

are being established and shows impact that existing government programs have been unable to achieve in the areas of early childhood engagement and employment within these communities.

Children's Ground has a strong whole-of-community approach, where early childhood education is now the norm. The engagement of parents in providing early years education fosters environments of safety and wellbeing, and ensures the protection and promotion of culture and language. Eighty per cent of Children's Ground staff are Indigenous, so employment outcomes as well as educational outcomes are being achieved.

The Ian Potter Foundation is actively working with a growing group of committed funders to ensure Children's Ground achieves financial sustainability, including ongoing government funding in the near future.

Women's Property Initiatives Ltd



New WPI homes on the Mornington Peninsula.

Capacity Building

\$600,000 OVER 3 YEARS

Women's Property Initiatives (WPI) celebrated its 25th Anniversary in 2022. From its beginnings as The Victorian Women's Housing Association, WPI has become a well-regarded Community Housing Provider for one of the most vulnerable demographics experiencing (or at risk of) homelessness – women and their children and women aged 55+.

WPI currently owns 105 properties, housing over 250 women and children, with further properties in the pipeline or leading into construction. This organisation also manages 140 properties for other providers.

This capacity-building grant allows WPI to embark on an ambitious growth plan by supporting the core costs of the organisation. WPI draws most of its income from rent and property management revenue, so growing its capacity to manage its property portfolio through hiring additional property managers will increase WPI's core revenue and ensure the organisation's sustainability.



EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

Nicole Bortone
PROGRAM MANAGER

FEATURE GRANTS

The most significant development in the Early Childhood Development area this year is the Foundation's involvement in the Investment Dialogue for Australia's Children (Investment Dialogue) – a collaboration between philanthropy and government that seeks to improve the wellbeing of children, young people, and their families, by working with Australian communities to reduce intergenerational disadvantage and better integrate investment.

As part of the Foundation's commitment to the success of the Investment Dialogue, in fiscal 2023, the Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth (ARACY) was awarded \$1.6 million over six years towards convening, facilitating and providing secretariat support to the Investment Dialogue (see more on pages 10-11).

GRANTS: 6
VALUE: \$4,241,000

Playgroup NSW Inc



The Playgroup Consortia leads and delivers programs and services that strengthen child development, nurture parent and carer well-being, and connect communities. Image: Playgroup NSW Inc.

Playgroup Amplify: Explore, Engage, Support and Grow
\$1 MILLION OVER 5 YEARS

This capacity-building grant will support Playgroup NSW to strengthen and grow the playgroup network across Australia over the next five years to benefit more families and children.

The evidence is strong that playgroup provides significant benefits to families and children. The Telethon Kids Institute has three cohorts of Australian Early Development Census data confirming that children are more ready for school if they have attended playgroup, with almost 90 per cent of playgroup families saying that their child had developed more social skills at playgroup. More than 80 per cent of parents also felt that attending playgroup brought local families together and helped provide a sense of community.

Social Ventures Australia Limited (SVA)



The power of play and learning, a focus of supported transitions in early learning to build strong foundations. Image: SVA The Connection.

Connecting Early Years Practice for Collaborative and Amplified Impact
\$750,000 OVER 5 YEARS

This funding supports the codesign and pilot of a community of practice for early learning, child health, family support and school education services. The program will initially focus on Integrated Child and Family Centres (ICFCs) in Victoria and Queensland. As the program progresses, the design will be scaled across more sites in additional jurisdictions to form a national cohort of leading early years practice.

The project will be informed by the work of The Connection at SVA, national leaders in collaborative network design, and the rigorous research and practice insights of the Centre for Community Child Health at the Murdoch Children's Research Institute.

Murdoch Children's Research Institute



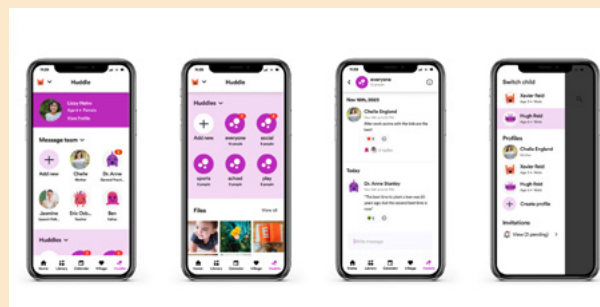
National Child and Family Hubs Network

\$395,000 OVER 3 YEARS

This capacity-building grant supports the National Child and Family Hubs Network (Network). This collaborative, multi-disciplinary, multi-sector group brings together Australian universities, research centres, medical research institutes, community, not-for-profit organisations, and state government departments. The Network's members are actively involved in conducting research, implementation, training, communication, and advocacy related to innovative and sustainable integrated approaches to community-based child and family hubs to support children and families' health, development and wellbeing.

The newly formed Network aims to build collective capacity by sharing research, resources, and networking opportunities to prevent and reduce duplication and accelerate learning. Ultimately, the Network hopes to amplify the impact of hubs in Australia and champion and develop improved funding models for these essential family services.

Reimagine Australia



Reimagine's ground-breaking app, Huddle, bridges collaboration gaps for families of young children, particularly those with developmental delay, difference and disability, and the practitioners who support them.

Huddle

\$350,000 OVER 2 YEARS

Reimagine Australia (formerly known as Early Childhood Intervention Australia) has been the leading Australian body for early childhood outcomes for young children with developmental delay or a disability and their families since 1986. Reimagine Australia's mission is to ensure that all young children, particularly children with disability or developmental delays and their families, have every opportunity to thrive.

This multi-year grant supports Reimagine Australia to develop an app-based program for parents named 'Huddle'. Huddle bridges collaboration gaps for families of young children, particularly those who are neurodiverse, and the practitioners who support them to help maximise their development during their early years. Using the app, families can create specialised "huddles" of professionals and carers for each child's development needs or goals, ensuring better collaboration and progress tracking.

