



22 April 2020

Media Release

Canberra community foundations grant more than \$570,000 to 63 projects in support of local community organisations dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic:

Three of Canberra's charitable foundations joined together to provide a rapid response grant round of \$500,000 to assist local organisations helping vulnerable people during the COVID-19 crisis.

At a time when our community is most in need, the Chief Minister's Charitable Fund in partnership with Hands Across Canberra, The Snow Foundation, and John James Foundation announced today more than \$570,000 in grant funds has been awarded to 63 projects, which is well beyond the initial planned commitment, yet more support is still needed. These foundations are working together as part of a joint initiative to support local organisations adapting their service delivery to vulnerable people in Canberra and the surrounding region during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Ms Diane Kargas Bray AM, Chair of Hands Across Canberra and the Chief Minister's Charitable Fund ACT, said "We received over 100 applications for assistance, we know the community sector is facing many challenges due to COVID-19 and local organisations are grappling with a surge of demand, particularly in areas of mental health and emergency relief, at the same time as all fundraising activities have ceased, which is why we wanted to make this process easy, reducing administrative demand on the organisations seeking financial assistance."

"Our COVID-19 Rapid Response Grants will support vital community services for Canberrans whose existing vulnerabilities have been exacerbated by the unfolding pandemic. The ability to rapidly provide flexible resources to community organisations who are working on the frontlines during this health crisis is crucial," Ms Kargas Bray said.

Georgina Byron, CEO of The Snow Foundation, said that this grant round has been a great example of the power of collaboration. By working together with other foundations, it has been possible to provide support in the most efficient and most effective way.

"The three foundations streamlined their funding process to ensure that money available flows to non-profit organisations swiftly and efficiently," Georgina Byron said. "We recognise that each day brings new hardships, and this grant round intends to lift up the incredible efforts of organisations that are changing their operations to respond to unprecedented levels of needs."

"Organisations such as Beryl Women, Raw Potential and PCYC are on the frontline, providing critical assistance to those who have been upended by the pandemic in areas of domestic violence, mental health, and unemployment. I am pleased that we can respond quickly to the needs of the community and get resources where they are needed most," Ms Byron said.

Cheryl O'Donnell, CEO of PCYC, said these grants are very timely and allow organisations to continue their service delivery immediately. This is particularly important as government stimulus packages will take time to take effect and not everyone will benefit.

Ms O'Donnell said "We have started to move our programs online. However, many young people don't have a laptop at home or can't afford internet so we need to make sure everyone can



remain connected. It is paramount that we keep the services running as much as possible, as many people in our community depend on them and disruptions would be detrimental in the long-term.”

Joe Roff, CEO of John James Foundation, said the situation is being closely monitored. "The stories of our local organisations rising to meet the needs of the most vulnerable in Canberra and the nearby region under such stressful conditions and with little resources are inspiring," Mr. Roff said. "We hope this funding provides much needed relief."

The COVID-19 Rapid Response Grant Round, was created to get resources quickly to community organisations serving Canberra and the nearby region, particularly vulnerable individuals who are most disproportionately impacted by COVID-19. The foundations regularly consult with the community sector. Local community organisations are facing increased demand, reduced revenues and a very different work landscape, these initial grants focus on organisations providing frontline services to the most vulnerable in our community.

The grants announced today support a range of beneficiaries including people experiencing mental health issues, domestic violence, elderly people, at-risk children and youth, people with disabilities, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, the homeless, and those who are otherwise economically disadvantaged. Projects include support for transitioning services online, acquiring technology and mobile outreach services. Other organisations are increasing relief services, housing support, virtual youth engagement, training, and care packages. All awarded projects will take place in the next 3-6 months.

The full list of grants awarded is attached. There is still a gap in funding. Not every organisation that applied received funding and some organisations still need further support so if there are other individuals, foundations or corporates who may wish to be a part of this and extend their support, please let us know.

