

Submission to the Productivity Commission's Philanthropy Inquiry

May 2023

Introduction

The Inner North Community Foundation welcomes the opportunity to give input into the Productivity Commission's Philanthropy inquiry.

In the last 5 years we have doubled funds under management and grants to local groups— and our goal is to double again by 2027. Core to our work is reducing the barriers to giving, and inspiring local people to consider the opportunities increased philanthropy give. Government support to accelerate giving will mean more connected and resilient local communities.

This submission broadly addresses the follow requests:

- **Information request 1: Defining philanthropy** - place-based approaches to giving
- **Information request 3: Role of government** – examples of partnerships and why they matter
- **Information request 8: Other measures** – ways to increase the scale and impact of place-based giving

About us

The Inner North Community Foundation is committed to the people, places and opportunities of the place we call home: Melbourne's inner north.

We're here to build a prosperous and vibrant community for all. To do that, we draw on our network of local resources. People who want to see positive change and a better future, where nobody in our local communities gets left behind.

The Inner North Community Foundation is a combination of six elements:

- **We're an incorporated registered charity:** We ensure proper handling of funds, we govern funds distribution and we provide tax-deductible ways of giving.
- **We're community-owned and managed:** Our directors are community members, ensuring we can provide a local, transparent and accountable response to local issues.
- **We're defined by our place.** We come from here, and our community participates with us in growing and distributing funds.
- **We receive support from many:** Everyone can contribute, and we provide flexible ways (both financial and non-financial) to be involved and help build long-term assets for long-term benefits.
- **We pool funds for greater impact:** donations are pooled and the investment income earned is distributed to local charities.
- **We provide support to many:** We know local charities and organisations. We help them talk to the community and each other, and we distribute funds and resources where they're needed most.

The region covered by the Inner North Community Foundation consists of three local government municipalities, and eight state and three federal electorates. We are represented by 48 elected politicians, and partner with government by providing:

- **Civic infrastructure** that strengthens local prosperity, connectedness and cohesion through grants, leadership and growing people's generosity. The Foundation encourages charitable donations, brokers relationships and unlocks community capital;
- **A community resource in perpetuity:** the Foundation is a sustainable funding model that uses returns on invested funds to make local grants, while protecting the initial capital, generating annual grants that respond to community needs
- **Economies of scale:** over the long term, the Foundation has had an average investment return of ~8% on its endowed funds, providing an annual grants program for a variety of activity. This allows people to start their structured giving at lower levels.

Over the last 15 years, the Inner North Community Foundation has granted \$5.6m, to more than 250 local groups. We have received \$13m from more than 700 local donors, and have built \$10.5m in funds under management as an enduring resource for our region.

In the inner north, local people often have the solutions to respond to local issues. Each year we grant \$500,000 to around 50 groups in the region. As we grow, the Inner North Community Foundation will continue to strengthen community resilience, build trust, and create a platform for effective community-led solutions. With support from government, this impact will be accelerated.

Information request 1 – Defining philanthropy

The inner north of Melbourne stretches from Brunswick to Bundoora and from Richmond to Reservoir. Around 500,000 people, 45,000 businesses and 900 charities call the inner north home. Some of Melbourne's wealthiest and poorest people live here, and some of its most generous.

Our approach to giving a version of place-based philanthropy. Like all strong communities, our region is characterised by a locus or sense of place, a shared interest in and commitment to the wellbeing of that place and its people, strong social connections or ties, and joint action to address local needs and advance opportunities that leverage and build on the diversity, resources and strengths within our community.

This is important because there is both prosperity and disadvantage within the Inner North; that the gap between the 'haves' and 'have nots' is growing. There is a desire within the Inner North Community to close that gap and to address issues affecting the community such as homelessness, poverty, housing affordability, domestic violence and mental health; and that local people and businesses are looking for opportunities to connect with and contribute to their Community.

In addition to making grants, our Foundation brokers knowledge and relationships across the region. Our understanding is information through the [Inner North Report](#), the information received through grant applications and acquittals, and our deep understanding of ACNC data through our [charity dashboard](#).

Change takes time. At different levels across the community - individual, organisational, (eco)system - we seek to be responsive to changing dynamics and opportunities in the political, economic and community landscape in order to respond effectively to need and shift the conditions that hold entrenched community challenges in place.

The funds we give, and the expertise we harness, come from within our community. We are part of the local civil society – not separate from it. The importance of having a thriving local community foundation in the inner north includes:

- **Local ownership:** A thriving local community foundation in the inner north taps into local knowledge and expertise, allowing for effective solutions to local issues to be addressed.
- **Trust in institutions:** the Foundation serves as a transparent and well-governed platform for donations, ensuring that the values important to the community are expressed.
- **Long-term perspective:** Building trust with local people underpins long-term perspective for the benefit of the community.
- **Conduit for accelerated impact:** The foundation serves as a broker of knowledge and relationships, connecting various charities, funders, and community networks, leading to a faster and more effective response to community needs.

Information request 2 - Role of government

The Foundation does not seek to replace or replicate government services. Rather it provides funding for local organisations to test new ideas, and a way for local people to have agency to contribute to important local issues.

Of the \$13m in money given to the Foundation over the last 15 years, \$480,000 (3.7%) comes from state or local government. Other government support has been provided in different ways, including the transfer of a dormant trust.

Investment from government has been strategic, and has supported the Foundation to build its reputation locally as a safe steward of community funds that create public value.

Examples of how government input has accelerated our work include:

1) Matched funding – Office for the Community Sector, Victorian Community

In the early life of the Foundation, the Victorian State Government had a matched funding campaign, where community foundations that raised \$100k were given \$300k. Funds were provided from government on the proviso that funds:

- “are held in perpetuity by the local community to provide for locally determined needs into the future,
- support initiatives that build relationships between business, philanthropy and the local community,
- ensure that the community foundation has strong locally connected governance,
- develop the profile and capacity of the community foundation, and
- assist communities of disadvantage within the area covered by the foundation”.

This commitment was seen as a means of building on the work and the achievements of the Neighbourhood Renewal Program and related community building and revitalising programs in disadvantaged communities. It would also assist in building the long-term capacity of these communities to support place based projects.

With the benefit of hindsight, investment from the Victorian State Government had two impacts at the time.

- There was a material investment in the Inner North Community Foundation’s corpus, giving a base of financial support and capacity to have better economies of scale;

- More importantly, it encouraged the Foundation to connect and inspire our community to give. We made friends with service clubs, raised our profile in local media, and inspired people to think about the long-term impact of giving.

The funds continue to have benefit. The Inner North Action Fund is now valued at over \$800,000, and allows for the Foundation to respond to the critical issues of the day. In March 2020, it provided the capacity for quick response to C19.

2) Norm Anderson Young People's Trust

The second example of partnership is with local government, where the Foundation worked with Merri-Bek Council to transfer a dormant trust under the Foundation structure.

The Brunswick and Coburg Young People's Trust was set up to provide funds for projects that benefit disadvantaged young people in Moreland. The Trust was established in 1986, when a local community group, the Brunswick and Coburg Boys and Girls Club, wound up and sold its building in Cameron St Brunswick for \$140,000.

After 30 years being supported by Merri-bek Council, the Norm Anderson Young People's Trust was transferred in 2017 with a cheque for \$192,024. The Fund continues the purpose of the Club that formed in 1944, just with a different approach to stewardship. Since transfer to the Foundation, the Fund is now valued at \$220,000, and has re-invested \$45,000 to local groups.

Had the initial funds been invested through a community foundation structure, it would have been worth \$1.6m, generating \$75,000 per annum to support young people. 30 years ago the Inner North Community Foundation didn't exist, so this is not a criticism of local government. Rather it highlights the role and function of different stakeholders, and how our community foundation can have impact in the long-term.

3) C19 Disaster Relief Fund

The third example is the Covid-19m Disaster Relief Fund that launched on March 20 2020. Two days after the state of emergency was declared in Victoria, a support program was announced with a focus on supporting local people and charities with:

1. Rapid Response grants for local not for profit community groups to respond in flexible and creative ways.
2. Emergency relief vouchers for families to buy essentials from local traders, with vouchers allocated by local charities.
3. Pathways to Employment projects that support people in our community impacted by Covid-19.

A public call for donations received \$526,939 from local people, businesses and other groups. Local government contributed \$180,000 to the Fund, which leveraged a range of other community capital.

The bulk of funds were distributed in the first 6 months to more than 150 local community groups. The grants program received the [Community Philanthropy Award](#) from Philanthropy Australia in 2021. A sample report provided to government and other supporters is provided as an attachment.

Information request 8 – Other measures

Growing funds under management is an important long-term strategic aim, as it allows for greater impact and capacity to build relationships with donors. Growth comes in different ways, and the following opportunities are highlighted.

Transfer of wealth

The Inner North Community Foundation is exploring what our futures might look like if more people were to contribute assets back into local projects to create a lasting local legacy beyond our lifetime.

Australia is set to encounter the largest intergenerational transfer of wealth in history over the next 50 years. This will happen, in part, as baby boomers get older and pass on their assets to loved ones. Between now and 2030, \$18.22 billion will transfer between one generation and the next in Melbourne's inner north. Currently around 40% of local people claim a tax donation at tax time, but only 7% have a gift in their will.

If 5% of households in Melbourne's Inner North locked in 5% of their wealth to a community chest, it would grow by another \$48 million in 8 years. This money can be used for scholarships, apprenticeships, arts projects and precincts, community support groups, food share and other philanthropic organisations, schools and more.

The Inner North Community Foundation received its first bequest in 2021 – a \$3.5m contribution to establish the [Bakers Dozen Social Justice Fund](#). This gift is material in size, but in some ways it is more important as it shifts the conversation. There is a clear example of what local people's generosity can achieve.

Government support in raising awareness of community foundations as avenues for local giving will inspire others to give.

Supporting other groups through community funds

One way that the Inner North Community Foundation partners with local charities looking by using our Named Fund structure to support legacy giving.

For smaller organisations who don't always have the capacity to manage a Gifts in Will program, partnering with Inner North Community Foundation with a Named Fund builds capacity. A Named Fund is an additional way to engage supporters, encouraging them to give in a meaningful and fulfilling way that allows people of all levels of wealth to be part of a lasting legacy.

