

# The Myer Foundation Annual Report 2022–23



THE MYER  
FOUNDATION

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Front cover: Environmental Leadership  
Australia’s Farmers for Climate  
Fellowship at Parliament House  
– sharing their climate-smart farming  
stories with politicians

# Origins of The Myer Foundation



The Myer Foundation was established in 1959 by Sidney Myer’s sons, the late Kenneth Myer AC DSC and Sidney Baillieu Myer AC, as a way to support initiatives and new opportunities arising from contemporary issues. The Myer Foundation was endowed through Kenneth Myer’s estate following his death in 1992.



# The Myer Foundation President's Address

Seeding long-term positive change in our community has been a core activity that The Myer Foundation (TMF) has done for decades. In the 1960s, we co-founded The Florey Institute, which has grown to become one of the largest and most highly respected brain research centres in the world. In the 1980s, it was Asialink, now the country's leading centre for promoting better, more creative and fruitful relations between Australia and Asian nations. In the 1990s, the Cranlana Programme put forward the vision and means by which our nation's leaders could develop the ethical courage and wisdom not only to manage our private and public institutions, but truly to lead them. And, since 2009, Climateworks Centre has grown from a foundational TMF grant to be a powerful and unique player in Australia's transition to a low-carbon future.

Dr Martin Luther King Jr reminded us that "the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice." Change takes time.

The impact of organisations like these that have been funded into existence by The Myer Foundation is not easily summarised in a report covering 12 months. Research, cultural transformation, structural change, policy advocacy, law reform – these are the kinds of long arcs to which Dr King was referring. I am always struck by the number of people who speak to me of the significant outcomes from a grant many decades after the fact. Change takes time, but it does happen. So, when we evaluate the impact of our philanthropy, its apparent successes and failures, we must have an eye to the further horizon and to the quality of the grant's purpose.

Over the last five years, TMF has seeded some big new ideas. First among them is Watertrust Australia Ltd, to which we have dedicated \$5 million over 10 years. Climate change is the great existential threat of our time and Australia's freshwater resources and the policies which govern them are going to be critical to the way we equitably and responsibly manage this continent's capacity to support life. It is one of our nation's most politically contentious issues, but it must be faced, and we have played our part by partnering with The Ian Potter Foundation to bring together a strong coalition of funders in Watertrust's establishment.

Climate change represents our single greatest focus. Alongside Watertrust, the Sustainability & Environment Program has dedicated its budget to climate action, and we are grateful to SMF Trustees for their bolstering of those resources. To this, TMF Directors have added significant discretionary grantmaking. In doing so, we have paid particular attention to organisations, such as Grata Fund, that are working with our nation's most disadvantaged communities, giving them a voice in this epoch-defining period of decarbonisation. This intersection of climate and inequality speaks to the way in which many for-purpose organisations now seek to address the complex and interrelated root causes of issues within our community.

Similarly, TMF Directors' support of a First Nations Voice sits at the intersection of inequality and human, civil and legal rights. We wholeheartedly supported the work on Constitutional recognition in the lead up to the



**Rupert Myer AO**  
President

referendum being called, and the Yes campaign. We did this because it was the right and just thing to do, to support the invitation from the vast majority of Australia's First Nations communities. And, while the proposed Constitutional amendment did not receive majority support in the Australian community, it has started a critical national conversation about the importance of First Nations peoples having a say in the decisions that impact their communities, culture and land. Change takes time.

I look forward to the day, many years from now, when someone will come up to me and speak of the long-term impact of the support we have provided this year. Support that has been given with the long arc of the moral universe in mind. Support that is strategic in its generosity. Support that bends the universe a little closer to justice.

# The Myer Foundation CEO's Introduction

FY23 involved a thorough review of our strategy for the past five years and the creation of a refreshed strategy for FY24–28. As Rupert eloquently notes, The Myer Foundation thinks about supporting organisations, individuals and initiatives that can bring significant long-term benefit to our community – having a five-year strategic horizon provides the runway and the agility to do just that.

The strategic review process gave me and Senior Program Manager Kirsty Allen the opportunity to sit with TMF Life Governors, TMF Directors, Sidney Myer Fund Trustees, and Committee Convenors and Co-Convenors to ask a range of high-level questions. The intent was to elicit personal, instinctive responses – to test the strategic direction of TMF and SMF, operating in concert. It was an illuminating and reassuring experience with respect to what shone through: the pride in our work, the wealth of shared knowledge, the appreciation of the family's philanthropic legacy, and the ongoing commitment to lead with a bold and ambitious vision.

