



FREEMASONS
FOUNDATION VICTORIA

ANNUAL REPORT
2021-2022

STRONGER & HEALTHIER
TOGETHER

The Freemasons Public Charitable Foundation ABN - 97 577 321 065

Freemasons Benevolent Fund ABN - 77 505 868 957



OUR VISION

To contribute to a stronger and healthier Victoria through thoughtful and purposeful charitable support and community involvement.



OUR MISSION

To invest in programs and initiatives that are expected to provide stronger and healthier communities and by supporting individuals through access to education.

Tax Deductible Donation

Donations over \$2 to The Freemasons Public Charitable Foundation are tax deductible.

To donate, please visit www.freemasonsfoundation.org or call (03) 8535 4780.

Freemasons Foundation Victoria acknowledges Aboriginal Traditional Owners of Country throughout Victoria and pays respect to their culture and Elders past, present and emerging.

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Chairman's Report



Welcome to the 2021/22 Annual Report on Freemasons Foundation Victoria.

Last financial year was a period like none in recent memory, with the state experiencing unprecedented lockdowns as a result of the pandemic. COVID-19 severely curtailed the face-to-face activities of many of the Freemasons Lodges, and those of the community groups that work so hard to make Victoria stronger and healthier. However, many of them pivoted and were still able to provide much-needed support to the cohorts of the community that they work with.

During the latter part of the financial year, along with other Directors, I had the privilege of visiting many of their projects and saw, first-hand, the impact the organisations have made. Some have stayed with me, including TLC Kids and Shepparton Riding for the Disabled. The diversity of these projects reflects the range of issues and breadth of organisations that the Foundation has been able to support.

Many are organisations that you will never have heard of, yet they are doing important grassroots work. Some examples are the 3081 Angels, Entertainment Assist and FareShare, who you can read about in this report. During COVID-19, these organisations ensured that their communities were cared for and that their needs continued to be met when focus moved to the pandemic. When Victoria started to open up, FFV supported the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra (MSO) to reconnect with regional audiences, including in Mallacoota, one of the towns so devastated by the Black Summer bushfires. This was the first time the MSO had been to Mallacoota.

Other organisations we supported are household names working on projects designed to achieve large-scale change, such as Cancer Council with their focus on cervical cancer and Monash Children's Hospital's dedicated paediatric services. We continued to support these projects this year, honouring our multi-year commitments. As you'll read elsewhere in this report, these organisations continue to take steps forward to improve our collective health and wellbeing.

No matter their size, I am very pleased that FFV was able to support so many groups. We distributed \$2,198,150 addressing health and medical research, disaster and emergency relief, social justice and Indigenous programs. While the amount is impressive, what is even more impressive is the impact of the grants awarded. In this report, we have shared just a sample of the changes that have come about from the funding we provided, often alongside other organisations.

I am delighted that \$361,350 went toward supporting the young people of Victoria, helping them to achieve their education goals through bursaries, scholarships and education grants. This is an investment in the future of our State. I am also pleased that once again, the

Foundation was able to support several of our Brethren and their families, as they experienced challenges this year.

I would like to acknowledge our financial advisors, JBWere, who once again helped us navigate a tumultuous market. As at 30 June 2022, the Foundation had \$54.6M of funds under management. While the overall portfolio value dropped at the time of this reporting period, we have a strategy for the long-term and I know that it will bounce back.

“ I want to thank and acknowledge the many Lodges that have co-funded initiatives alongside FFV. ”

As Freemasons, we have a shared belief that charity and generosity are a core part of a life lived well. So too is working together and I want to thank and acknowledge the many Lodges that have co-funded initiatives alongside FFV. So often, it is our Brethren and their families, with their deep connections to the communities where they live that help to unearth these deserving projects.

I also want to sincerely thank our Executive Officer Neil Cripps for all of his efforts in ensuring the effective administration of our Foundation, and our volunteer Michael Halls for his work during the year.

I also extend my appreciation to my fellow Directors and our Board Observer, Ashley Melancis, who volunteer their time to ensure the Foundation meets its governance obligations and to provide strategic oversight. Congratulations to our Director Peter Henshall on his recent appointment as Deputy Grand Master Elect. I know that he will make a significant contribution in this important leadership position.

I also thank the three members of the Foundation - Richard Elkington, Anthony Bucca and Myles King - personally for their wise counsel and for their ongoing support and trust in the Board to steward this Foundation.

In closing, I want to thank all of those who donated to the Foundation this year, and those who have indicated you intend to leave a bequest to FFV and have joined the 188g Bequest Society. Your contributions and commitments are all greatly appreciated and mean that together, we will be able to make Victoria stronger and healthier for many years to come.

Rodney Lavin JP
Chairman

Our Impact

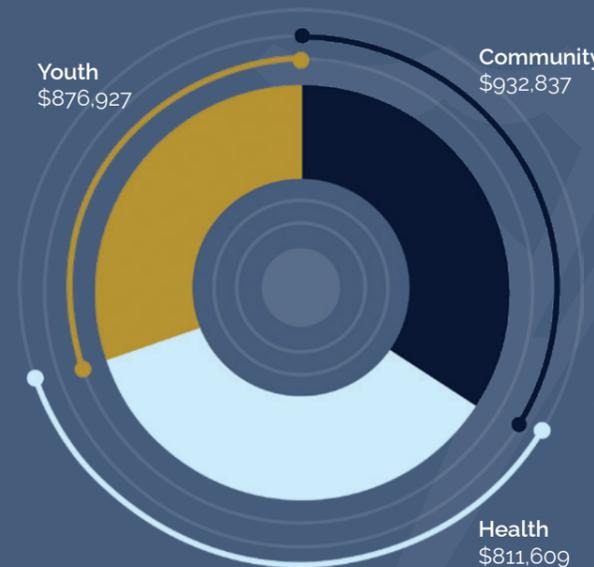
Freemasons Foundation Victoria (FFV) is the charitable arm of Victorian Freemasonry. For Freemasons, greatness in life is measured by deed, character, charity and the positive effect one leaves on this world through generosity of spirit.

Thanks to the generosity of Victorian Freemasons, past and present, public donors and our careful investment of funds, since November 2014, FFV has contributed \$16.4 million into the Victorian community.

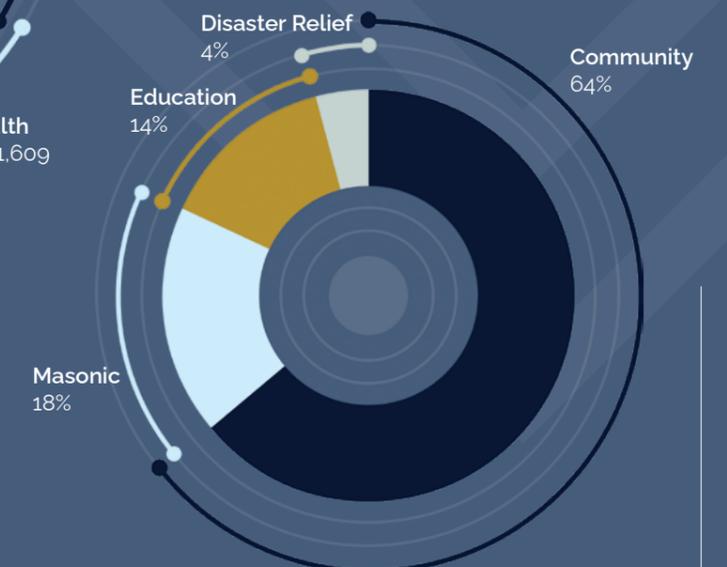
Our objective is to build a stronger and healthier Victoria. We do this by supporting organisations engaged in health and medical research, disaster and emergency relief, social justice and Indigenous programs. We also offer support to the youth of Victoria to help them achieve their education goals.