The resource is being developed in response to insights from families and early childhood professionals and will be co-designed and tested with practitioners and families.

Alec Prentice Sewell Gift



The Story Factory's digital team recording a podcast to be used by teachers and students to inspire engagement in writing. Image: Adriana Wainstok.

Grants made through The Alec Prentice Sewell Gift aim to improve the opportunities available for disadvantaged children and lay the foundations for positive health, social and educational outcomes. The common thread of the grants is that they support education and encourage an interest in the environment, or the arts and literature, to create opportunities for personal development and assist children in overcoming barriers that may limit their achievement.

This year, the Alec Prentice Sewell Gift funded three previously supported organisations to build their capacity. The Story Factory and the 100 Story Building support the development of literacy skills for primary school-aged children in under-resourced communities in New South Wales and Victoria (respectively). Cool Australia develops curriculum-aligned resources to help teachers improve their students' understanding of environmental and social issues.

Story Factory
\$615,000 OVER 5 YEARS

Cool Australia
\$500,000 OVER 5 YEARS

100 Story Building
\$500,000 OVER 5 YEARS



PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCH

Lauren Monaghan
PROGRAM MANAGER

FEATURE GRANTS

In 2022–23, the Public Health Research program awarded grants to projects that serve a range of demographic groups, including culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD), Indigenous Australians, at-risk youth and the chronically ill. These projects also span a wide age range from children aged 0-5 years to Australians 65 and over.

These included a \$480,000 grant to the University of New South Wales to reduce systemic inequity in health services in prisons for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and \$600,000 to The George Institute for Global Health to further test the efficacy of the intervention of 'Food as medicine' with patients with Type 2 diabetes, facing social disadvantage and food insecurity located in the Sydney Metropolitan area.

Moving upstream and taking a multidisciplinary approach to chronic disease prevention, the University of Sydney was awarded \$600,000 to develop a decision support tool for guiding interventions, policies and resource allocation for chronic diseases.

GRANTS: 7
VALUE: \$3,510,000

Macquarie University: Faculty of Human Sciences

Little Ears – Aboriginal Programs for Hearing and Ear screening programs (LEAP – HEAR)

\$600,000 OVER 5 YEARS

HEAR (Hearing, Education, Application, Research) is a Macquarie University Research Centre established in January 2017 to address major global and public health challenges in hearing health.

Middle ear disease (otitis media or OM) is 3 times more prevalent in Indigenous children than non-Indigenous children. The condition also occurs earlier and lasts longer for Indigenous children disrupting critical periods of literacy and language development. Whilst some Australian states and territories deliver comprehensive prevention-focused ear and hearing health programs, there is no such equivalent in NSW.

This multi-year grant supports a well-conceived and ambitious program of research led by Professor Catherine McMahon and the HEAR team aiming to address key gaps in the service system for Aboriginal children in NSW experiencing OM and hearing loss. The research team will work in partnership with the Aboriginal-controlled health sector, building and evaluating their capacity to deliver these services for their communities. The project also aims to establish an effective and scalable model for national roll-out.



*One of the Aboriginal Audiometrists who recently completed the Diploma of Audiometry conducting an otoscopy in a soundproof room.
Image: Luke Halvorsen.*

FEATURE GRANTS

The Ian Potter Foundation Annual Grants Report 2022–23

Flinders University



Transforming Obesity Prevention for CHILDren: A decision aid for public health policy makers (TOPCHILD-Policy)

\$600,000 OVER 5 YEARS

This grant supports a translational research project that builds on several years of research by the investigator team who lead the TOPCHILD Collaboration, a global network of obesity prevention researchers with a vision to transform the thinking and practices around early childhood obesity prevention.

Childhood obesity has been a key public health priority in recent decades, and yet community rates of childhood obesity have remained stagnant for the last ten years. Whilst research demonstrates the efficacy of early childhood obesity prevention, few trials make it through the 17+ year research pathway from development, to policy, and practice impact.

The investigator team at Flinders University will develop, through codesign and in partnership with end users, a decision support tool to enable policymakers to select intervention

strategies that will deliver effective obesity prevention in early childhood, with tailoring to specific contexts and circumstances.

The research team will partner with policymakers, service providers and caregivers to co-design a digital platform that meets the needs of policymakers and can aid decision-making and provide intervention costing – a key piece of information requested by policy decision-makers.

Policymakers and service providers across the public health system will use this tool to inform effective obesity prevention programs and initiatives to reduce the incidence and prevalence of being overweight or obese in the first 2000 days of life, with a lasting impact into childhood and later adult life.

Monash University

Creating a world-standard enriched older-adult cohort to inform mental health and substance use disorder prevention

\$600,000 OVER 5 YEARS

Older Australians experience unique risks for developing anxiety, depression and substance use disorders compared to other cohorts. These arise from the intersection of age-related factors that can cause or exacerbate risk, including:

- Age-related changes in alcohol, drug and medication metabolism
- Major life transitions (e.g., leaving the workforce) and losses (death of a spouse/partner/ friend) that can affect social structures, increase isolation and trigger emotional responses
- Common acute and chronic physical health conditions and changes in cognition.

This project will develop an enriched cohort of older (60+ years) Australians to examine risks and trajectories for developing anxiety, depression, and substance use disorders during these high-risk transition periods, to better understand these modifiable factors and how they interact to inform prevention work. The study leverages linked population data through the National Centre for Healthy Ageing's dedicated Data Platform, and the data resource will be made available to external users for research through the University's Secure eResearch Platform.

Results will provide critical new knowledge of risk factors during key life transitions (e.g, retirement), and provide an established cohort to take part in further intervention studies.



