

THE
JACK BROCKHOFF
FOUNDATION

*Annual
Report*

2023-2024





3	About the Foundation
4	Sir Jack's legacy
6	Chair's report
7	Executive Officer's report
8	Directors and staff
9	Financial summary
10	Grants at a glance
11	Investing our corpus
12	Grant highlights
22	Grants paid 2023-2024

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

OUR PURPOSE

We celebrate the legacy of Sir Jack Brockhoff by supporting initiatives that provide enduring benefits to the health and wellbeing of all Victorians.

Our Vision is for a thriving and resilient Victoria.

OUR VALUES

We are a values-driven organisation. Our work is guided by four overarching value statements. Each statement has a set of actions that describe how we work in practice when we are living these values.

- We are authentic, accessible and welcoming
- We are clear about our identity and the evolving nature of it
- We recognise the importance of people, place and community connections
- We seek transformative and sustainable outcomes.

OUR INVESTMENT PRINCIPLES

We believe that the way we invest is as important as what we invest in. Our principles-based approach to investment ensures that:

- We add value beyond grant making
- We fund with a long-term view
- We seek to understand the underlying causes of the issues we focus on
- We take a strengths-based approach by focusing on the existing resources, resilience, and positive assets already present in communities and amplifying them.



We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we work and live, and recognise their continuing connection to land, water and community. We also pay our respects to Elders past and present.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are advised that this report may contain images of deceased persons.

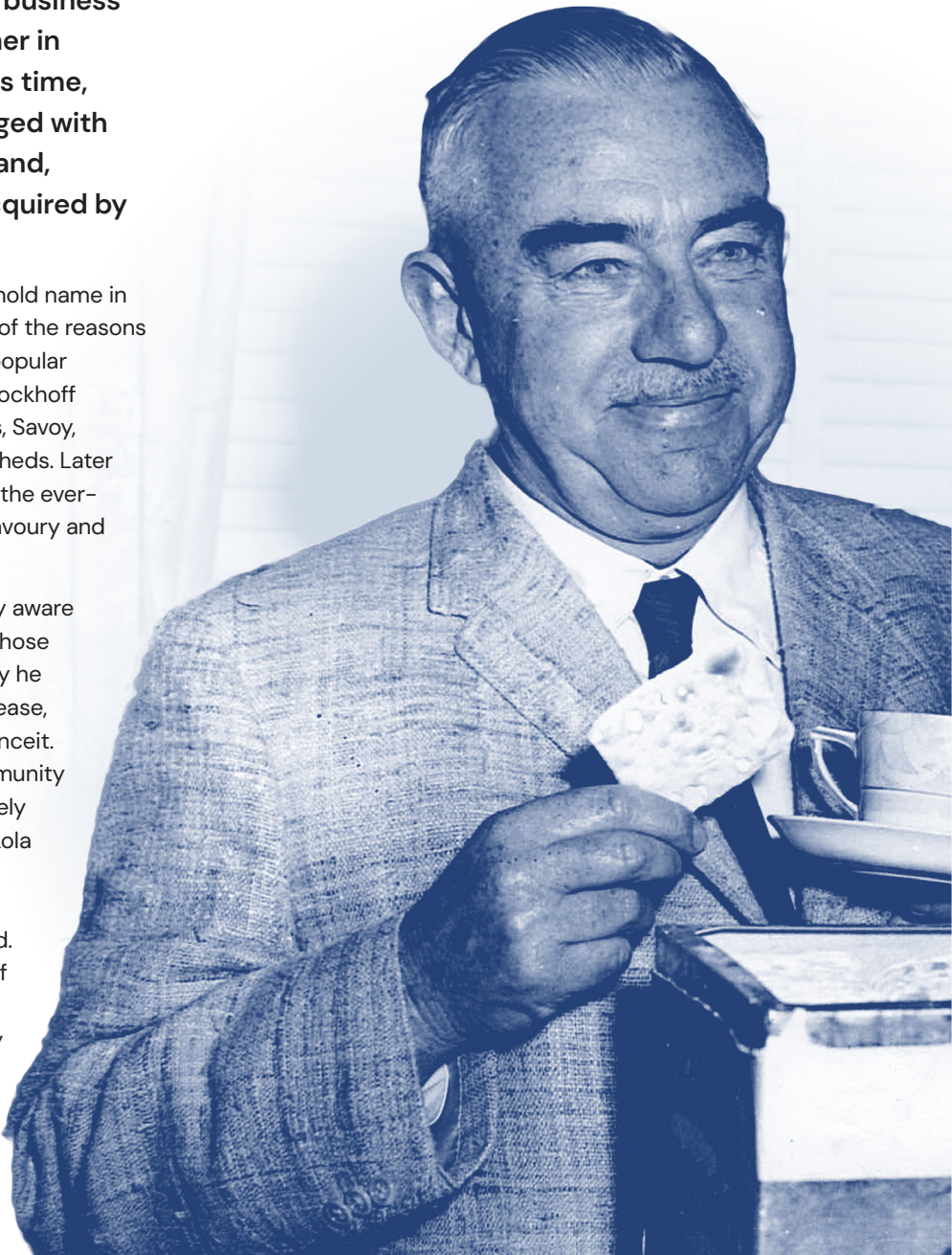
SIR JACK'S LEGACY

The Foundation's mission remains deeply rooted in the legacy and values of our founder, Sir Jack Brockhoff.

Sir Jack was the Managing Director of Brockhoff Biscuits Pty Ltd, a business established by his grandfather in 1880. A community icon in its time, Brockhoff Biscuits later merged with another iconic Australian brand, Arnott's, eventually being acquired by international interests.

Brockhoff Biscuits became a household name in the post-war Victorian market; one of the reasons for this was its innovation with the popular Salada dry biscuit. Other popular Brockhoff products included Chocolate Royals, Savoy, Chocolate Ripple, Milk Coffee and Cheds. Later came the Raspberry Shortcake and the ever-popular Shapes varieties: cheese, savoury and barbecue.

Sir Jack was a generous man, deeply aware of his privileged position. However, those who knew him throughout his life say he carried that privilege with dignified ease, without a trace of ostentation or conceit. His passion for supporting the community was nurtured from a young age, largely due to the influence of his mother, Lola Brockhoff. Lola often encouraged a young Jack to forgo giving her gifts and instead, donate to those in need. She would also arrange for Brockhoff delivery vans and drivers to take underprivileged children—especially from the local organisation Yooralla—on outings and picnics.



Chocolate coated or jam filled



CHOCOLATE ROYALS
A shortcake biscuit base topped with marshmallow & covered with dark chocolate or with pink marshmallow and raspberry jam covered with pure milk chocolate. Eight Royals per pkt.