\$2,621,373
Total funding gifted

Grant Distribution



Grant Program Distribution



Organisation Structure

FFV Members are senior Freemasons, and includes the Freemasons Victoria Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master and Immediate Past Grand Master. The role of Members is to appoint Directors for a specific term. There must be seven Directors who are Freemasons before a non-Freemason Director may be appointed.

MEMBERS

Richard Elkington	Member since April 2018
Anthony Bucca	Member since June 2020
Myles King*	Member since March 2022
John Rodrigo*	Member October 2021 to March 2022
Keith Murray*	Member April 2016 to October 2021

**Members Note: Due to the resignation of Keith Murray, the position of the third Member was filled by John Rodrigo and Myles King in their roles as Senior Grand Wardens.*

DIRECTORS

Rodney Lavin JP, Chairman	Chairman since November 2020 Director since November 2018
Philip Mayers AM, Deputy Chairman	Director since November 2016
David Gibbs AM	Director since November 2014
Peter Henshall	Director since November 2020
Garry James	Director since November 2018
Xavier Murtagh	Director since November 2020
John Patterson	Director since November 2018

STAFF

Neil Cripps, Executive Officer	Company Secretary since November 2016
Michael Halls, Volunteer	January 2021

GOVERNANCE

Freemasons Foundation Victoria (FFV) manages two registered charities - The Freemasons Public Charitable Foundation (FPCF) and Freemasons Benevolent Fund (FBF).

The Board of FFV, in its role as Trustee for these two charities, is committed to high standards of corporate governance and implementing policies and procedures which reflect these standards.

To maintain these high standards of corporate governance the Board:

- properly identifies, discloses, and manages any conflicts of interest;
- acts honestly, in good faith and in the best interest of FPCF or FBF;
- uses care and diligence in fulfilling their functions; and
- does not take improper advantage of their position.

Directors



Mr. Rodney Lavin JP
Chairman



Mr. Philip Mayers AM
Deputy Chairman



Mr. David Gibbs AM
Director



Mr. Peter Henshall
Director



Mr. Garry James
Director



Mr. Xavier Murtagh
Director



Mr. John Patterson
Director



Mr. Neil Cripps
Executive Officer and
Company Secretary

Granting to the Community

Since our establishment in November 2014, the Foundation has provided significant funds to contribute to a stronger and healthier Victoria via our granting programs.

FFV Masonic Grants

This is the cornerstone of our philanthropic giving. Whenever possible, approved Masonic Orders will be supported in their local works with charitable not-for-profit organisations that operate in the areas of Education, Health Projects & Medical Research, Community Development, Youth Development Programs and Indigenous Programs.

FFV Community Grants

Through this program, ACNC can apply directly to FFV for support for a specific or part of a project for programs and initiatives in the areas of Health Projects & Medical Research, Community Support, Education, Indigenous Programs and the Arts.

Impact Partnerships

Designed to contribute to substantial projects in Victoria, FFV makes grants over a specified number of years in the areas of Health Projects & Medical Research, Education, Community Support and Indigenous Programs.

Disaster Relief Fund

Fund established in January 2020 for recovery, reconstruction and prevention projects for communities impacted by disasters.

Benevolence

The provision of financial relief to current members of Freemasons Victoria and their dependants or spouse who are in financial need or require other support which cannot be provided by Government or other agencies.

Benevolence

FFV offers Freemasons in Victoria relief from financial distress in times of hardship. In our capacity as Trustee of Freemasons Benevolent Fund, we are able to provide financial assistance to:

- current members of Freemasons Victoria unable to adequately provide for their needs;
- any person dependent on the member who is unable to adequately provide for the needs of that person; and/or
- any person who is unable to adequately provide for his or her needs and who was the spouse, child or dependant of a Freemason at the time of that Freemason's death.

9 Members supported, totalling
\$52,373

FFV Education Support

Since 1912, Freemasons have been awarding Victorian Masonic Scholarships. The aim of the programs is to aid the youth of Victoria in achieving their education goals.

FFV Lodge Education

Supporting Victorian Craft Lodges with their local community scholarships, bursaries and awards for primary, secondary and tertiary students.

FFV Bursaries

Providing support for Post-Secondary students undertaking their first tertiary course who require financial assistance with their studies.

FFV Scholarships

Available annually to secondary and first year tertiary students. This program takes into consideration the student's results, financial need or difficulties and school and community activities.

Higher Education Scholarships

Partnering with Victorian Tertiary Institutions.



Building a stronger,
healthier Victoria together

Masonic Grants

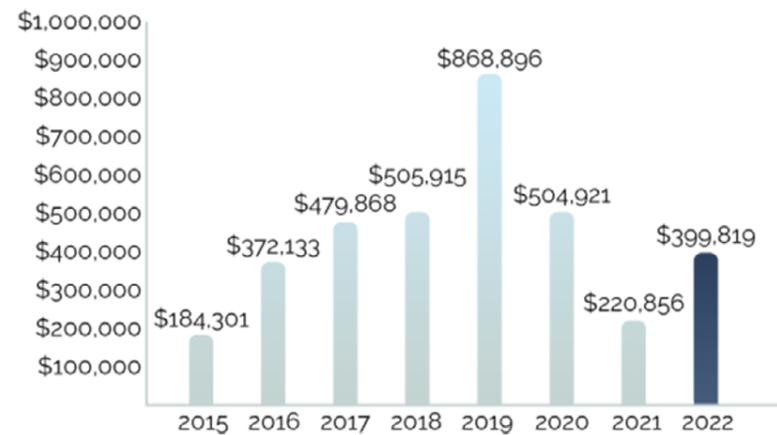
Each year, FFV's Masonic Grants program assists Victorian Craft Lodges, Mark Lodges and Chapters to amplify their philanthropic activities in the local community.

From 1 July, applications are invited for grants of up to \$10,000. Lodges must make a contribution to the donation and the activity must support a not-for-profit organisation with a charitable purpose in the areas of Health & Medical Research, Community Development, Education, Youth Development Programs and Indigenous Programs.

In this year's grants, Lodges contributed \$94,346 through their own fundraising activities, and 60 applications were successful in securing additional FFV funding, to the value of \$399,819.

On average, Lodges have increased their charitable giving four-fold because of this program.