MEDICAL RESEARCH

Lauren Monaghan

PROGRAM MANAGER

In the Medical Research program, the Foundation focuses on supporting outstanding research groups across Australia by funding the provision of equipment and capital infrastructure that will contribute to advanced understanding and improved treatment of major diseases.

This year, the projects supported span a range of research encompassing basic biomedical science right through to translational research and medical innovation.

Examples of translational research and medical innovation supported include a grant to The Garvan Institute of Medical Research for state-of-the-art equipment (Biorad-QX600 ddPCR), which enables extremely sensitive and precise gene expression multiplexing with six colour detection capability.

This equipment is essential for the Garvan's research which aims to develop a blood test for patients with breast and prostate cancers, enabling much earlier detection of relapse, earlier intervention and ultimately better outcomes for patients.

Similarly, a University of Technology Sydney (UTS) research team working on a novel treatment to help patients better recover from a heart attack has developed human heart tissues using patient-derived stem cells and state-of-the-art bioprinters. Funding from the Foundation is enabling the purchase of the MappingLab Electrical & Optical Mapping System needed to test the safety of bioprinted tissues before moving to clinical trials.

GRANTS: 17
VALUE: \$2,085,000

FEATURE GRANTS

The Heart Research Institute Ltd



Researchers at the Heart Research Institute using the mass spectrometer, an Agilent 6546 LC/Q-TOF, for fluxomics analysis.
Image: Heart Research Institute.

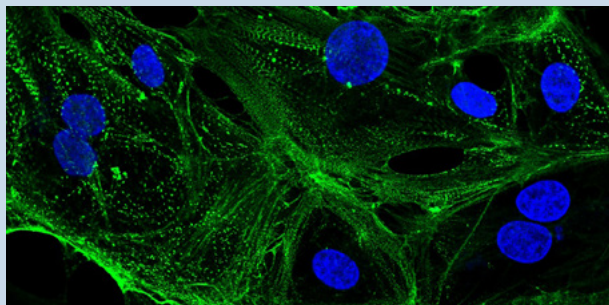
Fluxomics: Discovering the changing language of cells in cardiovascular disease

\$120,000

The Heart Research Institute (HRI) is establishing the first facility in NSW with expertise in 'fluxomics' – an omics discipline focused on metabolic fluxes (flow) in cells. Most omics disciplines provide information at a single timepoint, whereas fluxomics provides information on metabolic changes over time. This is particularly important for diseases affecting the heart and blood vessels, which constantly change as the heart beats and the body moves.

This funding assists in the purchase of a mass spectrometer to develop a fluxomics platform, allowing researchers to identify molecules or pathways with previously unrecognised roles in cardiovascular disease.

The University of Queensland



Heart cells made from human stem cells can be used to study how diseases occur or find new drugs to treat heart disease. These are human induced pluripotent stem cells differentiated into heart cells. Image: Dr. Amy Hanna, University of Queensland, Institute for Molecular Bioscience.

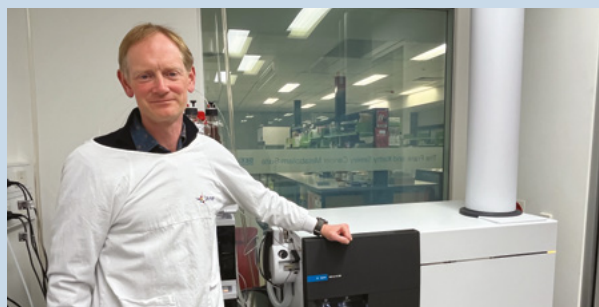
Studying the basis of and developing new therapies to treat heart disease

\$100,000

This funding supports the purchase of the Nanion CardioExcyte and Flexcyte systems, comprised of a self-contained incubator with an inbuilt sensor system that measures heart cell function continuously and simultaneously across 96 samples. Only one other system is available in Australia. This equipment provides an essential capability for advancing discoveries in heart disease and therapeutics.

It will be used to identify new drugs influencing heart cell survival and function, evaluate the impact of infection on heart disease, and identify new drug and gene transfer methods for delivering therapeutic payloads to the heart. The system provides an essential capability for advancing discoveries in heart disease and therapeutics.

South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute Limited (SAHMRI)



Dr Marten Snel, Head of Proteomics, Metabolomics & MS-Imaging, standing next to the Agilent 6546 Mass Spectrometer. Image: SAHMRI.

Establishing South Australia's first Fluxomics Core Facility, supporting collaborative research into disease prevention and treatment

\$100,000

This grant supports the purchase of a High Resolution 6546 Mass Spectrometer to run a comprehensive metabolic fluxomics core facility – the first of its kind in South Australia. The equipment provides precise measurement of isotopically labelled carbon molecules within any cell or tissue by tracing what happens to the nutrient metabolically. This will support research into cancer, ophthalmology, diabetes, cardiovascular, and fertility, including new metabolic therapies.

The project will benefit over 30 research groups, including students and faculty across all institutes in Adelaide, and establish SAHMRI as a world leader in primary cell tissue banking and metabolic flux analysis.

Menzies School of Health Research

Acquisition of a cell-sorter (Nanocelllect Wolf - G1) for the Northern Territory

\$100,000

The Nanocelllect Wolf-G1 cell-sorter allows gentle sorting and plating of cells based on its microfluidic technology and has become the industry standard for use in single-cell genomics, transcriptomics, antibody production and cell-line development.

This equipment is not currently available to the Northern Territory academic sector, and its purchase will fill a significant technology gap providing NT researchers, particularly in the infectious diseases sector, the ability to continue to make cutting-edge scientific and medical breakthroughs.

This grant supports the purchase of a Nanocelllect Wolf-G1 cell-sorter to be housed at the Menzies School of Health Research in Darwin.