TMF's engagement in public policy dialogue and advocacy was warmly supported, with particular reference to the marriage equality campaign, and support for organisations working in the human, civil and legal rights domain. Indeed, the focus of TMF Directors' major funding in FY23 has rested squarely in this realm, recognising that we need coordinated government action on climate change, equitable policy settings, and the institutions and legal rights necessary to maintain government accountability. Watertrust Australia Ltd, Centre for Australian Progress, Grata Fund, Centre for Public Integrity, Environmental Justice

Australia – these are all organisations characterised by their engagement with improving our nation's civic capacity.

Funding decisions such as these are made on the basis of the high-quality research, analysis and discussion papers prepared by our team, which frame the issues, provide valuable background to Directors and present a range of organisations worthy of funding consideration. My thanks to the splendidly talented TMF team for all this. Their dedication to the for-purpose sector, their intelligence and insight, their determination to turn strategy into action, and the care they show for each other is a delight to behold. Their work is made all the better thanks to the questions, the prompts, the encouragement, the openness, and the leadership of Rupert, other TMF Directors and Committee Co-Convenors. Vital too is the input of all the Myer family members who are in touch with us through conversation, correspondence, and online forums.

That family engagement is foundational to TMF's governance, operations and vision for the future. It is no accident that environmental sustainability represents the single largest funding area across the combined grantmaking of TMF and SMF in FY23. That is, in part, the result of concerted and compelling advocacy from the fourth generation of the family, who now outnumber their parents across TMF Committees and the TMF board. This is one of the great advantages of an intergenerational philanthropic foundation such as this – its capacity to evolve based on present circumstances, to learn from and be respectful of precedent, and to consider the generations to come. The family motto sums it up perfectly. En avant!



**Leonard Vary**  
CEO

Photo: James Penlidis



# The Myer Foundation Directors' Grants



Centre for Australian Progress ran a Government Relations Masterclass with advocates from across the social and environmental change sectors in partnership with Australian Democracy Network

Recipient	State	Project Name	FY Grant Approved	Funding Term (Years)	Total Grant	Commitment from FY23 Budget
Multi-year grants						
Watertrust Australia Ltd	ACT	General Operating Support	2021	Ten	\$5,000,000	\$500,000
Centre for Australian Progress	VIC	General Operating Support	2023	Four	\$400,000	\$400,000
Grata Fund	NSW	General Operating Support	2023	Three	\$350,000	\$350,000
Centre for Social Impact, University of New South Wales	NSW	Social Impact Leadership Australia	2020	Five	\$1,500,000	\$300,000
Centre for Public Integrity	VIC	General Operating Support	2023	Four	\$200,000	\$200,000
Writers Victoria	VIC	Neilma Sidney Literary Travel Fund	2022	Four	\$561,500	-
Centre for Policy Development	VIC	General Operating Support	2022	Three	\$300,000	-
Australian Democracy Network	ACT	General Operating Support	2022	Five	\$275,000	-
Australian Youth Affairs Coalition	VIC	General Operating Support	2022	Five	\$275,000	-
Mannifera	VIC	Mannifera Membership 2021-2024	2022	Three	\$165,000	-
Environmental Justice Australia	VIC	General Operating Support	2022	Three	\$150,000	-
A New Approach	ACT	General Operating Support	2021	Three	\$300,000	-
Human Rights Law Centre	VIC	General Operating Support	2021	Three	\$240,000	-
From the Heart (Cape York Institute)	QLD	General Operating Support	2021	Three	\$200,000	-
Total					\$9,916,500	\$1,750,000