Annual Value of Grants



Since 2014,
748 Masonic Grants made
 valuing more than
\$3.5 Million

\$1 RAISED BY A LODGE = **\$4** INTO A LOCAL CHARITY

1st Casey Scouts
 Scout equipment
\$4,000
 Berwick Balcara Lodge and Lodge of Progress

39th Battalion Arthur Grassby Scholarship
 Arthur Grassby Scholarship
\$8,000
 Gippsland Lakes Lodge, Bairnsdale Daylight Lodge, Mitchell River Lodge, Union Lodge of North Gippsland

Anglesea & Aireys Inlet Foodlink
 Food aid
\$4,000
 Lodge of the Great Ocean Road

Anglican Parish Council
 Gannawarra Memorial Toy Run
\$1,800
 Cohuna Lodge

Bairnsdale Regional Health Service
 Bladder scanner
\$8,329
 Gippsland Lakes Lodge, Bairnsdale Daylight Lodge, Mitchell River Lodge, Union Lodge of North Gippsland

Banyule Community Health - 3081 Angels
 Prams and car seats
\$5,000
 Admiral Collingwood Lodge

Bendigo Health
 Bendigo Cancer Care Force USA G6 All-in-one Trainer
\$2,818
 Loddon District

Boys to the Bush
 Wangaratta vehicle fit-out
\$3,500
 Wodonga Lodge

Breast Cancer Network Australia
 Equipment for field workers
\$8,156
 Gregorios Lodge

Cloverdale Community Centre
 Shoulder to Shoulder
\$500
 Geelong Lodge of Unity & Prudence

Cohuna District Hospital
 Training of new and existing staff
\$8,300
 Cohuna Lodge

Community Support Frankston
 Emergency relief assistance
\$5,000
 Lodge of Honour

Cystic Fibrosis Community Care
 CF Breathe Easy
\$4,000
 United Service Lodge

East Grampians Health Service
 Outdoor living area
\$5,000
 Grand Master of United Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons

Eastern Palliative Care
 Syringe drivers
\$5,000
 First Grand Principal of Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Victoria

Food 4 Thought Program
 School breakfast/lunch program
\$4,000
 Portland Lodge of Victoria

Fr Father Bob McGuire Foundation
 Open Pantry
\$23,000
 Western Masonic Centre

Fr Father Bob McGuire Foundation
 Open Pantry
\$10,000
 Grand Master of Freemasons Victoria

Fr Father Bob McGuire Foundation
 Christmas food appeal
\$4,500
 Western District

Freemasons Community Relief
 Christmas food parcels
\$10,000
 Gardenvale Mobility Lodge

Freemasons Community Relief
 Christmas food parcels
\$500
 United Schools' Lodge

Friend In Me
 Friend in Me Day
\$1,320
 St. Andrews in the South Lodge

Gather My Lodge
 Trailer and gardening equipment
\$7,500
 The Brighton District Lodge

Geelong Legacy
 Support local widows
\$2,438
 Lodge Epicurean

Heywood & District Secondary
 Support for the Standing Tall mentoring program.
\$4,000
 Portland Lodge of Victoria

Heywood & District Secondary
 Student Welfare Fund
\$700
 Portland Lodge of Victoria

Interchange Outer East
 Sibling Program
\$25,000
 Lodge of Good Companions, Peace and Loyalty Lodge, Blue Dandenongs Lodge

Keeleys Cause
 Ipads for children
\$18,000
 Trentham Lodge, Arlington Lodge, Glenroy Lodge, Lord Northcote Lodge

Kellock Lodge
 Purchase two medication trolleys
\$4,358
 Albert Edward Lodge

Lions Club of Rutherglen
Flood Relief
\$5,000
Rutherglen Lodge

Lord Somers Camp and Power House
Big Camp
\$12,600
The Lodge of the Golden Fleece

Lung Foundtion Australia
Local peer support program
\$2,000
The Spring Vale Lodge

Mallee Family Care
Support for disadvantaged children
\$9,000
Tresco and Chisel United Lodge

Men's Shed - Echuca Moama
Dust extraction system
\$15,000
Campaspe Valley Lodge

Men's Shed - Lake Boga
Air conditioning
\$4,200
Swan Hill Lodge

Mental Health First Aid Australia
Mental health first aid to communities
\$14,000
Lodge of Commerce and Antient York Lodge

Mildura Legacy Club
Maintenance of air conditioners
\$500
The United Memorial and Merbein Lodge

Monash Waverley Community Information Support
Emergency relief assistance
\$4,000
Canterbury Lodge

Nagambie HealthCare
High quality hospital beds with accessories
\$15,647
Lodge Amicus

On Track Foundation
Ballarat Soup Bus
\$5,000
Grand Master of Freemasons Victoria

On Track Foundation
Ballarat Soup Bus
\$1,500
Guiding Star Lodge

Police Veterans Victoria
Peer support program
\$3,000
Geelong Lodge of Unity & Prudence

Portland Secondary College
Youth re-engagement program
\$4,000
Portland Lodge of Victoria

Portland Secondary College
Student Welfare Fund
\$700
Portland Lodge of Victoria

Royal Freemasons
Buy a Bed Fundraiser
\$1,750
Prospect Hill Mark

Royal Freemasons
Beds for Monash Gardens
\$4,000
Monash Lodge

Royal South Street Society
Battle of bands and strings
\$8,000
St. Johns Lodge

Scouts Victoria
Camp Warringal power expansion
\$4,000
Baden Powell Lodge

Shepparton Foodshare
Food aid
\$10,000
Rupertswood-Numurkah Lodge

Sir Edward (Weary) Dunlop Medical Research Foundation
Research - precision medicine to identify cardiovascular risk in diabetes.
\$5,000
Lodge Liberation

South Melbourne Life Saving Club
Operation Newstart - engaging disadvantaged youth through surf lifesaving
\$5,052
Middle Park Lodge

Swan Hill District Health
Warming blanket
\$4,851
Murray Mark

Swan Hill Neighbourhood House
Men's shed extension
\$10,000
Swan Hill Lodge

Swan Hill Specialist School
Bikes and trikes
\$4,500
Murray Mark

The GAP on Graham
Green our Future
\$3,500
Djerriwarrh Lodge

The Legacy Club of Ballarat
Student Welfare Fund
\$5,000
Grand Master of Freemasons Victoria

Think Pink Foundation
Support services
\$5,000
SEAVIC Lodge

Torquay Food Aid Inc
Food aid
\$4,000
Lodge of the Great Ocean Road

VACCA
Indigenous programs
\$5,000
Grand Master of Freemasons Victoria

Very Special Kids
Continuing specialist care for children and young people with life-limiting conditions and their families.
\$10,000
Freemasons Foundation Victoria

Wangaratta RSL
Bob Iskov Kokoda Scholarship
\$1,500
Wangaratta Lodge of St. John

Warragul Municipal Band
Upgrade of percussion equipment
\$3,800
Gippsland Forest Lodge

Western District Health Service
MRI Appeal
\$10,000
Hamilton Grange Lodge

Wonthaggi Neighbourhood Centre
New vehicle for L2P program
\$10,000
Powlett Lodge

Lodge helps local 'Angels' do their work

In the Melbourne suburb of Banyule, postcode 3081, a local volunteer-run group, the 3081 Angels, collect pre-loved baby and children's items to give to local families in need. However, with strict regulations around prams and items like car seats, they can't always use the pre-loved items.

Admiral Collingwood Lodge heard about this conundrum and set about fundraising to see if they could help and raised \$1,000. They then applied to FFV for a Masonic Grant, and were awarded \$5,000.

The \$6,000 gift was met with surprise by Angels organiser Suzanne Crellin, who could hardly believe it.

"It is actually amazing because we are not a group that holds out our hands for huge amounts of money and your donation(s) came, virtually unsolicited, at the perfect time."

They received their first delivery of prams in July and explained that while they don't have room to store as many prams as the money would purchase, this is to their advantage.

"This money will enable us to always have the backup of new prams and car seats when we are short. It will also mean we can provide a new specialist pram or cot to a baby with special needs as is sometimes requested," Suzanne said.





Rutherglen Lodge members Peter Weir and Stan Newnham manned the gate.