ENVIRONMENT

Louise Arkles
PROGRAM MANAGER

Funding in the Environment program was directed primarily to projects based in regional or remote areas in fiscal 2023.

Of the ten grants awarded, three grants will support organisational capacity building; three grants on-ground research; two grants program development and two grants dissemination of knowledge.

GRANTS: 10
VALUE: \$7,762,000

A \$1.25 million grant to the Nature Foundation and the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board is supporting a project to deliver the proof-of-concept that Kangaroo Island can be feral-free by completing the eradication of feral cats from the Dudley Peninsula with the ultimate objective of making the whole of Kangaroo Island feral-free.

The University of Western Australia was awarded \$1.36 million over five years to lead an interdisciplinary team including universities, governments, a museum, and a dedicated community group, with the support of Aboriginal elders, on a transformative project to defend peatland ecosystems from emerging threats.

Also in Western Australia, the Centre for Sustainable Aquatic Ecosystems (Murdoch University) was awarded \$470,000 over three and a half years to fill critical knowledge gaps by identifying important characteristics that make fire-fighting waterpoints effective biodiversity refuges, using data collected by citizen scientists. The research team will then develop and test a framework for constructing waterpoints that optimise water availability for fire control and conservation benefits.

Multi-year grants for sector development were also awarded to the Environmental Defenders Office (\$750,000) and the Australian Environmental Grantmakers Network (\$500,000).

FEATURE GRANTS

Landcare Victoria Inc



New Futures for Victorian Landcare - a community-driven landscape planning program. Image: Landcare Victoria.

New Futures for Community Landcare \$945,000 OVER 3 YEARS

Landcare Victoria Inc. is a peak membership body representing community Landcare in Victoria. It supports communities to achieve integrated sustainable agriculture and environmental outcomes.

The New Futures for Community Landcare project will invest in increasing the capacity of Landcare networks across Victoria to develop project plans that shift the emphasis of landcare from focusing on management problems to delivering financed landscape-scale solutions.

This three-year capacity-building grant will support Landcare to develop investment-ready project plans.

University of Tasmania: Institute for Marine & Antarctic Studies



Schooling damselfishes hover in the sunlit shallows of a southern Coral Sea reef. Image: Rick Stuart-Smith, Reef Life Survey.

Safeguarding natural values of the Great Southern Reef \$2,000,000 OVER 4 YEARS

This grant supports creating and developing a cross-sectoral ‘Great Southern Reef Partnership’, including marine scientists, community, industry, and government sectors. This project aims for a step-change in the sustainable management of Australia’s Great Southern Reef (GSR), the ecologically connected reef network spanning Australia’s southern coasts.

Building on 30 years of research by the University of Tasmania’s ‘Coastal Ecosystem Team’, scientific activities will be coordinated and extended across the GSR. The efforts of university researchers, state management authorities, and NGOs will be linked and expanded to better understand the threats to biodiversity and management options for ecosystem protection and restoration.

A communication and behavioural change team will share the research findings through traditional and digital media. This translation of research outputs to the public and stakeholders will then build community, program manager, and policy maker connection to the GSR.

Charles Darwin University



Charles Darwin University researchers with some of the sampling kit to be sent out to project participants. Image: Allyson Malpartida.

The Northern Australian Community Groundwater Security Project

\$450,000 OVER 3 YEARS

Access to freshwater for drinking is vital for towns and remote communities across northern Australia’s tropics and arid regions. Water is also needed for the cattle, mining, agriculture, and horticulture industries and plays an important role in connection to Country for Indigenous people.

Community concerns about the overuse and pollution of freshwater aquifers are escalating, yet there are substantial knowledge gaps around northern Australian surface water and groundwater systems.

The remoteness and vastness of northern Australia’s tropical and arid regions mean that community engagement is the only way that information can be collected effectively across such a large spatial scale.

Samples collected from up to 560 groundwater bores (wells) will be collected by citizen scientists, with GPS locations, conditions and dates entered directly into an app. The samples will be sent to Charles Darwin University (CDU) for analysis, and the results will be fed back to the communities via the same app in user-friendly graphical and text formats.

The CDU team plans to engage pastoralists, farmers, Indigenous ranger groups, schools, and community groups. They will be provided with water sampling kits and the training needed to take part in the project.



Louise Joel
PROGRAM MANAGER

Arts grants awarded this year comprised six program development grants (\$2.3 million), two capacity building grants (\$745,000), two core funding grants (\$682,000) an impact enhancement grant for an evaluation (\$30,000) and \$1.8 million to The Ian Potter Cultural Trust for artist development.

Of the eleven Arts program area grants awarded, four support first-time grant recipients of the Foundation – The Song Company, Terrapin Puppet Theatre, The Push and the Australian Print Workshop – all leading organisations in their fields.

Among these was a first-time grant to Terrapin Puppet Theatre (Terrapin), a Hobart-based performance puppetry company. For over 40 years, Terrapin has developed a local, national and international reputation for producing award-winning puppet theatre and public interactive installations for all ages. The \$551,000 program development grant will support Terrapin to implement a new professional development program designed to initiate and foster long-term careers for Tasmanians in the performing arts. Over the next three years, Terrapin will employ and upskill up to 75 early and mid-career creative professionals, building the capacity of individuals, organisations and the sector.

The Australian Print Workshop, established in 1981 in Fitzroy, Melbourne, is a centre for original printmaking and received a program development grant of \$337,500 to assist the organisation to deliver an ‘apprentice-like’ Collaborative Fine Art Printer training program to nurture and develop technical and collaborative printing skills. This program has been designed in response to the urgent need to ensure the continuance of this important collaborative visual arts medium in Australia.

A further \$1.5 million was awarded to existing partners to complete successful programs.