CHOCOLATE MINT CREAMS (DIN-A-MINT)
Biscuit base, with peppermint fondant and dark chocolate are combined to provide a delightful, refreshing biscuit. 4 oz. pkts.



MILK CHOCO
A crisp wheatmeal biscuit that is coated on one side with pure milk chocolate. 5 oz. pkts.



RASPBERRY SHORTCAKE
Crunchy shortcake biscuits sandwiched with delicious Raspberry Jam and sprinkled with sugar. 8 oz. pkts.

As Sir Jack approached the later stages of his career, philanthropy became an increasingly significant focus, leading him to make larger and more regular donations. On the advice of his solicitors, George Crowther and Robert Symons, he established The Jack Brockhoff Foundation, a decision that solidified his place as one of Australia's most prominent philanthropists of the time. He envisioned the Foundation as a versatile entity, designed to address a wide range of needs, including support for disadvantaged children, medical research, community welfare, and elderly citizens in Victoria.

The Jack Brockhoff Foundation made its first charitable grant during the 1979 Easter telethon, now known as the Good Friday Appeal, with a \$20,000 donation to the Royal Children's Hospital. Since this initial donation of \$20,000 in 1979, the Foundation has distributed nearly \$110 million for the benefit of the Victorian community.

Biscuits, inherently communal in nature, are shared over tea and conversation. Likewise, Sir Jack was a firm believer in the power of people coming together. The Foundation continues his legacy by fostering

a collective spirit of philanthropic giving, listening, learning from and amplifying the voices of local communities, and encouraging collaboration for better outcomes.

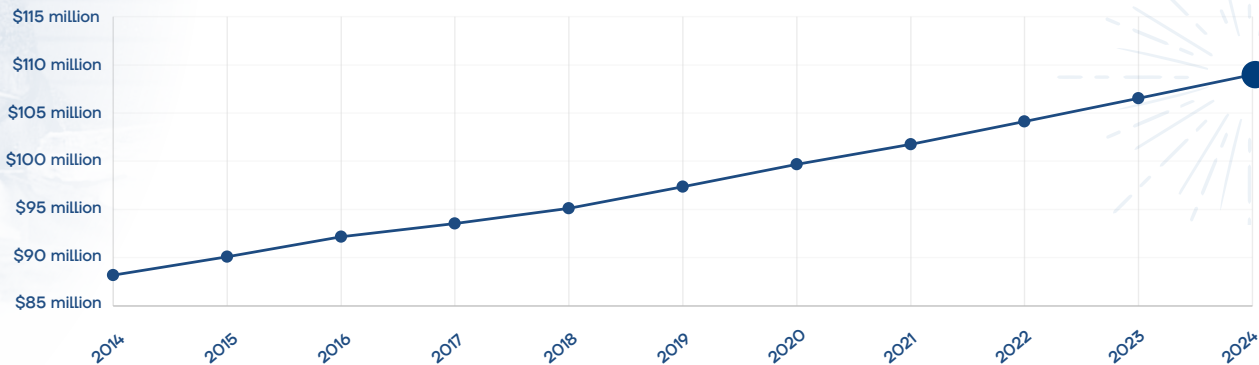
The Foundation's logo, "The Brockhoff Baker," was historically well recognised in Victoria as being the design that once adorned the sides of Brockhoff delivery vans, biscuit tins and biscuit packets in the 1950s and 60s.



SINCE 1979

From an initial donation of \$5.2 million in 1979 and a further \$6.8 million from Sir Jack's estate after his death, plus some contributions amounting to \$2.2 million in total from members of the public, the Foundation has distributed nearly \$110 million for the benefit of the Victorian community.

GRANTS DISTRIBUTED OVER TIME (CUMULATIVE)



CHAIR'S REPORT

ANDREA COOTE



I am deeply honoured that the Directors of The Jack Brockhoff Foundation have placed their trust and confidence in me by electing me as Chair of the Board and I sincerely thank them for this opportunity. I accept this responsibility with humility and eagerly anticipate learning from the experience of my fellow board members as we work together to guide the Foundation into the future.

My predecessor, Robert Symons, has left an exceptional legacy after 23 years of dedicated service as Chair. The Foundation's excellent reputation in the sector is, in large part, due to Robert's unwavering commitment, wise counsel, and stewardship over the years. His contribution has been nothing short of inspirational, and we are incredibly fortunate to have benefitted immensely from his leadership.

This year, we bid farewell to Maureen Lyster as a Director of the Foundation. Serving on our Board for 20 years, from 2003 to 2023, Maureen has been an extraordinarily effective member. As former Health Minister for the State of Victoria, Maureen brought a wealth of knowledge and experience to the Foundation. Never hesitating to raise important or controversial issues, Maureen has been meticulous in analysing financial reports and has chaired the Community Grants Committee with distinction.

Leadership and governance transitions present an opportunity to pause and reflect on our operations and our vision for the future. In this spirit, our Executive Officer, Louise Kuramoto, conducted a thorough consultation with the Directors to identify key themes for the coming year. High on the agenda were a review of our Granting Strategy and Impact Framework, along with an assessment of our governance policies and processes.

Over the past six months, we have enjoyed revisiting and refining our vision and values, and delving into where the Foundation's resources can be most effectively deployed. The strategic process aligns our grant-making with contemporary practices, ensuring we maximise our impact while keeping the intent and wishes of our Founder, the late Sir Jack Brockhoff, at the heart of our decision-making. I am delighted with the outcome, and we look forward to this exciting new chapter in the Foundation's story.

We welcomed the Productivity Commission's inquiry into philanthropy in Australia and were pleased to provide feedback on areas relevant to The Jack Brockhoff Foundation. In particular, we support the simplification and expansion of the DGR system, which would enable many grassroots organisations, historically excluded from obtaining this status, to participate.

My sincere gratitude goes to my fellow Directors, who continue to demonstrate dedication and passion for the work of the Foundation, along with wisdom in their decision-making. I also extend my thanks to our Executive Officer, Louise Kuramoto, who provides me with great support and continues to lead with expertise and thoughtfulness, as well as to our Grants and Office Manager, Bridgette Hardy who keeps the Foundation running very efficiently.

ANDREA COOTE
CHAIR

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

LOUISE KURAMOTO



Some readers may not be aware of the remarkable legacy the Brockhoff family bestowed upon Australia—one that remains a staple in nearly every household and has been enjoyed for decades: biscuits. The iconic Salada, Savoy, Barbecue and Savoury Shapes, Cheds, Teddy Bear, Chocolate Royal and Ginger Nut biscuits, to name just a few, were all products of Brockhoff Biscuits before the company merged with Arnott's in the 1960s.