Vulnerable individuals and families in need of food and essential items can contact the Canberra Relief Network on 1800 43 11 33 or their nearest community organisation.

About the Consortium

Hands Across Canberra is an independent philanthropic community foundation, working with more than 250 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. Since March 25, all donations to Hands Across Canberra will go to support organisations through the COVID-19 pandemic. To donate visit www.handsacrosscanberra.org.au

The Snow Foundation is a family foundation that focuses on supporting the Canberra community and the surrounding region and beyond. The Snow Foundation is currently accepting grant applications. For more information visit www.snowfoundation.org.au applications close April 27.

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 and grant rounds on www.jjf.org.au

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Attachment 1. Funded Grants

Organisation Name	Project Title	Grant Amount	Funding Foundation
A Gender Agenda	Capacity grant - developing outreach service delivery online	\$10,000	The Snow Foundation
ACT Eden Monaro Cancer Support Group	Family Assistance	\$5,000	CMCF- Hands Across Canberra
Adopt Change Limited	Support for Foster Carers During COVID-19	\$5,000	CMCF - Hands Across Canberra
AIME Mentoring	AIME Digital delivery	\$5,000	The Snow Foundation
Argyle Housing	Winter Shelter	\$15,000	The Snow Foundation
Directions Health Services	Service Access for Vulnerable Clients	\$9,000	CMCF- Hands Across Canberra
Australian Breastfeeding Association ACTNSW Region	Australian Breastfeeding Association - service continuity	\$4,300	John James Foundation
Australian Relief & Mercy Services - Canberra	Pantry Equipment	\$6,000	CMCF- Hands Across Canberra
Belconnen Community Services	BCS Connected Communities	\$10,000	The Snow Foundation
Beryl Women Inc.	Family Health and Wellbeing Packages	\$15,000	The Snow Foundation
Better Renting	Media responsiveness	\$1,000	The Snow Foundation
Bosom Buddies ACT Inc	Financial Support Program	\$10,000	John James Foundation
Canberra Community Law Limited	Legal Rights and Responsibilities in COVID-19	\$10,000	The Snow Foundation
Canberra Police Community Youth Club	Virtual Canberra PCYC	\$10,000	The Snow Foundation
Canberra Refugee Support	Emergency Income Support for Asylum Seekers	\$10,000	CMCF- Hands Across Canberra
Catholic Care Canberra & Goulburn	MacKillop House	\$15,000	CMCF- Hands Across Canberra
Cerebral Palsy Alliance	Supporting people living with disability to access therapy online	\$24,000	John James Foundation
Community Services #1	CS#1 Studio Set Up	\$10,000	CMCF- Hands Across Canberra
Companion House Assisting Survivors of Torture and Trauma	Supporting asylum seekers and refugees on temporary visas	\$10,000	CMCF- Hands Across Canberra
Conflict Resolution Service	COVID - 19 Disruption Prevention	\$5,000	CMCF- Hands Across Canberra
CREATE	Connection Calls: Supporting Children and Young People during the COVID -19 Pandemic 2020	\$10,000	The Snow Foundation
Cystic Fibrosis Association ACT	Essential Safety Items Delivery Assistance	\$8,305	John James Foundation

