GANDEL PHILANTHROPY

Gandel Philanthropy is one of Australia’s largest independent family philanthropic funds. It has been the vehicle for charitable giving by the extended Gandel family since its formation as the Gandel Charitable Trust in 1978.

John Gandel AO and Pauline Gandel are actively engaged in the philanthropic work and are universally recognised for their generosity and commitment to both Jewish and general causes. Through Gandel Philanthropy, over the years they have channelled tens of millions of dollars towards supporting various charitable causes in the community.

VISION

Our vision is to create a positive and lasting difference in people’s lives.

MISSION

Gandel Philanthropy will achieve its vision by empowering communities to deliver programs and activities that create a lasting, positive impact on the quality of life of people in Australian and Jewish communities.

We aim to help build stronger, more resilient, more vibrant and inclusive communities by supporting initiatives that address the underlying causes of inequity and empower people to improve their well-being.

We will also support initiatives that promote community values and cultural dialogue, foster community cohesion and build community spirit. We will prioritise support for the most vulnerable and marginalised groups in our society.

Cover image:

Promotional image for the 32nd Kaldor Public Art Project, Jonathan Jones’ barrangal dyara (skin and bones), 2016.

Photo: Mark Gowing

For the 32nd Kaldor Public Art Project, Wiradjuri/Kamilaroi artist Jonathan Jones presented barrangal dyara (skin and bones), a vast sculptural installation stretching across 20,000 square-metres of the Royal Botanic Garden.

The Project recalled the 19th century Garden Palace building where it originally stood in Sydney’s Royal Botanic Garden, before it devastatingly burnt to the ground along with countless Aboriginal objects collected along the colonial frontier.

The project was Jones’ response to the immense loss felt throughout Australia due to the destruction of these culturally significant items. It represented an effort to commence a healing process and celebrate the survival of the world’s oldest living culture despite this traumatic event.

The image of the actual artist’s sculptural installation as displayed at the Sydney Royal Botanic Garden can be seen on page 14.
Very Special Kids opens in Bendigo

Very Special Kids is a unique organisation, supporting Victorian families to navigate their child’s life-threatening condition and recovery, and in some instances cope with bereavement.

Very Special Kids supports some 27 families in the Greater Bendigo community; however, these families were serviced remotely from an office in Ballarat. With support from Gandel Philanthropy, who teamed up with the local fundraising group, the Bendigo Tour of Tasmania cycling team, Very Special Kids secured funding to set up a permanent presence in Bendigo.

Through the Bendigo office Very Special Kids will be able to increase services to families including counselling for children, parents and siblings, group therapy programs, bereavement support and increased access to Very Special Kids Hospice in Melbourne for respite and end-of-life care.

A number of local families who use the services of Very Special Kids joined in the official opening function.
HIGHLIGHTS OF 2015–16

August 2015

The National Stroke Foundation (NSF)

A number of senior executives of the NSF, led by Prof. James Angus AO, President and Chair, had the opportunity to present to the Board of Gandel Philanthropy in August 2015. They provided an update on the grant they received to develop the new online platform for medical and health professionals, inform me, which will enable better care for patients who have been affected by stroke, and their carers.

September 2015

University of Melbourne – Melbourne Law School

A very special scholarship in the name of Alan Goldberg was launched at the Melbourne offices of Arnold Bloch Leibler. Acknowledging the late Alan Goldberg’s enormous contribution to the legal profession, the scholarship will be awarded to Melbourne Juris Doctor (JD) students who have demonstrated both academic merit and serious financial need. The Alan Goldberg scholarship was made possible through donations made by Marc and Eva Besen, John and Pauline Gandel, the Lew family and the Pratt Foundation.


Aland Goldberg (in the middle) was joined by (left to right) John Gandel, Marc Besen, Jeanne Pratt and Solomon Lew for the launch of the Law School scholarship carrying his name.
February 2016

Courage to Care

Courage to Care is a unique education program that uses a travelling exhibition to educate secondary school students about racism, bullying and human rights abuses, and promotes respect for diversity and community harmony. With a focus on both our current society and values as well as historical events, it helps empower students to make a difference by choosing not to be bystanders. In February the Hon James Merlino, Education Minister, launched the brand new, first-class interactive exhibition, which was developed thanks to support of Gandel Philanthropy and many other community donors.

March 2016

Nexus Australia Youth Summit

The 3rd annual Nexus Australia Youth Summit took place in Sydney, bringing together young philanthropists, impact investors, social entrepreneurs and inspiring social change leaders. The summit provided an opportunity for the young generations to discuss and debate the challenges facing the world today and innovative solutions to address them. One of the Gandel family grandchildren, Lauren Thurin, was part of the organising committee and helped shape the agenda of the summit, as well as facilitating a number of sessions.

