



Melbourne
Women's
Foundation

Year in Review

2022–2023

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In the spirit of reconciliation, Melbourne Women’s Foundation sincerely acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as First Australians and Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia.

We value and respect their connections to land, sea and community.

We pay our respect to Elders past and present, and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Front cover 2023 Nurturing Grant recipients *St Kilda Gatehouse*: Helen Colston, Dianne Azoor Hughes and 2023 Signature Grant recipients *Prison Network*: Sally Tonkin, Amelia Pickering



Our Values
 Collaboration
 Integrity
 Respect
 Transparency
 Responsibility
 Compassion

Our Vision

A future where vulnerable women and families in Melbourne thrive

Our Mission

To enable members to be part of informed, democratised giving where their power is amplified through the collective benefit to women and families in Melbourne



Melbourne Women’s Foundation Ltd
 ABN 14666061678 is a registered charity endorsed by the Australian Tax Office as a Tax Concession Charity (TCC) and Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR1)

\$160k

Raised in FY22-23
Granted in Nov 2023

\$278k+

In Endowment Fund
at June 30, 2023

\$1.14m

Granted to 48 nonprofit
organisations since 2014

Chair of the Board's Message

Melbourne Women's Foundation: Transition and Transformation

What an extraordinary year we've had!

Organisations go through developmental stages. By the end of 2022, we had reached the stage where our foundation was solid enough to embark on our own as an independent charity. In fact, it was becoming increasingly necessary if we hoped to sustain our hard-earned gains and grow to advance our mission.

We didn't embark upon this transition lightly. We undertook extensive consultation with members and other experienced stakeholders and factored that feedback into an in-depth analysis of the options. As a result, we started FY22/23 as Melbourne Women's Fund, a charitable fund account within Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation, and finished it as Melbourne Women's Foundation, an independent charity.

With this new charitable status, we can now access alternative revenue sources, such as tax-deductible workplace giving and direct donations from philanthropic organisations, to support our operations. This better positions us to acquire the necessary resources for healthy growth to help a greater number of vulnerable Melbourne women and families with a stronger community of givers.

We couldn't have achieved this transition without the contributions and goodwill of so many. Alice Macdougall, Samantha Loff and Laura Irving from Herbert Smith Freehills provided essential pro bono assistance in securing our new charitable status. Also pro bono, Michelle Varcoe, Gembridge Director and MWF member, undertook our search for an Executive Officer, a role that needed the ongoing expertise and dedication of a professional rather than a volunteer. Jenny Dawes of Clearpoint Legal, provided further pro bono support by guiding our new Executive Officer's contract development.

MWF member, Carmel Collins, was instrumental in analysing our independence options plus addressing our governance concerns for two years, for which we are grateful.



Christine Darcas, Chair

We've been touched by the generosity of the donors who stepped up to fund a three-year contract for this role. The result: our new Executive Officer (now Chief Executive Officer) Liza Nadolski. It's a challenge to enter a transitioning organisation as the first paid Executive Officer. Liza ensured that we delivered all our activities with our essential volunteers while we completed the transition. Her proactive and visionary approach to leading the new Melbourne Women's Foundation into the future is inspiring.

I would also like to thank our board: Patricia Burke OAM, Gillian Hund OAM, Andrea McNamara, Rowena O'Neill and, most recently, Amanda Thornton. Establishing a new charitable entity with a new board has involved a steep learning curve, an adventure that all these individuals have undertaken with grace and mutual support.

Dr Catherine Brown OAM, Rikki Andrews, Lonia Catalano, Suzanne Doig and Jaishma Krishna of Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation deserve special recognition. The Foundation was the home where, with their support, we evolved and matured to the point where we were ready to fly on our own. They went above and beyond to ensure that we transitioned as smoothly as possible.

Last, but not least, on behalf of the board, I thank our members. You are the core of our being, not only as donors but also as crucial volunteers. To you, and our community supporters—large and small corporate sponsors, individual fundraisers, and philanthropic sector advocates—we extend heartfelt appreciation.

We look forward to sharing the ride ahead with you!

With warm wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Christine'.

Christine Darcas,
Chair of the Board

About Melbourne Women's Foundation

Established in 2014 as Melbourne Women's Fund, Melbourne Women's Foundation is a giving circle which brings together members' resources to create a lasting impact for women and families in our community.

Melbourne Women's Foundation awards grants to nonprofit organisations which help and offer opportunities for Melbourne women and families in need.