Occasionally, we are contacted by individuals who had a personal connection with Brockhoff Biscuits. It is one of the many highlights of my role to connect with these individuals and hear their fond memories of the brand. Recently, I had the pleasure of speaking with David Palyga, who shared that between 1959 and 1961, when he was just 4 or 5 years old, he appeared as the Brockhoff Baker Boy in live television commercials on ADS Channel 7 in Adelaide. David generously donated the original Brockhoff Baker Boy chef hats and slippers he wore in those commercials to the Foundation.

"It was a new weekly variety extravaganza called 'The Light Show'," David remembers.

"My mother took me to the studios on Strangways Terrace for the nighttime variety show. I remember waiting for my cue and then walking onto the set in my Brockhoff Baker Boy uniform. The host and entertainers were in a circle and when I arrived the circle opened and I walked into the middle. I then offered them Brockhoff biscuits from a basket I had on my arm. I have fond memories of going to the studios for those live commercials."

It has been a pleasure to work with the Foundation Board this year to reimagine our granting strategy and impact framework. I extend my thanks to Fiona McKenzie and Alli Mudford from Orange Compass, who skilfully guided us through this process and I look forward to sharing more about the first year of

our new strategy in next year's report. The refreshed strategy marks the beginning of a comprehensive review of the Foundation's administrative documents, including charters, policies, and procedures, which will enable a more efficient and effective operation to support the Victorian community.

The organisations and programs featured in this annual report all play a vital role in helping the Foundation achieve its mission of supporting the health and wellbeing of all Victorians. From enabling young people with disabilities to live independently in their own homes, to providing young mothers experiencing homelessness with safety and assistance to raise their babies, or uncovering a major breakthrough in medical research — we are privileged to support their outstanding work.

This has been a year of change and renewal with the transition of the Chair of the Foundation. I would particularly like to thank Robert Symons for his support during my first 18 months in this role. It has been a pleasure to learn from and collaborate with him, and I look forward to continuing this close partnership with the Foundation's new Chair, Andrea Coote, as we embark on the Foundation's next exciting chapter. I deeply appreciate her leadership and the strong partnership we are building.

Lastly, I want to express my gratitude to my colleague, Bridgette Hardy, for her invaluable support. Her efforts in keeping the Foundation running smoothly are deeply appreciated, and her vibrant personality is an added bonus to our office.

LOUISE KURAMOTO
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



CHAIR
MS ANDREA COOTE



DIRECTOR
PROF JAMES ANGUS AO



DIRECTOR
MR DOUG BARTLEY



DIRECTOR
MS SARAH BROCKHOFF



DIRECTOR
PROF PETER FULLER AM



DIRECTOR
MS ELIZA HEATHCOTE



DIRECTOR
PROF DAVID HILL AO



DIRECTOR
PROF MAXINE MORAND AM



DIRECTOR
MR ROBERT SYMONS



DIRECTOR
MR EDWARD TUDOR

FOUNDATION STAFF



MS LOUISE KURAMOTO
EXECUTIVE OFFICER



MS BRIDGETTE HARDY
GRANTS AND OFFICE MANAGER

BOARD COMMITTEES

CHILDREN & YOUTH COMMITTEE

Ms Sarah Brockhoff
(Committee Chair)
Mr Douglas Bartley
Ms Eliza Heathcote
Mr Robert Symons
Prof Maxine Morand AM

AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE

Ms Maureen Lyster
(Committee Chair and Director until Nov 2023)
Ms Eliza Heathcote
(Committee Chair, from Nov 2023)
Mr Douglas Bartley
Mr Edward Tudor
Mr Robert Symons

COMMUNITY GRANTS COMMITTEE

Ms Maureen Lyster
(Committee Chair and Director until Nov 2023)
Ms Sarah Brockhoff
(Committee Chair from Nov 2023)
Ms Andrea Coote
Mr Edward Tudor

INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

Mr Douglas Bartley
(Committee Chair)
Prof Maxine Morand AM
Mr Robert Symons

MEDICAL RESEARCH COMMITTEE

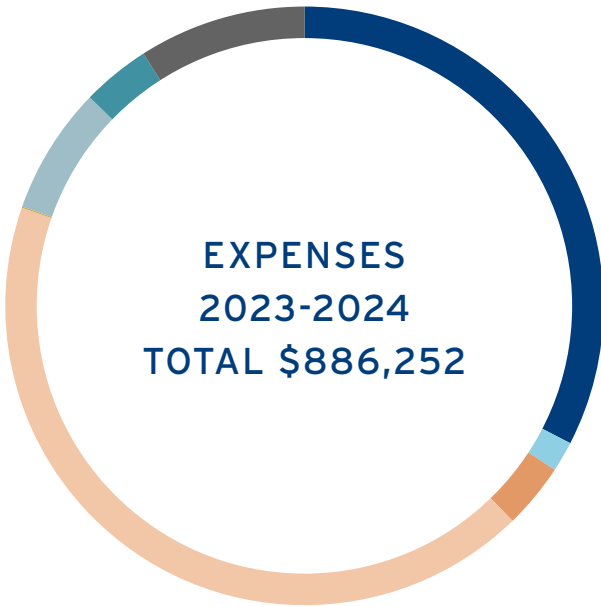
Prof David Hill AO
(Committee Chair)
Prof James Angus AO
Prof Peter Fuller AM

FINANCIAL SUMMARY 2023-2024



Expenses
\$886,252
(26%)

Grants
\$2,477,430
(74%)



Fund management
\$288,817

Audit
\$14,530

Accounting
\$31,306

People
\$377,149

Depreciation
\$614

Consulting
\$60,936

IT
\$32,721

Other
\$80,179

PROFIT AND LOSS	AMOUNT (\$)
Total income	3,191,489
Total expenses	(886,252)
Total grants	(2,477,430)
Net gain on revaluation of investments	3,680,599
Net surplus (deficit) *including investments revaluations	3,508,406

BALANCE SHEET	AMOUNT (\$)
Total cash at bank	214,059
Total investments	62,532,139
Other assets *including franking credits receivables and accrued income	319,763
Total assets	63,065,961
Total liabilities	(114,361)
Net assets	62,951,600

2023-2024 GRANTS AT A GLANCE



The Jack Brockhoff Foundation provides grants in three key priority areas: Children & Youth, Community, and Medical Research.

Within these categories, several focus areas have been identified that address current community needs and sector-wide funding gaps.

CHILDREN & YOUTH

GRANTS	TOTAL
21	\$767,836

This program supports initiatives aimed at improving outcomes for children and young people in Victoria. The Foundation focuses its support on two key areas:

- **Addressing Youth Homelessness:** Supporting solutions to reduce homelessness among young people.
- **Creating Pathways to Education, Training, and Employment:** Helping young people access opportunities for learning, skill development, and job readiness.

