



EMPOWERING CHANGE



Equity Trustees

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OVERVIEW

The Empowering Change program exists because of generous and visionary philanthropists.

Annually, the program distributes approximately \$14.5 Million to the for-purpose sector from approx. 200 Trusts.

The program has five granting pillars:

- Ageing Well
- Animals & Environment
- Children & Young People
- Equity & Empowerment
- Medical Research & Health.

VISION

A future where effective philanthropy supports a prosperous, equitable and sustainable world for all.

MISSION

Our commitment to trust-based philanthropy aims to create meaningful impact.

We achieve this by collaborating with and listening to those around us. We work closely with the for-purpose sector; we understand that they're the experts and we are led by them.





CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE



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VISION

We envision a more equitable future, where every child and young person is valued, supported, and has every opportunity to thrive.

A future where children and young people are listened to, their communities are empowered to help them thrive, and their future is not determined by their geographic location or intergenerational disadvantage.

MISSION

We will identify and support initiatives that enhance the opportunities for children through:

- Supporting community-led and place-based initiatives that reduce education inequity for children and young people
- Working towards improving the outcomes for children in (or at risk of entering) out-of-home care
- Seeking to ensure that children with disability have choices and opportunities equal to that of their peers.

APPROACHES

Collaboration

Galvanising the broader sector to bring collaborative thinking, funding, learnings, and collective impact into programs.

Place Based

Delivering local, evidence informed solutions to inequality and disadvantage.

Holistic and Integrated education models

Engage children, families, and the community to reduce education inequality.

Empowering social innovation

Provide opportunities for organisations to test ideas and build the evidence for new ways of working.

Diversity and Inclusion

At all levels of decision making.

Systems Change

To address the structural causes of disadvantage and education inequity.



OUR INTENDED IMPACTED

(1) A place to call home

(2) A place for education

(3) A place in the community

Where possible we will prioritise:

- First Nations children and their families
- Those impacted by intergenerational disadvantage
- Programs informed by lived experience.

Sustainable Development Goals





1. A place to call home

Program Goal

- We invest in people, practices and organisations that create a better life for children and young people in care or who are at risk of entering care.
 - We will continue to support the sector to build evidence informed practice, strengthen the capacity of organisations responding to the needs of children and young people, to ensure the wellbeing of vulnerable children is at the centre of problem identification and solving.
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Priority Outcomes

- Innovative programs and models of transitional care aimed at improving connections and relationships for children in or at risk of entering out-of-home care
 - Improved cross sector partnerships
 - Addressing the structural causes of disadvantage by reshaping the service system and influencing changes in policies and practices
 - Ensuring First Nations children have access to culturally safe and supportive services that they need
 - Supporting improved wellbeing and safety of children at risk of entering the out-of-home care system
 - Empowering children and young people to build self-confidence, self-esteem, and skills that enable them to have a voice and be heard
 - Improving the outcomes of children entering (or at risk of entering) out of home care
 - Supporting young people to transition successfully into independent living.
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We will prioritise

- Culturally safe First Nations programs
 - Lived Experience informed initiatives.
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Funding



Providing wrap around support and compassionate care to vulnerable youth, adults, and their families in South East Melbourne.



The Centre advocates for the rights of children and young people to be heard, to be safe, access education and to remain connected to family, community and culture.



Brave Foundation is the only national Australian charity that, through formal mentoring and goal setting, equips expecting and parenting teens with resources, referral and education opportunities to facilitate happy, healthy and skilled families over time.



2. A place for education

Program Goal

- To improve the wellbeing and educational outcomes of children and young people, especially those experiencing vulnerability or disadvantage
- Connected and responsive approaches to the education system, with a focus on place-based programs and holistic and integrated models that empower communities and the children in it
- Support co-designed initiatives with the potential to bring about systems change.

Priority Outcomes

- Break down barriers to quality education and improving engagement with, and enjoyment of, learning
- Empower children to achieve their full potential through holistic and integrated models and place-based education programs
- Support the acquisition of foundation skills in literacy and numeracy in the early years
- Address the structural causes of disadvantage by reshaping the service system and influencing changes in policies and practices.

We will prioritise

- Place based programs
 - Lived experience informed initiatives
 - Evidence based Community led programs.
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Funding



The Our Place model is a place-based approach with the primary goal of improving educational outcomes in disadvantaged communities. It supports children and families in their educational achievement by connecting them with early learning and schooling along with government and community services that enable this achievement beyond the classroom.



Established in response to community concern about childhood outcomes and disadvantage, Lighthouse uses collective impact and place-based approaches to assist young people in Greater Shepparton realise their full potential and thrive.



A place based not for profit, supporting local communities to break the cycle of socio-economic disadvantage on the Mornington Peninsula. MPF facilitates collaboration, innovation, and funding in support of locally driven initiatives that are sustainable through systems change.



3. A place in the community

Program Goal	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Create a more inclusive society for children with disability by investing in initiatives that aim to effectively address systemic social exclusion.
Priority Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Solutions that are informed by the experience of children and their families• A service system that is better placed to support children with complex and additional needs• Barriers to inclusion, are removed, to reduce disparity in outcomes for people with disability.
We will prioritise	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lived experience informed programs.

Funding



The Lab is a growing network of not-for-profit technology clubs for autistic children and young people who enjoy working and playing with computers. The experience for participants at The Lab is designed to be engaging, educational, and supportive. By providing a safe and welcoming space and technology-based activities.



Childhood Dementia Initiative's purpose is to transform research, care and quality of life for children with dementia so they may live long and fulfilling lives.



Association for Children with Disability provides information, support and advocacy to families of children with disability in Victoria.

CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE



CURRENT

One in five children start school behind their peers.

Children in (or at risk of entering) out-of-home care, are highly vulnerable and the number of children entering care is increasing.

Children with disability face structural barriers that prevent their participation in social and economic life resulting in negative outcomes.

STRATEGIC RESPONSE

Investing in place based, holistic and integrated models that empower children and community to create responsive education systems.

Strengthen the capacity of organisations to build evidence informed practice and embed the voices of children at the core of their programs.

Invest in initiatives that effectively address systemic social exclusion and are informed by the lived experience of children & their families.

FUTURE

All children have access to quality education regardless of geography or socio-economic status.

Children and young people access services and opportunities when needed and have the chance to thrive.

Children with disability have choices and opportunities equal to that of their peers.

IMPACT

Improved educational and wellbeing outcomes for all children.

Less children enter the out-of-home care system, and those that do, transition successfully through the experience.

Children with disability are fully included in social and economic life and thrive in the same way their peers do.

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