GRANTS: 12
VALUE: \$5,619,855

FEATURE GRANTS

The Ian Potter Foundation Annual Grants Report 2022–23

The Song Company Pty Ltd



The Song Company Apprentices performing from original 16th Century notation in the program's 2022 pilot. Image: Maria Boyadgis.

The Song Company Apprentice and Emerging Artist Program

\$695,000 OVER 4 YEARS

This program development grant supports The Song Company to deliver a vocal artist training and development program designed to build careers and create performance opportunities for the next generation of emerging singers for The Song Company and for all performing ensembles who rely on a vibrant and well-trained supply of talent.

The Song Company is a Sydney-based professional vocal ensemble with a proud tradition of fostering the careers of Australian vocal performers through training and development activities and annual performance programs.

The development program comprises an apprentice program and an understudy program. The Apprentice Program will target talented university-aged singers from skilled amateur and semi-professional ensembles across Australia, offering masterclasses by leading practitioners, and mentorships by The Song Company Principal Artists.

Participants in the Understudy Program will be engaged on professional, paid contracts by The Song Company to understudy each Principal Artist in every Song Company performance.

The Push Incorporated



The Push provides music industry mentoring for young Australians. Image: Tanya Volt.

Music Industry Mentoring

\$550,000 OVER 3 YEARS

This program development grant supports The Push to expand its Music Industry Mentoring program for young people in the early stages of their careers in the contemporary music industry at a national level. The bi-annual program will imbed both a mentoring framework and a structured workplace learning program to build job readiness across various streams, including technical production, marketing and publicity, and event management.

The Push is an Australian youth music organisation based in Melbourne that has supported young people for over three decades to gain access to contemporary music programs and 'All-Ages' events. As part of its activities, The Push trains young people (18–26) interested in participating in the production of musical events.

Building on a pilot program delivered in 2022, The Push will expand its national Music Industry Mentoring program. Industry partners include Live Nation, Ticketmaster, Warner Music and Universal Music, which act as host mentor organisations. These partners are highly engaged as they look to the program to meet the skills shortage experienced across the sector.

Desart Inc



(L-R) Hetty Perkins, Aspen Beatty, Hayley Coulthard (Artist/Potter) at Hermannsburg Potters. Hayley is collecting local clay on country near Ntaria (Hermannsburg) for work being created for Desert Mob 2023. Image: Rhett Hammerton, © Desart.

Desart Curatorial Development Project

\$432,000 OVER 3 YEARS

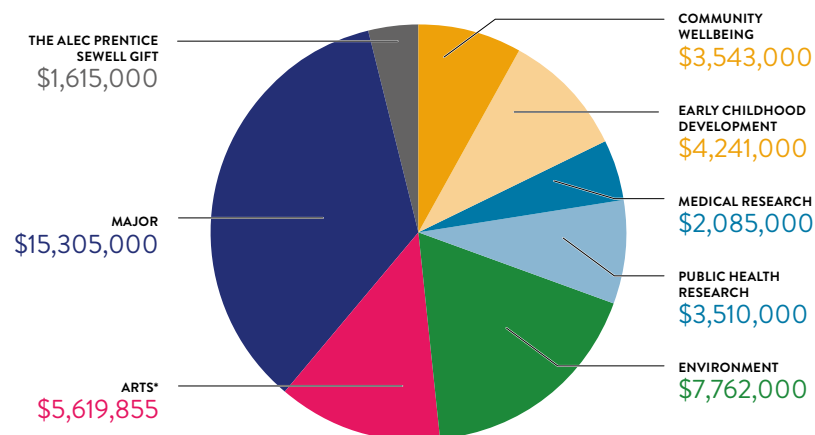
This grant provides core funding for Desart as it seeks to improve the relationships Central Australian Aboriginal Art Centres have with the art market. Desart's objective is to build the capacity of art centres, increasing the profiles and representation of artists in exhibitions and collections nationally and internationally, and boosting returns to artists working at all levels.

Desart is the association of Central Australian Aboriginal Arts Centres and comprises 38 independently governed Aboriginal art centre members representing around 2500 artists. Based in Alice Springs, Desart supports art centres in the remote and regional areas of the Northern Territory, South Australia, and the far eastern border areas of Western Australia.

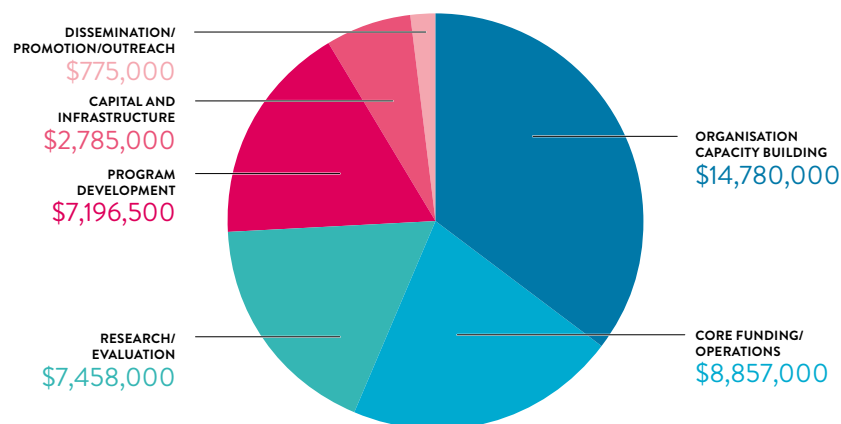
The Lead Curator at Desart will be assisted by an emerging Indigenous curator and supported by the Desart team, to identify various opportunities to promote artists' works, including in the digital space. This will strengthen the quality of artworks produced, provide managerial, governance and business support to the select art centres, and help develop the careers of individual artists.

