



## Canberra Foundations Collaborative



## ANNOUNCING \$1 MILLION IN GRANTS FOR LOCAL CHARITIES

### *Canberra foundations - building a collaborative community*

Three Canberra based foundations have joined forces to announce new grants for local charities designed to boost health outcomes for socially disadvantaged and marginalised communities across the territory.

The Canberra Foundations Collaborative Joint Grant Round was opened today by local community and family foundations: Hands Across Canberra (which administers the Chief Minister's Charitable Fund), The Snow Foundation, and the John James Foundation.

The three foundations have joined forces, each contributing up to \$350,000, to deliver a single collaborative grant round and distribute over \$1,000,000 to local non-profit organisations, in the largest funding collaborative ever seen in Canberra.

Charities in Canberra and the nearby region are encouraged to apply for projects that improve health outcomes, engage socially disadvantaged or marginalised community members and address systemic disadvantages. As a way of reaching as many organisations as possible, the grants will generally be in the \$1,000 - \$25,000 range. A limited number of larger grants including multi-year options will be available for eligible projects.

Diane Kargas Bray AM, Chair of Hands Across Canberra and the Chief Minister's Charitable Fund ACT, said foundations play an essential role in the community sector supporting Canberrans in need, the timing made even more critical due to the impact of COVID-19. At the same time, the team continues to investigate local community's issues, focused on seeking solutions to disadvantage and understanding why disadvantage exists in our city.

"After a decade of funding efforts, we have come to learn that the most successful outcomes of community improvement are those that involve multiple parties working together for common goals," Diane Kargas Bray AM said.

"We cannot address immediate disasters nor address long-term systems change without working together - finding creative ways to combine resources and build true partnerships with peer foundations, government, business, donors, and community organisations."

Georgina Byron, CEO of The Snow Foundation added, "the Canberra region is at the heart of our family foundation, we support a variety of local organisations across a range of different causes with deep interest in preventing youth homelessness and domestic and family violence. The community sector appreciated the reduced administration required with a coordinated and collective grant round

offered in 2020, in response to Covid, so it makes sense to continue this way. Collaboration helps strengthen communities and we want to be part of that.”

Joe Roff, CEO of the John James Foundation (a leading medical charity strengthening health outcomes in the Canberra community) said, “collaboration is the key to enabling real and lasting impact through our grants.”

“We are not seeking to protect our own patch or our own favourite causes. Rather, in partnering with other philanthropic foundations we are sitting down together with a shared understanding that the greatest need in our community will be at the centre of our grant making decisions.”

Philippa Moss is CEO of Meridian, a not-for-profit organisation that is a peer-led and community-controlled. Meridian take action to improve the health and wellbeing of people impacted by HIV and LGBTIQ+ people and create safe and inclusive communities. Meridian has been a grant recipient of all three organisations in the past.

“We welcome the cooperative efforts of funding bodies and their commitment to collaboration,” Philippa Moss said.

“Many organisations have few resources to submit grant applications let alone keep on top of the different grant rounds, so any effort to reduce that burden means more resources for frontline service delivery.”

ENDS

**Grant applications, criteria and guidelines can be found at**

[www.handsacrosscanberra.org.au](http://www.handsacrosscanberra.org.au)

[www.snowfoundation.org.au](http://www.snowfoundation.org.au)

[www.jjf.org.au](http://www.jjf.org.au)

Expressions of Interest are open now and close 11:59 pm on **17 March**.

### **About the Canberra Foundations Collective**

*Hands Across Canberra* is an independent philanthropic community foundation, working with more than 300 local community organisations. Funds for this grant round are being provided by *the Chief Minister's Charitable Fund* which is delivered in partnership with Hands Across Canberra. The foundation is currently running the Canberra Day Appeal, all donations to Hands Across Canberra will go to support organisations through grants. To donate to the appeal visit [canberraday.org.au](http://canberraday.org.au) and for more information about Hands Across Canberra visit [www.handsacrosscanberra.org.au](http://www.handsacrosscanberra.org.au)

*The Snow Foundation* is a family foundation that focuses on supporting the Canberra community and the surrounding region and beyond. For more information visit [www.snowfoundation.org.au](http://www.snowfoundation.org.au).

*John James Foundation* is an independent broad-based healthcare charity providing a range of programs and assistance to the people of Canberra and beyond. Keep up to date on their activities on [www.jjf.org.au](http://www.jjf.org.au)

### **Media contacts:**

Peter Gordon, CEO HAC – 0417 064 767

Chris Wagner, The Snow Foundation - 0434 378 939

Joe Roff, CEO John James Foundation – 0488 389 462