Melbourne Women's Foundation members:

- Span various ages, backgrounds, and interests
- Make a tangible difference through their contributions
- Champion crucial causes for women and families
- Meet and engage with the community of changemakers
- Are intentional and purpose-driven givers who each have an equal vote in awarding grants

Membership and donations made by members and donors are tax-deductible.

All memberships are giftable, making them a wonderful way to share the spirit of giving.

Membership and donations can be made through workplace giving and via philanthropic organisations.



Melbourne Women's Foundation Ltd
 ABN 14 666 061 678 is endorsed by the Australian Tax Office Tax as a Concession Charity (TCC) and Deductible Gift Recipient Item 1 (DGR1)

Join Our Community Become a Member



Next Gen

18-35 years old

\$565 annual donation

\$500 grants pool contribution
 \$65 admin fee
 Tax-deductible

Standard

35+ years old

\$1,132 annual donation

\$1,000 grants pool contribution
 \$132 admin fee
 Tax-deductible

Life

\$25,000

Secures membership for life
 No admin fee
 Tax-deductible

Our Strategic Objectives

A new strategic plan is in development and will be launched in 2025



Increase philanthropic funding through collective giving

- Create financially accessible membership entry
- Sustain and grow membership to ensure a collective giving pool of funds
- Build a member-based endowment fund
- Build sponsorships and partnerships with organisations aligned with our interests



Engaged, informed philanthropists

- Provide democratic participation into how grants are distributed
- Deliver opportunities to learn about focus areas and NFPs addressing them
- Provide opportunities to engage in MWF management
- Provide opportunities to network with, and learn from, experienced philanthropists



Empower NFPs

- Provide informed and collaborative grant funding to empower NFPs to deliver their missions
- Provide pro bono support in grant seeking
- Help build awareness of finalist NFPs
- Encourage additional financial and pro bono assistance from members



Diverse women philanthropic leaders

- Provide leadership and succession opportunities in MWF management
- Provide networking opportunities with other philanthropic professionals
- Provide opportunities to represent MWF at industry events



A collective giving leader

- Stay informed about and apply philanthropic best practice
- Maintain a robust, yet compassionate, grant-making process
- Share information
- Measure and evaluate our processes and community impact
- Participate in philanthropic events, particularly relating to collective giving



159
members
as at June 30, 2023




87% value
increased
giving power




91% greater
knowledge of issues
impacting women
+ families




84% value
learning from
sector experts



Chief Executive Officer's Message

“

A giving circle is built on the belief that every contribution, no matter how big or small, makes a difference.

That commitment to co-creating the solution makes this community so special.

”

I am excited to be a member and to represent the Melbourne Women's Foundation. My door is always open to our members and supporters. I am here to collaborate, connect and amplify our efforts to create lasting change.

The theme of co-creation underpinning the giving circle first inspired and intrigued me. The issues which lead to women being disadvantaged and vulnerable are complex and interconnected. True change needs collective action and collaborative approaches to the challenges women and families face.

Over the past nine years, Melbourne Women's Foundation has been a catalyst for transformation, championing the rights and well-being of women throughout this wonderful city. It is a simple yet profound calling: to empower, uplift, and create a brighter future for every woman and family that calls Greater Melbourne home.

I am filled with excitement for our future as Melbourne Women's Foundation. A giving circle is built on the belief that every contribution, no matter how big or small, makes a difference. That commitment to co-creating the solution makes this community so special.



Liza Nadolski, CEO

In 2024, our 10th anniversary year, our Team is working on:

- Increasing funding through collective giving by launching an integrated end-of-financial-year campaign to boost our membership and impact
- Cultivating its vibrant community of learning where women can grow together as engaged, informed philanthropists by holding diverse events and gatherings
- Championing diverse women as philanthropic leaders in our events, leadership and volunteer roles by reflecting the communities we support
- Empowering nonprofit organisations by connecting with grantees to learn about their priorities and challenges
- Earning our place as a collective giving leader by giving members avenues to share their expertise and passion

In March 2025, you'll be invited to celebrate a decade of impact and the launch into our next exciting chapter.

Thank you for your commitment to Melbourne Women's Foundation. Your support drives our mission forward. Together we can continue to create positive change.

Liza Nadolski

Liza Nadolski,
CEO

liza.nadolski@melbournewomensfoundation.org

Collective Impact

Membership Highlights

91%

have a greater understanding of issues affecting women and families in need

87%

value the way our Giving Circle amplifies their giving power

84%

value learning from sector experts about issues affecting women and families in Melbourne

75%

have a greater understanding of the needs of nonprofit organisations

63%

value interaction with people who share an interest in giving

60%

joined on a recommendation by an existing member

Our heartfelt thanks to everyone who renewed their membership, joined, or donated to Melbourne Women's Foundation.