When the going gets tough in Rutherglen, the community gets going!

That's exactly what happened following flooding in January 2022. Torrential rain fell across the region, with around 100 houses affected, ranging from minor damage through to flooding that rendered the buildings uninhabitable.

Secretary of Rutherglen Lodge, Bill Black, said the damage became very apparent in the days that followed the rain.

"We started to see carpet, furniture and electrical goods out on the front lawn, ruined and no longer usable. Yard fences were pushed over and we heard reports of people moving out of their homes and living in motels or B&Bs."

With rental availability limited, insurance challenges and the hangover from COVID-19, many families were doing it really tough and it was clear they needed a hand.

In response, a local business owner instigated a fundraiser and joined forces with the Lions Club to run the "Rutherglen Rumble" - a car, truck and bike show on the Showgrounds. Then they called for sponsorship of prizes and donations to help flood victims in town.

Rutherglen Lodge contributed \$550 and also applied for a Masonic Grant and FFV contributed a further \$5,000.

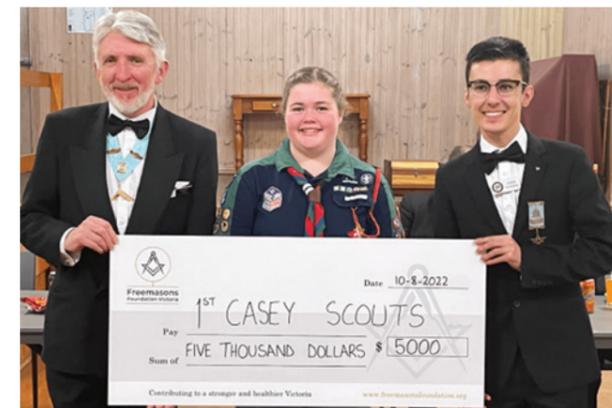
The event attracted thousands of people and in total, \$50,000 was raised which was shared among 50 of the most affected households. For Sue and Mark Prescott, owners of the Woongarra Motel, the flood had not only devastated every unit of their motel, air-conditioning and fencing, but also their adjacent home, and 9 months later they had yet to receive any insurance money.

"The fundraising coordinated by the Rutherglen Lions Club and the notably generous donations from organisations such as Freemasons Foundation Victoria assisted us greatly in restoring the Motel and our livelihood and making our home habitable again. For that, we will forever be grateful."

Another great example of the power of community!



Lodge of Honour and FFV presented a cheque to Community Support Frankston (CSF).



Berwick Balcara Lodge and Lodge of Progress helped the 1st Casey Scout Group enjoy the outdoors with funding towards camping equipment.



Gippsland Forest Masonic Lodge supported the restoration of musical instruments for the long-serving Warragul Municipal Band.



Brighton Freemasons regularly fundraise for their charitable initiatives with a sausage sizzle.



FFV and local Lodges have been supporting Interchange Outer East Siblings program since 2014.

Sub Fund Grants

Named Sub Funds allow FFV to preserve a donation or bequest to provide a long-term gift to chosen charities in years to come. The initial investment is grown via donations and pooled fund investment returns and granting can begin once the balance reaches \$11,000 (from an initial donation of \$2,000 or more).

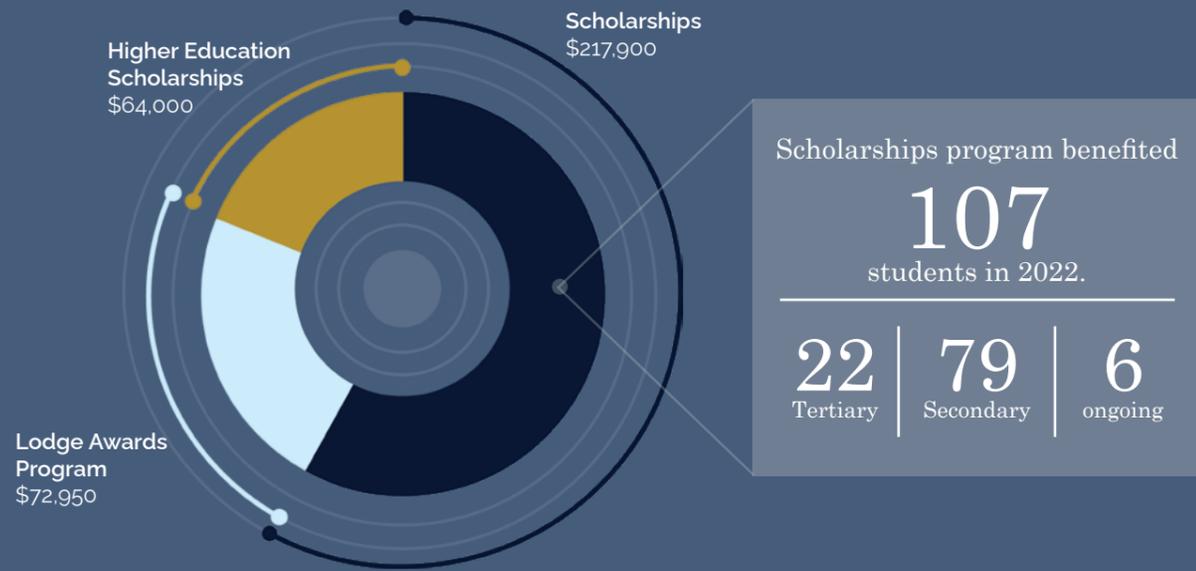
This year's Sub Fund grants continued the legacy of giving they exist to uphold, funding education awards to local students and program support for causes close to the hearts of Lodge members.

- **Tarra Masonic Lodge 127 Sub Fund** granted \$500 to Yarram Eisteddfod for program support, and another \$500 for student awards at Yarram Secondary College.
- **SEAVIC Lodge Sub Fund** granted \$3,000 to support services run by the Think Pink Foundation.
- **Tresco and Chisel United Lodge Sub Fund** granted \$6,000 for their Tertiary Scholarships program.
- **Western Masonic Centre** granted \$5,000 to the Father Bob McGuire Foundation for the Open Pantry project.
- **Kerang Lodge Sub Fund** granted \$14,000 for the Kerang District Health Nursing Scholarship.
- **Anonymous Sub Fund** granted \$6,000 for a nursing scholarship at Epworth Freemasons Hospital.

Education Support

Freemasons Foundation Victoria supports the youth of Victoria in achieving their education goals, distributing more than \$350,000 in primary, secondary and tertiary scholarships, awards and bursaries each year.

\$354,850
in Education Support

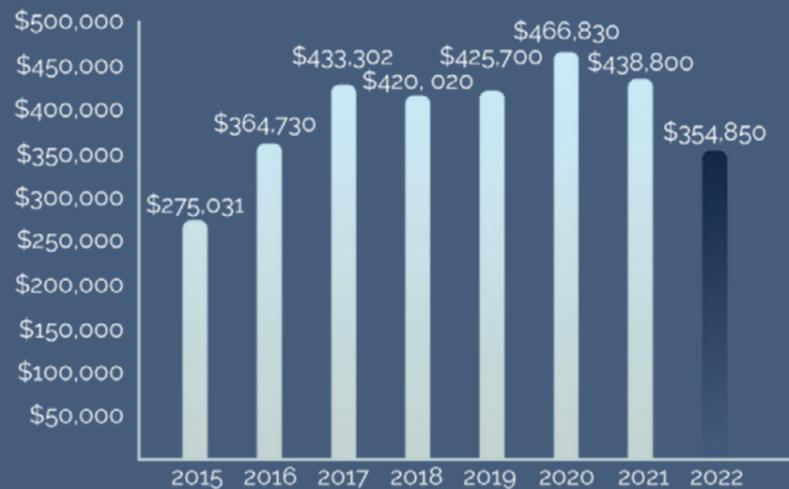


Scholarships program benefited

107
students in 2022.