COMMUNITY

GRANTS	TOTAL
28	\$933,006

This program focuses on initiatives that create lasting, meaningful impact across communities in Victoria. The Foundation concentrates its support in three key areas:

- **Ageing:** Supporting housing initiatives for older women and addressing social isolation among older adults.
- **Disability:** Supporting housing solutions and innovative employment approaches for people with disabilities.
- **Building capacity:** Tackling poverty and disadvantage by helping grassroots charitable organisations develop innovative ways to become more effective, efficient, and sustainable.

GRANTS PAID

55

TOTALLING

\$2,477,430

MEDICAL RESEARCH

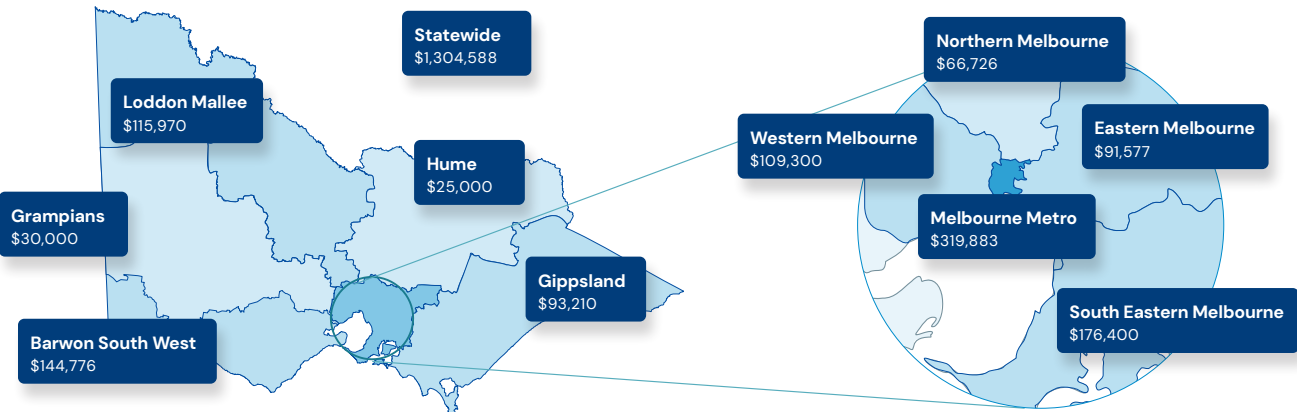
GRANTS	TOTAL
6	\$776,588

This program aims to strengthen Victoria's world-class research in health and wellbeing by supporting the careers of talented, emerging medical scientists. These grants are unique in addressing the well-recognised challenge faced by early-career researchers, who often encounter career roadblocks just when they should be encouraged to build on their enthusiasm and innovation



In partnership with The Marion and E H Flack Trust who generously funded one additional medical research grant, allowing for a total of seven researchers to be supported.

GEOGRAPHIC IMPACT



INVESTING OUR CORPUS



The Foundation has been on a journey over the past few years, considering how our corpus can meaningfully serve as both an income-generating tool for our main business of grant-making, while also being an extension of our positive impact in the community and a reflection of our values as an organisation.

The first step in this journey was to revise our Investment Policy Statement to include an Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) lens that reflects our mission and values. At this time, we tendered the management of our corpus, resulting in the engagement of three investment managers, each of whom brings a particular focus and expertise to specific asset classes.

It is important to note that while we integrate an ESG lens across the portfolio, we do so with the expectation that returns will not be compromised because of this alignment. Our commitment to strong financial performance remains paramount, and we believe it is increasingly important and indeed possible, to ensure our investments reflect our organisational values without sacrificing our financial goals.

The Foundation's investment management transition has been a thorough and considered one, and we are pleased with how the conversation at the board table concerning our investment portfolio continues to evolve.

Beyond the ESG lens, we invest for impact with clear and measurable goals that enhance our positive contribution to the community.

Some of the investments we have made in this space include:

- Loans to established, growth stage companies that have a positive impact on society and the environment.
- An infrastructure fund comprised of several investments such as social housing, specialist disability accommodation and solar and renewable energy assets.
- A diversified fund investing across a spectrum of social and affordable housing, specialist disability accommodation, land with biodiversity credits, solar energy infrastructure and social impact bonds.
- Specialist disability accommodation in Australia, providing people with NDIS accommodation packages with dignified and purpose-built housing and access to appropriate support services.
- Australian water entitlements that are managed for positive environmental impact in wetlands in the Murray Darling Basin region and for cultural practices for First Nations peoples.
- Carbon credits to support the transition to a net zero economy.
- Equity and debt investments in businesses in Australia that are designed to deliver profit for purpose across aged care, disability, mental health, skills education and social & affordable housing.
- Fishing licenses in Australia that are subject to sustainable fishing quotas and managed with innovative initiatives with First Nations communities and aiming to improve the populations of overfished species.

Crackers and savoury biscuits

SALADA CRACKERS
A crisp, light, golden cracker that is perfect for every occasion. Ideal with all spreads, soups and cheese. 8 oz. pkts.

CHEDS
Ready topped with toasted cheese, they are a savoury delight to bite — just right with other toppings, too! 8 oz. pkts.

CLIX
The cracker to like peanuts or biscuit for anytime, anywhere.

PREMIUM SALADA
Crisp, light and these delicious with cheese or anything. Twin-stack packets. 8 oz.

STEPPING STONES TO SCHOOL

ORGANISATION:
CHILDREN AUSTRALIA (OZCHILD)

GRANT AMOUNT:
\$50,000

“The Stepping Stones to School program supports families and their little people to be successful at school,” explains Joe-Anne Nicholas, Manager of OzChild’s Western Region.

“It gives children and families the confidence to transition successfully to kinder and primary school, helping them feel part of the community and maximising their ability to be successful in learning.”

By providing tailored support to families, the program is helping to break generational cycles of poverty and disadvantage that result from disengagement in primary and secondary schooling.

Stepping Stones to School targets five outcomes, helping children develop a strong sense of identity and wellbeing, helping them feel connected, and become effective communicators and confident learners.

“Our facilitators go into the homes and into the early years settings to get to know the families and see the children both at home and at kinder and how they respond to the different environments and activities,” Joe-Anne says. “And that’s an important distinction because educators can’t go into the homes to see this.”

Facilitators introduce a range of activities that could include sitting down with a book for story time, developing fine motor skills by using fingers to trace on paper, practising how to take turns or creating routines for bedtime.