FACTS & FIGURES

GRANTS OVERVIEW



GRANTS BY TYPE OF SUPPORT^



^excludes grant to The Ian Potter Cultural Trust

GRANTS APPROVED

75

TOTAL VALUE OF GRANTS APPROVED

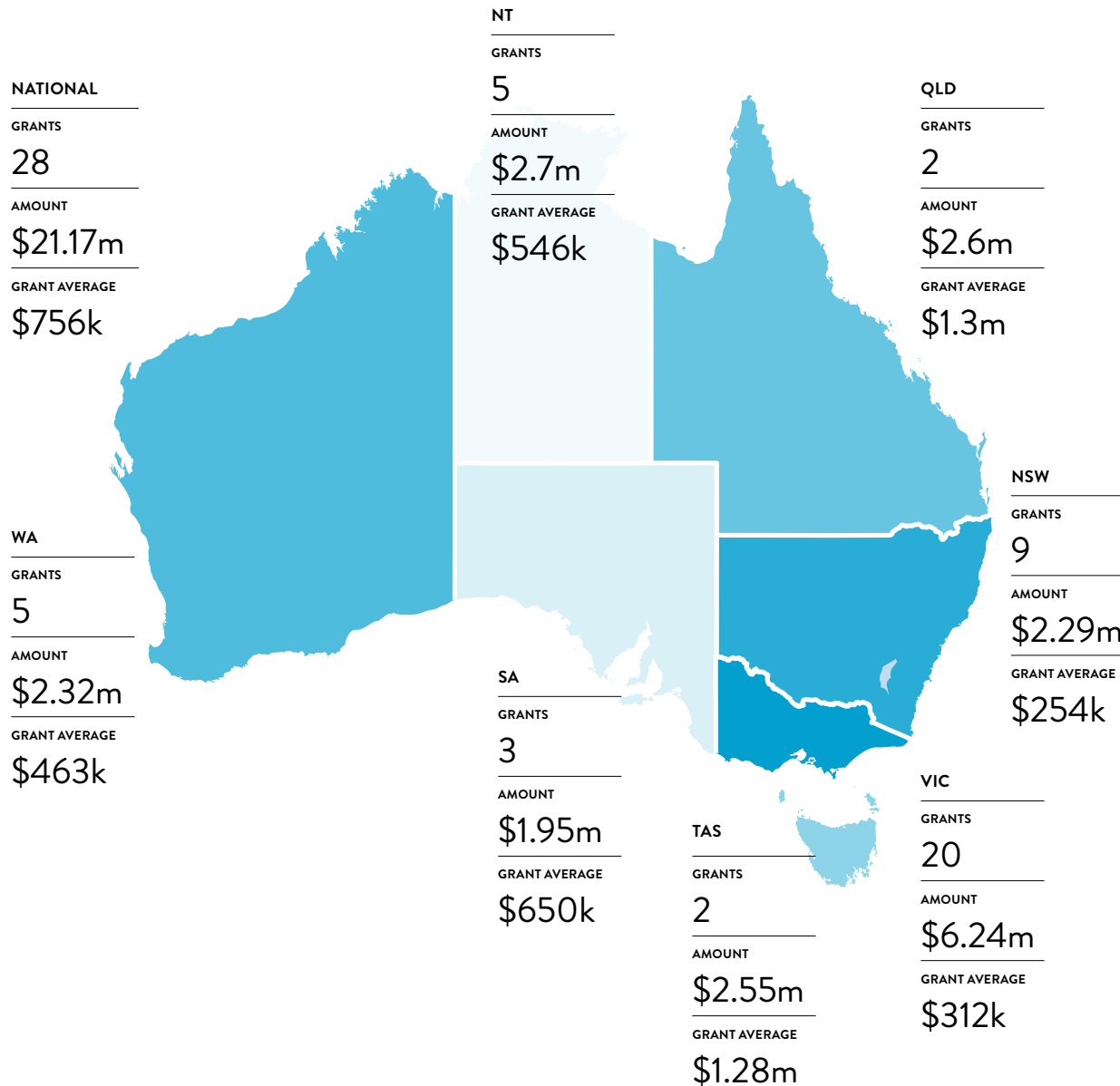
\$43,680,855

GRANTS APPROVED BY PILLAR/PROGRAM AREA

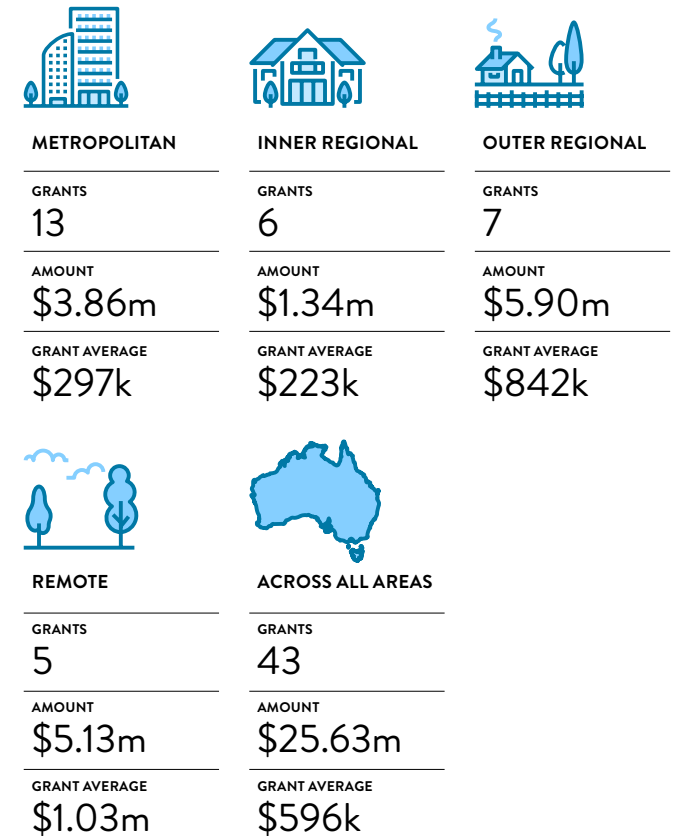
			
COMMUNITY WELLBEING	EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT	MEDICAL RESEARCH	PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCH
GRANTS 12	GRANTS 6	GRANTS 17	GRANTS 7
AMOUNT \$3,543,000	AMOUNT \$4,241,000	AMOUNT \$2,085,000	AMOUNT \$3,510,000
			