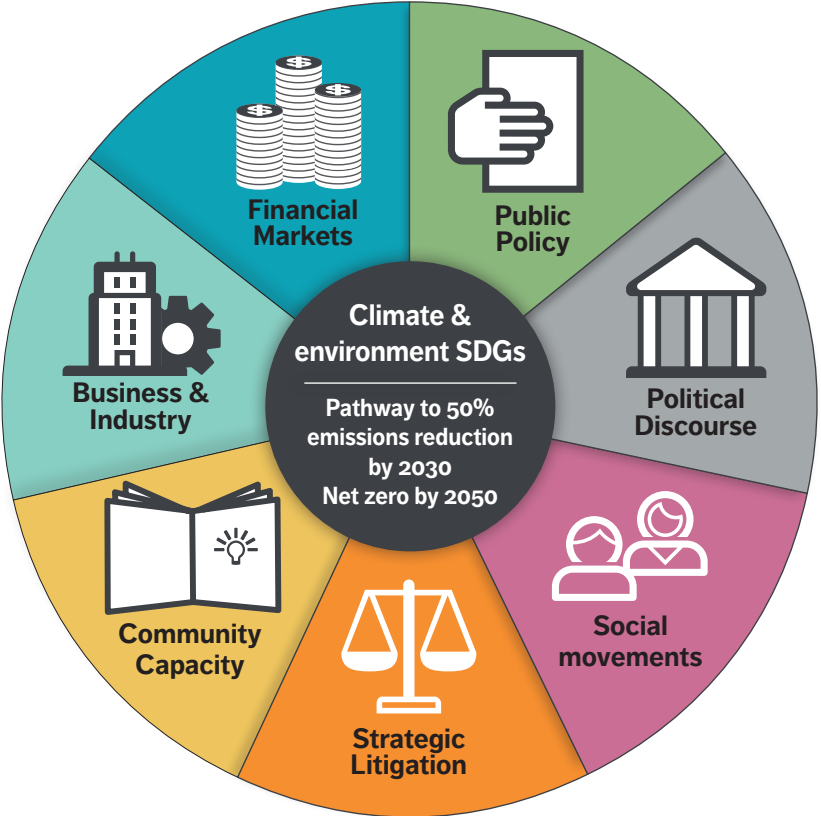


Uncle Paul and Uncle Pabai, two Traditional Owners from Guda Maluyilgal in the Torres Strait, who are taking the Australian government to court for failing to prevent climate change (photo by Talei Elu)

Recipient	State	Project Name	FY Grant Approved	Funding Term (Years)	Total Grant	Commitment from FY23 Budget
Single-year grants						
Australians for Indigenous Constitutional Recognition	NSW	Voice Campaign	2023	One	\$400,000	\$400,000
Uluru Dialogue (Indigenous Law Centre at UNSW)	NSW	Voice Campaign	2023	One	\$100,000	\$100,000
Environmental Justice Australia	VIC	General Operating Support	2023	One	\$100,000	\$100,000
Fair Agenda	VIC	General Operating Support	2023	One	\$25,000	\$25,000
Cranlana Centre for Ethical Leadership	VIC	General Operating Support	2023	One	\$11,000	\$11,000
Australian Environmental Grantmakers Network	VIC	General Operating Support	2023	One	\$5,000	\$5,000
Edmund Rice Centre for Justice and Community Education	NSW	Support for Hazara refugees from Afghanistan	2023	One	\$5,000	\$5,000
North Carlton Railway Neighbourhood House	VIC	General Operating Support	2023	One	\$5,000	\$5,000
Indigenous Carbon Industry Network	NT	General Operating Support	2023	One	\$5,000	\$5,000
Australian Democracy Network	VIC	General Operating Support	2023	One	\$5,000	\$5,000
University of Melbourne	VIC	Melbourne Social Equity Institute's Community Fellows Program	2023	One	\$5,000	\$5,000
Total					\$666,000	\$666,000



# Climate Change



A sustainable future is fundamental to our vision for Australia. Environmental sustainability is one of The Myer Foundation and Sidney Myer Fund's five core values while addressing climate change is one of the two abiding themes of the FY19–23 strategic plan.

The Myer Foundation takes a portfolio approach to effecting action on climate change by supporting a suite of organisations whose work, when taken together, will hasten the transition to an equitable, net zero future, along with investing almost 100 percent of its corpus in ESG (environmental, social, governance) assets.

In FY23, The Myer Foundation awarded multi-year grants to organisations working with public institutions, the private sector and civil society to effect a rapid, robust and equitable transition to net zero emissions, while holding key decision makers in government and business to account on their obligations to address climate change.

The Myer Foundation's impact has been enhanced by the Sidney Myer Fund's substantive augmentation of the Sustainability & Environment Committee's budget.

# Watertrust Australia Ltd



Australia is the driest inhabited continent with highly variable rainfall and run-off. Long-term and sustainable management of our freshwater and catchments is essential. Yet, just when climate change, population growth and the ongoing degradation of our nation's natural capital assets require policy change, debates over the use and management of Australia's freshwater and catchments are becoming increasingly difficult.

Watertrust Australia Ltd seeks to improve how decisions are made about the management of Australia's precious water and catchment resources. Focusing on people and process, Watertrust's expertise helps deliver independent decision-making processes

that provide the space for stakeholders to weigh the evidence, build mutual understanding and engage equitably on the key issues. Watertrust is delivering outcomes seen by stakeholders as fairer, more consistent with available evidence and more legitimate.

Established with a coalition of 16 philanthropic funders, led by The Myer Foundation and The Ian Potter Foundation, Watertrust is independent of governments and any specific interests, enabling it to approach current and future water and catchment policy challenges as an independent, honest broker for the myriad stakeholders at national, sub-national and local levels.