The benefits of the program’s support flows to families too, with facilitators establishing trust with caregivers that contributes to a resilient family dynamic. Building

the capacity of parents and caregivers, Joe-Anne says, is the most successful predictor of change in children’s school readiness.

“Some parents are terrified of teachers because of their own experience of school, so they never speak to their child’s teacher. Our facilitators will go with the parents to talk to the kinder teacher or go along to the enrolment days and things like that to help everyone feel comfortable.”

The highly skilled Stepping Stones to School facilitators are integral to the program’s success.

“It’s a rare skillset,” Joe-Anne explains. “Our facilitators have backgrounds in education or community services, but they understand so much that spans the two. They need to understand safety and risk, the impact of trauma and intergenerational trauma, and they have to be able to do this work in complex family environments.”

With philanthropic support, Joe-Anne and her team have been able to deliver a program that is meeting the specific needs of children and their families.

“The support of The Jack Brockhoff Foundation has helped us expand Stepping Stones to School into Warrnambool, which is the biggest area we’ve ever delivered the program in,” Joe-Anne says.

“This is true early intervention work that can set families up and little people up for lifelong success – kids who love learning, who are excited by education rather than frightened by it, who want to go to school, and have a real opportunity to engage in whatever journey they choose for their life. 🌟

MYCELIA ENERGY COLLECTIVE

ORGANISATION:
FOUNDATION FOR RURAL AND REGIONAL RENEWAL

GRANT AMOUNT:
\$48,900

“Mycelia is a metaphor for how we work,” explains Moragh Mackay, Managing Director of Mycelia Energy Collective.

“Mycelia is a resource gatherer, a connector, a networker. It shares resources and helps other living entities survive and thrive.”

The work of the Mycelia Energy Collective is designed to share the benefits that come with the transition to renewable energy. By creating an energy sharing platform or virtual energy network, Mycelia matches people with renewable energy systems that produce more power than they need with households that do not have a renewable system of their own.

“By redirecting the excess energy to those without solar, we’re able to reduce electricity costs for people who haven’t been able to install it,” Moragh explains.

“Once we realised we could create a community of people around this idea we realised we could do other things as well, especially for households that are low income or rentals for example.

“Not only could we lower their energy costs, we could also raise funds to for energy efficiency upgrades for those households too.”

Improved energy efficiency has delivered energy bills that are 40–50 per cent cheaper. This reflects, Moragh says, how energy inefficient most Australian houses are as a result of poor insulation and excess draughtiness.

“New houses currently have to build to a 7-star energy efficiency rating,” Moragh explains, “but most houses that were built in Australia up to the turn of the century have a 1-star rating.”

One of the members of the Mycelia Collective, a single parent with three teenagers, reported a significant and immediate reduction in energy costs, with her electricity bills almost halving from \$13/day to \$7/day.

The Mycelia Collective has ambitions to expand its work to include subsidising the cost of hot water system upgrades and the installation of more energy efficient heating and cooling systems, while also deepening its focus on education.

“Many people lack the time, knowledge or skills to navigate the complex landscape of energy efficiency options,” Moragh says, “and vulnerable households have been left out of the energy transition, especially those in rural and regional areas.”

With support from The Jack Brockhoff Foundation, Mycelia Collective has hosted energy efficiency courses, Energy Circles and Speed Date an Energy Expert events, designed to bring the community together for peer learning.

“Local people who’ve got a new hot water system or solar can speak about the research they did, the equipment they used and the tradespeople who were good to work with locally,” Moragh explains.

“There’s a lot of work to be done in energy literacy. There are so many terms that make it bamboozling for people. We refer to it as ESL: energy as a second language.” 🌟



GRANT HIGHLIGHTS

HOSPITAL TO HOME SERVICE

ORGANISATION:
SUMMER FOUNDATION

GRANT AMOUNT:
\$48,000

Nobody wants to stay in hospital longer than necessary, but many patients have no choice.

“Hospital to Home supports NDIS participants who are stuck in hospital because they have no housing to be discharged into,” explains Alison Pettit, Hospital to Home Team Leader.

The program, delivered by Housing Hub (formerly part of the Summer Foundation), was piloted during Covid when hospitals were under pressure to discharge patients quickly.

“We were seeing people who were leaving hospital with a new disability, for instance they’d been involved in an accident or had a stroke, were being discharged into unsuitable or unsustainable housing and many young people were being diverted to residential aged care,” Alison says.

The Hospital to Home service operates nationally and since 2020 has received more than 550 referrals. Funding from The Jack Brockhoff Foundation was used to support 12 of those in Victoria in 2024.

By searching for suitable long-term and interim housing options, Hospital to Home works with hospital teams to help them understand the types of housing and funding support options available.

“Often with hospital discharge there can be a focus on the short-term,” Alison explains, “but if there’s no appropriate or longer-term housing option in place, the arrangement can break down and the person ends up back in hospital.”

The 12 Victorian participants Hospital to Home helped with the support of The Jack Brockhoff Foundation, spanned 10 health networks. Some were helped into specialist disability accommodation or housing, others were discharged into medium-term accommodation or mainstream housing with supports in place.

One of the most important pieces of the puzzle, Alison says, is asking questions.

"People being able to live their best life often starts with living in their best home."

“We speak to people about their built environment and support needs, and the location they want to be in,” she says. “We ask whether they have pets, we ask about what’s important to them – these are all things that often get missed in hospital discharges.”

A recent example was a woman in her 40s who experienced a stroke and was unable to return to her family home because of her new disability requirements.

“She has school-aged children,” Alison explains. “This is an example of someone you don’t want to end up in residential aged care – we needed to find options that would allow her children to stay with her.”

The Hospital to Home team supported the hospital to collect evidence and apply for funding for specialist disability accommodation and investigate housing options that met her needs and preferences.

The client was able to select a mainstream property with a support provider who helped with her physical access needs, close to her children’s school.

“The right home is often the starting point for people to achieve other goals,” Alison says.

“It can be little things like location, an extra bedroom for a home office, a garden, or being able to keep their pet. People being able to live their best life often starts with living in their best home.” 🌟



THE ASPIRE LITERACY PROGRAM FOR INDIGENOUS GIRLS AND YOUNG WOMEN

ORGANISATION:
ABORIGINAL LITERACY FOUNDATION

GRANT AMOUNT:
\$10,000

The Aspire Literacy Program helps Indigenous girls and young women grow their literacy skills and confidence at school.

“We know one of the reasons students leave school early is because of struggles with literacy and reading,” says Dr Anthony Cree OAM, founder of the Aboriginal Literacy Foundation.

“Recent NAPLAN tests indicate Indigenous students are, on average, between three and four years behind their non-Indigenous peers when it comes to reading,” he explains.

