



The Governor's Leadership Foundation

Outline of Community Action Projects for Community Organisations

Thank you for expressing interest in putting forward a potential Community Action Project (CAP) for the Governor's Leadership Foundation (GLF) participants to assist you with.

The projects are part of The Governor's Leadership Foundation program (GLF), which is a 10-month, intensive development program designed to create holistic leaders for South Australia. Participants in the GLF program are usually senior leaders in the public, private and not-for-profit sectors from all areas of South Australia. They are an accomplished, committed and influential group with a strong interest in the social and economic growth of South Australia. They can bring their diverse experience, knowledge, and skills together to provide support to community groups which might benefit from extra assistance to address a specific need or issue.

Objectives

The Community Action Project offers a collaborative, 'real-time' learning experience in which each GLF CAP team, and your organisation or stakeholders, can work together to learn about a compelling issue, propose solutions, and take action. The action might be researching and developing a plan, trialling some possible ways forward for further evaluation or adjustment, or it might be contributing to existing efforts within your organisation. As such, its three key objectives are:

1. Create a positive impact for your organisation and community.
2. Put into practice tools learnt on the GLF program and further develop the leadership skills of participants.
3. Enable all project members (both GLF leaders and community organisations) to extend their understanding of issues, challenges and resources in the South Australian community.

Guidelines for scoping your project

To leverage the maximum potential from this activity, every project should represent an opportunity to create a positive community impact on a significant challenge, whilst remaining true to our aim of projects being "*small enough to do, big enough to matter*".

A syndicate of GLF participants will work with representatives from your organisation to explore your organisation's challenge and/or project. The aims of the GLF include encouraging leaders to think broadly, and to take multiple perspectives. It also seeks to help leaders tackle complex and complicated 'adaptive' issues, where clear 'technical' solutions are not easy to find. This may mean that in looking at key issues for your community group, we will aim to spend some time analysing the problem carefully to come up with an innovative approach. It may mean that what you presented as the 'issue' may after exploration not what the group focuses on. It may also mean that the team suggests some trials and consultations to gain clarity about approaches that may be most effective.

Your commitments

You will need to provide the Leaders Institute with a one-page brief on your challenge that can be provided to the participants to determine if they are interested in working on the project (see examples below).

You need to appoint a contact person who will be able to share relevant information and communications in a timely manner and be able to answer questions via email or phone. Your Board needs to be supportive of the CAP project.

The key stakeholders need to hold regular meetings with the CAP syndicate for open and honest discussions and collaborate to ensure a successful delivery of the project. This could involve helping to identify other stakeholders that need to be consulted.

You also need to notify the syndicate/Leaders Institute as soon as practical, if any matter arises that may be deemed to affect the development of the project.

Ownership and control of the Community Action Projects

It is important to note the projects selected and pursued will be clearly owned by your organisation and not the Leaders Institute. However, our role will be to act as consultants and volunteers to your organisation during the project.

It is our hope that the projects will make a significant difference with the assistance of participants, not under the auspices of the Leaders Institute or the GLF program, but as community leaders and organisations in your own right.

Evaluation

In November, each CAP team is required to present an overview of their Community Action Project and the outcomes and learnings achieved to the Leaders Institute Board of Directors. In most cases, the group will also present its findings and recommendations to your organisation's Board also.

Next steps

If you are interested in putting forward a project for consideration, please email a one-page brief (examples below) to cbrown@leadersinstitute.com.au by December.

It is important that the Board of your organisation is supportive of you being part of a Community Action Project.

Participants will be asked to vote on which projects they would like to work on and you will be advised if your project has been selected by mid-February. If you have any questions please contact us at The Leaders Institute of South Australia on 8302 0048 or via email as above.

For further information about The Leaders Institute and our programs, including the Governor's Leadership Foundation please visit our website: www.leadersinstitute.com.au

Examples of briefs from organisations

1. Committee for Adelaide - Future of Housing

Organisation purpose:

[The Committee for Adelaide](#) brings together people from all walks of life. We have a goal to drive capital investment and community growth in South Australia. We believe a resilient and innovative economy is both a cause and effect of a great place to live.

The issue:

Population growth has enormous economic, social and cultural benefits for Adelaide.

For example, the Centre for Economic Studies has shown that every skilled migrant meeting an unmet need creates one extra job for the South Australian community.

While the Committee for Adelaide supports population growth, we also realise growth needs to be managed carefully otherwise we'll risk losing the very things that make our city great.

Along with careful planning around transport, infrastructure and the management of resources, ensuring we have the right housing stock to meet future needs and maintaining and increasing housing affordability are critical.

This project would build on the work of Deloitte's Make it Adelaide plan - which identified population targets for South Australia and showed where extra homes could be built across the city - and would focus on issues such as:

- What types of homes should we be building? Are we meeting current needs? What will our needs be in the future (taking into account our ageing demographic, social housing requirements etc)?
- What funding and other purchase models could we consider to ensure housing remains affordable or make it more affordable?

To assist those undertaking the work, the Committee for Adelaide can facilitate one-on-one interviews with experts in this field both in South Australia and overseas as well as co-ordinate roundtable discussions to allow issues to be explored in greater detail.

Contact person: XXX **P:** XXX, **M:**XXX

E: XXX@XXX

2. Down Syndrome Australia – engaging with clients from all nationalities

Organisation purpose:

Down Syndrome SA was established in 1974 by a group of families to provide family support and specialist education programs for children with Down syndrome. [Down Syndrome Australia](#) was established in 2011 as the peak body for people with Down syndrome in Australia. Our purpose is to influence social and policy change, provide a national profile and voice for people living with Down syndrome, and to build resources and knowledge capacity of the state and territory Down syndrome associations. We work collaboratively with the state and territory Down syndrome associations to achieve our mission. Our vision is an Australia where people living with Down syndrome are valued, reach their potential and enjoy social and economic inclusion.

The issue:

1 in every 1100 babies in Australia is born with Down Syndrome however this rate is lower than the worldwide rate of around 1 in 700 births because of the high termination rates in Australia. In South Australia on average we have between 9-14 live births a year and over 50% of these births are to families from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

The services and support that Down Syndrome SA provides have traditionally been targeted towards white middle class Caucasians. As an organisation we are struggling to engage people from a CALD background with our services.

As a result of the CAP project we want to understand the change in our demographics and what Down Syndrome SA might need to change to engage with CALD backgrounds, what relationships/partnerships with other organisations and community groups should we develop and how do we offer a service to them that they value. We want to understand what this might mean for future service delivery and/or our programs.

Contact person: XXX **P:** XXX, **M:** XXXX, **E:** XXX@XXX