22 Tertiary	79 Secondary	6 ongoing
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Total Education Support



Bursaries

Tertiary education is an expensive endeavour.

Tertiary students who need financial support to complete their studies can apply to the FFV Bursaries program. In the FY 2021/2022, three bursaries were awarded valuing \$4,000.

In addition to this, many Lodges run local scholarship and awards programs that benefit students who are deserving of support because of either academic achievement or financial need.



Since 2014,
937 scholarships
valued at
\$2,420,500

\$549,763 in
Lodge Education Awards

Total education support to date
\$3,179,263

Lodge Education

In 2022, as society returned to some normality following COVID, Lodges returned to meeting regularly again and students were back in the classroom. Reflecting this, funding granted to FFV's Lodge Education support program has almost doubled since the 2020/2021 FY. This year, Lodges accessed FFV support to deliver \$72,950 into the education of Victoria's youth through Masonic scholarship and awards programs.

In so many cases, we are heartened to hear how involved these young people are in their communities, giving us so much hope for the future.

Allara Lodge \$4,000

Eastbourne Primary, Boneo Primary, Rosebud Primary, Rye Primary, Tootgarook Primary, Dromana Primary

Beechworth Lodge St. John \$1,000

Beechworth Secondary

Benambra Lodge \$2,400

Tallangatta Secondary, Tallangatta Primary

Cosmopolitan Lodge \$1,100

Aireys Inlet Primary, Anglesea Primary, Bellbrae Primary, Lisieux Catholic Primary, Lorne P-12, St. Therese Catholic Primary, Torquay Coast Primary, Torquay College

Gippsland Lakes Lodge \$11,000

Lakes Entrance Secondary, Lakes Entrance Primary, Swan Reach Primary, Nungurner Primary, Metung Primary, Tambo Upper Primary, Lucknow Primary, Nicholson Primary, Toorloo Arm Primary, St. Brendans Primary, Lindenow Primary, Clifton Creek Primary

Golden and Corinthian Lodge \$2,400

Bendigo region Primary and Secondary Schools

Guiding Star Lodge \$1,000

Ballarat Grammar

Guiding Star Lodge \$750

Sebastopol Primary

Ivanhoe Grammarians' Lodge \$9,150

Whittlesea Secondary, Bundoora Secondary, St Catherine's Primary (Lalor East), Eltham High, Bundoora Primary, Middle Kinglake Primary, Briar Hill Primary, Viewbank, St Peter's Catholic Parish Primary, Montmorency South Primary, Buxton Primary, Strathewen Primary, Streeton Primary, Flowerdale Primary, St Mary's Catholic Primary (Alexandra), St John's Catholic Primary (Heidelberg), Ivanhoe Primary.

Keysborough St. Andrews Daylight Lodge \$200

Mordialloc Beach Primary

Keysborough St. Andrews Daylight Lodge \$200

Mentone

Lara Lodge \$700

Lara Secondary

Leura Lodge \$1,250

Camperdown, Cobden Technical, Derrinallum, Lismore Primary

Lodge of Concentration \$1,000

Norwood Secondary

Lodge of the Great Ocean Road \$1,600

Point Lonsdale Primary, Queenscliff Primary, St. Aloysius Catholic Primary, Our Lady Star of the Sea, Catholic Primary, Surfside Primary, Wallington Primary, Drysdale Primary, Clifton Springs Primary, St. Thomas Catholic Primary, Leopold Primary, Ocean Grove Primary

Lodge of Unity \$750

Bright P-12 College

Mitchell River Lodge \$1,000

Bairnsdale Secondary

Orbost Lodge \$500

Orbost Secondary

Peace and Loyalty Lodge \$5,000

Fairhills High, Rowville Secondary

Portland Lodge of Victoria \$500

Portland Secondary

Portland Lodge of Victoria \$125

Heywood & District Secondary

Portland Lodge of Victoria \$500

Heywood & District Secondary

Rosebank Lodge \$500

Beeac Primary

Rupertswood-Numurkah Lodge \$1,500

Numurkah Secondary

Rutherglen Lodge \$500

Rutherglen High

Southern Cross Lodge \$500

Maldon Primary

St. George Lodge \$1,700

Amphitheatre Primary, Avoca Primary, Bealiba Primary, Carisbrook Primary, Clunes Primary, Dunolly Primary, Maryborough Education Centre (Primary), Moonambel Primary, Natte Yallock Primary, St. Augustines Primary, Talbot Primary, Tarnagulla Primary, Timor Primary

St. George Lodge \$900

Maryborough Education Centre, Highview College Year 10

Sturt-Buninyong United Lodge \$500

Mt. Clear College

Talbot Lodge \$300

Talbot Primary

The United Memorial and Merbein Lodge \$2,500

Merbein P10, RedCliffs Secondary, Ouyen P12

Tresco and Chisel United Lodge \$14,000

Tertiary Awards

Warrnambool Lodge \$1,500

Warrnambool College, Brauer College Year 10, Emmanuel College Year 10

Zetland Lodge \$1,400

Drummond Primary, Tylden Primary, Kyneton Primary, Our Lady of The Rosary, Langley Primary, Redesdale/Miamia Primary, Malmsbury Primary

Lodge Education Support



Scholarships

This year, FFV awarded scholarships totalling \$181,700 to 101 students. These awards were made up of secondary scholarships of \$600 or \$1,500, and \$5,000 tertiary scholarships, as well as one \$10,000 tertiary scholarship. Additionally, six recipients of multi-year scholarships from previous years continued to benefit.

Presentations were held in Gardenvale and Maryborough, and were attended by a total of 180 people. More than a quarter of the 101 students receiving this year's scholarships attended schools in Maryborough in the Central Goldfields region.



FFV's flagship Tertiary award recipient Avoca's Reagan Wardlaw, of Highview College, attended the Maryborough event and is receiving \$10,000 per annum for the term of her three-year tertiary course.

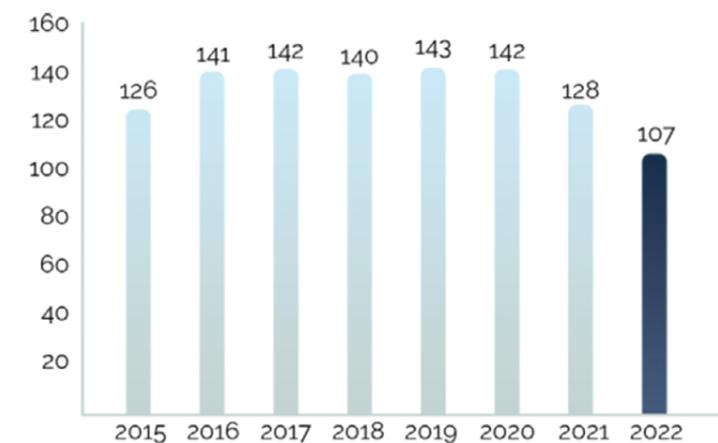
Ms Wardlaw hopes to pursue honours in the area of DNA research and cancer treatment at Federation University.