Watertrust is now delivering on more than 20 initiatives across the nation and at all levels of government. In FY23, its second year of operation, an independent annual evaluation revealed strong early signs that Watertrust's potential to enable positive change will be borne out in practice. With a robust model, deep stakeholder relationships and a sophisticated understanding of Australia's water and catchment policy settings, Watertrust is positioned in a unique and powerful way to play a key role in improving water and catchment decision making in Australia.



# Sustainability & Environment Program

The Sustainability & Environment Committee’s focus area for the last strategic period (FY19–23) has been to support organisations that seek to influence key stakeholders to take action on climate change. The Committee awarded grants to a portfolio of ten organisations taking discrete but complementary approaches to effect action on climate at a systems level.

In FY23, the Committee provided multi-year general operating support grants to two organisations playing critical roles in accelerating action on climate in Australia.

Environmental Leadership Australia is building bipartisan support for bold, evidence-based climate policy, supporting community and political leaders from conservative backgrounds to champion for action on climate.

The Next Economy works with communities, governments and industry to build regional economies that are climate safe, regenerative and socially just, by promoting climate solutions, developing policies and frameworks for systems change and co-designing plans and strategies in the regions.

We acknowledge the unwavering commitment of Directors of The Myer Foundation and Trustees of the Sidney Myer Fund towards addressing climate change. Our deep thanks to Directors for their flexibility and responsiveness when considering this Program’s grantmaking and to Trustees for their generous augmentation of the Committee’s budget, bringing the Program’s total grantmaking for the period to almost \$5 million.

In FY23, we welcomed Dr Anna Foley to the Committee as SMF Trustee representative and farewelled John Connor. Our thanks to Anna and John along with Martyn Myer AO, David Shelmerdine, Lilly Myer, Nick Shelmerdine, and Dr John Spierings for their stellar work in FY23. We warmly acknowledge CEO Leonard Vary and Program Manager Jane Thomas and thank them for their support over the past year and indeed the strategic period.

*Jon Berry and Will Spraggett,  
Co-Convenors of the Sustainability & Environment Committee*

Recipient	State	Project Name	FY Grant Approved	Funding Term (Years)	Total Grant	Commitment from FY23 Budget
Multi-year grants						
Environmental Leadership Australia	NSW	General Operating Support	2023	Two	\$500,000	\$500,000
The Next Economy	QLD	General Operating Support	2023	Three	\$490,000	\$490,000
Beyond Zero Emissions	VIC	General Operating Support	2022	Three	\$395,000	-
Seed Indigenous Youth Climate Network	VIC	General Operating Support	2022	Three	\$395,000	-
Farmers for Climate Action	VIC	General Operating Support	2021	Three	\$345,000	-
Single-year grants						
Asylum Seeker Resource Centre	VIC	General Operating Support	2023	One	\$10,000	\$10,000
Total					\$2,135,000	\$1,000,000

# Sustainability & Environment Program



Environmental Leadership Australia brought together Surfers for Climate, Fronrunners, 1 Million Women, Bushfire Survivors and Parents for Climate with NSW Opposition Leader Mark Speakman, Rory Amon MP, James Griffin MP and Kellie Sloane MP



In early 2023, The Next Economy explored a range of perspectives among Latrobe Valley community leaders with regards to energy transition



# Kenneth Myer Innovation Fellowships



Emma Cutting

FY23 marked a decadal milestone for the Kenneth Myer Innovation Fellowships, which offers a year of support, with funds and expertise, to outstanding individuals with the ideas and skills to address some of Australia’s most pressing environmental and social issues. Each year, The Myer Foundation supports one Fellowship, while two are supported by Sidney Myer Fund.

In FY23, The Myer Foundation awarded a Fellowship to Emma Cutting. Emma is a passionate street gardener and mobiliser of gardening communities. Her Melbourne Pollinator Corridor will see the creation of an eight-kilometre community-led and maintained Australian-first wildlife corridor for native pollinating insects linking Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne to Westgate Park.

It’s worth noting that, during the year, a review of the Fellowships program was undertaken as part of a review of the FY19–23 strategy and the development of a new strategy for The Myer Foundation and Sidney Myer Fund. We were gratified to learn that the Fellowships retain their almost unique place in the fellowship firmament in Australia, with a model that supports innovators to focus on their initiative without an expectation of a specified outcome. We are delighted that the Fellowships will continue through the next strategic period.

As Co-Convenors, we engage in the selection process from beginning to end, from reviewing hundreds of expressions of interest, to awarding Fellowships to the crème of the innovation crop. It is a privilege in which we are joined by fellow Committee members Anna Spraggett, Edgar Myer, Huy Nguyen (KMIF 2018), Jan Owen AM and Kathryn Fagg AO. We are immensely grateful for their commitment and insights. We are grateful also to the members of the Kenneth Myer Innovation Fellowship Support Panel – Leah Armstrong, Shelley Meagher, Quentin Miller and Oliver Roydhouse. Their combination

of skills and experience, so generously shared with Fellows, is an integral part of the Fellowship.