We achieved a remarkable milestone by granting a record \$160,000 to six nonprofit organizations this year. This makes a total of over \$1.14m in grants since our founding in 2014.

Member Survey Insights

Each year we check-in with members to understand their views of our activities, ranging from grants to events and priorities areas for giving.

Three central themes stood out as most valued by members

- Amplifying impact and uplifting Melbourne's women and families in need
- Learning and being inspired at our events and through our communications
- Connecting with the community through membership and by participating in committees and activities



129⁺⁸
Standard
Members

19⁺⁹
Next Gen
Members

11
Life/Honorary
Members

Strength & Impact Together

Rachel Sharrock, Volunteer Engagement Administrator, plays a key role in our membership management. Rachel joined our giving circle in 2021 driven by her passion to improve the quality of life for Melbourne women and families. Rachel answered some frequently asked questions:

If I've just become a member, when will I be eligible to vote?

Members who pay their membership donation by June 30th qualify to vote at our Grant Awards Celebration held the following October or November.

Can I give membership as a gift?

Yes! All our memberships are giftable and tax-deductible:

- Annual Membership \$1,132
- Annual Next Gen Membership (aged 18-35) \$565
- Life Membership for a member of any age, for a one-off donation of \$25,000

How long is my membership valid?

Your annual membership is valid until 30 June of the financial year following the one in which you made your last donation.

For example, if you renew in March 2024 (FY 23/24), you are eligible to vote for our 2024 finalists and are still a member until 30 June 2025. However, if you don't pay your membership renewal by 30 June 2025, you will then lose your membership and voting rights for 2025 because you haven't made a membership donation to the FY24/25 funding pool.

We send each member a renewal reminder email 12 months after their last donation. It's a relief to us when members pay then. Just over 30% of our membership wait until June to renew. While we're always happy about renewals and are determined to manage them all, processing last minute renewals can be a lot for our volunteer staff.

Are there new ways to make my annual donation now that we're an independent charity?

Yes! Our DGR1 status means you can make your tax-deductible membership donations in several ways, including through a Private Ancillary Fund or through workplace giving platforms like Good2Give.

Workplace giving facilitates direct membership donations from your payroll, offering an immediate pre-tax benefit to you while ensuring the full donation amount reaches our giving circle. And some employers may match your contribution, halving your membership donation cost or doubling your donation.

For further inquiries contact Rachel at membership@melbournewomensfoundation.org

“

MWF has given me great friendships and development opportunities – both personal and professional.

I think we have an awesome giving circle.

”

Collective Impact



Mary Chackola, Next Gen member

“

I joined the Melbourne Women’s Fund because I believe in the impact of collective giving & collaborating with a group of likeminded women. Being part of a dynamic giving circle allows me to amplify the impact of my contributions to the causes that are important to me, in particular supporting women in my community.

As a member, I find fulfilment in knowing that every donation, no matter the size, is a crucial building block in constructing a landscape where women can thrive.

For me, MWF represents a commitment to champion equality and nurture and empower the aspirations of women. It’s about being part of a movement that believes in the power of collective generosity to create lasting change.

”

Next Gen

Our Next Gen cohort gathered in March 2023 for a workshop to learn how to develop and deliver a well-constructed and documented philanthropic giving strategy.

The session empowered our Next Gen members to connect, share and consider their individual values and understand how to link them to the ‘why, what and how’ of their personal giving in a structured way. The group came out feeling inspired, informed and excited. Thank you to Australian Philanthropic Services for this special opportunity.



Members Dr Linette Etheridge and Maxine Gross with guest Carol Zammit at the 2023 Welcome Back Morning Tea.

Connected Community

Each quarter members and friends of Melbourne Women’s Foundation catch up over a relaxed social dinner to get to know each other in the Boroondara area.

Initiated by MWF Chair Christine Darcas in between COVID lockdowns, this group owes its ongoing success to the exceptional leadership of longtime member, Dr Linette Etheridge. Linette is a consummate people connector who joined our giving circle in 2018 with the thought, “I can grow old with these women”.

Linette firmly believes that “People are dying to be invited.” Now that the COVID emergency phase is well and truly over, we are breaking free from geographical constraints. Drawing inspiration from the incredible success of the quarterly dinners held in Boroondara, we are thrilled to announce the launch of social dinners spanning various locales across Melbourne.

Mark your calendar!

