

I am using the scope of inquiry to make comments

Definitely there are opportunities to grow the scope and opportunities of 'giving' whether it is time, skills and knowledge, financial support. Each of these areas need to be recognised as intrinsic to the total picture of strengthening community; volunteering - lots to be learned of oneself (strengths/weaknesses e.g. fun runs raising awareness etc. Life stage benefits to all; Sometimes, let down by the organisations that 'sponsor'- transparency (explanation (of the organisational structure, strategies, clarity re financials.

In essence, there is a social contract to become a charitable, not-for-profit community organisation. tax treatments etc; it is about social dividend/ community benefit.

DGR, more public conversation; tax deductible donations, accountability more than pulling on heart strings and/or emphasising disadvantage. Maybe, emphasise the enhancement etc. I know that Family Trusts exist, and mentioned in org publications. Once again Transparency, what is the dividend to the community.

Maybe, public document to include comparative graph to demonstrate % of expenditure including org systems e.g. wages.

A requirement for proper research, not just a glossy and many pictures; what is the longitudinal benefit, that is what we require for community benefit/dividend.

A broader conversation of Community Foundations - transparency/accountability mechanisms for building an informed community of giving i.e. not just a slogan!

Cheeky I know, maybe recipients need to report details on monies received.

Personal experience and observations:

- I donate in personal capacity to a range of community organisations
- my first 'big' step into philanthropy was when selling a property; prior to the sale I had decided that the proceeds would be divided with two organisations that had sub-funds as their model of giving. Each sub-fund was established with \$200,000.
- In short, the organisations were very reluctant to make grantings. As this was not my intention and discussion did not work, I spoke to Philanthropy Australia, to explain my situation and frustration; it was suggested that I use Article 19, Portability - to transfer monies to another organisation.
- However, whilst a donor/philanthropist has ability to grant etc. etc. it is how those large monies are managed that counts; a few years ago, scrutiny of Financials (Annual Report) demonstrated significant losses. A community Foundation!!
- Transparency re costs of 'insider' know-how; I decided to transition out of my fund, with a plan for 3 financial years, commencing 2022/23 This was based on statements of \$ in sub-fund.
- in short, early 2024 I was informed unable to make grants in April '24.
- Why is there no avenue for individuals like me? To whom are community foundations accountable, surely as a community foundation it is the community that is duded! Questionable, when such foundations have

systems akin to banks; of course, monies need to be managed responsibly; however, there could well be a requirement/ rationale to make % available for grants; this could be useful to fund holders , so as to plan etc.

In conclusion, we need far more transparency of all the entities of taking monies out of the tax system for charitable purposes. Community dividend /benefit needs to be demonstrated (research) long term not just a quick fix. The community needs to be kept informed, recognise value of "investment" Role of research to track short term/long term benefits - a well rounded picture.