“
 When I was called and told I had been chosen as a successful applicant for the tertiary scholarship I was speechless, overjoyed and of course immensely grateful...This scholarship means that I can focus on my degree without any financial burdens.
 ”

Reagan Wardlaw

Number of Scholarship Recipients



The Scholarship Experience

Diana Wheaton was the recipient of the FFV Marcus Oldham Scholarship for 2022. When she received the scholarship, she was working on a Merino and Poll Hereford family-owned, seedstock property at Walcha, NSW. She said of the experience:

"This year has been an amazing experience and adventure. I have learned a lot about genetics and the whole stud process from Jock Nivison and the Yalgoo team. I cannot wait to bring this knowledge back to my family operation and see where it takes us.

"Before this, I had never travelled this far into NSW. During this year in between COVID-19 lockdowns, I have done some travelling and met some great people within the Agricultural industry as well as locally in the community (some of these are commencing study at Marcus Oldham next year)."

Diana is now back at Marcus Oldham in Geelong for her third and final year, graduating in December.

"I would like to thank the Freemason Foundation for this amazing opportunity to be chosen as the 2022 Freemason Foundation Victoria Scholarship recipient. This is such a prestigious scholarship and I am very honoured to be chosen to represent your Foundation throughout my final year of studies at Marcus Oldham College. Thank you again for this amazing opportunity."



Diana on the Yalgoo property in 2021.



Marcus Oldham Parent Ball 2022 (with her dad, Dean Wheaton & mum, Renae Wheaton).



“ Receiving the scholarship means I can be flexible, not only with my studies, but with my children. With financial pressures eased, I can spend quality time with them when I need to and have extra time to dedicate to my studies. I’m looking forward to obtaining full-time work in my chosen career path and being a role model for my kids, to show them that you can start a career at any age, you can have success, and satisfaction. ”

Rhianna Fox, FFV Scholarship Recipient, Federation University

12 Higher Education Scholarships totalling

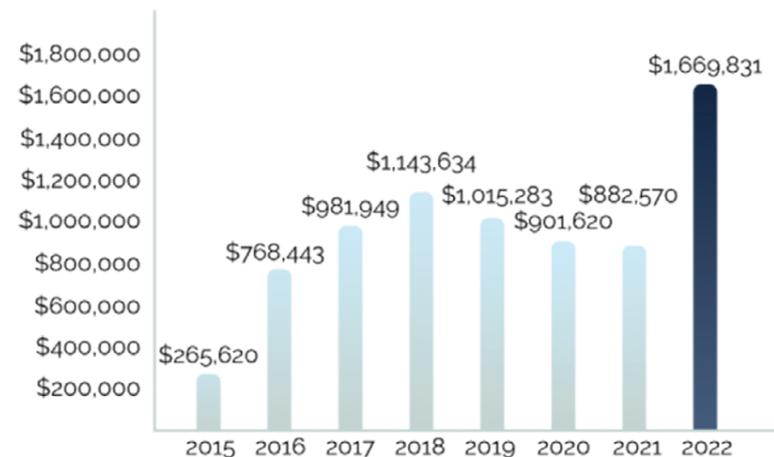
\$64,000

Community Grants

In the FY 2021/2022, FFV supported 33 diverse projects and organisations through Community Grants. Twenty-seven of these were announced in December 2021 through the 2022 Community Grants round and six were installments of multi-year grants and ongoing impact partnerships.

In many of the applications, a common theme was surviving COVID – something that was a priority not only at the individual level, but also at the community level. Not-for-profits struggled to recruit and keep volunteers to provide important services; the number of people failing to make ends meet skyrocketed; and many organisations vital to the wellbeing of communities were finding it increasingly difficult to operate and to fulfil the needs that were presented to them. FFV is proud to have been able to support a number of inspiring organisations to keep up their great work through these trying times.

Annual Value of Grants



33 Grants totalling
\$1,669,831

300 Blankets
Iceolation
\$20,000

Life Education Victoria
Healthy Harold Live
\$50,000

Scouts Victoria
Top Gear Scout safety helmets
\$2,399

Big Group Hug
TeenAid
\$48,587

Make A Difference
‘We’re All In This Together’
\$10,000

Scouts Victoria
Supply new bunk beds to Scouts Victoria campsites
\$50,000

Dungala Kaiela Foundation
Nanyak Burras (Future Leaders)
\$46,350

McAuley Community Services for Women
McAuley education support
\$40,000

State Schools’ Relief
Access 1000
\$20,000

Entertainment Assist (HPC)
Intermission - Vic survival project
\$50,000

Melbourne Symphony Orchestra
MSO Regional Touring 2022
\$25,000

The Rural Foundation
Building capacity, impact and The Rural Youth Network
\$22,000

FareShare Australia
Schools in the kitchen
\$46,500

Mums Supporting Families in Need
Hampers of Hope
\$30,000

The Think Pink Foundation
COVID pandemic survival funding
\$50,000

Fitted for Work
Women’s Economic Empowerment Program
\$50,000

Musculoskeletal Australia
Supporting people with musculoskeletal conditions
\$13,805

TLC for Kids
TLC Ambulance
\$50,000

Hotham Mission
Education pack for disadvantaged children and young people
\$20,000

Pancare Foundation
Improving the lives of Victorian bile duct and liver cancer patients
\$30,400

Very Special Kids
A Very Special Youth Program
\$50,000

Inspirational Quilts
Quilts for Kids
\$4,474

Queenscliffe Historical Museum
New exhibition laser projectors & wall brackets (3)
\$11,547

Western Chances
Ignition Mentoring Pilot Program
\$15,000

Irabina Autism Services
Specialised educational resources for early intervention groups for children with autism
\$9,569

Refugee Migrant Children Centre
Empowering refugee children through education and beyond
\$15,000

Wombat Housing Support Services
Wombat Everyday Life Skills Project
\$50,000

Since 2014,
197 Cumulative investment
via Community Grants
\$7,628,950



FFV met with Life Education Victoria - and Healthy Harold - to hear about the program's delivery to schools.



FFV members visited Mums Supporting Families in Need Inc (MSFIN) to hear about their Hampers of Hope program.



FFV presented Shepparton Foodshare with a grant towards finding their 'forever home' and helping ensure the service is sustainable.



FFV learned about Big Group Hug's work getting necessary items to children, teens and families that are doing it tough - with their new van.



FFV presented a cheque to support the Very Special Kids' Youth Advisory Group while touring the site of the new children's hospice.



Tim Conolan AM gave FFV members a tour of the TLC Ambulance and other services, empowering seriously, chronically or terminally ill children and their families.

Creating opportunities at Indigenous-led sports club

FFV visited the Rumbalara Football Netball Club clubrooms in Shepparton to present a cheque to the Dungala Kaiela Foundation. The grant of \$46,350 will support 15 local Yorta Yorta students to enrol in the Academy of Sport, Health and Education (ASHE). ASHE offers VCAL, Certificates in Community Services, and a Diploma of Nursing. It is delivered as a partnership between the Rumbalara Football Netball Club, University of Melbourne, and GoTafe, to provide accessible, culturally relevant education, training and employment opportunities for local First Nations people.

FFV members learnt a great deal about the Yorta Yorta people and their history during our visit. We met with the club's founder, Uncle Paul Briggs, who shared with us some stories about famous Yorta Yorta athletes such as Sir Doug Nicholls, who was regarded as the best wingman in the Victorian Football League during his time playing in the late 1920's and early 1930's.