May 2016

Snowdome Foundation

In May the Snowdome Foundation organised a donors briefing, enabling its partners and supporters to learn about their various research initiatives. One of these is the research into new therapies for patients with hard-to-treat lymphomas, being undertaken by Dr Mary Ann Anderson, with the support of a three-year Gandel Philanthropy-Snowdome Foundation Fellowship. Helen Gandel is one of the Gandel family members who has been involved in fundraising for Snowdome for several years and she is currently one of its Board Directors.

Left to right: Richard Rogers, John Gandel, James Merlino and Tony Weldon at the launch of the new exhibition.

Amanda Miller (left) and Lauren Thurin helped organise and facilitate the 3rd Nexus Australia Summit. Lauren is also a member of NewGen, a program run by Philanthropy Australia enabling younger social change advocates and philanthropists to learn, connect, share and act.

Recipient of the Gandel-Snowdome Fellowship Dr Mary Ann Anderson (left), from the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute and Helen Gandel, board member of the Snowdome Foundation.
In the 2015-16 financial year, the number of grants and donations distributed by Gandel Philanthropy grew by about 25% on the previous year, reaching a total of 163 grants provided to 151 separate community organisations.

In terms of Community Grants, they continue to meet the needs of community organisations for a broad and diverse range of activities and programs.

Major and Flagship grants, on the other hand, are primarily aimed at providing more secure and more stable support for key initiatives of various organisations. As such, it is not surprising to note that 72% of all Major and Flagship grants are multi-year commitments. In case of the Education funding, as well as Indigenous Programs, all but one grant in each of those areas were for multi-year support.

As the main vehicle for the charitable giving by the broader Gandel family, Gandel Philanthropy stays true to its core mission of broad community engagement and support, while individual philanthropic contributions are also made by family members from time to time.

Over the past five-year rolling period, the Gandel family and Gandel Philanthropy provided over $33 million in charitable contributions to community organisations throughout Australia. This amount excludes all forward commitments.

While this Review profiles a range of organisations and causes that were supported in the previous financial year, the statistics below provide additional details on the nature of granting by Gandel Philanthropy during the past 12 months.

### SNAPSHOT OF GIVING

**Distribution of grants based on Gandel Philanthropy’s levels of giving**

- **COMMUNITY grants:** 19% (grants up to $40k; last year 23%)
- **MAJOR grants:** 41% (grants from $40k to $250k; last year 43%)
- **FLAGSHIP grants:** 40% (grants over $250k; last year 34%)

### Historical chart

Number of grants distributed over the past five years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of Grants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011-12</td>
<td>180</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012-13</td>
<td>160</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013-14</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014-15</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-16</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Actual number of grants distributed in each Area of Interest for all levels of giving

- **Arts & Culture:** 28
- **Education:** 21
- **Health & Medical Research:** 33
- **Youth at Risk:** 7
- **Jewish Identity & Leadership:** 3
- **Indigenous Programs:** 14
- **Community Development:** 17
- **Social Cohesion & Inclusion:** 18
- **Poverty & Disadvantage:** 22
2015–16 IN NUMBERS

163 NUMBER OF GRANTS PROVIDED, DISTRIBUTED TO 151 ORGANISATIONS

33 GRANTS TO HEALTH & MEDICAL RESEARCH – AREA OF INTEREST WITH THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF GRANTS

14 NUMBER OF GRANTS FOR INDIGENOUS PROGRAMS

72% PERCENTAGE OF MULTI-YEAR RELATIONSHIPS FOR MAJOR AND FLAGSHIP GRANTS

20% PERCENTAGE OF MAJOR AND FLAGSHIP GRANTS SUPPORTED IN COOPERATION WITH OTHER FUNDERS

239% GROWTH IN THE NUMBER OF GRANTS DISTRIBUTED BETWEEN 2012 AND 2016

Distribution of grants by Area of Interest – COMMUNITY grants (grants up to $40,000)
- Arts & Culture: 20%
- Education: 11%
- Health & Medical Research: 17%
- Community Development: 17%
- Social Cohesion & Inclusion: 16%
- Poverty & Disadvantage: 19%

Distribution of grants by Area of Interest – MAJOR and FLAGSHIP grants (grants over $40,000)
- Arts & Culture: 15%
- Education: 22%
- Health & Medical Research: 28%
- Community Development: 15%
- Jewish Identity & Leadership: 7%
- Indigenous Programs: 13%
CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

“The trend of working in partnership with other supporters is set to continue in the future.”

Over the past 12 months the Gandel family deepened even further its philanthropic work, engagement and interests.

Engaging and learning
I am very proud of our achievements in the previous year, where we saw continued growth in our grant making activity as well as the expansion of the range of support activities that we have been undertaking with our partner organisations.