Currently the Inner North Community Foundation has three funds, with \$300,000 in endowed funds raised from local people. The Foundation provides the long-term stewardship to give donors confidence that the place-based organisations they are passionate about – groups that have the inner north in their charitable purpose – will continue to have impact.

Government support through matched funding campaign for local groups is a way to raise awareness, and support other place-based groups in the region.

Reimagining community assets

There are existing community assets that could be re-purposed for contemporary purposes. The experience of other countries has demonstrated how community foundations can be stewards and re-imagine community funds to respond to new activity.

- **Community clubs:** Melbourne's Inner North has over 30 not for profit community groups that have secured resources for and purchased properties for use as cultural clubs.

Over many years clubs have created spaces for people to celebrate, connect and provide opportunities for social cohesion. This work has only been possible because of the hard work and dedication of local volunteer leaders. Existing groups are often asset rich and cash poor. Buildings are expensive to maintain, and the energy to sustain them is hard.

Clubs can establish a fund at the Inner North Community Foundation to create a long-term legacy for their achievements and celebration of their work. Rather than delivering services, a Fund in the name of a Club would start a new grants program that supports eligible local organisations with an annual grants program – that supports the community in ways that make sense. (Greek culture, senior engagement, aged care etc)

- **Wind up of charities:** There are 898 charities in the North, working towards diverse community issues that strengthen our community's prosperity, connectedness and cohesion. Our [charity dashboard](#) shows that there are 220 micro-organisations with operating revenue of less than \$50,000 per year, but with a combined asset base of \$12M.

The Foundation can be a vehicle for the charitable aims of these organisations to be progressed in a different way. This includes maintaining legacies, securing capital as long-term funding for charities, unlocking assets and applying them in a different way.

- **Unclaimed monies:** Australia has \$1.5B in lost shares, insurance and bank accounts. Melbourne has \$170M, of which approximately 54% is bank accounts (\$92M). If at least 10% of returned bank accounts relate to inactive community groups, there would be \$9M in Melbourne alone. If a third accounts are in Inner North, then local unclaimed accounts could be around \$3M. Individually, inactive bank accounts contain relatively small amounts. Collectively, they are a significant resource. Community foundations are an independent way to continue to support the charitable purposes of those groups.

Government support for operating capacity to progress these ideas will unlock community assets, providing annual grants for local groups to respond to needs of the day. It will also allow the Inner North Community Foundation to have greater scale, which gives local people confidence to contribute.

Next steps

50 years ago, the issues our community faced were different.

50 years in the future, the issues our community face will be different again. But in 2073, it is likely that local people will come together to make the lives of their neighbours and friends better.

Institutions fit for purpose can foster a sense of agency among the community and empower them to take an active role in shaping the future of their community. The Foundation supports a strong civil society, activates networks for better crisis response, and provide support for connections in times of good, leading to a more resilient and connected community.

Government support has been important to give the Inner North Community Foundation additional capacity and support. With additional matched capital campaigns, capacity funding, and better use of existing community assets, the Foundation will thrive. We look forward to working with government to see this happen.



INNER NORTH
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION



Inner North Covid-19 Disaster Relief Fund

Final Report, April 2021

The Inner North Covid-19 Disaster Relief Fund proudly supported by:



Community Bank
Clifton Hill-North
Fitzroy



mpconsulting



The Inner North Community Foundation proudly acknowledges and gives immense thanks to the traditional custodians of Melbourne's inner north, the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people of the Kulin Nation.

Final report

Overview

As per the funding agreements with Moreland City Council, Darebin City Council, Yarra City Councils and the Community Bank Clifton Hill - North Fitzroy (Bendigo Bank) this is the third and final Inner North Covid-19 Disaster Relief Fund progress report.

The bulk of funds were expended in the first 6 months and were previously reported in the September update. As a quick recap, the Foundation launched its Covid-19 Disaster Relief Fund 12 months ago, to respond to the uncertainty and crisis presented by the pandemic. Initial leadership of the Fund was made the support of Foundation donors MP Consulting and Jumpstart Fund, with pro-bono legal support from Herbert Smith Freehills.

Funding partnerships

In total, the Inner North Covid-19 Disaster Relief Fund received **\$526,939** to help respond to the pandemic.

- \$180,000 received through Council partnerships (\$80,000 Moreland City Council, \$50,000 Darebin City Council, \$50,000 Yarra City Council)
- \$173,850 from funds and donors at the Inner North Community Foundation (\$150,000 from IntoWork sub-fund to Pathways to Employment, \$8,850 from existing Inner North Community Foundation sub-funds)
- \$75,000 from the Ecstra Foundation to expand the Young Changemakers program to five new schools, with a Covid-19 focus. (as well as \$25,000 to resource the Foundation)
- \$75,000 from local business support and general fundraising
 - \$35,000 Community Bank Clifton Hill - North Fitzroy (Bendigo Bank)
 - \$15,000 MP Consulting
 - \$10,000 Bennelong Foundation
 - \$7,000 Tempo Rubato
 - \$8,000 general fundraising
- \$8,089 in community fundraising specifically for the Morefood for Moreland campaign.

What happened

- The **Foundation has distributed \$386,174 to 142 charities** and community groups across Melbourne's inner north. Funding was allocated through three main grants streams.
 - \$153,000 in 102 Rapid Response grants. At time of writing, 90/102 organisations have acquitted funds or asked for short time extensions for various reasons. These projects engaged 67,323 people across Darebin, Moreland and Yarra.
 - \$60,000 in vouchers for local traders in partnership with 29 ER services and 25 traders, providing food for 2,578 families
 - \$150,000 in 10 Pathways to Employment projects, with full detail to be acquitted in June 2021.
- By end June 2021, the Foundation will have delivered seven Young Changemakers Programs across 4 schools. Approximately 90 students will have made **grants totaling \$105,000 to 21 local charities** (each program granting \$15,000 to three charities) This program supports VCAL students to learn about their community, assess grant applications, ask questions about financials. Participating schools include, Concord School, NCAT, Fitzroy High and Sydney Road Community School.
- The Foundation brokered other direct financial support, including:
 - The Bridge Darebin and Reservoir Neighbourhood House: the challenge of COVID-19 dramatically increased the need for emergency food relief in the Darebin community. In total, the Inner North Community Foundation **facilitated \$17,500 of funding**, as well as assisting with \$1000 of vouchers from local business to enable the purchase of staple foods. These funds enabled the purchase of staple goods for 100+ weekly grocery bags supporting rough sleepers and public housing tenants, distributed by Bridge

Darebin, Reservoir NH and SPAN. In total, this support directly made it possible for Darebin Neighbourhood Houses to distribute 68,200 meals and approximately 3,000 grocery bags.

- **Arts Workers Fund:** the Terry Brian Kenny Fund, a named fund at the Inner North Community Foundation, supported a national initiative that directed \$1.6m in \$1,000 grants to 1600 artists ineligible for government support schemes. A large portion of this funding landed in Darebin, Moreland and Yarra.

In addition, Moreland bookshop Brunswick Bound initiated a 'pay it forward' voucher program so people can buy books for others during C-19. With Lockdown 2.0, they asked Tempo Rubato and Inner North Community Foundation for suggestions on who could use a new book. The Foundation got in touch with local artists who had applied for the National Assistance Program for the Arts to see if they could use them, either for themselves or to use as gifts. 15 vouchers were snapped up in less than 15 minutes.

Vocational Mentoring Exchange (VME): in late 2019, the Foundation committed \$20,000 per annum for three years to support the Inner Northern Local Learning and Employment Network to start a regional Vocational Mentoring Exchange, as matched funding to unlock \$50,000 per annum from another philanthropic funder. The commitment over three years of \$36,000 from the Norm Anderson Fund has helped unlock additional resources, including \$204,000 of additional philanthropic funding (including \$11,000 of funds raised through Covid-19 in 2020/2021) and \$300,000 contributed by the INLLEN.

The VME is an early intervention approach to support young people and help to create links to better employment outcomes in the long term. The schools and communities in the inner north are highly impacted by COVID19 with increases in Youth unemployment and under employment. This is particularly true for those north of Bell Street where significant pockets of disadvantage exist.

The VME School based program "Mentoring Matters" is being delivered in 5 local schools/ education settings which will involve 80 students and 40 volunteer vocational mentors. The following educational settings have been targeted so we are supporting young people from low SES backgrounds or are alternative setting that support students who have struggled with mainstream school settings.

The Island – Coburg, William Ruthven College – Reservoir, Glenroy Neighbourhood Learning Network – Glenroy, Glenroy College – Glenroy, Sydney Road Community School – Brunswick

The 10 week Mentoring Matters program strengthens the young person's aspirations through the development of a career action plan which is supported by a volunteer vocational mentor. The students are exposed to the local labour market and local industry through tours and guest speakers. The program also picks up developing work readiness skills so the young person can successfully compete in the labour market once they have completed their VCAL certificate.

- **Morefood for Moreland:** As part of its Covid-19 Disaster Relief Fund, the Inner North Community Foundation established the Morefood4Moreland campaign alongside Community Information Support (CIS) Moreland, Fawkner Food Bowls, The Community Grocer, Fawkner Commons and other community groups. With the support of Moreland Council, the group raised just under \$8,000, enabling local people to make a donation to support Moreland community residents and their families through hard times.

How we worked

Across community, business and government sectors, there were many responses to the pandemic. In times of crisis, multiple avenues of support is needed for different vulnerable community groups.

The Foundation's approach to the Covid-19 Fund was built on the Foundation's experience over the last 13 years of what works for our community and informed with learnings from other community foundations about disaster relief philanthropy. The approach the Foundation took to raising funds and distributing grants allowed the Foundation to:

- **Leverage additional community assets:** financial support is just one form of community capital. As an independent charity, the Foundation can inspire people to give their time, networks, and other forms of community capital that is not cash based.
- **Engage local people in place:** the Covid-19 Disaster Relief Fund provided place-based funding opportunities that are responsive and get funds out the door quickly, in order to engage local people to take civic action and contribute to the greater public good.
- **Contribute to people's dignity, and harness generosity:** support from funding partners also allowed demonstrations of solidarity and connection in times of crisis.

