



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.





AGEING WELL



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VISION

We envision a future where everyone can live and die with dignity, be heard and thrive.

MISSION

Significantly improve the experience of ageing and of dying, particularly for vulnerable older Australians. A community that is better for older adults is better for people of all ages.

APPROACHES

Building capacity

Supporting, partnering, and empowering people, programs and research.

Amplifying narratives

Helping find, share and elevate the stories that move people to think differently and act.

Cultivating alliances

Convening partners, coalitions, networks and movements towards collaboration.

Empowering social innovation

Supporting organisations or initiatives that are taking informed and measured risks to innovate, experiment and engage in finding solutions to 'age-related' issues.

Mobilising philanthropic support and action

Mobilising the social, intellectual and financial capital required to catalyse change and improve the experience of ageing.
Since 2015, The Wicking Trust has invested over \$12million into improving the lives of older Australians.



OUR INTENDED IMPACT

(1)

Tackling Ageism

(2)

Building Connected & Compassionate Communities

(3)

Optimising Health – Alzheimer's Research

Where possible we will prioritise initiatives that support:

- Women over 65
- First Nations Elders
- Regional and remote communities
- Living and dying in the place called home.

Sustainable Development Goals





1. Tackling ageism

Program Goal	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A society where every person is valued, connected, and respected regardless of age and health• By changing how people think, feel and act towards age and ageing.
Priority Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Investing in evidence-based strategies to prevent and tackle ageism• Improving data and research to gain a better understanding of ageism and how to reduce it• Building a movement to change the narrative around age and ageing.
We will prioritise	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Policies and laws• Educational interventions• Intergenerational interventions.

Funding



A National coalition and grassroots campaign, spearheaded by **The Benevolent Society**, aimed at tackling ageism against older Australians (EveryAge Counts Campaign).



2. Building connected and compassionate communities

Program Goal	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Older Australians are less lonely and socially isolated• Older Australians live and die well in the place they call home• Older Australians are more likely to receive end of life care according to their wishes.
Priority Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Implement and scale up effective interventions to reduce social isolation and loneliness• Increase capability and capacity around death, dying and bereavement• Improve research and strengthen the evidence for what works.
We will prioritise	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evidence based community awareness and action campaigns and initiatives• Coalitions driving cross-sectoral collaboration and change• Innovative models/initiatives seeking to shift broken systems.

Funding



Ending Loneliness Together – A national network of organisations who have come together to address the growing problem of loneliness in older Australians.



Documentary Australia Foundation – Impact Campaign for the documentary film – Under Cover. UNDER COVER shines a light on the devastating reality that women over 50 are the fastest growing cohort experiencing homelessness in the country.



Knit One Give One (KOGO) enhances social inclusion through volunteering and providing hand knitted items of warmth and comfort to the most vulnerable and disadvantaged in our community.



Alfred Health – Systematic review of deaths in hospital following transfer from residential aged care, led by Dr Bridget Laging.



Social Ventures Australia – The Older Women's Housing Fund. Develop a financial model that will seek to unlock Government funding and deliver new, affordable and appropriate housing supply for older women, at risk of homelessness, into the market.



Umbrella Dementia Café – Empowering people living with dementia and their family care-givers to stay socially connected to their community.



CHAOS – scaling a proven and localised model of social prescribing - Living Our Best life project, to cover the local government areas of Maroondah, Manningham, Whitehorse and Yarra Ranges.



La Trobe University & the Death Literacy Industry – establish a consistent and reliable single measure for reporting on the changes of death literacy over time across Australia.



La Trobe University HELP – Building compassionate communities, designed to create a collaborative culture that attends to needs at the end of life.



The Violet Initiative – Providing support through the last stage of life, and the grief that accompanies it.



TACSI – Building an impact network for systemic change in end of life.



HAAG – Ageing on the edge – older persons homelessness project.



Wintringham – A specialised welfare company that provides housing and care to elderly, frail men and women who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.



3. Optimising health

Program Goal	<ul style="list-style-type: none">To promote health and independence for ageing Australians.
Priority Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Research projects investigating potential treatments and/or cure for Alzheimer's.
We will prioritise	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Existing granting commitments.

Funding



My Dementia Companion & Caladenia Dementia Care – developing and trialling dementia practice guidelines to accompany the My Dementia Companion.



The Wicking Dementia Centre – Improving dementia literacy through online global education and interdisciplinary research.



NARI-MARC – Building a unique collaboration of health, research, aged care, and advocacy organisations working together to improve the lives of older people through rapid translation of research into policy and practice. Key themes include dementia, end of life, falls and mental health.



Australian Dementia Network (ADNeT) – Bringing together Australia's leading researchers, clinicians, and consumers to create a powerful network for dementia prevention, treatment and care.

AGEING WELL



CURRENT	STRATEGIC RESPONSE	FUTURE	IMPACT
Ageist attitudes lead to poorer physical and mental health as well as reduced quality of life for older Australians	Evidence informed strategies to prevent and tackle ageism. Improving data and research to better understand ageism.	A society where every person is valued, connected, and respected regardless of age and health.	Strong & sustainable organisations dedicated to adding years to life.
One in four Australian adults experience loneliness. It is a growing problem, and older Australians are more at risk of feeling isolated than others.	Raise awareness and reduce loneliness and social isolation through evidence informed and community led intervention and action.	Older Australians feel a sense of connection and belonging.	
Lack of access to quality end-of-life care, cultural taboos, and limited discussions around death and dying hinder individuals from experiencing good death.	Invest in communities in delivering sustainable and affordable care and back networks that provide practical and social support to older people.	Everyone has the opportunity for a dignified and meaningful end of life.	
Alzheimer's disease is the most common form of dementia in Australia and the leading cause of death for women.	Research projects investigating potential treatments and/or cure for Alzheimer's.	People living with Alzheimer's have access to evidence-based interventions to improve quality of life.	

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