Our 2024 social dinners are scheduled for:

- *Boroondara social dinners:*
Tue 27 Feb, Tue 18 June, Tue 10 Sep, Tue 10 Dec
- *Merri-bek social dinners:*
Wed 20 March, Wed 17 July, Wed 16 Oct, Wed 04 Dec
- *City of Yarra social dinners:*
Thu 18 April, Thu 15 Aug, Thu 21 Nov
- *Mornington Peninsula Coffee Catchups:*
return Fri 22 March, with more dates TBA

Members and friends of Melbourne Women’s Foundation are warmly invited to all and any of our social dinner gatherings.

If you have an idea for locations or would like to organise a relaxed social dinner gathering in your area, please reach out to Liza.Nadolski@melbournewomensfoundation.org



Vale Jo Crawshaw

Jo joined Melbourne Women’s Fund in 2020 and soon volunteered to become our Financial Manager, a position she held until shortly before her passing. She volunteered for this role while simultaneously being the mother to Tom, wife to John and working full-time at Evans & Partners.

Dedicated, conscientious, insightful, generous and very, very kind, Jo quickly became a valuable and cherished member of our executive team.

She was a joy to work with, and it was our privilege to have her in our lives.



Grants Impact

2022 Grant Awardee Update

Our 2022 Signature Grant (**Tradeswomen Community Foundation**) and Nurturing Grant (**You Matter**) awardees offered insightful updates to their projects late last year. A final report for both these projects will be published in early 2024. We're excited to see what's next!



Tradeswomen Community Foundation works to support more women into trades.

Project

Remade for trade: supporting women's pathways to non-traditional trades.

The project breaks down barriers to employment in the trade sector for women living with disadvantage or in vulnerable situations. The project builds confidence and knowledge in trade opportunities while providing placement with suitable employers and post-placement support.

Since the project commenced in January 2023, Tradeswomen Community Foundation have successfully recruited and trained experienced tradeswomen as mentors, established a peer support circle, provided resilience training and 'hands on' workshops for their target beneficiaries in Sunshine, Dandenong, Brimbank and Diamond Valley.



You Matter supports women and families who have experienced family violence through the provision of furniture and other household items necessary to run a functional home.

Project

Employ a dedicated Service Coordinator to deliver the best service to meet all required needs of women survivors in setting up their 'havens' (home).

In addition, the Service Coordinator will deepen relationships with family violence agencies, train volunteers in the needs of survivors and measure the benefits of their work for the women survivors and their children.

You Matter appointed a Service Coordinator in early 2023, making a big impact on the lives of women survivors and their children. With dedicated and focused support from the Service Coordinator, as of August 2023, 56 survivors had successfully started new beginnings.

“

A very personalised, stress free and professional service... second to none! Creating a heavenly home for us and setting us up with not only a safe environment but also a positive outlook for our days.

This has been a challenging time for me to escape family violence with a toddler, especially since all my family lives overseas. You have no idea how much your help meant to me.

Woman Survivor, Haven 137

”

Do you know about the MWF Grants Assessment Process?

Each of the exceptionally talented and diligent Grants Committee members bring a wide range of expertise and experience to their role as assessors of all grant applications received. Their backgrounds include: policy and service development; government and not-for-profit agencies; research; direct service delivery; philanthropy; medicine; psychology; and law.

In total, 43 applications were received in the 2023 granting round and divided into two groups for assessment – Nurturing and Signature grants. This strategy enabled members of the committee to manage the rigorous task of reading and assessing so many worthy applicants. This approach also facilitated a thorough and meticulous process of decision making, particularly important given the numbers of high-quality finalists.

Process for Assessment

Grants Committee members meet regularly during the assessment process, which takes four weeks. Time is allocated for detailed discussions about each proposal, including rationale for the rankings against a uniform scoring framework. Meetings are collaborative in nature with each member having time to raise any concerns they may have had about any of the proposals.

1 Check Eligibility

Committee members check the eligibility of each organisation to ensure all required documentation accompanies the applications i.e., Australian Charitable Status (DGR 1 requirement), Annual Reports, Financial Statements and that their proposals align with key priority areas established by MWF.

Applications deemed ineligible in 2023 were due to them not being aligned to the key priority areas established by MWF or, coming from organisations located interstate or internationally.

2 Review and Rank

Each application and organisation is reviewed and ranked against evaluation criteria. MWF scoring framework is used in combination with observations and relevant additional information about an organisation - for example, the organisation's capacity to undertake their proposed project.

3 Consensus Decision

Once consensus is reached by the Grants Committee and final scores collated, the decision and recommended finalists are forwarded to the MWF board (previously to LMCF) for approval.