Such engagement is critically important for us, as it helps us understand the challenges in the community and realise stronger partnerships on key issues that are facing those in need. This process of ongoing learning is at the core of our interaction with the not for profit sector and the people we aim to support through those organisations.

Grant distributions in any given year are not the only measure of our activity, but they are a reflection of the level of connectedness. I am therefore pleased to report that, once again, we provided the highest amount of grant funds, as well as the highest number of grants in a year.

Impact and collaboration
We believe we are helping achieve impact in the community, in the pursuit of our vision to create a positive and lasting difference in people’s lives. But we also know we have to evaluate our work in a proper way and continue monitoring the progress. Part of that journey is an internal review that we plan to conduct to see where we are at in the philanthropic sector, as well as ways in which we go about measuring our grant outcomes and their impact.

It is pleasing to note that more and more of our partners in the sector are doing the same.

And speaking of those partners, our commitment to joining forces with like-minded organisations, wherever they may be from, has been strengthened in the past. In this year’s Annual Review, our listing of all grants provides a byline for those that were provided jointly or in a direct and organised partnership with our philanthropic and other colleagues. I am certain that this is the trend that will continue in the future.

Working as a team
The governance and fiduciary responsibility that is undertaken by the Trustees of Gandel Philanthropy is complemented by the management and administrative activities of our staff. This year we have again been fortunate to have strong and ongoing involvement from our Deputy Chairman, Richard Rogers, who continues to play a central role in all our grantmaking activities. His work is, of course, complemented by the other Trustees including Laurence Joseph, whose sage advice, knowledge of the sector and critical thinking are all assets to the Board.

Being a private family foundation, I take the greatest pride in witnessing and supporting family involvement in our philanthropic work. My wife Pauline and daughter Lisa Thurin remain on the Board and their passionate advocacy and hands-on involvement are exceptional.

I wish to conclude by thanking our Gandel Philanthropy team. They have been together for a number of years now and have developed into a very effective and complementary team.

I am particularly pleased to see them continue to maintain a strong sense of connection to the issues and causes that we are passionate about, and continue learning about how we can do our work even better. My special thanks go to our CEO, Vedran Drakulic. His principled leadership, dedication and integrity are exemplary.

John Gandel AO
Chairman
The past year has been extraordinarily busy for Gandel Philanthropy and the organisation again played a significant role in growing the giving and engagement of the Board and the broader Gandel family.

Grant statistics
Gandel Philanthropy continued the trend of the past five years, extending grant activity even further. A total of 163 grants have been distributed to 151 different organisations. This represents growth of around 24% year-on-year. Perhaps as importantly, in the period since 2012 to now, the percentage growth in grant distributions is around 239% - this reflects the family’s desire to continue extending its granting activities and broader philanthropic engagement on an ongoing basis.

Of all the grants made, a total of 46 were Major or Flagship grants, representing around 28% of all grants made. Of these, 33 grants were multi-year commitments, strengthening the internal view that such an approach delivers better, stronger and more enduring benefits for both Gandel Philanthropy and for the recipient organisations.

Our structured four-stage grants assessment, review and recommendations process has been maintained, while we also undertook a comprehensive internal review of our systems and processes, introducing further measures to make them as effective and efficient as possible.

Sector involvement
Gandel Philanthropy is much more than just a grant-making body. Like many of our colleagues in the sector, we feel we have a broader role to play, one that involves providing a wide range of support and benefit to our partner organisations.

In the past year we continued to share information on key issues and initiatives relevant to the community, as well as engaging, where appropriate, in deeper discussions and offering advice, support and opinion.

We drew on the expertise of our partners, such as enabling VICSEG and The Song Room to share their opportunities and challenges with the members of the Education funders group. Another example is the participation at the gathering of higher education fundraising professionals at the Council for Advancement and Support for Education’s Asia-Pacific Conference, sharing insights and learnings related to dealing with family foundations.

Driving inspiration
Philanthropy in Australia continues to grow and develop, with new ideas, approaches and initiatives emerging all the time. Our role in that process is to listen, learn, assess and present funding opportunities to the Trustees, so that we can help better meet the most pressing needs of people we aim to assist.

The Trustees continue to be the drivers behind this process and they inspire everyone around with their enthusiasm, openness and compassion. It is indeed a true and unique privilege to be able to support them, and the broader Gandel family, in this process.

John and Pauline are more active in their philanthropy than ever, and they are ‘walking the talk’. Their desire to create a difference and the thirst for driving positive change are contagious, and they make it easy to be passionate and committed.

Our Deputy Chairman, Richard Rogers, is a constant source of support and Trustee Laurence Joseph is just as committed. Our two other Trustees, Pauline Gandel and Lisa Thurin, always add vital elements to any discussion and help shape so many of the initiatives that we end up supporting.