Finally, thank you to CEO Leonard Vary, Senior Program Manager Kirsty Allen and Program Manager Jane Thomas and the whole team for their work to ensure another outstanding iteration of the Kenneth Myer Innovation Fellowship.

*Edwina Myer and Jonathan Lindsay,  
Co-Convenors of the Kenneth Myer  
Innovation Fellowships Committee*

2023 Recipient	State	Fellowship Project	Commitment from FY23 Budget
Emma Cutting	VIC	Melbourne Pollinator Corridor	\$150,000
Total			\$150,000

# Mental Health Program

For the last ten years, the Mental Health Committee’s grantmaking focus has rested on upstream interventionist activities and programs in the youth mental health sector. For each of the last two years, the Committee’s grantmaking budget has been significantly augmented thanks to a transfer of \$250,000 from the Trustees of the Sidney Myer Fund. This has allowed the Committee to make multi-year general operating support grants to two complementary organisations working to develop innovative approaches to mental health.

Project Rockit is focused on young people, setting out to build a world in which kindness and respect thrive over bullying, hate and prejudice, and in which every young person is free to realise their potential. Launched in Melbourne in 2006, Project Rockit is a social enterprise with a not-for-profit arm. It delivers anti-bullying and social leadership training in school settings, and advocates for safer online spaces through work with major social media platforms. Since Project Rockit’s inception, it has reached over half a million young Australians, cultivating peer connection and helping to establish cultural norms where “kindness is cool and bullying is cringe” – key factors in supporting the positive mental health of young people as they navigate school and the online world.

In FY21, in response to the dual crises of a pandemic and devastating bushfires, the Committee set aside its focus on youth mental health to take a broader view of the organisations it might support. One of the organisations funded at the time was Makeshift Creative, based in regional New South Wales, which was delivering evidence-led, non-clinical programs to many of the communities and first-responders affected by the Black Summer bushfires. As fire turned to flood, regional populations were again in need of community-based mental health support and Makeshift Creative has been there, educating adults on mental health and wellbeing. The Committee was delighted to renew its funding of Makeshift Creative’s operations for a further three years.

This is the last year we will report on as Co-Convenors of the Committee. It was a year in which we farewelled founding Committee member Nell Golden and welcomed Louis Myer. We thank them and all our fellow Committee members – Laura Richards, Jessica Myer and Jemima Myer – for their generous contributions and good counsel. We thank outgoing expert member Kristen Douglas for her five years of service, enthusiasm and wisdom. Further thanks to Leonard Vary, Carl Nilsson-Polias and all the staff for their assistance with our grantmaking activities this year. And



Makeshift Creative runs Creative First Aid workshops on the Central Coast with residents like Terry who survived bushfires and floods

special thanks to the Sidney Myer Fund Trustees whose financial support has made the Committee’s grantmaking all the more impactful.

*Emily Myer and Nicholas Lindsay,  
Co-Convenors of the Mental Health  
Committee*

Recipient	State	Project Name	FY Grant Approved	Funding Term (Years)	Total Grant	Commitment from FY23 Budget
Multi-year grants						
Project Rockit	VIC	General Operating Support	2023	Three	\$290,000	\$290,000
Makeshift Creative	NSW	General Operating Support	2023	Three	\$150,000	\$150,000
The Westerman Jilya Institute for Indigenous Mental Health	WA	General Operating Support	2022	Three	\$240,000	-
Youth Live4Life	VIC	General Operating Support	2022	Four	\$200,000	-
Single-year grants						
Asylum Seeker Resource Centre	VIC	General Operating Support	2023	One	\$5,000	\$5,000
Young Assets Foundation	VIC	Fitzroy Homework Club	2023	One	\$5,000	\$5,000
Total					\$890,000	\$450,000



# Family Grants Program

The Family Grants Program extends and amplifies the grantmaking reach and impact of The Myer Foundation by matching family member donations to charities. For those under 35 years of age, the program also increases the impact of charitable volunteering by matching volunteering hours with funding from TMF.

In FY23, over \$390,000 worth of donations and volunteering hours were matched, supporting a wide array of causes chosen by family members.