4 Informing Nonprofits

Successful applicants are informed they are finalists and advised of the support we provide in preparing their presentations to MWF members on the Grants Awards night. In addition, the Grants Committee provides feedback in a timely fashion to all the unsuccessful grant applicants. This is an effort that distinguishes us from other funders in the hope it will help strengthen organisations' success in gaining support for their initiatives in the future.

MWF Powers Up!

Our giving circle proudly received the **Philanos Spotlight Award** in October 2023



Philanos is a US-based peak giving circle body, growing and strengthening the women's collective giving movement. The Philanos Network numbers more than 90 affiliated women's giving circles, with Melbourne Women's Foundation being one of its few overseas affiliates. It connects us to a vital community of learning and shared resources.

This award is a tribute to our partnership and impactful grant to Women and Mentoring (WAM). Our \$60,000 grant in 2015 was a catalyst which allowed WAM to expand their vital mentorship program and ultimately secure significant government funding. WAM's success, with 80% of women in this project not reoffending, inspires us to think of the crucial ripple effects of our grants in impacting the lives of women and families in need.

The Spotlight Award was presented at the PowerUP! Baltimore 2023 Conference and our CEO Liza Nadolski accepted via video. The conference brought together 325 representatives of women's giving circles sharing best practices for advocacy, sponsorships, membership recruitment, member engagement, and grant making.



Collective Giving

2023
**Nurturing
Grant**
\$45k

Runners-up each received \$8,750

Gold Sponsor:

Community Bank
Elwood

 **Bendigo Bank**

Merit Award recipients: Jeanette Large (WPI), Tenille Gilbert (FCC), Ruth Holdaway (SKM), Jane Marx (BB)



St Kilda Gatehouse creates a safe community space for marginalised women experiencing homelessness and family violence by providing practical assistance, material aid, supports and referrals to critical services enabling positive change.

Project

Step Up

St Kilda Gatehouse will use the grant funds to contribute to support worker wages and programme evaluation costs.

stkildagatehouse.org.au



Beautiful Bunch are a social enterprise providing training and employment opportunities to young women from refugee backgrounds experiencing barriers to employment.

Project

Bb*Botanics

This project aims to launch a plant delivery and maintenance service for corporates that will provide employment for trainees and a diversified income stream.

The grant will be used to support wages for a florist trainer and initial graphic design materials.

thebeautifulbunch.com



For Change Co are a social enterprise with a vision of a Melbourne free from youth homelessness.

Project

Pathways for Change

Grant will be used to review and expand the capacity of For Change Co's *Pathways for Change* employment program to provide tailored support to young women from a refugee and migrant background and young mothers.

forchangeco.com.au

Collective Giving

2023
Signature Grant
\$80k

Gold Sponsor:

Community Bank
Elwood

 Bendigo Bank

Runners-up each received \$8,750

2023 Nurturing Grant recipients: St Kilda Gatehouse: Helen Colston, Dianne Azoor Hughes & 2023 Signature Grant recipients: Prison Network: Sally Tonkin, Amelia Pickering



Prison Network's mission is to journey with women in and beyond prison, providing the support and courage they need to navigate positive pathways and create change.

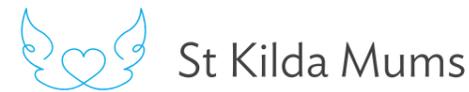
Project

Protective factors for survivors of family violence

Protective factors for survivors of family violence aims to support women released from prison to build protective factors that support their safety, recovery and well-being as survivors of family violence.

The grant will be used to pay wages and oncosts for additional staff: Senior Support Worker, Volunteer Manager, Support Worker and Intern Support Worker.

prisonnetwork.org.au



St Kilda Mum's Mission: Share more. Waste Less. Every child thrives.

Project

Reach every vulnerable child in five high-need LGAs

The grant will be used to support communication costs and wages for outbound services team and Senior Operations & Network Manager.

stkildamums.org



Women's Property Initiatives aims to build a secure future for women and children in need by developing and providing good quality long-term affordable housing.

Project

Support Connector

The project will employ a 'Support Connector' a role focused on linking WPI renters and their children to the support services they require.

The grant will be used to pay wages for the Support Connector position. WPI will cover costs of corporate overheads.

wpi.org.au

Events

Empowerment, Education, Connection

Our events are vibrant hubs for empowerment, education, and connection.

The Melbourne Women's Foundation deeply appreciates the support of our community and cherishes the connections we make through these endeavours.