What's next

Local people continue to be resilient, collaborative, and connect to their best selves. The impact of the Foundation is made possible in the most part through pooling donations and providing a model of impact that has enduring local impact for the people and places people care about. In the time ahead, Covid-19 will continue to create challenges, which will be just one of the local issues that people in our community respond to. The Foundation is looking to continue to grow resources for local groups, inspire generosity and have impact, and the work includes:

- **Safe pair of hands for community funds:** with 898 registered charities across Darebin, Moreland and Yarra, finding groups eager to use funds to have impact is straight forward. A bigger challenge is growing the pie, so there is more sustainable support for local charities, now and into the future.
 - o **Bakers Dozen Fund for Social Justice:** a generous legacy gift from Dr Christopher Baker and Kerri Hall will be used to inspire other people to give to their local community and have enduring impact. When up and running, approximately \$120,000 will be granted each year for bold, transformative and patient change.
 - o **Transfer of Wealth:** Australia is on the verge of the largest intergenerational wealth transfer in history. Seer Data's estimates suggest Australia will see more than \$1.1 trillion change hands over the next 10 years as the Baby Boomer generation pass on their wealth to others. Transfer of Wealth presents an opportunity for the Inner North Community Foundation to support communities to secure assets, resources and money for perpetual public and charitable benefit
 - o **Reimagining charitable assets:** with up to 17% of charities closing due to the impact of Covid-19, there are possible ways for local groups to consider the Named Fund model at the Foundation to continue their legacy.
- **Broker of local knowledge and connections:** part of the Foundation's role is to connect different activity across the north, to remove the barriers that people face in their life and support prosperous, connected, and cohesive communities. Some of the ways we're thinking about this impact includes:
 - o **The Inner North Report:** provides a profile of life in the Inner North Community and a way for local people to see the great things in the place they call home. It is the first step in a program designed to bring about change for our community in the direction wanted by the community and implemented by our community. The next step will involve setting up the Inner North Community Panel consisting of 100 local leaders who will access the experiences of the 1000's of their daily community contacts to identify what is currently working and what's missing. At the end of the process, a priority list will inform future action.
 - o The Foundation has also helped convene a national **Jobs and Skills Funders network** to better collaborate with peer philanthropic funders, with a view that additional funding recommendations for local charities will be possible. There currently over 15 trusts involved, including the Sidney Myer Foundation, Paul Ramsay Foundation, Ian Potter Foundation, Westpac Foundation and others.

Thank you

Thanks to contributions of Councils, Community Bank Clifton Hill - North Fitzroy (Bendigo Bank), MP Consulting, Tempo Rubato and other local donors, the Foundation has built on and supported a responsive and compassionate local civil society. Feedback from local community groups about the Covid-19 Fund has been positive, both for the tangible resources quickly allocated, but also for the benefit of small grants in giving groups confidence and support to continue to respond. In particular, we acknowledge, and are immensely thankful for the volunteers, staff and directors who contribute to our community in practical ways.

We'd like to highlight the work of Rob Appleton, on secondment from Darebin City Council; the Grants Panel, including Lee Chia, Partnerships Manager at the Community Bank Clifton Hill - North Fitzroy (Bendigo Bank), Sylvia Admans as Chair of the Grants Committee, and to Bianca Maciel-Pizzorno at the Foundation; Herbert Smith Freehills helped with some of the legal questions, and Named Funds chipped in, including the Brown Family Bequest, Breen Family Fund, Terry Brian Kenny Fund, Jumpstart, and Norm Anderson Fund.

We look forward to continuing to be a safe pair of hands for community funds, and a broker of local knowledge and relationships. Thanks for being with us, and each other.

Rapid response grants

A summary of funded groups is in Appendix 1 – Rapid Response Grants. Approximately 66,000 people from a range of priority groups received support. As part of the acquittal process, grantees were asked the following questions:

What did you do? How did your project respond to the impacts of COVID-19?



As flagged in the September Report, projects ranged across different areas with common themes of:

- **Food relief, food systems and direct relief:** Organisations have worked dynamically as needed and numbers have grown, and many have extended both their capacity, and service-type, in order to meet the needs of their community. Grants have enabled communities to be responsive to the massive increase in people presenting for food relief, including logistics, systems, storage solutions, and delivery methods.
- **Organisational capacity and sustainability:** Many organisations have had to dramatically adjust and adapt their services, to meet health requirements (some having to temporarily close operations), and to meet shifting community needs (with a focus on prioritising basic needs).
- **Emotional welfare and service provision:** some funded programs aimed directly to keep individuals and communities connected as mental, psychological and emotional health can be difficult subjects to broach. Many organisations reported that as services shifted and physical distancing was enforced, many services experienced their clients really wanting to converse with employees and volunteers.
- **Technology:** Technologies, such as internet connection and devices (laptops and phones) have played a huge role in keeping people connected throughout Covid-19 restrictions. Services have used technology as tools to stay connected and promote connection with their clients, to promote wellbeing, and to administer services and conduct programs for participation. Some organisations gifted technology resources to vulnerable clients to keep them connected, and in many cases, to continue with education. Grants have funded:
 - **Hardware:** 13 laptops, 12 mobile phones, 3 printers, and home-broadcasting equipment for a local radio station.
 - **Software:** 5 Zoom subscriptions, one eCommerce platform subscription and domain registration
 - **Connectivity:** one internet service provision, 54 Internet dongles, and 8 phone sims
- **Celebration:** grants also support projects that demonstrated capacity for connection and celebration.

QUOTES FROM GROUPS

"Thank you for your 'rapid' support of this project. This grant provided an immediate injection of funds that enables us to purchase fabric within days of submitting the application (and having it approved). Really appreciate your responsiveness. The INCF was the first foundation to support this initiative. TSS continues to make scrubs to this day - so it has been a very successful project." - **The Social Studio, Collingwood**

Thank you so much for giving our group the opportunity to continue their work during the COVID-19 pandemic! We have been able to reach out to so many women and try to prevent that social distancing becomes social isolation. The second lock-down will have a stronger effect on the mental health of our women and we need ongoing support to support our women in this difficult time. **Multicultural Women's Sewing Group, Coburg**

"More people in the Inner North and Melbourne region are relying on the human contact of online communities as we face extensive Stage 4 lock-down. As a result, the administrators/Guardians of Good Karma Networks require training and support to manage an increased volume of online communications. The Inner North grant has enabled Good Karma Effect to utilise the skills of ""Doing Things Differently"" to provide an extensive online training program that supports Guardians and gives tips, guidance and support to ensure the networks can facilitate a safe online space that is supportive and enabling. The training is complete, and Guardians have provided positive feedback regarding the content and style of the training. It is useful now and into the future as we bring new supportive Guardians into our networks." – **Good Karma Networks (Northcote, Fitzroy, Brunswick)**

Did this work involve any innovations, partnerships or collaborations?



85% of groups reported that their projects included some level of partnership and collaborations, with only 7 projects responding 'no' to the question. (And this was often for purchases of IT equipment)

General feedback from funded groups is that the Rapid Response grants enabled organisations to build on existing relationships, and form new alliances with other organisations interested in common interest

For some groups, the funding helped change services online, and support staff and volunteers to respond to new work environments. The challenges of the digital divide meant that some groups supported vulnerable people with one on one support to ensure that people had access to online spaces from home.

QUOTES FROM GROUPS

"During this project, we collaborated with

- *Reservoir High School: who supported the planning and logistics of the virtual weaving workshop at their school and strengthened connections with First Nations students*
- *Deadly Sista Girlz at Thornbury High School: who supported the planning and logistics of the virtual weaving workshop at the school and strengthened connections with First Nations students*
- *Indigenous Allied Health Australia: who contributed information and merchandise to our wellness bags*
- *Ngarara Willim at RMIT University: who contributed information and merchandise to our wellness bags*

Weenthunga Health Network, Collingwood

"Coordination of this program was in partnership with Cultivating Community, and Yarra Libraries. Community distribution partners included:

- *Carlton Neighbourhood Learning Centre (Open Door)*
- *The Wellington Neighbourhood House*
- *CoHealth (Billabong BBQ program)*
- *Brunswick Neighbourhood House*
- *Fawkner Food Bowls*
- *Yarra Council*

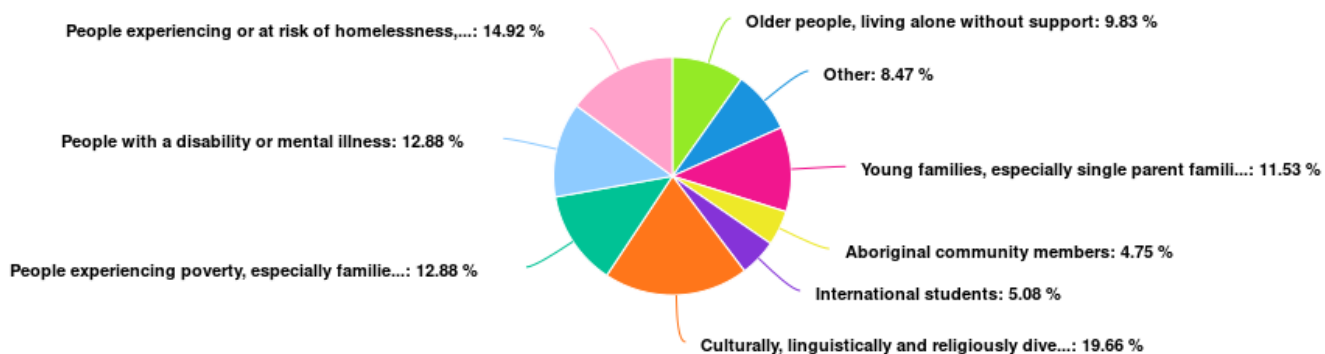
Approximately 70% of the food distributed through program was donated surplus food via food rescue partners OzHarvest and Secondbite as well as bread donated by Natural Tucker Bakery and grains donated by Loafer Bakery.