Hands-on school excursion feeds people in need

A long-running school excursion program is making an impact in more ways than one. FareShare's Schools in the Kitchen program sees secondary students from across Victoria spend half a day in their kitchens learning about food insecurity and sustainability while working together to create nutritious meals for vulnerable people using rescued surplus food.

FareShare has to raise all the funds they need to power ovens, fridges and freezers; to keep food rescue vans on the road; and to pay chefs and staff. They ask for a contribution from schools to help cover costs associated with running their shift, but not all schools can afford this.

With an FFV Community Grant of \$46,500, FareShare delivered 60 shifts to schools that otherwise could not have participated. In total, it benefitted 900 students and 120 teachers from across Victoria.

FareShare Executive Director Marcus Godinho says at each FareShare shift students cook 1,500 meals, which are provided free to charities, agencies and schools serving disadvantaged communities.

"The experience caters to students of all abilities and backgrounds, providing a common sense of achievement. It also helps to destigmatise the issue of food insecurity, which some students may be facing in their family."

To complement the hands-on experience, students have access to newly developed online material on food insecurity and sustainability. The program inspires students to take action to benefit the community, long after their participation in the program. Some go on to run fundraisers, while others choose different career pathways, including continuing to volunteer.



Intermission: support for a struggling performing arts community

In July 2021, an announcement was made that Victoria was to enter a 'snap five-day lockdown' to stop the spread of COVID-19 after residents had already endured 173 days of lockdown in the previous 16 months.

For those in the Victorian performing arts community, this was especially hard news to digest.

With the support of Freemasons Foundation Victoria, Entertainment Assist – an organisation founded in 2008 to raise awareness of mental health issues in the entertainment industry – pivoted to deliver their flagship program online and help this cohort get through a difficult time.

The program - creatively titled INTERMISSION - is a tailored, industry-specific mental health course that empowers participants with conversational strategies, knowledge to identify warning signs in self and others, tools to create a self-care plan and support pathways and resources.

FFV's support enabled the work to continue and to innovate when it was needed most, in the changed environment of a global pandemic.

"The generous support funding by Freemasons Foundation enabled Entertainment Assist to produce a two-phase webinar series. More than 10,000 people clicked through to access these links to view content from across the entertainment industry." Julia Edwards, CEO, Entertainment Assist

It was reported that 94% of performing arts workers said attending INTERMISSION was beneficial in learning how to self-manage their mental health and wellbeing.

Find out more at www.entertainmentassist.org.au



RMCC received a \$15,000 grant from FFV for its Side by Side program at Glengala Primary School. Here, 72 % of students are from non-English speaking backgrounds, and only 82% have an attendance level of 90% or more.

The program engaged 32 recently resettled children aged 5–7, and their parents, in weekly sessions. Teachers and the School's Wellbeing Team were also involved, so barriers experienced by both families and the school could be broken down.



“ Seeing young mentors who have had similar experience as refugees currently studying at university and/or working is like seeing my future now. ”

Participant

During the sessions, the RMCC Team ran interactive, collaborative and fun project-based activities such as "Superheroes from our community", "Let's make playground toys" and "What do I want to be when I grow up?"

Alice said the participants in the program have more confidence to engage with others, ask questions, problem solve, play and work harmoniously with attention and focus.

"As the program is facilitated in an inclusive and safe environment, the children are showing much more confidence.

"With hands-on activities, especially science-based activities, not only do they do the activities with enthusiasm and keenness, they tackle any obstacles with confidence and don't shy away from the possibility of making a mistake and missing out on learning."

Teachers have also shared that within the classroom, students are participating more, speaking up when they need help and have formed new positive friendships. Further, the parents who join their children weekly in the Side by Side program have an avenue to learn about the education system in Australia and ways to engage and be part of the education of their children.

“ I've learnt to communicate better. Talking with adult mentors every week has helped me to speak out what's on my mind and express my feelings. Especially most of the mentors are from diverse backgrounds and have gone through similar experience as us. We can relate to them, they can relate to us. ”

Participant

Empowering Refugee Children Through Education and Community

Children from refugee and migrant backgrounds encounter unique and complex barriers upon resettlement in Australia and it's challenging for them, and their parents and guardians, to engage with their new school community. The risk of disengagement is real, which is why Alice Wojcik and Bobby Allen founded the Refugee Migrant Children Centre (RMCC).

“ We didn't know many people, but through the program we got connected to the school community, met other parents and made new friends. I feel confident when RMCC works with my children because RMCC staff and mentors give time to my children. It not only helps my children mentally, but also physically. My two children now have more confidence, they are positive about life, even though we have uncertainty about our life in Australia. They talk positively about their future. ”

Mum (Fir)

Disaster Relief Funding

Our Disaster Relief Fund, which was established in January 2020, has passed the milestone of having paid out \$1 million since January 2020.

This year, following the devastating floods in Queensland and NSW, Freemasons Victoria announced a donation of \$100,000 to assist in flood recovery, and this grant was matched by our Foundation. The funding was split between Hand Heart Pocket Disaster Relief Appeal (Qld) and Masonicare Disaster Relief Fund (NSW).

FFV also provided support to five Freemasons impacted by the 2019/2020 East Gippsland Bushfires, totalling \$9,500.



Impact Partnerships

FFV makes multi-year impact grants in areas that have the potential to make significant improvements to the most vulnerable Victorians. We believe healthy communities are a vital cornerstone of our society.

Impact Grants:

- **Hope Bereavement Care** received \$115,000 for Support After Suicide and Community Hope.
- **Monash Health** received \$300,000, the 6th installment of funds for equipment for stem cell therapies for vulnerable preterm babies.
- **Cancer Council Victoria** received \$250,000 – the 1st installment of funding for the Eliminate Cervical Cancer Fund.
- **Victoria Police Blue Ribbon Foundation** received \$50,000 – the 3rd installment of funding to support Blue Ribbon Day.
- **Let's Talk Foundation** received \$100,000 – the 2nd installment of funding for the Colac & Hamilton Hubs, as well as \$24,200 for the project 'Let's Talk Moving Forward'.

Partnership seeks to eliminate cervical cancer

In September 2021, FFV announced a multi-year partnership with Cancer Council Victoria to support their Elimination of Cervical Cancer Strategy. The goal is to eliminate cervical cancer as a public health problem in Victoria by 2030, with a particular focus on populations that bear the greatest burden of the disease.

The strategy focusses on increasing cervical screening participation rates; reducing patient level barriers to attending follow up treatment (e.g. colposcopy appointments); increasing community confidence in the HPV vaccination; and maintaining HPV vaccination rates.



FFV has committed \$1m over four years. During the first year of the partnership, Cancer Council Victoria conducted research to inform future targeted activities, interventions and communications.

Earlier this year, Cancer Council interviewed 725 Victorian women, investigating their knowledge, attitudes and preferences around cervical screening and self-collection. This provided critical baseline data to measure the effectiveness and impact of the Elimination Strategy activities.

Qualitative research was also undertaken with 67 under-screened women from Arabic, Cantonese and Mandarin speaking communities. This yielded rich information about these cohorts in relation to their knowledge gaps, barriers, motivating factors, information needs and cultural considerations.

Research is currently underway with health professionals and patients to investigate factors that prevent women at higher risk from attending follow up medical appointments.