Nawarddeen Academy student Alyssa in the library during a literacy lesson



Fitzroy Youth Homework Club provides free after-school tutoring



Baby Give Back provides essential safety and hygiene items to vulnerable families with young children

Recipient	State	Project Name	Commitment from FY23 Budget
Australian Chamber Orchestra	NSW	General Operating Support	\$30,000
Animals Asia	SA	Bach Ma sanctuary	\$25,000
Australian National University	ACT	National Security College	\$25,000
Baby Give Back	QLD	General Operating Support	\$25,000
Opera Australia	NSW	General Operating Support	\$25,000
SANE Australia	VIC	General Operating Support	\$25,000
Nawarddeen Academy	VIC	General Operating Support	\$19,200
RISING	VIC	Commissioning support	\$15,000
Documentary Australia	NSW	General Operating Support	\$15,000
International Women's Development Agency	VIC	General Operating Support	\$13,000
Black Hole Theatre	VIC	General Operating Support	\$10,000
Malthouse Theatre	VIC	General Operating Support	\$10,000
Victorian Actors Benevolent Trust	VIC	General Operating Support	\$10,000
Arts Centre Melbourne	VIC	Sue Natrass Technical Production Traineeship	\$10,000
Asylum Seeker Resource Centre	VIC	General Operating Support	\$8,540
Foodbank Victoria	VIC	General Operating Support	\$8,500
Australia for UNHCR	NSW	General Operating Support	\$8,000
SecondBite	VIC	General Operating Support	\$7,500

# Family Grants Program



Australian Chamber Orchestra performing *The Four Seasons* at Sydney Opera House, with guest artists Joseph and James Tawadros (photo by Dan Boud)

Recipient	State	Project Name	Commitment from FY23 Budget
Yarra Riverkeeper Association	VIC	General Operating Support	\$7,000
International Social Service	VIC	General Operating Support	\$6,000
Young Assets Foundation	VIC	Fitzroy Homework Club	\$6,000
Australian Cancer Research Foundation	NSW	General Operating Support	\$5,000
Children First Foundation	VIC	General Operating Support	\$5,000
The Dame Nellie Melba Opera Trust	VIC	General Operating Support	\$5,000
The G.R.A.I.N Store Inc.	VIC	Culture Program	\$5,000
3MBS	VIC	Made in Melbourne 2023	\$5,000
Royal Historical Society of Victoria	VIC	General Operating Support	\$5,000
Sydney Dance Company	NSW	General Operating Support	\$5,000
The Australian Ballet	VIC	General Operating Support	\$5,000
Batten Disease Support and Research Association	NSW	General Operating Support	\$5,000
Melbourne Fringe Festival	VIC	General Operating Support	\$5,000
Abbotsford Convent	VIC	General Operating Support	\$5,000
The HOPE Fund (ACF Subfund)	VIC	General Operating Support	\$4,200
Bangarra Dance Theatre	NSW	General Operating Support	\$3,400
Mumbulla Foundation	NSW	General Operating Support	\$2,500



# Family Grants Program



IWDA staff and partners gathered in Fiji to collectively strategise and strengthen feminist movements (photo by Infinity Images)



Abbotsford Convent hosted local artists for the 2023 Australian Performing Arts Market

Recipient	State	Project Name	Commitment from FY23 Budget
The Carers Foundation	QLD	General Operating Support	\$2,500
Melbourne Theatre Company	VIC	General Operating Support	\$2,500
Birdlife Australia	VIC	General Operating Support	\$2,000
Camberwell Area Multiple Birth Association	VIC	General Operating Support	\$2,000
Sacred Heart Mission	VIC	General Operating Support	\$2,000
Victorian Opera	VIC	General Operating Support	\$2,000
Destiny Rescue Ltd	QLD	General Operating Support	\$1,600
Spinal Research Institute	VIC	General Operating Support	\$1,500
Tour de Cure	NSW	General Operating Support	\$1,055
HOTA Gold Coast	QLD	General Operating Support	\$1,000
Queensland Art Gallery	QLD	General Operating Support	\$1,000
Schizy Incorporated	VIC	General Operating Support	\$1,000
Total			\$393,995

# The Myer Foundation Directors



Rupert Myer AO



Emily Myer



Edwina Myer



Adelaide Badgery



Nicholas Lindsay



Kathryn Fagg AO



Dr John Spierings

## Founder and Benefactor Kenneth Myer AC DSC

### Founder

Mr S. Baillieu Myer AC

### Life Governors

Lady Southey AC

Carrillo Gantner AC

Martyn Myer AO

### President

Rupert Myer AO, BCom (Hons), MA (Cantab), FAICD, FAHA

Rupert Myer is President of The Myer Foundation, Chairman of Amcil Limited and a Director of Myer Family Investments and Mutual Trust Pty Ltd. He is Chair of A New Approach, Chairman of the Felton Bequests' Committee and a Board Member of The Aranday Foundation and The Yulgilbar Foundation. Rupert served as Chair of the Australia Council for the Arts from 2012 until 2018 and as Chair of the National Gallery of Australia from 2005 until 2012. He was made an Officer of the Order of Australia in 2015 and an Officier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres in 2012 and is an honorary Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities.