Open Table – Collingwood

"We are working with Brunswick Neighborhood House, Reynard Neighborhood house, Fawkner Commons Jesuit Social Services and Homeless Aid. We worked and are still working closely with the above organisations. Sometimes if they have surplus of raw food items they then donate to our organisation. Fawkner commons take food from us so that they can distribute to the locals in Fawkner region to meet the need, especially Halal meals. Due to the tougher restrictions, Jesuit Social Services have been collaborated with us with, by delivering the uncooked food items to us. Homeless Aid are helping us to deliver to those who are unable to travel." **Muslim women's Council of Victoria Inc.**

What priority groups accessed support?

What priority groups accessed support?



Projects generally had more than one cohort, with a cross range of community members supported.

Anything else you'd like to tell us?



Some groups were able to use funding received to demonstrate need and expertise, and advocate for further support from other funders:

- *“The Hub Meals for Moreland program continues beyond the Rapid Response grant. The learnings from the Hub Meals for Moreland pilot program were used to inform a submission to the state government to continue the program under its Working for Victoria initiative. This submission was successful and has enabled Jesuit Social Services to recruit and employ the staff required to keep this much needed meal drop service going in the Moreland area. The program is now called the COVID-19 Ecological Justice Hub Meal Drop” – Jesuit Social Services*

Some groups found the funding important to sustain their own momentum, and build their organisational capacity to respond:

- *“Thank you so much for your support. The support we have received from you has enabled us to help many individuals and families in our community who are facing extreme challenging situation due to COVID-19. This has not only enable us to support needy ones but also helped us to be organized and innovative. Thank you once again and we are hoping your support in future as well.” Non Resident Nepalese Association, Vic*

For some workers, the support kept people engaged with their community

- *I would like to say a personal thank you to the INF for the rapid response and the generous funding they provide. While I use this equipment almost every day producing community service announcements, many of them at this stage are all about COVID ; restrictions, lockdowns, getting tested, importance of not getting sick and transmitting.*

One of the few ways I can really connect with listeners is producing my Saturday morning Show. Being able to produce voice tracks with this equipment has allowed me to share, to send messages of hope and fun as well as connecting with people who love my kind of music. So on a very personal note this has made my life better as well as allowing me to bring some joy into people's lives during this difficult time. – 3 Kool and Deadly

Emergency Relief Vouchers

People with vulnerabilities were hit hardest by the lockdown measures and potential health impacts of Covid-19. Financial hardship and the capacity of households to adapt to Covid-19 isolation measures were major issues that services responded to.

The Foundation used a common disaster relief response, through using a voucher system to provide emergency relief through local traders. This has been used by other community foundations in rural and regional communities, especially in the 2019 bushfire season. A summary of funded groups is in Appendix 2 – Emergency Relief Grants.

Both by design, and by choice, the ER vouchers were predominantly arranged with independently owned supermarkets, local trader groups and retailers such as butchers and fresh produce outlets. This not only served to support local businesses (often family businesses) and keep money local, but also provided opportunity to connect residents to their local businesses. Over \$60,000 was spent at local businesses to provide food vouchers for local people.

All groups that received vouchers have acquitted funds. The Foundation used a simple acquittal process, and the key points are:

- **Impact of vouchers:**
 - o 2,578 local people and families received support for food.
 - o Much of the voucher support went to ensure that people had culturally appropriate food, especially during Ramadan
- **Partnerships created**
 - o Only one agency reported that there was no partnerships, innovations or collaborations formed.
 - o ER providers worked with other agencies, Council and local businesses to deliver services
- **Issues being responded to**
 - o Agencies receiving vouchers found that the patterns of ER were different than expected. For some long-term unemployed people, the raise to the basic level of support through JobSeeker payment meant that they no longer had to access crisis support providers as they had sufficient funds to meet basic needs.
 - o However, this was not the case for people excluded from government support programs, in particular international students and artists. People new to the service system found it challenging to stitch together support.

QUOTES FROM GROUPS

This project enabled us to reach many vulnerable clients (more than 80) of the North Richmond Community Health Centre with culturally appropriate and useful food. We were able to collaborate with suppliers that we normally are unable to work with due to cost restraints and therefore work with our local community to support the local community. We really appreciate the grant and the opportunity it gave us during Covid to work in a different way to provide food security. Thank you. – Richmond Churches Food Centre, Richmond

Thank you for this support. It meant when we came across someone in extreme circumstances that was not receiving appropriate support, we could give a voucher in the interim whilst linking them into services. Reservoir Neighbourhood House, Reservoir

The responsiveness of the Inner North Community Foundation to the needs of local community groups during the COVID19 pandemic was amazing! Thanks so much for all your hard work, it's been appreciated. – Community Information Support Moreland, Coburg

Pathways to Employment Grants

A roundtable of Pathways to Employment grant recipients was held in March 2021 via zoom, as part of our role in ensuring impact with funds, and brokering relationships and networks. People reflected on:

- **Silver linings and gratefulness:** local charities are immensely thankful to be able to support people during rough times. From being able to set up an older person with an iPad, to being on the phone to talk to a young artist trying to find work, people are finding gratitude in lots of different places.
- **Drawing from the well:** there was consistent feedback that people that C-19 impacted heavily those with limited social capital to draw on. For example, with local libraries closed, it made it hard for people to apply for work if they didn't have a computer or friends to ask to borrow.

Organisation	Project	Description	Update	Amount Funded
Bridge Darebin (trading name of Preston Neighbourhood House Inc.)	Bridge Darebin Makers Marketplace	The 'How to launch an online based creative micro business" training program provides business training and an online launching space for new makers, while promoting and highlighting the work of established mid-career makers.	In contact with between 50-60 makers in their makers market, developed an online course for makers in their makers market, developed an online marketplace for makers to connect. 99% of makers attending were women, Have expanded their reach through the online marketplace, heart of Thornbury (HOT) up to 90 people coming on board as part of this project	\$15,000
Carringbush Adult Education	Remote Pathways Guidance - Strength through resilience and connection	The program provides short and long-term individualised pathways guidance to 15 participants from City of Yarra's CALD community who have lost their jobs due to COVID-19 and those who are long-term unemployed and facing additional barriers due to social distancing measures.	Most students have limited access to digital space and limited digital skills. Worked on these foundational skills with them. Still in blended learning mode, online 1 day and 2 days face 2 face. Going well. Inner North funded a pathways guidance counsellor, who has had to pivot from careers counselling to digital mentoring and help buying affordable devices, 15 participants. Didn't have to change the model too much. Challenges: trying to support people 1 on 1 during lockdown. Ended up providing in person IT support to clients to help them get online and stay engaged. A couple of clients have found work in childcare this year, some found work as cleaners.	\$15,000

Fitted for Work	Fitted for Work's Virtual Services	Fitted for Work's Virtual Services provides employment services to women experiencing disadvantage who are looking for work during the COVID-19 pandemic and social distancing restrictions. 40 women will have access to their virtual core services.	In July things still not back to pre covid. Had already had their virtual stuff set up by then. They had to pivot to offer the rest of their services online. Aimed to assist 40 women, project will finish in June and they have assisted 23 thus far. Services were introduced or adapted to help women prepare for attending virtual interviews. Outfitting service pivoted to online offering. Mailing out 5kg bags of interview clothes. Introduced video presentation appointments, practice using zoom etc. Had a few partnerships with linkedin, Challenges: helping women connect to services regardless of their digital literacy and while in lockdown. Lockdown disrupted people's ability to use things like public Wi-Fi or library computers.	\$15,000
Indigenous Law Students and Lawyers Association of Victoria Tarwirri	Indigenous Legal Pathways Program Round 2	The Indigenous Law Students and Lawyers Association of Victoria- Tarwirri is a membership body comprising Indigenous legal professionals and law students that supports and mentors and provides work experience indigenous students on their pathway to law.	Update pending.	\$15,000
Life Saving Victoria Limited	CALD Youth Aquatic Employment Program	The CALD Employment Program aims to remove barriers to participation and improve the overall physical, mental and social wellbeing of CALD communities by building local capacity through social inclusion and provision of employment pathways in culturally sensitive way.	Found people they wanted to develop in March. Training employment started in spring. Lost some traction in winter, not as many trainees as wanted, got 10, wanted 15. Back on track this year, on target, on track to surpass engagement number this year. Challenges: pools being closed last year. They also pivoted and turned their CPR into an online class.	\$15,000
Operation Newstart	Operation Newstart	The Operation Newstart program is a therapeutic, outdoor activity and life skills program for young people 14 -17 years of age who are deemed to be at educational and social risk, identified by school wellbeing staff and/or mental health agencies.	After resuming in the wake of covid restrictions, Operation Newstart has reengaged dozens of at-risk high-school students with their VCAL studies by taking them on outdoor adventures, teaching them life skills, emotional maturity, and social skills through a range of methods including boxing classes, surfing lessons, landscaping and practical skills workshops. 8 students completed their course.	\$14,000

Outer Urban Projects	Associate Artists Program – Creative Development Training	The Associate Artist Program identifies diverse artists and arts workers from our Community Access programs who are seeking to advance their creative and performing arts practice and career but lack opportunities in the mainstream and small to medium arts sector.	Have provided 120 contacts compounded and catching up last 3 months. Work with those communities to match them with artists to deliver works. Run workshops for singing, dancing, and writing. Provides linkages programs to help young artists step up their art. Social enterprise, gigging opportunities for young people. Creating new works for presentation, created a show called audition that showcases 2 artists who migrated to AUS. Had to redesign programs, performers lost work, they lost income. Challenging because a lot of arts organisations were struggling to survive. To emerging and established artists. Moving into digital realm. New dance work coming out. Helping artists trapped overseas. Music recording program to support musicians. Brought into sharp relief the vulnerability of the arts sector, the gig economy, sole traders. When everything stopped for lockdowns the whole ecology of the arts world stopped. Legal aid to help people define their working arrangement and then fight for their rights they have within that arrangement.	\$15,000
Preston Reservoir Adult Community Education	Careers and Employment Pathways Program	PRACE works with disadvantaged youth, adults facing barriers to employment, newly arrived migrants and asylum seekers. The Program targets those looking for further support with re-entering the workforce and/or further education and is designed to assist participants to determine a career action plan and the next steps towards their career goal.	Careers and employment program, for those coming in with low literacy and numeracy. Focused on building capacity. Working with people with limited digital capacity and resources. Put a cleaning course online, contacted a cleaning business the aim was to address a skills shortage. Department of Justice program ran well, took people with a range of offending behaviours and was able to have them all in the 'class' at once as it was online. Taking referrals from much more remote areas now. Tried to stick to job outcomes. Partnered with a PPE manufacturer to write a pre-employment program for manufacturing with hiring preferences for their company. 51 got job contracts after this course. Focusing on tailored skillsets.	\$15,000