Domestic Violence Crisis Service	DVCS COVID-19 Continuity of Service	\$10,000	The Snow Foundation
Feel the Magic	Virtual Camp Magic ACT	\$5,000	CMCF- Hands Across Canberra
Getaboutable	Social inclusion through virtual travel & leisure	\$5,000	The Snow Foundation
GIVIT	Meeting the urgent need of material goods for local people impacted by COVID-19	\$22,000	John James Foundation
Greek Orthodox Community & Church of Canberra & District	Project Apollo – Connecting elderly community members	\$5,000	CMCF- Hands Across Canberra
Guide Dogs NSW/ACT	Critical support for older people in the ACT with blindness or low vision in the time of COVID-19	\$5,000	CMCF- Hands Across Canberra
Hartley Lifecare	Hartley Hall Markets	\$10,000	CMCF- Hands Across Canberra
Havelock Housing Association	HHA COVID Mental Health Support	\$20,000	The Snow Foundation and CMCF-Hands Across Canberra
HOME in Queanbeyan	Health at HOME	\$5,000	The Snow Foundation
Karinya House Home for Mothers & Babies	Karinya House COVID-19 Support	\$10,000	The Snow Foundation
KULTURE BREAK	Social Connection	\$8,000	CMCF- Hands Across Canberra
Lifeline Canberra	Crisis Support Services	\$15,000	CMCF- Hands Across Canberra
Marymead Child & Family Centre	Online with Families	\$10,000	CMCF- Hands Across Canberra
Mental Health Foundation (ACT)	Mobile Home-Based Service Model	\$10,000	CMCF- Hands Across Canberra
Mental Illness Education ACT	Trauma Awareness - Digital Exemplar	\$10,000	The Snow Foundation
Meridian Incorporated (AIDS Action Council)	Impact and Response for sex workers	\$5,000	The Snow Foundation
OzHarvest	OzHarvest Food Rescue	\$25,000	John James Foundation
OzHelp	OzHelp Service Transitions - COVID-19 Response	\$10,000	CMCF- Hands Across Canberra
Palliative Care ACT	Last Goodbyes	\$10,300	John James Foundation
Parentline ACT	Telephone Parenting Advice During COVID	\$5,000	The Snow Foundation
Perinatal Wellbeing Centre	Perinatal Wellbeing Online Interventions - Home Delivered Care and Support	\$10,000	The Snow Foundation
Philanthropize Pty Ltd	Adamas Nexus Online	\$5,000	CMCF- Hands Across Canberra
Print Handicapped Radio of ACT	Support of Radio 1RPH Remote/Home recording and broadcast	\$1,900	CMCF- Hands Across Canberra

Queanbeyan Multilingual Centre	Crisis Support for CALD Community	\$10,000	CMCF- Hands Across Canberra
Raw Potential Canberra	Raw Potential COVID-19 response	\$10,000	The Snow Foundation
Riding for the Disabled of the ACT	Pegasus COVID-19 remote working grant	\$1,500	CMCF- Hands Across Canberra
Roundabout Canberra	Emergency relief packs	\$10,000	The Snow Foundation
Soldier On	Soldier On Connect Hub	\$10,000	CMCF- Hands Across Canberra
Technology for Ageing and Disability ACT	Survive Covid-19	\$10,000	The Snow Foundation
The Farm in Galong	The Farm in Galong COVID -19 response measures	\$3,200	The Snow Foundation
The Humour Foundation	Clown Doctors engagement and alternate service delivery activity in response to Covid-19	\$5,000	The Snow Foundation
The Mill House Ventures	CRN Connect Centre Operations Support	\$8,400	CMCF- Hands Across Canberra
The Shepherd Centre for Deaf Children	'Care in Crisis' - Supporting deaf children in the ACT	\$10,000	CMCF- Hands Across Canberra
This Is My Brave Australia	Mental Health Support	\$3,000	CMCF- Hands Across Canberra
Toora Women	Toora Connect	\$10,000	The Snow Foundation
UnitingCare Kippax	SPARK Expansion Computer and Data Bank	\$10,000	CMCF- Hands Across Canberra
UnitingCare Kippax	Uniting Care Kippax - Food and medicine supplies	\$10,000	The Snow Foundation
Victims of Crime Assistance League (ACT)	Provision of Remote Service Delivery to Clients	\$5,000	The Snow Foundation
Woden Valley RSL Subbranch	SIV Program Response to COVID-19	\$5,000	CMCF- Hands Across Canberra
Yeddung Mura Aboriginal Corporation	COV19- Response -Funding to help community in distress	\$10,000	The Snow Foundation
YWCA Canberra	Brokerage funds and food delivery for vulnerable clients	\$10,000	The Snow Foundation
TOTAL		\$570,905	