“Typically, a Year 7 or 8 Indigenous student will have a reading age of someone in Year 4. That gets very difficult if you’re asked to read something on a whiteboard in front of your class.”

Working with Indigenous girls who are on the cusp of starting secondary school or have just begun their secondary studies, the Aspire Literacy Program provides 1:1 or 1:2 tutoring.

Thirty minutes of personal tutoring using the phonic system in which every sound is taught, consistently delivers better results than three or four hours in a group setting using a whole-of-word teaching method, Anthony says.

Weekend literacy camps, which provide four hours of intense support across two days, have also proven to be extremely effective.

“It’s not rocket science. The key to successful teaching is having the full attention of the child and

that’s much easier when you’re 1:1 rather than in a classroom of 30,” he explains.

“The support of The Jack Brockhoff Foundation has enabled us to expand our program and help more young Indigenous students, particularly in Hamilton and Ballarat,” Anthony continues.

“We don’t receive any money from government, but that means we’re able to experiment and do things government can’t do. And now that we’ve proven our results, the government schools are interested in our methods.”

Since its establishment in 2003, the Aboriginal Literacy Foundation has seen extraordinary successes over the years.

“There are many inspiring stories,” Anthony says. “We worked with a student in Grade 3 who had never seen the alphabet, and 12 years later is a qualified teacher.

“Another student from Mildura studied physiotherapy before going on to do more study at the University of WA and is now a doctor.”

The primary aim of the Aspire Literacy Program is to help students get through to Year 10.

“Once you’ve got your Year 10 certificate you can march into any TAFE college and find a course that interests you, whether you want to be a bricklayer or a hairdresser, and these courses lead to a career,” Anthony says.

“If you’ve got a qualification, you’ve got a future.” 🌟



TRANSITIONING TO INDEPENDENT PARENTHOOD

ORGANISATION:
LIGHTHOUSE FOUNDATION

GRANT AMOUNT:
\$30,000

Working to end youth homelessness, Lighthouse Foundation provides homes and therapeutic care programs for children and young people impacted by long-term neglect, abuse and homelessness.

The Foundation's Young Parents Program provides' long-term accommodation and 24/7 therapeutic care to young parents and their babies. With help from The Jack Brockhoff Foundation, a fourth Parent and Baby Transition home now provides a safe refuge for young parents escaping violence.

“The young mothers we work with have seen the worst of life,” explains Michelle Michie, Head of Philanthropy & Bequests at Lighthouse Foundation.

“Our youngest mum was just 12 years old, the victim of rape within her family home. Another young homeless mum gave birth in hospital and when the nurse asked for her address, she admitted she would be carrying her four-day old baby and bag in her arms to catch a tram from busy Victoria Parade to get to a friend’s house where she could couch surf.”

Without support, young parents with complex trauma and a history of homelessness risk perpetuating the cycle of trauma.

“If the trauma is not addressed, you can’t address homelessness,” Michelle explains.

“These traumatised young people often find it difficult to interpret their children’s behavioural cues and are at higher risk of post-natal depression and other mental health issues, putting their babies at risk of neglect and abuse.”

With a central objective of keeping parent and baby together in a safe and healthy environment, the Young Parents Program focuses on both physical and psychological wellbeing.

Live-in carers respond to the issues the young parents experience as teenagers as well as the needs of newborns and toddlers. Care includes parenting and relationship skills, emotional regulation, connecting to a wider community and building life skills such as cooking and budgeting to help young parents eventually transition to independent living.

“The great successes from this program happen when these young parents see how care is modelled and they learn how to respond to their child and how to be a parent,” explains Michelle.

The program has helped 50 young families, with many of the young mothers reconnecting with study or part-time work.

“One of our young mums is taking driving lessons and is saving for a car; another has completed a TAFE course in veterinary care and has successfully established a home of her own for herself and her daughter,” Michelle says.

“There’s stigma attached to young motherhood and seeing other young parents like you, who go on to finish school and get jobs, is a game changer.” 🌟



EARLY CAREER MEDICAL RESEARCH

2023–2024 recipients (L to R): Dr Kallyanashis Paul, Dr Shiraz Badurdeen, Dr Sarah Garnish, Dr Pooranee Morgan, Dr Lachlan Dalli, Dr Nhi Tran, Dr Roberta Goncalves Anversa



We recognise the significant gap that often exists between completing a PhD and securing substantial research funding. Early-career researchers frequently possess innovative ideas and strong motivation but lack the established track record required to compete for prestigious grants, such as the NHMRC grant, considered the pinnacle of medical research funding in Australia. Our grant program aims to bridge this gap by supporting medical researchers within three years of completing their PhD who have promising research proposals backed by solid preliminary work.

Understanding that financial support alone is insufficient for building sustainable careers, the grant program requires recipient institutions to guarantee the researchers salary for the duration of the funded program and the flexibility to dedicate at least half

of their working week to pursuing their own original hypotheses, along with mentorship support from a designated supervising mentor.

To amplify our impact in this area, The Jack Brockhoff Foundation collaborates with other philanthropic organisations that wish to support medical research but lack the scientific expertise needed to allocate their funding effectively. This partnership model benefits the sector by enabling more medical researchers to secure funding while empowering more philanthropic organisations to invest in medical research with greater confidence. 🌐

Dr Kallyanashis Paul
HUDSON INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL RESEARCH
\$140,000

3D bioprinted constructs to aid precision medicine and surgical bone grafting for osteosarcoma in young children and adolescents

Dr Shiraz Badurdeen
MURDOCH CHILDREN'S RESEARCH INSTITUTE
\$145,391

Automating low-Flow Oxygen (Auto-FLO) for preterm infants

Dr Sarah Garnish
THE WALTER & ELIZA HALL INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL RESEARCH
\$58,924

Identifying new regulators of necroptosis for the therapeutic treatment of inflammatory disease

Generously funded by the Marian and E H Flack Trust



Dr Pooranee Morgan
BAKER IDI HEART & DIABETES INSTITUTE
\$150,000

Protecting the killers: Enhancing cancer therapy by modulating the lipid composition of CAR T cell

Dr Lachlan Dalli
MONASH UNIVERSITY
\$150,000

Real-world effectiveness of vaccines for prevention of paediatric stroke

Dr Nhi Tran
HUDSON INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL RESEARCH
\$74,977