The Social Studio	TSS Medical Scrubs Initiative	The TSS Medical Scrubs project commenced in March 2020 in response to the Covid-19 crisis, by manufacturing urgently required medical scrubs needed by all frontline healthcare workers, helping them to stay safe from the Covid-19 virus. The program responded to a major shortage of scrubs currently available.	The purpose of this project was to immediately manufacture urgently required medical scrubs needed by frontline healthcare workers, helping them to stay safe from the Covid-19 virus.	\$15,000
Westside Circus	Power Up!	Westside Circus works with referred at risk youth to help them achieve recognised qualifications. 'The Power Up!' program focuses on the personal development of participants, by developing qualities such as open-mindedness, self-esteem, tolerance, respect, responsibility, autonomy, perseverance and self-confidence.	Re engage young urban aboriginal people. Cultural exchange, student led. Get them coming back to school. A lot of online engagement for circus workshops. Students disengaged a lot more with their learning, mental health issues of students came to the fore. Expanded into Tic Toc, engaged some First nation's filmmakers, taught them how to make and edit toc toc videos. Came back and was able to do circus workshops in person towards as lockdowns eased. Trying to apply lessons learned in circus training to jobs they want i.e. teamwork, communication etc. guiding them through doing light and sound, events management and	\$15,000
Total				\$149,000

Young Changemakers Program Grants

The Young Changemakers Program was established by the Inner North Community Foundation (the Foundation) and the Community Bank Clifton Hill - North Fitzroy (Bendigo Bank) in 2015 based on similar initiatives run by other community foundations across the globe. Further support from the Ecstra Foundation was received in 2020 to expand the program, with a view to undertake the program through the lens of responding to C-19.

The program aims to provide leadership opportunities to young people to grow awareness of the role of financial literacy, learn about philanthropy and contribute to social issues that are important to them. This program runs over one semester, and aids VCAL teachers to support students to learn how to be philanthropists and grant makers.

Approximately 90 students will make grants totaling \$105,000 to 21 local charities. Participating schools include, Concord School, NCAT, Fitzroy High and Sydney Road Community School.

In 2020/21 The Foundation together with Inner Northern Local Learning Employment Network (INLLEN) have mapped out the Young Changemakers Program to the VCAL curriculum. Students will undertake research and analysis of the organisations supporting vulnerable communities whom have been impacted by Covid-19. The students of the Young Chanemakers Program will:

- Distribute a total of \$90,000 to 6 eligible organisations. A minimum grant of \$1,000 and maximum of \$13,000 will be distributed to each successful charitable organisation.
- Evaluate applications in accordance with these guidelines.
- Visit (where possible) successful applicant organisations and discuss the proposed projects for funding. (1 hour visit)
- Work in teams and decide how much each successful organisation will be awarded and present grant recommendations to the Foundation's board for approval.
- Celebrate with successful participating organisations in July/August.

The grant round is closing at the end of April 2021 with the following list of organisations have applied and will be assessed by students:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Refugee & Asylum Seeker Toy Drive | 18. St Mary's House of Welcome |
| 2. Carringbush Adult Education | 19. Free To Ltd |
| 3. Westside Circus | 20. Breakaway Youth |
| 4. Youthworx | 21. Bridge Darebin |
| 5. Life Saving Victoria | 22. CERES |
| 6. Lighthouse Foundation | 23. VACRO |
| 7. PRACE | 24. First Australians Media Enterprises |
| 8. Adventure Works Australia | 25. Society Melbourne |
| 9. Remember the Wild | 26. HoMie |
| 10. 3CR Community Radio | 27. Reservoir Neighbourhood House |
| 11. Hello Cass | 28. Darebin Creek Management Committee Inc. |
| 12. Minus18 Foundation | 29. The Big Umbrella |
| 13. Girls Rock! Melbourne | 30. Collingwood Children's Farm |
| 14. Reservoir Neighbourhood House | 31. Kongs Kings |
| 15. The Social Studio | 32. Merri Outreach Support Services |
| 16. Big Group Hug | 33. EQubed Inc. |
| 17. Friends of Merri Creek | |

The Foundation together with INLLEN YEH staff will organise site visits for students to visit participating organisations. They will have the opportunity to have a face to face Q&A and learn on site about the organisations impact and proposed projects for funding via this grant stream.

Staff from Foundation meet regularly with teachers supporting their teaching plans for the week/fortnight ahead, and there are meetings with all teachers across the 4 schools to connect together and share teaching resources and discuss the upcoming grant round and site visits.

QUOTES FROM STUDENTS

Concord School:

- “Mental health issues-become it is a big part of my life.” – Gurrenah
- “Animals not getting enough care.” – Ella
- “I’m worried about Lgbt+ people being abuse by homophobic people.” – Zoe
- “I care about older people” – Tino
- “Bullying in the workplace because it has happened to me and racist comments.” - Hayden

Northern College of the Arts and Technology:

- “Normal human right for all people no matter who they are no matter what they are.” & “Black lives matter is a very important movement that has to continue if we ever want equality.” - Henry
- “I just care about the people in my community because everyone deserves a place in a community.” – Jake
- “I’ve seen my, as well as some of my friends mental health decline since the pandemic, as well as in general. Mental health is something that is extremely important to me and to a lot of other people that some people decide to look away from. It can affect how a person acts, feels and what a person does, so its extremely important to help out anyone who is having mental health issues.” – Gianluca
- “Animals’ - Alice

Fitzroy High

- “Homelessness because everyone deserves the right to have a roof over their head and be able to live comfortably.” – Isabel
- “I strongly believe that there should be more done to better the chances of the disadvantaged youth.” & “environmental preservation” – Reuben
- “It’s quite hard for me to simply pick ...I would probably have to say young peoples (21 and under) mental health (and disorder) supports in basically every field eg. at school, at home etc. mainly be because it’s one thing that makes my day to day life incredibly difficult and makes me give up on a lot of opportunities I could have had if I had better supports especially at school and for getting simple things like work, a driver’s license and even getting proper grades, because handing in a completing work is so insanely difficult(and trust me it’s not just me not wanting to do it or because I’m lazy).” – Rowen
- “One of my biggest value is standing up for women’s rights. To me there is a very big amount of sexual harassment and rape in this world and it I have experienced it first hand, so I can really relate.” – Anouk
- “A community where everyone’s mental health is in check means a thriving community and a place of growth and progress.” - Michael

Sydney Road Community School

- “I care about LGBTQIA+ rights and equality because LGBTQIA+ people deserve to be treated equally and to have the same rights as CIS HET people do.” – Alex
- “Fairness, I believe everyone should get a fair go even if they may be lower in the social-economic.” – Bailey

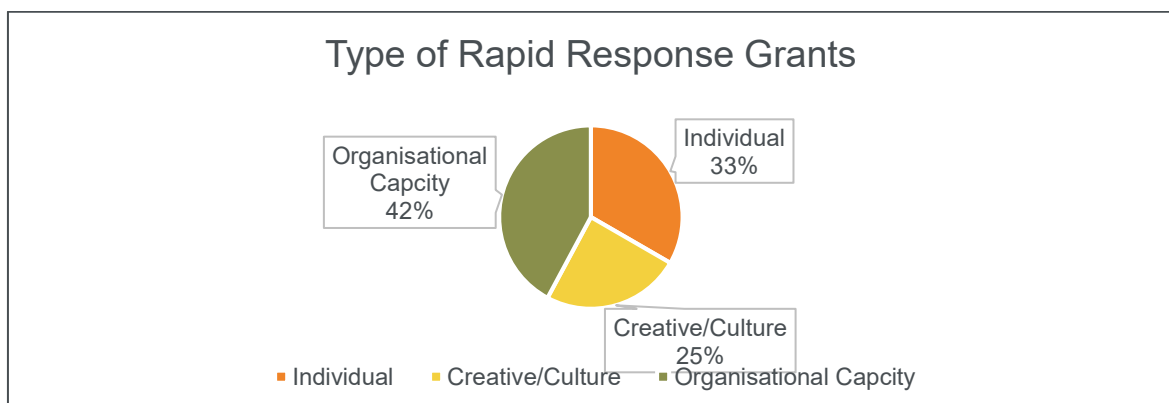
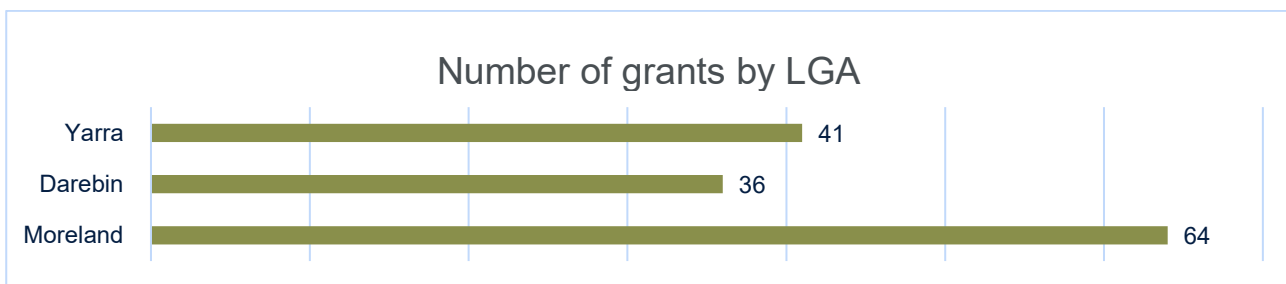
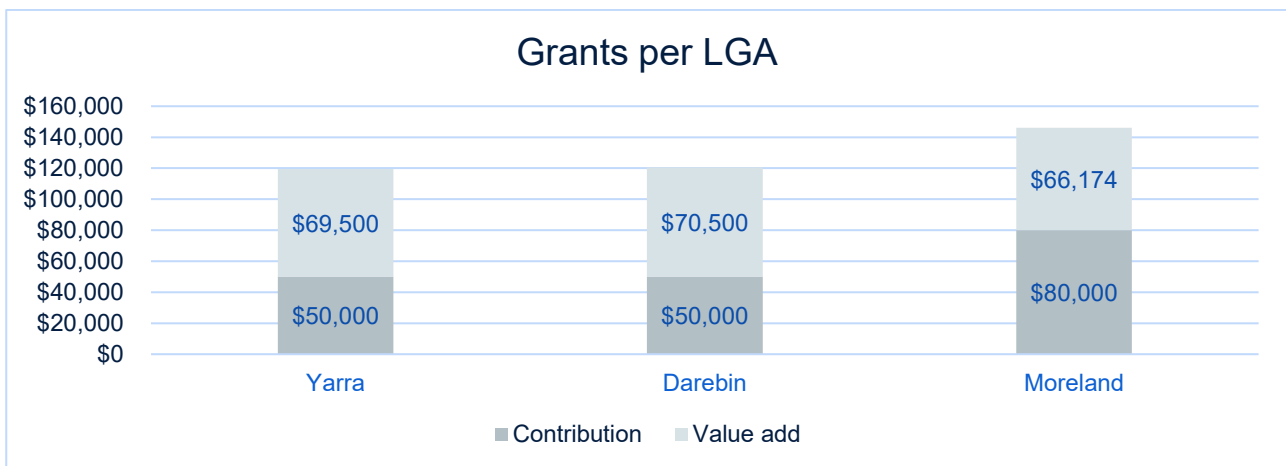
Appendix 1 - Funding coverage