### Vice President (until November 2022)

Emily Myer BA (Hons), MA (Arts and Entertainment Management)

Emily was Vice President of The Myer Foundation until November 2022, and Co-Convenor of its Mental Health committee until June 2023. She continues as a member of the Mental Health Committee. She is a member of the advisory committee of the Child and Community Wellbeing Program at the University of Melbourne and a board member of Cranlana Centre for Ethical Leadership. Emily has many years' experience in program and project management and administration, and a decade spent working in governance and leadership roles in the philanthropic and not-for-profit sector.

### Directors

Edwina Myer BComm LLB

Edwina brings her professional expertise to The Myer Foundation from her medical research and legal

background. Currently working at Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre as an in-house attorney, Edwina is passionate about how innovation in medical research can drive meaningful change for individuals and society as a whole. In addition to her role as a director of The Myer Foundation, Edwina currently serves as a Co-Convenor of the Kenneth Myer Innovation Fellowship Committee, as a board member of the Melbourne Humanities Foundation Board at the University of Melbourne and has previously volunteered with the New York Legal Assistance Group in a pro bono capacity. Edwina is admitted to practice in Victoria, Australia and New York, USA.

### Adelaide Badgery BA (UoM), Adv Dip (Bus) (RMIT)

Adelaide is a communications specialist with a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Melbourne and an Advanced Diploma of Business (Public Relations) from RMIT. She is currently studying a Bachelor of Midwifery at Australian Catholic University, has a background in PR, and experience in strategy development, copywriting, event management and media engagement. Adelaide sits on the General Committee of the Camberwell Area Multiple Birth Association (CAMBA), and is the mother of four children.

### Nicholas Lindsay BCom, BA (Mon)

Nicholas has a finance background, having completed a Bachelor of Commerce and a Bachelor of Arts at Monash University. Working at investment banking firm Lempriere Wells, Nicholas is excited and motivated by the ongoing convergence of the commercial and philanthropic sectors and its potential to generate meaningful change. Prior to joining The Myer Foundation, he volunteered at the Foundation for Young Australians and as a homework mentor for four years at The Huddle Study Support Program. Nicholas served as a Co-Convenor of The Myer Foundation's Mental Health Committee to June 2023 and sits on the Investment Committee and Audit and Risk Committee.

### Kathryn Fagg AO, BEng (UQ), MCom (Hons), FTSE

Kathryn Fagg is Chair of CSIRO and a Non-Executive Director of National Australia Bank Limited, Medibank Private Limited and Djerriwarrh Investments Limited. In the not-for-profit sector, Kathryn is Chair of the Breast

Cancer Network Australia, Watertrust Australia Ltd, and is a board member of the Grattan Institute and the Champions of Change Coalition. She was a member of the board of Boral Limited from 2014 to 2021, including as Chair from 2018, and Non-Executive Director of Incitec Pivot Limited from 2014 to 2019. She is a former member of the board of the Reserve Bank of Australia, a former President of Chief Executive Women, a former Chair of the Melbourne Recital Centre, and of Parks Victoria, and a former board member of the Australian Centre for Innovation.

Kathryn is a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Technology and Engineering. The University of NSW has awarded Kathryn an honorary Doctor of Business and in 2017 the Ada Lovelace Medal, which recognises an Outstanding Woman Engineer. She was a recipient of the University of Queensland's Inaugural Vice-Chancellor's Alumni Excellence Award in 2013 and the University also awarded her an honorary Doctor of Chemical Engineering. Kathryn was made an Officer of the Order of Australia in June 2019 for distinguished service to business and finance, to the central banking, logistics and manufacturing sectors, and to women.

### Dr John Spierings BA, BSW, PhD (UoM)

John Spierings is a strategist and analyst in the philanthropy and for purpose sectors and a former Executive Officer of the Reichstein Foundation. He brings an extensive background in education and training issues and broader social policy to The Myer Foundation.

John was a senior policy adviser to the Hon Julia Gillard AC, in her roles as Deputy Prime Minister and then Prime Minister, 2010-2013, with responsibility for higher education, research, skills, employment, industry, innovation and science policy issues in the PMO. For a decade, John was the Research Strategist with the Dusseldorp Skills Forum focusing on improving the participation and success of young Australians in learning and work.

He holds a PhD in economic history, examining the rise of advertising, mass retailing and media in Australia between 1918 and 1940. John was a Councillor for the City of St Kilda, 1990-94, serving as Mayor, 1992-93.