Events nurture our sense of community and engagement, informing us about current issues and showcasing the impactful work of our grantees. Through these events, potential donors within our audience are often connected with these causes, fostering a network that drives meaningful contributions.

Celebrating a year of achievements and impact, Melbourne Women's Foundation extends heartfelt gratitude to our supporters and sponsors.

We recognise the pivotal role that their generosity and support play in achieving our mission.

A Special Thanks to our Event Sponsors

These sponsorships and collaborations were achieved through the dedicated efforts of our members leveraging their networks to identify and connect our giving circle with like-minded sponsors. Thank you to the members. Additionally, Officeworks Elsternwick's and Officeworks Richmond's contributions through donating new Melbourne Women's Foundation banners, name tags, and printing services played an integral part in launching our new Foundation name and logo with elevated quality at our events.



Looking ahead, please consider facilitating connections with potential sponsors for our upcoming events. Your network and support are vital in furthering our mission.

If you can connect us with individuals or organisations aligned with our mission and willing to support our giving circle as an event sponsor or host, please contact liza.nadolski@melbournewomensfoundation.org

“

Our events are essential to the glue that binds us together as a special giving circle community. They also provide important opportunities to learn about the challenges confronting vulnerable women and families in Melbourne and about nonprofits addressing them.

”



February 2023
Evans & Partners office

Welcome Back Morning Tea

Special guest Dewi Cooke, CEO of The Social Studio provided insight into their fashion social enterprise and recent collaborations with Aboriginal women in ethical clothing design and production. Darwin-based Indigenous clothing designer Nina Fitzgerald joined the conversation, online. Thank you to Evans & Partners for hosting this special event and enabling the live link to Darwin. Evans & Partners has been a strong MWF partner for several years, for which we are very grateful.



May 2023
Denmark House

Autumn Lunch

Members and guests gathered at Denmark House to connect with one another and hear a special presentation from Dr Gypsy O'Dea, Clinical Psychologist at The Royal Women's Hospital Mental Health Services. Dr O'Dea shared how pregnancy is often the only time vulnerable and/or isolated women engage with formal support systems and the vital support The Royal Women's Hospital provides. The second Sue Beecher Award was presented to highly deserving MWF Chair Christine Darcas for her ongoing outstanding leadership and contribution to MWF.

Thanks to the Wheelton family for the generous donation of the inspiring book 'Because She Can' by Marina Brbot, which all attendees received.

September 2022
PwC premises

Don't be too polite girls! Wendy McCarthy Book Launch

Delivered with Australians Investing in Women and PwC and attended by over 160 people. Wendy McCarthy AO launched her memoir detailing examples of not taking "No" as the answer, and not being afraid to accept challenges when presented. Thank you to all our partners including Eltham Bookshop.



October 2022
Xavier College

Spring Concert

Healing Notes Piano Trio provided a delightful escape into classical music organised and performed by Samantha Leung with MWF members Jean McMullin and Catherine Brennan.

The \$1,400 in proceeds from the concert were generously donated to the FY22/23 grants pool.

Events

Empowerment, Education, Connection



August 2023
JLL office

Working Wonders with Women

Grant Awardee Project Update

2022 Signature Grant Awardee **Tradeswomen Community Foundation** and Nurturing Grant Awardee **You Matter** shared the progress and challenges of getting their projects into full swing. Most compelling were the stories from the participants involved and of the positive outcomes these organisations are enabling.

Thank you to new event sponsor JLL for their generous support of MWF events.



October 2023
SHAPE Australia office

2023 Grants Information Evening

Grant Finalists Announced!

This event is the culmination of the rigorous evaluation process managed by our Grants Committee volunteers and enables members to ask in depth questions about each of the finalists. This year, the committee reviewed submissions from 43 commendable nonprofits to announce the six finalists for our 2023 Grants pool of \$160,000 - \$80,000 Signature Grant and \$45,000 Nurturing Grant and \$8,750 to each of the runners-up.

Thank you to new event sponsor SHAPE Australia for hosting in their offices and providing delicious catering by Free to Feed, a 2021 MWF Merit Award grant recipient!



November 2023
RACV City Club

Grant Awards Celebration

The annual live Grant Awards Celebration was another resounding success with over 100 attendees. It was heartwarming to see our community come together to engage with the finalists before the event to learn about their vital work.

Evans & Partners presented a donation of \$16,650 to MWF, a memorial gift raised by Evans & Partners employees in honour of late Jo Crawshaw's steadfast commitment to MWF.

The power of collective giving on the night was alive and well as several private fund representatives pledged an additional \$30k to the finalists.