Grants

Grant allocation across local government areas

Stream	Yarra	Darebin	Moreland	Total across
Rapid Response	\$43,500	\$45,000	\$64,500	\$153,000
Emergency Relief	\$16,000	\$17,500	\$29,750	\$63,250
Pathways to Employment	\$60,000	\$45,000	\$44,000	\$149,000
Other*	\$0	\$13,000	\$8,039	\$20,924
Young Changemakers				\$105,000
Total granted	\$119,500	\$120,500	\$146,174	\$491,174

*Additional support to The Bridge Darebin and Reservoir Neighbourhood House, as well as the Morefood 4 Moreland project with Fawkner Food Bowls, CISMoreland and The Community Grocer.





Appendix 2 - Rapid Response Grants

The Inner North Covid-19 Fund aims to support local community organisations and their work in the current pandemic period by responding flexibly and swiftly. The Rapid Response grant provides funding up to \$1,500 to community projects that:

- Deliver, practical, creative and innovative solutions to emerging challenges in the community
- Are charitable activities that provide whole-of-community benefit
- Are feasible and ready to begin quickly
- Strengthen the diverse communities of Melbourne's Inner North.

Allocated grants

Organisation	Project	Description	Location of Funded Projects	Impact Population (LGA)
Abbotsford Convent Foundation	ICT Support for Abbotsford Convent's Venue Hire Team	Funding laptop to support Venue Hire Team at Abbotsford Convent Foundation and remote working to focus on repair and regeneration of the community.	Yarra	Yarra
Alphington Community Centre	Alphington Community Centre Online Social Club - Adapting to Covid-19	Purchase of laptop to support community meeting ups and loans to socially isolated members to use.	Darebin	Darebin & Yarra
Australian African Community Development Inc.	North Richmond Curriculum Support & Homework Program	Experienced tutors and volunteers will deliver this program to support school aged children from African backgrounds. The purpose is to strengthen learning foundations, build confidence and self-esteem post home-schooling.	Yarra	Yarra

Barking Spider Visual Theatre	Postcards from the North (PftN)	Post cards sharing intimate stories of the community reflected during the pandemic to connect all. PftN is free-of-cost and wholly inclusive for the community: postcards communicate visually and through written-word.	Darebin	Darebin
Belgium Avenue Neighbourhood House Inc	Lifting Spirits - Keeping Connected phone film competition	Support for a Community-led short film competition. Engaging vulnerable youth in the project and teaching skills for same online.	Yarra	Yarra
Big Group Hug Ltd	Material aid bank for babies and toddlers	Big Group Hug (BGH) supplies donated material aid to babies and children in vulnerable families and support will address the increased need support required at this time.	Moreland	Moreland
Bridge Darebin	Strengthening our Community	Providing food relief and pantry items to members of our local community via purchase of dry food dispensers.	Darebin	Darebin
Brunswick Uniting Church Olive Way - 214 Sydney Road Brunswick	Olive Way Mobile Phone Project	Collecting unused mobiles and connecting them with sim cards to give to people experiencing homelessness.	Moreland	Moreland
Carringbush Adult Education	COVID-19 Parent Pack	Provide packs for families to support young children during isolation	Yarra	Yarra
Celebrating Abilities Inc	Online COVID-19 Zoom Mental Health Wellbeing	Health program for people living with disabilities to learn online, mental health wellbeing skills through exercise involvement and meditation.	Yarra	Yarra
Centre for Projection Art Inc	A Strange Space	This project involves large-scale works projected onto buildings in the Collingwood Yards precinct, while also being streamed online and via multiple platforms. Bringing the community together to collectively celebrate and experience art in a virtual space, creating a feeling of community connectedness during a time of social isolation and highlighting that we are still able to 'create' in these unusual times	Yarra	Yarra
CERES Joe's Market Garden	Deliveries from Joe's	Contributing to cargo electric bike to conduct community food deliveries.	Moreland	Moreland
Coburg Historical Society Inc.	Exhibition "Covid-19 Community Collecting in Coburg - 1918 vs 2020"	Coburg residents & volunteers help collect pandemic related material and curate an exhibition. Photos, brochures, stories and memories will show how the community adapted to the pandemic.	Moreland	Moreland

Co-Ground Limited	Brunswick Artist Market Re-Launch	Re-launch of Co-Ground's monthly Brunswick Artist Market	Moreland	Moreland
Collective Being Foundation	Wellbeing Care Kits	Digital and non-digital kits tailored for children who participate in weekly Kids Yoga Club session at Cubbies in Atherton Gardens. Kits are complimented by online program.	Yarra	Yarra
Collingwood Children's Farm	IT Hardware to Facilitate Supported Volunteer Program	Purchasing hardware to support Collingwood Children's Farm with migration to online volunteer management and communication tools	Yarra	All
Collingwood Toy Library	Keep Playing	Funding new toys and petrol costs for contactless delivery of toys and play resources to families.	Yarra	Yarra
Community Information Support Victoria (CISVic Coburg)	No Interest Loans Scheme (NILS)	Supporting the no interest loans scheme for vulnerable people. This program is enabled by the purchase of a laptop for staff to use while working from home.	Moreland	Moreland
Conscious Creative	HoMie Retail Ready Support	Providing young people experiencing homelessness or hardship with a laptop to continue the now online training program them with a laptop, HoMie will be able to continue to run its social impact programs in an effective, meaningful, way. Procuring a pool of laptops will also increase HoMie's capacity to help young people remotely in future editions of the program.	Yarra	Yarra
Creative Art Therapy Australia	Online Creative Art Therapy	Free one hour Art Therapy sessions provided by Qualified, Registered & Experienced Art Therapists to support the community mental health through Covid19.	Darebin	Darebin
Croxton Community Garden Incorporated	Croxton Community Garden	Enabling a volunteer community group of 40 members to start a community garden in a newly acquired location in Darebin with the purchase of materials.	Darebin	Darebin
Darebin Ethnic Communities' Council (DECC)	Building community resilience and fostering cultural vibrancy	Darebin Ethnic Committees Council (DECC) is a peak body representing migrant committees. The program will engage members of all age groups via Zoom to participate in online activities such as, sharing recipes and cooking, artistic activities and share diverse cultural music.	Darebin	Darebin
Darebin Information & Volunteer Resource Service	Response to COVID 19	To provide 5 staff printers/scanners to support emergency relief phone service to ensure they can still provide community service from home.	Darebin	Darebin
Environmental Film Festival Australia*	Reimagining Communities and Landscapes	Purchasing a virtual technology platform improving organisation capacity to deliver environmental film festival online.	Darebin	Darebin

Fawkner Food Bowls Inc.	Fawkner Commons	Coordinate the distribution of affordable veggie boxes, dry and bulk food online shopfront at affordable prices for vulnerable community. In addition to supporting these local initiatives and the Bowling Club, we expect to employ local drivers to deliver orders. Minimal overheads ensure cost-savings for Fawkner residents, many being low-income families and pensioners.	Moreland	Moreland
Finucane & Smith	The Shop of Hope	Supporting artists and equipment hire costs for online shop of hope performance	Yarra	All
First Australians media Enterprises Aboriginal Corporation Operating Account	Support Equipment during	To enable the staff at the community radio station to continue to produce quality content from home during the pandemic the Foundation funded the purchase of equipment to be used remotely at home.	Darebin	All
Fitzroy Legal Service	Darebin site: Women's Leadership Group	Operating Costs for Darebin site for the general work of the Fitzroy Legal Service Women's Leadership Group - Women Transforming Justice aims to reduce the number of high number of women in the Victorian criminal justice system by addressing links of gender and female criminalisation.	Darebin	Darebin
Fitzroy Legal Service*	The Agency Enhancing Legal Service Project	This project engages VALiD, a highly respected disability advocacy org to support Fitzroy Legal Service conduct 5 online focus groups. The aim of the focus groups is to design and trial a new legal service model to help people make their own decisions, participate in legal processes and have more choice and control in their lives. The program will be implemented in legal centres to increase the service accessibility to all people.	Yarra	Yarra & Darebin
Flag Inc	Corona Confessions	Administration costs of Corona Confessions, a collation of anonymous responses to the Corona virus lockdown experience. Online and physical Letterboxes will be placed in locations throughout Melbourne's inner north.	Yarra	Yarra
Footscape Inc.	Foot Care Kits	Footscape is assembling foot care kits to help identified disadvantaged persons access necessary resources, prioritise their foot health and promote daily self-care practices.	Moreland	Moreland
Free to Feed	Transition to Free to Feed virtual cooking classes	Keep refugee cooks employed and transition to online classes for 'pay as you feel' model.	Darebin	All
Friends of Merri Creek	Sewer Box Art by Merri Creek	Beautifying Merri Creek's concrete sewer 'boxes' with mosaics and paintings of local flora and fauna. The boxes are designed to be like a treasure hunt eg. "how many blue-banded bees can you find?".	Moreland	All