ENVIRONMENT	ARTS*	MAJOR	THE ALEC PRENTICE SEWELL GIFT
GRANTS 10	GRANTS 12	GRANTS 8	GRANTS 3
AMOUNT \$7,762,000	AMOUNT \$5,619,855	AMOUNT \$15,305,000	AMOUNT \$1,615,000

* includes \$1,829,355 to The Ian Potter Cultural Trust

GRANTS BY STATE^



GRANTS BY GEOGRAPHIC REACH^



^excludes funding to The Ian Potter Cultural Trust

GRANTS LIST

The following grants were awarded in 2022–23

Recipient	Title	Grant Amount	Location	Location Type
ARTS				
Australian Print Workshop Inc	Securing the Future – Fostering the Next Generation of Collaborative Fine Art Printers	\$337,500	VIC	Metropolitan
Creating Australia	Takso outcomes planning platform: understanding the national impact of cultural activities in Australia	\$720,000	National	Across all areas
Creating Australia	To undertake an independent review of the Takso platform	\$30,000	National	Across all areas
Creating Australia	Takso outcomes planning platform: understanding the national impact of cultural activities in Australia – Capacity Building Grant	\$25,000	National	Across all areas
Desart Inc	Desart Curatorial Development Project	\$432,000	NT	Remote
Regional Arts WA	Regional Arts Network Initiative	\$250,000	WA	Inner regional
The Song Company Pty Ltd	The Song Company Apprentice and Emerging Artist Program	\$695,000	NSW	Metropolitan
South East Regional Touring Opera Company Limited	Richard Divall Developing Opera Artists Program	\$150,000	VIC	Metropolitan
TarraWarra Museum of Art Limited	TarraWarra Museum of Art Learning & Engagement Program 2023–2026	\$50,000	VIC	Inner regional
Terrapin Puppet Theatre Ltd	Stride	\$551,000	TAS	Inner regional
The Push Incorporated	Music Industry Mentoring	\$550,000	National	Across all areas

Recipient	Title	Grant Amount	Location	Location Type
COMMUNITY WELLBEING				
Brotherhood of St Laurence	System change to improve employment outcomes for young people experiencing disadvantage and/or with disability.	\$300,000	National	Across all areas
Children's Ground Limited	Capacity Building Funding	\$1,000,000	NT	Remote
Doncaster Community Care & Counselling Centre	DAWN Mentoring Program	\$25,000	VIC	Metropolitan
Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal	National Community Foundations Forum 2022	\$10,000	National	Outer regional
I CAN Network Ltd	Enhancing the employability prospects of Autistic young adults within and beyond I CAN Network	\$230,000	National	Across all areas
SANE Australia	Travel Grant to attend Dreamforce Conference and meet Mental Health advocacy stakeholders in the US	\$20,000	NSW	Metropolitan
St Kilda Mums	Capacity Building Funding	\$600,000	VIC	Metropolitan
Sweet Justice Inc	Designing a supported employment program for parolees in the beekeeping industry	\$238,000	VIC	Inner regional
Tender Funerals Australia Ltd	Growing Diversity in the Funeral Industry	\$150,000	NSW	Inner regional
The Torch Project	The Torch's Social Service Partnership Model	\$190,000	VIC	Across all areas
Women's Property Initiatives Ltd	Capacity Building support	\$600,000	VIC	Metropolitan
Youth Development Australia Limited	Reboot	\$180,000	VIC	Metropolitan

Recipient	Title	Grant Amount	Location	Location Type
EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT				
ARACY	Convening the Investment Dialogue for Australia's Children	\$1,625,000	National	Across all areas
Australian Institute of Family Studies	Improving the safety and wellbeing of vulnerable children: A consolidation of systemic recommendations and evidence	\$121,000	National	Across all areas
Murdoch Childrens Research Institute	National Child and Family Hubs Network	\$395,000	National	Across all areas
Playgroup NSW Inc	Playgroup Amplify: Explore, Engage, Support and Grow	\$1,000,000	National	Across all areas
Reimagine Australia	Huddle	\$350,000	National	Across all areas
Social Ventures Australia Limited	Connecting Early Years Practice for Collaborative and Amplified Impact	\$750,000	National	Across all areas
ENVIRONMENT				
Australian Environmental Grantmakers Network	Capacity Building support	\$500,000	National	Across all areas
Australian Environmental Grantmakers Network	Capacity Building	\$25,000	National	Across all areas
Bush Heritage Australia	Travel grant for ANZUS International Stewardship Peer Exchange	\$15,000	National	Outer regional
Charles Darwin University	The Northern Australian Community Groundwater Security Project	\$450,000	NT	Remote
Environmental Defenders Office Ltd	Modernising the regulation of water in Western Australia and the Northern Territory	\$750,000	NT	Across all areas
Landcare Victoria Inc	New Futures for Community Landcare	\$945,000	VIC	Outer regional
Murdoch University	Creating new fire-fighting water sources that enhance the resilience of biodiversity to climate change	\$470,000	WA	Outer regional
Nature Foundation Limited	Restoring nature's ark: towards a feral free Kangaroo Island	\$1,250,000	SA	Remote
University of Tasmania: Institute for Marine & Antarctic Studies	Safeguarding natural values of the Great Southern Reef	\$2,000,000	TAS	Remote
University of Western Australia: Faculty of Science	PEAT Protecting peatland ecosystems and addressing threats in Southwestern Australia	\$1,357,000	WA	Outer regional