Thanks to our Gold Sponsor Bendigo Community Bank Elwood once again providing essential sponsorship for this event.

For more detail about these events and our finalists go to our website News page.



Keeping us Connected

Our technology and marketing committees have been working hard to provide an improved user experience and keeping you informed.

Technology

As part of our transition to becoming an independent charity, we have updated our operating platforms, both internally and externally facing, and established a brand-new payment system to process membership and broader community donations. You may have already noticed our online address was seamlessly updated to Melbourne Women's Foundation.

We're committed to making our online platforms more accessible and user-friendly for our wonderful growing community.

Marketing

A big thank you to our team for all their time, dedication, and commitment to making our marketing efforts stand out this year! It's been an incredible year of achievements and we couldn't have done it without our committee members volunteering their time and talent.

As we gear up for the coming year, we welcome new members to join our team of volunteers and help us achieve even greater success next year.

Let's keep up the momentum and spread the word about MWF!

Follow us on our socials, share posts with your friends and networks!

Engaged and Informed

In the past year we have grown our social media and kept members and supporters informed through news and events.



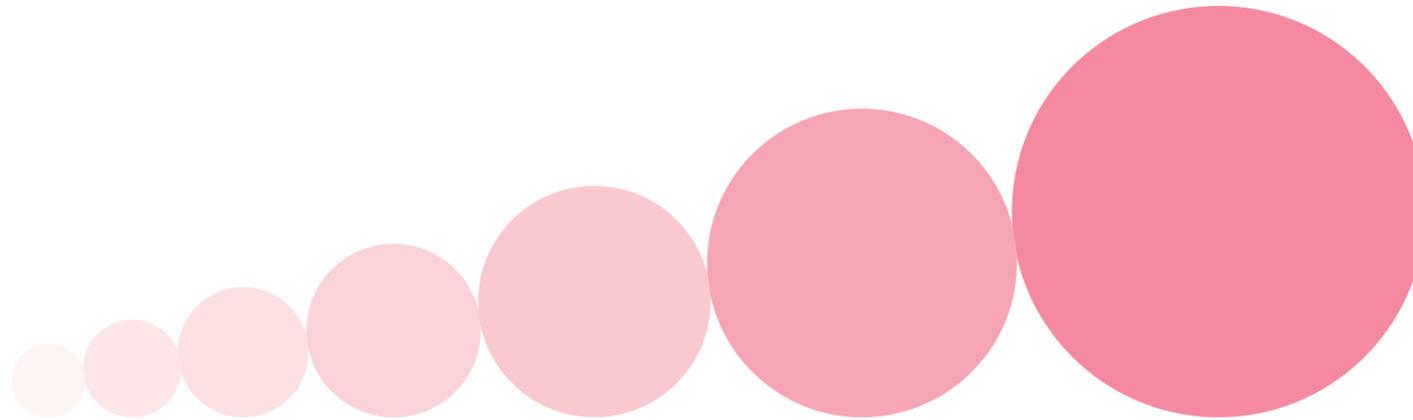
246+ Social media posts sent 4 Newsletters published

6 Events 15 News articles published on MWF website

1 New logo – Melbourne Women's Foundation!

Financial Report

Andrea McNamara, Treasurer



2023 Awards Night Gold Sponsor Bendigo Community Bank Elwood representatives Carole Mackie, Chair, Mary Munafo, Personal Assistant – Board of Directors, with Board Director, Ariane Vincent.

As the incoming Treasurer I would like to express how impressed I am with the efforts and contributions of the volunteers who make so much happen over the course of a year.

In the financial area, a lot happened behind the scenes in the first half of 2023 as we received our charity status and began establishing our own banking and payment platforms. We are enormously grateful to Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation—in particular CEO Dr. Catherine Brown, Rikki Andrews, Lonia Catalano and Jaishma Krishna—for continuing to provide us with administrative support in managing our funds and tracking our members and their payments during that crucial transitional period.

We also give special thanks to our Financial Manager, the dear late Jo Crawshaw, for her conscientious attention to managing our Administration Account for the first half of FY22/23.

Through the end of FY22/23, we continued using the three funds we had held with the Foundation since our 2014 beginning. These were:

Collective Giving Account

This account held our members' annual \$1,000 donations and public donations of any amount, all of which are tax-deductible. We distribute all these funds annually through our grants.

Charitable Fund Account (Now Melbourne Women's Foundation Endowment Fund)

Our endowment fund accrues our \$25,000 Life Membership donations and any public donations designated for this fund to assist vulnerable women and families in Melbourne in perpetuity.