Friends of the Earth Melbourne	Nourishing local communities during COVID-19	The Friends of the Earth Food Coop and Cafe is providing food locally sourced, available ethical food and essential groceries online during the pandemic to vulnerable community members via click and collect.	Yarra	Yarra
From The Ground Up Inc	Sunflower September - Spread the Sunshine	Encouraging residents of Moreland to plant Sunflower Seeds by delivering a free packet to 300 households. They will be encouraged to share the other pack with their neighbours.	Moreland	Moreland
Gamelan DanAnda Australia Inc	Sekolah Rumah (Home School)	A remote music education program, incorporating instrument hire, video tutorials, individual lessons via Zoom.	Darebin	Darebin
Gellibrand Crescent Kindergarten -NDCKA	Procedure & Communication Enhancement for Staff and Families during COVID-19	Funding a sms program for families with updates. The purchase of a colour printer and ongoing costs such as ink and paper so they can support vulnerable kids who are not physically at the centre.	Darebin	Darebin
Good Karma Network	Volunteer community manager capacity building	Supporting new project to build the capacity of the volunteer managers of the online community Good Karma Networks by establishing and providing greater training and support.	Moreland	all
Growing Farmers Inc	Backyard Farmers Project	Matching aspiring farmers with older Fawkner landholders wishing to maintain productivity of their garden and access social connection.	Moreland	Moreland
Hello Cass*	Hello Cass - Translating Assistance	Creation of shareable translated content to support women and families at risk of family or sexual violence	Yarra	Yarra
Help Himalayan Youth Foundation Inc.	HHYF COVID Relief Food program for Refugees, Asylum Seekers & international students confined in home	HHYF partnered with Refugee Communities Association of Australia to support vulnerable Asylum Seekers, Refugees & international students holding temporary visa on weekly basis to provide food items.	Moreland	moreland
ICMG BRUNSWICK	Ecommerce Platform Establishment	Establishing an online platform for volunteers to continue to make art and crafts for sale.	Moreland	Moreland
ICMG Brunswick	ZOOM Seminars/Lectures/Cla ses	Purchase Zoom Membership and appropriate technology to run Lecture/Seminars and Fitness Sessions Online	Moreland	Moreland

Indochinese Elderly Refugees Association Victoria*	Seniors Community Participation during the pandemic	IERA support and connect Indochinese elderly groups, especially those who are vulnerable, self-isolating, lonely and located at Preston, North Richmond and Collingwood during the pandemic Covid 19. Beneficiaries will have support with medical appointments, food drop offs and regular check-ins. There is also the capacity to build on their IT skills to enable connection with family from a safe distance.	Yarra	Darebin & Yarra
Islamic Society of Victoria	COVID-19 Multicultural Awareness	This program supports Islamic community of multiple cultural backgrounds support during Covid, by providing ongoing practical safety precautions, such as posters, disinfectant and doctor q and a on social media.	Moreland	Moreland
J Studios Artists Community Inc	Keeping the community together online	Supply internet infrastructure to support organisations supporting vulnerable cohorts and artists impacted by pandemic.	Yarra	Yarra
Jesuit Social Services	Artful Dodgers Studios - Animated Distances	Animated Distances is a pilot animation project aiming to give 'at-risk' young people from diverse backgrounds a creative and direct means of expression and a medium to tell their stories.	Yarra	Yarra
Jesuit Social Services TA Jesuit Community College	Hub Meals for Moreland	Funding for chef to prepare meals from their food hub to provide to vulnerable communities	Moreland	Moreland
Jika Jika Community Centre*	Chalk Drawing Festival	Jika Jika Community Centre will support the community in a Chalk Drawing Festival, by distributing flyers, letterbox drop, providing chalk for the community to engage in creativity together. There will be a standalone website with uploaded photographs submitted.	Darebin	Darebin
Kevin Heinze Grow Peppertree Place	Powering up at Peppertree	Covid-19 has kept their loyal band of volunteers off-site during pandemic restrictions so their program will fund efficient ways of completing works at Peppertree's garden with power tools for the skeleton crew.	Moreland	Moreland
Kong's Kings	Kong's Livestream Series	Kong's Kings will host a series of livestreamed events to bring together the local LGBTIQA+ community. The events will be Auslan interpreted and feature a variety of local performance artists.	Moreland	All
Lighthouse Foundation	PPE for Lighthouse Mothers and Babies Home	Funding for PPE for young mothers whom are pregnant or have young children that access their services due to experiencing homelessness	Moreland	Moreland
LINK Community Transport Inc	Food Relief Transport	Providing a responsive transport solution for emergency food relief for the Moreland City Council.	Moreland	Moreland

Liquid Architecture Sound Inc.*	Polyphonic Social Community Workshop	Liquid Architecture will engage local artists to lead a series of workshops around the theme of collective listening and experimental learning accessible online and supporting local artists.	Yarra	Yarra
Loconomics	Loconomics (in association with Sophie deLightful Presents)	A roving circus created during lockdown that will be pulled around Reservoir offering socially distanced entertainment from local performers to residents. It will be in pre-determined locations with featuring acts like hula hooping, juggling, unicycle, whips and fire.	Darebin	Darebin
Melbourne Farmers Markets	MFM Community Connections	Funding the work of a volunteer coordinator to write grant applications, develop safe protocols and programs to suit the offers of volunteering support. Melbourne Farmers market engages local social enterprises in providing emergency relief programs.	Darebin	Darebin
MERRI OUTREACH SUPPORT SERVICES LTD (MOSS)	MAINTAINING BARKLY STREET FOODBANK - MERRI OUTREACH SUPPORT SERVICES (MOSS)	Support of volunteer coordination with laptop and tech equipment to manage food security program.	Moreland	Darebin & Moreland
Moreland BUG (Moreland Bicycle User Group)	Moreland BUG History Project	Moreland BUG (Moreland Bicycle User Group) is celebrating its 30th anniversary by recording and promoting the history of cycling activism, successful community campaigns and the various projects conducted by the Moreland BUG over the years. The anniversary activities will highlight the stories of people in our local community who have contributed to that community over the years with a view of promoting cycling benefits and accessibility for all people particularly during the pandemic.	Moreland	Moreland
Multicultural Women's Sewing Group	Multicultural Sewing Group goes online!	Transfer the group's activities online to connect and create flags for a multicultural project and scrubs for medical staff.	Moreland	Moreland
Muslim Women's Council of Victoria Inc.	Friday Lunches	Halal meals cooked and prepared by the volunteers from the Muslim Women's Council of Vic at Coburg Town Hall, distributed Fridays for anyone who needs nutritious food.	Moreland	Moreland
Mycelium Studios	Mycelium Live Stream	A streaming channel to present content including workshops and seminars covering topics such as creative enterprise during isolation, community resilience, health and wellbeing and urban food security.	Moreland	Moreland
Non Resident Nepalese Association (NRNA) Victoria Incorporated	COVID-19 relief support	NRNA COVID-19 Relief Support aimed to provide culturally sensitive food relief and other emergency assistance to 35 vulnerable individual and families from the Nepalese background impacted by COVID-19.	Moreland	Moreland

North Carlton Railway Neighbourhood House	Computer Room Refurbishment	Refurbish and repurpose our computer room to become a multipurpose, inclusive space that can be used post-COVID for a range of uses.	Yarra	Yarra
NorthWest Neighbourhood House Network	Fawkner Sew and Sell	The purchase of three new overlockers would give the house the ability to loan an overlocker to participants who do not possess a machine of their own for a duration of 10 weeks. The project aims to support Urdu speaking women in Fawkner make garments and soft furnishings to a standard that will enable them to sell their products on line.	Moreland	Moreland
Northern Darebin Combined Kindergarten Association	Early Education Distance Learning Packs for vulnerable children - Maryborough Avenue Kindergarten	Distance learning packs with essential items that support their Early Learning program from home	Darebin	Darebin
Nth East Neighbourhood House Network*	Improving Online Delivery of Neighbourhood House Programs and Activities	Professional development for teachers and program facilitators and purchase of equipment to improve the quality of online learning and social connection programs. The equipment will be available for use from Darebin & Yarra neighbourhood houses.	Darebin	Darebin
Office AU Limited	The Politics of Public Space: Volume 3	The Politics of Public Space is a quarterly publication containing edited transcripts of free public lectures and conversations held in contentious public spaces throughout Melbourne. The project invites local Melbourne speakers from a diverse range of fields such as design, public art, activism, architecture and landscape architecture to contribute to Vol 3 publication.	Yarra	Yarra
Open Table	Open Table Fresh Food Parcels	Food security program that uses surplus food to provide accessible and consistent boxes to vulnerable cohorts.	Moreland	Moreland
People Outdoors - Australian Camps Association	Response to COVID-19	Training new camp staff on personal care and personal protective equipment use with participants	Darebin	Darebin
Philanthropy Australia	Philanthropy Australia	The Jobs and Skills Funders Network (JaSFN) brings together parties that make grants to organisations that remove the barriers people face in their journey to work. Philanthropy Australia will support the coordination of the program.	Moreland	All
Pottery Collective Inc	Adapting to Pandemic Restrictions with Remote Ceramic firing Services for Moreland ceramic artists	To enable local artists to keep creating by continuing to fire their ceramic artworks, by offering a pick-up, firing & drop-off service for Moreland members free of charge during the pandemic.	Moreland	Moreland