Cancer Council Victoria has also delivered communication campaigns, to reach the thousands of Victorian school children who missed out on the HPV vaccine due to COVID-19 disruptions, garnering coverage in regional and metropolitan media.

Findings from the initial research will help strengthen the next stage of the work, which will include targeted communications designed to increase cervical screening participation; reducing barriers to medical follow up for women at higher risk of developing cervical cancer; developing self-collection capacity building pilot programs for health services; and ongoing communication and engagement strategies to support HPV vaccination in Victoria.

“Cervical cancer is highly preventable through regular cervical screening and the HPV vaccination, but unfortunately many vulnerable women are missing out on this potentially life-saving opportunity. This research has provided invaluable insights to help us better understand the reasons people do or don't screen and what we can do to best inform, encourage and support Victorians to participate in regular cervical screening and to stop cervical cancer before it starts.”

Alice Bastable, Cervical Cancer Elimination Manager

Bequest Society

In 1889, a donation of £500 was received from Grand Master, Most Worshipful Brother Sir William Clarke, 1st Baronet. This gift is still giving.

The 1889 Bequest Society was established to thank and acknowledge people in their lifetime for making a bequest.

We were delighted to host 31 guests and one seeing eye dog at our 1889 Bequest Society Lunch in Melbourne in May 2022. We heard from Patron Rosemary Evans, Scholarship recipient Mats Manallack, 'Mann about Town' David Mann AM and Chairman Rodney Lavin JP.



Bequest Society



“

Say you have four children, and you plan to leave each of them 25% of your estate. Think about it this way - what if you left each of them 24% and left the remaining 4% to the Freemasons Foundation? This would contribute to a better Victoria, in your family's name, in perpetuity, and would be a true reflection of the generosity of Freemasons.

Rodney Lavin JP, Chairman, Freemasons Foundation

”

Become Involved

To Freemasons, greatness in life is measured by deed, character, charity, trust and the positive effect one leaves on this world through generosity of spirit.

FFV manages two registered charities - The Freemasons Public Charitable Foundation and Freemasons Benevolent Fund.

We welcome contributions to either Fund, which will enable us to increase the reach and impact of our support. Donations to The Freemasons Public Charitable Foundation are tax deductible, and those who would like to leave a legacy in their name can make a bequest to FFV and become a member of the 1889 Bequest Society.

Make a Donation

Your help can support the Foundation to continue assisting the Victorian community.

A Gift in Your Will

A simple way to help us continue our work within the community is by making a bequest as part of your Will.

Create a Named Sub-Fund

Preserve your donation and provide for a long-term gift to your chosen charity in years to come via the creation of a named sub-fund within our charity structures.

Freemasons Foundation Victoria says thank you to all of the individuals and Masonic Lodges who have contributed financial support during the year and to Freemasons Victoria for ongoing support.

Financial Summary

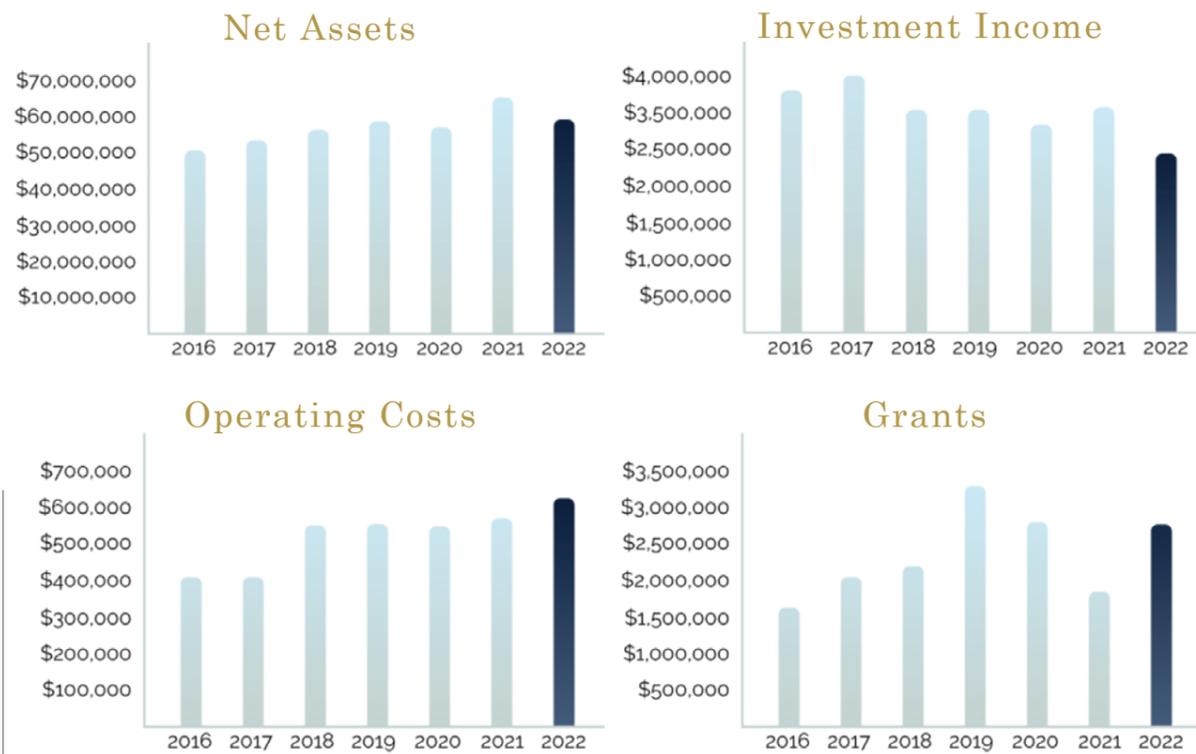
As at 30 June 2022, the Foundation had \$54.6m of funds under management which is administered by JBWere. For the 12 months ending 30 June, the total portfolio return was -6.6%. Despite the negative return in 2021/2022 and the COVID markdown in early 2020, the portfolios have returned 6.5% over 5 years.

One of the key responsibilities of the Board is the monitoring of the investment activities via a robust Investment Policy with the objectives including:

- Invest in a manner that provides a level of return to fund the mission, objectives and purpose of the Foundation, its outgoings and build a legacy for the future; and
- Manage risk through prudent financial management and diversification

	The Freemasons Public Charitable Foundation		Freemasons Benevolent Fund		Total	
	2021/2022	2020/2021	2021/2022	2020/2021	2021/2022	2020/2021
Investment Income	\$804,384	\$1,015,004	\$1,741,589	\$2,181,684	\$2,545,973	\$3,196,688
Other Income	\$950,962	\$31,606	\$28,057	\$201,027	\$979,019	\$232,633
Funds Distributed	\$(840,074)	\$(699,180)	\$(1,780,549)	\$(1,045,865)	\$(2,620,623)	\$(1,745,045)
Operating Expenses	\$(139,159)	\$(126,005)	\$(453,696)	\$(411,793)	\$(592,855)	\$(537,798)
Net Surplus/ (Loss)	\$776,113	\$221,425	\$(464,599)	\$925,053	\$311,514	\$1,146,478
Net Assets	\$17,967,840	\$19,153,409	\$38,011,446	\$42,698,203	\$55,979,286	\$61,851,612

To obtain a copy of the full financial reports for the year, please visit our website: www.freemasonsfoundation.org



Building a stronger, healthier Victoria together



Freemasons
Foundation Victoria

STRONGER & HEALTHIER TOGETHER

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