Improving respiratory support care for extremely preterm infants at birth

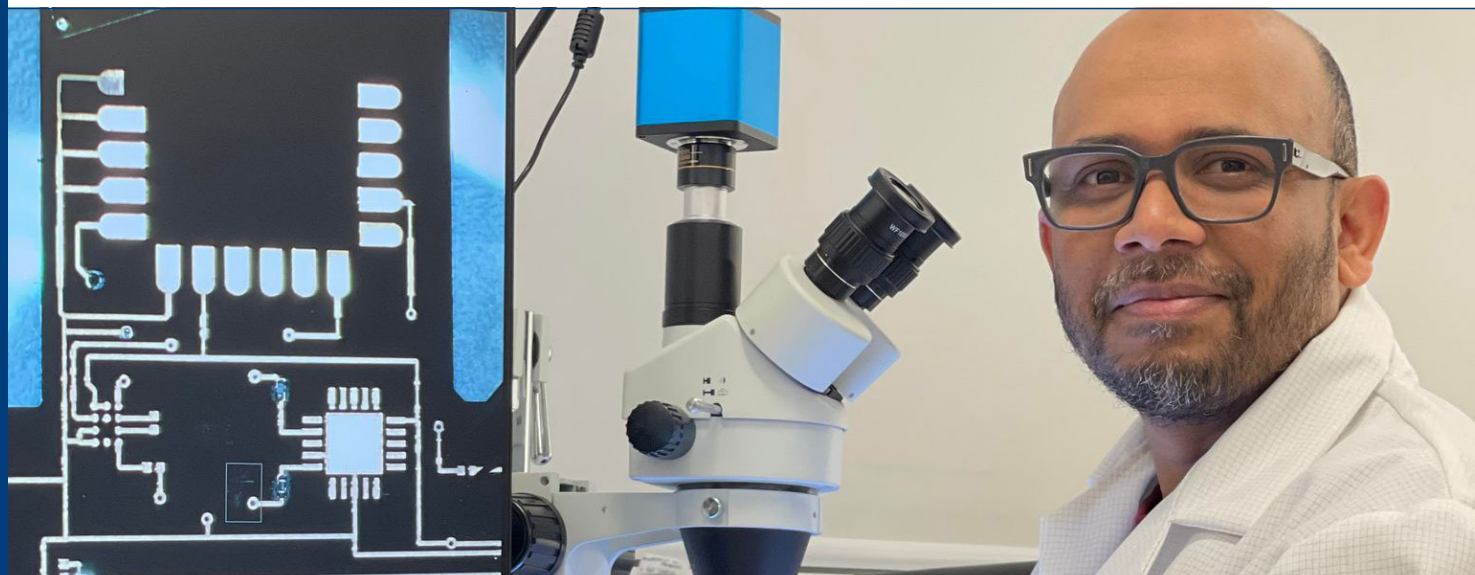
Dr Roberta Goncalves Anversa
THE FLOREY INSTITUTE OF NEUROSCIENCE AND MENTAL HEALTH
\$116,220

Examining the relationship between adolescent onset binge drinking and e-cigarette use: maladaptive changes in brain and behaviour

EARLY CAREER MEDICAL RESEARCH ALUMNI

ATAUR RAHMAN

YEAR FUNDED: 2022-2023



With the help of an Early Career Medical Research Grant from The Jack Brockhoff Foundation, Aatur Rahman's research is poised to revolutionise biosignal monitoring.

"I want to make people's lives easier," says Aatur, who completed a PhD at RMIT in 2020.

"There are lots of scientific problems around us and most of the time we try and solve the very complex ones but sometimes nobody is focussing on the smaller things which could make a big difference."

Aatur's goal is to make a battery-free monitoring device that is fully wireless so that it can be used by anyone in a hospital, aged care facility, neonatal clinic or even a childcare centre – anywhere there is a requirement for monitoring of health conditions. The idea came to him during a hospitalisation close to home.

"My son was admitted to hospital with croup when he was young," he explains. "It was 3 in the morning and it was very scary. They were trying to put monitors on him like the oximeter on his finger to measure the oxygen in his blood, but my son didn't want to wear it, and the wires became tangled up on the monitor."

"The first thing that came to my mind was that this should be wireless, but then of course it requires a battery for power, and we know that if a battery leaks it can do a lot of harm on the skin, so that's where the idea for a wireless and battery-free device came from."

The potential impact of Aatur's research is game-changing and quite literally, far-reaching.

"We know we don't have enough nurses to take care of our elderly," Aatur explains.

"If an elderly person has suffered a heart attack, they have to go to hospital and get wired up for monitoring. Imagine if you were wearing a device at home that is continuously providing ECG data, blood oxygen levels, temperature and all the other biomarkers that are important for decision-making by clinicians."

"What would happen if that data was available from any part of the country or the world no matter how remote you are? Not only would there be an economic benefit, but so much of the mental stress, for instance of having elderly parents in a different part of the world, could be lessened when you can monitor all their conditions for preventative health management, on your mobile phone."

Aatur says his research career would not be where it is today without The Jack Brockhoff Foundation grant.

"Everything started with The Brockhoff Foundation grant," he says.

"The grant gave me time to do my own research and within two years I received fellowships at the Heart Foundation as a postdoctoral fellow – one of only six in Australia, and an ARC Early Career Industry Fellowship – one of only fifty in Australia, which resulted in my continuing position in RMIT as Senior Lecturer very recently. Being able to focus on the fundamental research, without pressure, was so important." 🧠

EARLY CAREER MEDICAL RESEARCH ALUMNI

EBONY MONSON

YEAR FUNDED: 2022-2023



After investigating the ways human cells respond to viral infection during her PhD studies at La Trobe University, Ebony Monson's current research explores the possibilities for new antiviral therapeutics. Specifically, Ebony is investigating innate immune response pathways, and how lipid droplets can be manipulated as a novel antiviral strategy.

The implications for viral immunology are significant.

"What we've been able to describe is that these lipid droplets are very important during viral infection," Ebony explains, "they can help our cells survive" – this is something that has never been described before."

"When we understand what the infection targets in a cell, we can create something that targets the infection in the cell for a quick immune response."

An accelerated immune response to viral infections would be enormously helpful if not lifesaving in any viral outbreak, none more so than a pandemic.

"As we saw during Covid, it takes time to develop a vaccine," Ebony explains. "It used to take as many as 10 years. The Covid vaccine was the fastest ever and even that took seven or eight months to be rolled out."

"During that time, many more people become sick and on top of that, many of the vaccines we have for viral infections aren't always effective, for instance the influenza vaccine – people still might get sick."

Ebony's hope is that her research contributes to the creation of a pan-antiviral that is effective against almost every kind of viral infection.

"My ultimate hope is that we can find something that would be effective against a virus we've never seen before," she says.

Early support from The Jack Brockhoff Foundation, with partnership funding from The Marian and E H Flack Trust, fuelled a career launch pad for Ebony.