# The Myer Foundation Committees and Membership

**Founder and Benefactor**  
Kenneth Myer AC DSC

**Founder**  
Mr S. Baillieu Myer AC

**Life Governors**  
Lady Southey AC  
Carrillo Gantner AC  
Martyn Myer AO

**President**  
Rupert Myer AO

**Vice President**  
Emily Myer (until November 2022)

**Directors**  
Edwina Myer (from November 2022)  
Adelaide Badgery  
Nicholas Lindsay  
Kathryn Fagg AO  
Dr John Spierings

**The Myer Foundation Grantmaking Committees**

**Kenneth Myer Innovation Fellowships (co-supported by the Sidney Myer Fund)**  
Anna Spraggett (Co-Convenor until August 2022)  
Jonathan Lindsay (Co-Convenor)  
Edwina Myer (Co-Convenor from September 2022)  
Edgar Myer  
Jan Owen AM  
Huy Nguyen  
Kathryn Fagg AO

**Sustainability & Environment**  
William Spraggett (Co-Convenor)  
Jon Berry (Co-Convenor)  
Martyn Myer AO  
David Shelmerdine  
Dr Anna Foley  
Lilly Myer  
Nick Shelmerdine  
Dr John Spierings  
John Connor (until March 2023)

**Mental Health Committee**  
Emily Myer (Co-Convenor)  
Nicholas Lindsay (Co-Convenor)  
Laura Richards  
Nell Golden (until November 2022)  
Jessica Myer  
Jemima Myer  
Kristen Douglas (until November 2022)  
Louis Myer (from March 2023)

**Members**  
Adelaide Badgery  
Henry Badgery  
Joanna Baevski  
Christopher Baillieu  
Samantha Baillieu AM  
Jon Berry  
Jigna Desai  
Kathryn Fagg AO  
Dr Anna Foley  
Carrillo Gantner AC  
Dr Dashiell Gantner  
Vallejo Gantner  
ZiYin Gantner  
Kerry Gardner AM  
Nell Golden  
Daisy Hayward  
Marigold Hayward  
Robert Hayward  
Kate Herd  
Natalie Herd  
Simon Herd  
Lilian Hodges  
Emma Lindsay  
Jonathan Lindsay  
Nicholas Lindsay  
Sally Lindsay  
Dr Timothy Lindsay  
Poppy Lockie  
Hugh Lockie  
Andrew Myer AM  
David Moffatt  
Annabel Myer  
Charles Myer  
Edgar Myer  
Edward Myer  
Edwina Myer  
Emily Myer  
Jemima Myer  
Jessica Myer  
Jon Myer  
Laura Myer  
Lilly Myer  
Louis Myer  
Louise Myer  
Lucy Myer  
Martyn Myer AO  
Max Myer  
Michael Myer  
Patrick Myer  
Rupert Myer AO  
Mrs Sarah Myer  
Sarah Myer  
Susan Myer  
Vanessa Myer  
Walter Myer  
William Myer  
Sidney Myer AM  
Jack North  
Laura Richards

David Shelmerdine  
Emily Shelmerdine  
Kate Shelmerdine  
Lindy Shelmerdine  
Maree Shelmerdine  
Matthew Shelmerdine  
Nick Shelmerdine  
Stephen Shelmerdine AM  
Tom Shelmerdine  
William Shelmerdine  
Lady Southey AC  
Dr John Spierings  
Anna Spraggett  
William Spraggett

**Staff**

**Chief Executive Officer**  
Leonard Vary

**Chief Financial Officer & Company Secretary**  
Hang Truong

**Senior Program Manager**  
Kirsty Allen

**Program Managers**  
Carl Nilsson-Polias  
Jane Thomas

**Executive Assistant**  
Denise Minahan

**Administration & Grants Coordinator**  
Madeleine Livingstone

**Accountant**  
James Maglovski

# The Myer Foundation Financials

	Commitment from FY23 Budget
The Myer Foundation Directors' Grants	\$2,416,000
Sustainability & Environment Program	\$1,000,000
Mental Health Program	\$450,000
Family Grants Program	\$393,995
Kenneth Myer Innovation Fellowship	\$150,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,409,995</b>

**The Myer Foundation & Sidney Myer Fund Combined Reporting**

The Myer Foundation's Total FY23 Grant Commitments	\$4,409,995
Sidney Myer Fund's Total FY23 Grant Commitments	\$9,911,000
<b>Combined FY23 Commitments</b>	<b>\$14,320,995</b>
Adjustment for FY23 SMF to TMF transfer	-\$945,000
<b>Combined Total Commitments Since Inception*</b>	<b>\$318,538,984</b>

\* not adjusted to present day values.

FY23 Funding by Focus Area