Administration Account

The Administration Account held members' annual administration fee payments. We depend on these fees to: cover operational costs; conduct our events; undertake new initiatives to further our mission; and protect us against the unexpected. Through the financial year, we regularly collaborated with the Foundation to ensure our budgeting processes and theirs aligned. We roll over any residual funds in the previous year's Administration Account to the following year's account.

Moving forward as Melbourne Women's Foundation, we will continue to hold our endowment fund with Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation. However, we will hold our Administrative Account and Giving Account with Bendigo Community Bank Elwood.

For the foreseeable future, we will use these accounts for the same purposes as we have in the past, governing them according to a clear financial policy and procedures. Our budgeting approach will be conservative by not investing our funds—potentially exposing them to investment and economic risks—but rather only holding them in cash. As an independent entity, MWF will collect whatever interest its accounts generate and leverage it to forward MWF's mission.

At 30 June 2023, the final balances for these accounts were:

	30 June 2023	30 June 2022
Collective Giving Account	\$ 147,037	\$ 131,920
Melbourne Women's Fund Endowment Fund	\$ 278,278	\$ 264,294
Administration Account	\$ 20,983	\$ 14,330

The Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation Board allocated \$12,227 from the Melbourne Women's Fund Endowment Fund in FY21/22 for distribution.

We committed this entire amount to our 2023 grants pool. This, plus another \$736 from our FY23/24 administration surplus, allowed us to grant \$160,000 in our 2023 grants round.

Inflows

Administration Account Revenue	2022/23	2021/22
	\$	\$
Membership Fees	16,748	15,451
Sponsorships	5,120	6,274
Ticket Sales	15,840	7,357
Total Revenue	37,708	29,082

Expenses / Outgoings	2022/23	2021/22
	\$	\$
Events	20,037	13,844
Marketing	3,223	3,969
Platforms	1,195	2,014
Speakers' Gifts	890	619
Stewardship	272	150
Postage and Handling	409	402
Affiliations	412	753
Fees to Lord Mayor's Community Fund	3,701	3,460
Miscellaneous	626	176
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 30,765	\$ 25,387
Transfer from Admin to Giving Account	290*	1,219
Total Outgoings	31,055	26,606
Surplus in administration activities	6,653	2,476

* Amount allocated from the FY22/23 Administration Account to grant \$143,000 in 2022.



Thank You

Our Valued Sponsors and Partners:

- Accenture
- Audio Visual Dynamics
- Australians Investing in Women
- Australian Philanthropic Services
- Community Bank Elwood | Bendigo Bank
- Digital by Design
- Embrace Aesthetics
- Evans & Partners
- Gembridge
- Herbert Smith Freehills
- Intuitive Strategy
- Jay Donohue
- Jenny Dawes
- JLL
- Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation
- Melbourne Town Hall Epicure
- Officeworks
- Philanthropy Australia
- PWC
- Shape Australia
- The GrantEd Group
- Wheelton Family

Our Valued Volunteer Team:

We are grateful for the dedicated work of our members who step up to serve on our committees, dedicating their time, energy and expertise to advance our mission. Without their support, we wouldn't be able to make the impact we do.

MWF Board Members
at June 30, 2023

- Chair:** Christine Darcas
- Secretary:** Gillian Hund OAM
- Director:** Patricia Burke OAM
- Treasurer:** Andrea McNamara
- Director:** Rowena O'Neill

Committee Members

Chief Executive Officer: Liza Nadolski LLM, MBA, GAICD

Grants Committee

- Co-Chairs:** Diane Carey and Susan Feldman
- Deputy Chair:** Caroline Rhodes
- Members:** Sue Coonan, Roshni Banwait, Sarah Davies, Jean McMullin, Frances Millane
- Guest Assessor:** Amanda Thornton
- Pitch Coach:** Kirsten Bartlett

Membership Engagement Committee

- Acting Chair:** Christine Darcas
- Membership/Engagement Administrator:** Rachel Sharrock

Next Gen Committee

- Chair:** Emily Cooke
- Members:** Angela Tran, Kathleen Dillane, Hannah Doherty-McMillan

Events Committee

- Chair:** Pandora Kay
- Members:** Gillian Hund OAM, Christine Darcas, Jo Kirk

Marketing Committee

- Chair:** Sandra Castro (Emma Nickson 2022)
- Members:** Kate Brooks, Lynne Umbers, Abi Umbers, Christine Darcas

Chief Technology Officer: Kate Harvey

Boroondara Hub Coordinator: Dr Linette Etheridge

Governance Lead: Carmel Collins

Interested in joining us?

Giving Circle



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