Preston Reservoir Adult Community Education	Internet Rescue	Tech resourcing for students	Darebin	Darebin
Project Respect	Enhancing Data Collection	Updating IT systems to align with best practice family violence data collection	Yarra	All
Refugee & Asylum Seeker Toy Drive	Covid-19 Response	Funding for delivery costs to distribute 16,000 n95 masks to emergency relief providers and local charities.	Darebin	Darebin
Reservoir Neighbourhood House	COVID Food Relief Equipment	Purchased Freezer to store frozen meals for distribution to vulnerable community impacted by COVID.	Darebin	Darebin
Reynard Street Neighbourhood House	RSNH Covid19 Food Relief Project	Maintain and increase our food relief activities to serve vulnerable local community members during COVID-19 outbreak and increased restrictions.	Moreland	Moreland
Riding for the disabled	Horse care	Supports ongoing food costs for horses until the end of year while there is a loss of income due to restrictions. Usual income derived from disability services and university vet science classes.	Darebin	Darebin
Rotary Club of Pascoe Vale	Establishment of a new Rotary Club	Establishment of a new Rotary Club in Pascoe Vale to address local community needs.	Moreland	Moreland
Schizy Incorporated	We're Still Here	The Purchase of technology to keep members of Schizy Inc connected during the pandemic.	Moreland	Moreland
School Volunteering Program trading as EdConnect Australia	A Focus on Child Mental Health & Wellbeing due to COVID-19	Partnering with RDP enterprise solutions to provide webinars for volunteers that focus on child mental health and wellbeing due to COVID-19.	Moreland	All
Shirley Robertson Children's Centre Inc.	Supporting our Service to Service our Community	To provide Shirley Robertson Children's Centre (childcare and kindergarten) with computer hardware to expand their capacity and improve the delivery of their service to the local community in Moreland	Moreland	Moreland
SmartMeals*	SmartMeals	SmartMeals is helping vulnerable people, at risk or experiencing homelessness with meals. Using Ladro Collingwood, also impacted by the pandemic. Meal vouchers are provided for St Mary's House of Welcome to distribute to people experiencing homelessness. The grant will fund 150 meals.	Yarra	Yarra

Society Melbourne Ltd	Work Readiness Workshops	Work Readiness Workshops are to be run in collaboration with Launch Housing. Engaging with young people supported by Launch Housing, the workshops aim to provide practical support to young jobseekers.	Moreland	Moreland
St Bernard's Out of School Hours Care Incorporated	Replace broken ducted heating	Engage a registered plumber to install a new Ducted Heating System in their Childcare in preparation for the children's return to face to face learning on Tuesday 26th May 2020.	Moreland	Moreland
St Mary's House of Welcome	Welcome Relief	Funding to support 500 meals and adapt to increased costs of their services during pandemic. Each day, we are providing over 100 substantial take-away meal packs to rough sleepers and other highly vulnerable, disadvantaged people who visit our service. We're providing showers, fresh underwear, hygiene packs, hampers and resources, as well as outreach support to clients via telephone where possible.	Yarra	Yarra
Sussex Neighbourhood House	Pascoe Vale Food Collective	Purchasing Storage Containers to store bulk bought food. Members can access the food by bringing their own containers with a view of keeping cost down and reducing single use plastic.	Moreland	Moreland
Sustain: The Australian Food Network	Melbourne Food Hub Food Justice Drive	Provide volunteer coordinator capacity for growth and management of food security project	Darebin	Darebin
The Alevi Community Council of Australia (ACCA)	COVID-19 Social Welfare Support Project	Equipment costs to keep Turkish community together (remotely) during pandemic.	Moreland	Moreland
The Boite (Vic) Inc	ThisConnected	Series of online hangouts for musicians to brainstorm and share ideas and solutions to challenges faced by artists during pandemic	Yarra	All
The Social Studio	The Social Studio Covid-19 Medical Supplies Initiative (Part One)	Manufacture urgently required medical scrubs needed by all frontline healthcare workers, helping them to stay safe from the Covid-19 virus.	Yarra	Yarra
The Wellington Collingwood Inc.	Welling - Access	Providing data and internet support to families accessing the community services provided by The Wellington Collingwood Inc.	Yarra	Yarra
Thornbury Kindergarten	Connection to Community	Tech for programs to connect with children in isolation	Darebin	Darebin

Two Birds One Score*	TBOS Frozen Meal Channel	Two Birds One Score collects unsold food from Second Bite to distribute to local churches and community centres.	Darebin	Darebin
Unihill Church (Hope centre)	La Trobe University - emergency food relief	Providing free food for students at La Trobe University Oct-Dec 2020.	Darebin	Darebin
Uniting Victoria and Tasmania Limited	Building Community Resilience	Supplying data to identify 12 of the most vulnerable people/families who they currently work with and provide them with an additional 50GB per month for a period of 3months to access learning, health and connection during the pandemic.	Moreland	Moreland
Victorian Aboriginal Health Service	Young Gungs Sports Club - State-wide sports carnival participation	Victorian Aboriginal Community organisations hosts a state-wide basketball carnival in March 2021. The program engages men aged 16-30 years. The older males will mentor younger males with leadership skills. Some beneficiaries are living in out of home care and will greatly benefit from culturally sensitive mentoring and training which leads to the carnival next year. This program has been successful with football and netball and is now being transferred to basketball.	Darebin	Darebin
Weenthunga Health Network Inc.*	Nyarrn-gakgo mangkie – First Nations Student Support	The program supports various young women in Darebin. The program is about cultural connection, mentorship with a view to support indigenous young women in yrs 10-12 with school engagement if needed but principally around mental health support required as a result of covid-19.	Yarra	Darebin
Westgarth Kindergarten	Keeping our kinder community connected	To provide laptops to families without access to a device. To enable all children in our community access to remote programs initiated to maintain connection and community.	Darebin	Darebin
Westside Circus Inc.	Big Sky Circus	Big Sky Circus Pilot Project is the creation of the world's first online interactive 3D circus studio, an exciting new way for community members to connect, create and grow during the pandemic. The online studio is the platform created to engage young VCAL students in their learning.	Darebin	Darebin
Wholefoods Unwrapped Collective	Times They are a (Covid) Changin'	Capacity to supply foods locally and ethically in bulk to vulnerable people.	Moreland	Moreland
WISHIN - Women's Information, Support and Housing in the North	Material Aid for Emergency Support for Women	Material Aid to women impacted by domestic violence during Covid.	Moreland	Moreland
Yarra Riverkeeper Association	Connecting the Community through the comfort of Nature	This is a volunteer-led project, aiming to create a podcast series to connect and engage the community to foster social connections and a shared sense of environmental responsibility for the Yarra.	Yarra	Yarra

*funded in partnership with Community Bank Clifton Hill - North Fitzroy (Bendigo Bank)



Appendix 3 - Emergency Relief Vouchers

The Covid-19 Emergency Relief Vouchers Grant program provided vouchers to bolster existing emergency relief activity provided by charities in the Inner North. Funding ranged from \$500 to \$6,000 per charity, depending on the funding source, type of intervention and capacity of local groups to deliver meaningful support.

The purpose of the vouchers is to address the increase of support required in response to Covid-19. The vouchers are purchased at local participating traders and social enterprises in the inner north and given to eligible charities to help their response to people in need.

Emergency Relief Vouchers	Trader	Amount	Location of Project
Aborigines Advancement League Inc.	Biviano & Sons	\$ 7,000	Darebin
Belgium Avenue Neighbourhood House	Toscanos (Richmond), The Vegetable Connection	\$ 2,000	Yarra
Bridge Darebin	Psarkos, Terra Madre	\$ 1,000	Darebin
Brunswick Neighbourhood House	La Manna Fresh	\$ 1,000	Moreland
Community Information Support Victoria (CISVic Coburg)	La Manna Fresh and 2,500 Operational costs	\$ 5,750	Moreland
Cultivating Community	The Vegetable Connection	\$ 1,000	Yarra
Didi Bahini Samaj Victoria	Touch of Asia Pacific	\$ 2,000	Moreland
Encompass Care	Psarakos	\$ 5,000	Darebin
EQubed	Psarakos	\$ 1,000	Darebin
Fawkner Food Bowls	Andre's of Melbourne	\$ 2,000	Moreland
Islamic Society of Victoria	Al Fajr Halal Meats	\$ 1,000	Darebin
Jesuit Social Services	NSM Foods	\$ 2,000	Moreland
Merri Outreach Support Services (MOSS)	Terra Madre	\$ 1,000	Moreland
Muslim Women's Council of Victoria	NSM Foods and Coburg Market Halal Meat & Poultry	\$ 2,000	Moreland
National Zakat Foundation	National Zakat Foundation	\$ 2,000	Moreland
Open Table Inc	The Vegetable Connection & Operational Costs	\$ 6,000	Yarra
Our Daily Bread c/o Coburg Greek Church	Coburg Traders Vouchers	\$ 1,500	Moreland
Reservoir Neighbourhood House	Reservoir Traders Association	\$ 1,940	Darebin
Richmond Churches Food Centre Incorporated	Richmond IGA Express, Fredericks Richmond Hagen's Organic Butchers	\$ 5,000	Yarra
RISE Refugee Survivors and eX Detainees	Reservoir Traders Association	\$ 500	Darebin
Saint Bartholomew's Anglican Church Burnley	Hagen's Organic Butchers	\$ 2,000	Yarra
Salvation Army Tinning Street	Basfoods	\$ 2,000	Moreland
St Vincent's De Paul Society Inc (Brunswick Conference)	Brunswick IGA	\$ 2,000	Moreland
St Vincent's De Paul Society Inc (Fawkner Conference)	Fawkner IGA	\$ 2,000	Moreland
St Vincent's De Paul Society Inc (Pascoe Vale Conference)	Piedimontes Pascoe Vale	\$ 2,000	Moreland
The Foundling Archive	Gervasi Supermarkets	\$ 500	Moreland

The Wellington	Ladro	\$ 2,000	Yarra
Uniting Victoria and Tasmania Limited	Gangemi Fruit and Vegetables	\$ 2,000	Moreland
Youth Projects Inc	Reservoir Traders Association	\$ 60	Darebin