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MAJOR				
Cerebral Palsy Alliance	Remarkable – accelerating disability technology to drive inclusion for all	\$2,500,000	National	Across all areas
Hello Sunday Morning	HSM Team and Culture Development	\$25,000	NSW	Metropolitan
Monash University: Monash Sustainability Institute/ Climateworks	Recruitment Costs	\$25,000	National	Metropolitan
Seed Foundation Australia	Capacity Building for Seed Foundation	\$2,500,000	QLD	Outer regional
Smiling Mind	Capacity building grant to support Smiling Mind to expand their reach and impact	\$1,500,000	National	Across all areas
SNAICC–National Voice for our Children (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Corporation)	Capacity building grant to strengthen SNAICC's operating model at a time of significant opportunity	\$2,655,000	National	Across all areas
St Vincent's Hospital (Melbourne) Limited	The Aikenhead Centre for Medical Discovery (ACMD) capital campaign	\$1,100,000	VIC	Across all areas
University of Melbourne: Peter Doherty Institute	The Cumming Global Centre for Pandemic Therapeutics	\$5,000,000	National	Across all areas
MEDICAL RESEARCH				
Veritas Health Innovation Ltd	Global Alliance for Living Evidence	\$400,000	National	Across all areas
Deakin University	Establishing a Confocal Microscopy Suite for a Regional Research Community	\$140,000	VIC	Across all areas
Edith Cowan University	Spatial Proteomic Phenotyping to Enable Unbiased Discovery	\$140,000	WA	Across all areas
Fiona Elsey Cancer Research Institute	The study of cell surface proteins associated with immune suppression	\$25,000	VIC	Across all areas
The Garvan Institute of Medical Research	Development of epigenetic PCR blood tests to monitor cancer relapse.	\$100,000	NSW	Across all areas
The Heart Research Institute Ltd	Fluxomics: Discovering the changing language of cells in cardiovascular disease	\$120,000	NSW	Across all areas

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La Trobe University	CytAssist equipment for accelerating spatial transcriptomics in cardiovascular disease research	\$120,000	VIC	Across all areas
Macfarlane Burnet Institute for Medical Research and Public Health Ltd	High Content Imaging System for Advanced Biomedical Research and Discovery	\$100,000	VIC	Across all areas
Menzies School of Health Research	Acquisition of a cell-sorter (Nanocollect Wolf G1) for the Northern Territory	\$100,000	NT	Inner regional
Monash University: Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences	Establishing a Clinical Single-Cell Proteomics Facility	\$110,000	VIC	Across all areas
Olivia Newton-John Cancer Research Institute	A small animal irradiator to improve the effectiveness of therapy for cancer patients.	\$100,000	VIC	Metropolitan
Peter MacCallum Cancer Institute	Cytek Aurora Spectral Flow Cytometer – a powerful analysis tool for progressing cancer research	\$130,000	VIC	Across all areas
South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute Limited (SAHMRI)	Establishing South Australia's first Fluxomics Core Facility, supporting collaborative research into disease prevention and treatment	\$100,000	SA	Across all areas
The University of Queensland: Institutes and Centres	Studying the basis of and developing new therapies to treat heart disease	\$100,000	QLD	Across all areas
University of Technology Sydney: Faculty of Engineering & Information Technology	Safety testing of advanced bioengineered heart tissues	\$100,000	National	Across all areas
University of Western Australia	High throughput histopathology slide scanner	\$100,000	WA	Across all areas
The Westmead Institute for Medical Research	Acquisition of a deep-learning enabled, automated high-throughput microscope to enhance translational research and health outcomes	\$100,000	NSW	Across all areas

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PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCH				
Flinders University	Transforming Obesity Prevention for CHILDren: A decision aid for public health policy makers (TOPCHILD-Policy)	\$600,000	SA	Across all areas
The George Institute for Global Health	Produce Prescription: innovative 'Food is Medicine' intervention to improve health among people with type2 diabetes	\$600,000	National	Across all areas
Macquarie University: Faculty of Human Sciences	Little Ears – Aboriginal Programs for Hearing and EAR screening programs (LEAP – HEAR)	\$600,000	NSW	Outer regional
Monash University	Creating a world-standard enriched older-adult cohort to inform mental health and substance use disorder prevention	\$600,000	VIC	Metropolitan
Parent–Infant Research Institute Inc	DadBooster program – Randomised Controlled Trial (RCT)	\$30,000	National	Across all areas
University of New South Wales	Reducing systemic inequity in health services in prisons for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people	\$480,000	NSW	Across all areas
University of Sydney	Co-production of multi-sectoral chronic disease prevention strategies: A 'whole-of-system' evidence-based approach for decision-making	\$600,000	National	Across all areas
THE ALEC PRENTICE SEWELL GIFT				
100 Story Building	Story Hubs expansion: bringing creative literacy spaces and approaches to support learning in Victorian schools	\$500,000	VIC	Metropolitan
Story Factory Inc	Capacity Building for Innovation: expanding our reach and deepening our engagement	\$615,000	National	Across all areas
Cool Australia Trust	Cool Capacity Funding – Improving Education by Investing Within.	\$500,000	National	Across all areas



**The Ian Potter
Foundation**

Level 3, 111 Collins Street
Melbourne VIC 3000, Australia

03 9650 3188
admin@ianpotter.org.au

ABN 42 004 603 972

ianpotter.org.au