"Support in the research landscape is so scarce in Australia," she explains.

"To receive early career funding that enabled me to do the projects I wanted to do was amazing. I've now been awarded a NHMRC EL1 Fellowship for the next five years and that wouldn't have been possible without The Jack Brockhoff Foundation."

"Their support enabled me to build my career around this research and I'm so grateful for their belief in me."

Ebony's love of science is itself infectious.

"When I was growing up, being a research scientist made you think of men in lab coats – it didn't seem like a career that was available to me," she says.

"The coolest thing about science is when you get to do something and see something for the very first time; you're looking down a microscope and you realise this is the first time anyone has ever seen this, and that person is me." 🧠

GRANTS PAID 2023–2024

ORGANISATION	PROJECT TITLE	AMOUNT
All Things Equal	Launch of All Things Equal Catering Enterprise	\$25,000
Anam Cara House Colac	Reducing Social Isolation and Loneliness for Older People Through In-Home Volunteers in Small Communities	\$4,776
Anglicare Victoria	Emergency Relief Solutions for Regional Victoria – Warrnambool, Euroa and Ballarat	\$30,000
Asteria Services	Exercise Therapy – Equipment for People with Disability	\$15,970
Australian African Foundation for Retention and Opportunity	The Generation by-AAFRO	\$50,000
Baker ID Heart & Diabetes Institute	Enhancing Cancer Therapy by Modulating the Lipid Composition of CAR T Cell	\$150,000
Banksia Gardens Community Services	Broady Bike Kitchen	\$50,000
Berry Street Victoria	The Learner 2 Probationary Program	\$25,000
Big Group Hug	Necessary Warehouse Equipment	\$6,726
Big Little Buddies	Younger and Older Making Music and Memories – Intergenerational Music Program	\$9,791
Casey North Community Information and Support Services	Financial Literacy: Capacity Building	\$30,000
Children Australia (OzChild)	Stepping Stones to School – Expansion into Warrnambool	\$50,000
Cornerstone Contact Centre Inc	Resources to Support Community Connection for Disadvantaged Elderly	\$8,000
Cultivating Community	Hear Me, See Me, Employ Me	\$50,000
Enable Social Enterprises	Replace Vital Data Security Work and Learning Station Equipment	\$10,000
Fight Parkinson's	Fight Parkinson's Regional Community Seminars –Geelong and Central Gippsland	\$4,488
Foodbank Victoria	Farms to Families Program	\$30,000
Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal	Investing in Rural Community Futures Victoria	\$160,000
Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal	Mycelia Energy Collective	\$48,900
Free to Feed	Digital Content Internships – Boosting Employment for Young People of Refugee Backgrounds	\$50,000
Frontier Services	East Gippsland Community Meals Program	\$9,822
Fruit2Work	Juvenile Recidivism	\$25,000
Health Justice Australia	Health Justice 2023	\$10,000
Hudson Institute of Medical Research	3D Bioprinted Constructs to Aid Precision Medicine and Surgical Bone Grafting for Osteosarcoma in Young Children and Adolescents	\$140,000
Hudson Institute of Medical Research	Improving Respiratory Support Care for Extremely Preterm Infants at Birth	\$74,977

Inclusion Melbourne	Pathways to Inclusive Employment – Pilot Project to Trial a Framework for People with Cognitive Disability and Employers	\$43,223
Jigsaw Australia	Work Experience for High School Students with Disability	\$32,960
Kids Plus Foundation	AAConnect	\$50,000
La Trobe University	Regional Pathways Program – Mildura	\$50,000
Launch Housing	Building Viv's Village – Support for Children and Young People to Build Their Mental Wellbeing, Community Connection, and Employment Pathways	\$48,400
Little Dreamers Australia	The Big Dreamers Development Program	\$50,000
Monash University	Real-World Effectiveness of Vaccines for Prevention of Paediatric Stroke	\$150,000
Mountain District Learning Centre	Continuing Education for Young People with High Anxiety	\$49,250
Murdoch Children's Research Institute	Automating Low-Flow Oxygen for Preterm Infants	\$145,391
Norlane Community Initiatives	Alleviating Social Isolation in Older People	\$40,000
Operation Stitches	Nothing is Impossible Project	\$30,000
Prison Network Ministries	Young People Facing Big Challenges	\$50,000
Refugee Legal	Family Violence Capacity Building Project	\$50,000
Sharing Stories Foundation	Cultural Employment Pathways for Bangerang Mentees	\$49,300
Southern Cross Kids' Camps	Endeavour Camp 2024	\$10,000
Southern Peninsular Community Support	SPCS Emergency Relief/Food Aid Replacement	\$30,000
Southside Justice	Keeping New Mothers and Their Children Safe From Harm	\$50,000
St Kilda Gatehouse	St Kilda Gatehouse Fundraising Resource Suite	\$25,000
Summer Foundation	Hospital to Home Service – Assisting People with Disability to Resume Independent Living	\$48,000
The Beautiful Bunch	Bud to Bloom	\$25,000
The Chaos Network	Living Our Best Life – Capturing the Stories of New Opportunities, People and Joy	\$32,536
The First Step Program	Delivering a Whole Person, Whole System Model	\$50,000
The Florey Institute of Neuroscience	Examining the Relationship Between Adolescent Onset Binge Drinking and E-Cigarette Use	\$116,220
The Footpath Library	The Footpath Library's Outreach Mobile Library Program	\$5,500
The Mallacoota Wilderness Collective	Building Community Capability and Capacity to Enable Mallacoota to Thrive	\$48,200
The Venny	Easy, Efficient and Effective Evaluation	\$10,000
Uniting Vic Tas	Short-Term Transitional Accommodation and Support for Single Older Women Experiencing Homelessness Due to Family Violence	\$10,000
Western Chances	Western Chances Scholarship and Internship Web Portal	\$10,000
White Box Enterprises	Strengthening the PBO Trial Implementation in Victoria	\$50,000
Zoe Support Australia	Zoe Kids Family Day Care	\$50,000

TOTAL\$2,477,430

THANK YOU

The Directors and staff at The Jack Brockhoff Foundation extend our sincere thanks to all the organisations and individuals we have partnered with this year. The positive impact you make within your local communities and across Victoria brings purpose and meaning to our work, helping us move closer to achieving our mission.

We would also like to thank the consultants who have provided their expertise in the management of our investments, accounting, and IT throughout the year.



Suite 501, 685 Burke Road, Camberwell VIC 3124

(03) 9006 1765

foundation@jackbrockhoff.org.au

jackbrockhoff.org.au

Grant highlight stories written by North Star Narratives

Design by Studio Sometimes

Printed on 100% recycled stock