“Our role is to listen, learn and present opportunities so that we can help better meet the needs of people we aim to assist.”
Gandel Philanthropy continued growing its grantmaking in 2015/16, both in terms of the number of grants provided and the amount of funds allocated.

The Board of Trustees approved a total of 163 grants in 2015/16. These grants have been provided to 151 separate organisations.

Below is a list of all grant recipients in 2015/16 and a brief description of the programs funded, grouped according to the grant category and the Area of Interest, in alphabetical order.
Gandel House was officially opened by the Governor of Victoria, Linda Dessau AM in the presence of John and Pauline Gandel and their extended family (pictured above).

Pauline Gandel, the Patron of Emmy Monash and a tireless advocate for the organisation, was directly and passionately involved in the development process. At the opening function John Gandel commented that Gandel House is “fundamentally redefining the meaning and the functioning of residential aged care accommodation, not just in the Jewish community, but beyond. Pauline, as the Patron of Emmy Monash for almost a decade, is very passionate about what they do and a true ambassador of their work.”

GRANTS OVERVIEW

Community Development

AURORA EDUCATION FOUNDATION
Aurora’s CRM (Challenge Grant/Indigenous Grant)

AUSTRALIAN SPORTS FOUNDATION
General donation

CAULFIELD HEBREW CONGREGATION
Redevelopment Project

COMMUNITY SECURITY GROUP
Community Engagement Program

COUNTRY FIRE AUTHORITY
Field Operations Vehicle

DIVERSITAT
“Women Together” Friendship Circle
Funded jointly with RE Ross Trust

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY AUSTRALIA (VICTORIA)
Expanding Re-Store Operations

HUMAN RIGHTS LAW CENTRE
General donation

JEWISH CARE (VICTORIA)
Donation Towards the Social Housing Development Complex

JNF ENVIRONMENT GIFT FUND
General donation

KIDNEY HEALTH AUSTRALIA
Installation of a Fully Accessible Lift on the Big Red Kidney Bus

KOORI NIGHT MARKET
Partnership and Tourism Strategy Development Project (Indigenous Grant)

KYEEMA SUPPORT SERVICES
Community Service Sector Reform

MACCABI VICTORIA
SPORTS FOUNDATION
General donation

MULITPLE SCOLEROSIS SOCIETY AUSTRALIA
MS Online Volunteer Training Link

PROJECT NEW DAWN
Growing an Innovative Model to Reduce Homelessness and Unemployment

THE FOUNDATION FOR YOUNG AUSTRALIANS
Nexus Australia Youth Summit

THE SUBSTATION
Marketing and Development Program
Funded in partnership with the Lord Mayor’s Charitable Foundation

VACCHO
Strengthening Governance in Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations (Indigenous Grant)
Funded in partnership with the Lord Mayor’s Charitable Foundation

WESTERN CHANCES
Alumni Program
Funded jointly with the Trawalla Foundation

Social Cohesion & Inclusion

AMAZE
Donation Towards Walk for Autism

AUSTRALIAN NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES AND CENTRES ASSOCIATION – JIKA JIKA
The High Street Project at Jika Jika

BACK TO BACK THEATRE
Service League Community Residence Model

BLIND SPORTS AND RECREATION VICTORIA
Seeing New Tracks to Improved Health and Wellbeing

COTTAGE BY THE SEA
New Playgrounds and Associated Equipment

DOXA
Journey Camp Program – Supporting Participation from Newly Arrived and Migrant Young People

FOUNDATION HOUSE
General donation

KARINGAL
Sensory Room, Sensory Garden and Sensory Playground at the Eastern Geelong Community Centre

MACCABI VICTORIA SPORTS FOUNDATION
All Abilities Inclusion Program

MCAULEY COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR WOMEN
Peer Support Program

MELBOURNE FRINGE
DRIVE: A Skills and Capacity Building Program increasing Diversity in Victorian Independent Arts

MENTAL HEALTH LEGAL CENTRE
Inside Access Community Legal Education Program

MONASH UNIVERSITY
Gen ‘16 Project

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN
Empowering Single Jewish Women and Effective Relationships Program

SAFE STEPS
Material Needs of Women and Children Supported by Safe Steps

SHABBAT PROJECT MELBOURNE
Shabbat Project 2015

THE TRUSTEE FOR THE JCCV CULTURAL FUND
Supporting JCCV’s Community Activities

WESTERN EDGE YOUTH ARTS
Phoenix Youth Theatre

Poverty & Disadvantage

BEIT RAFAEL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION
Hospital Accommodation Support

CAMP SABABA
Best Bunch Social Enterprise

C CARE
- Pantry Pack Program
- General donation

ECHO YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES
Ready2Go

FAMILY ACCESS NETWORK
Pre-school Support

GATEWAY SOCIAL SUPPORT OPTIONS
Carers Program

GOOD360 AUSTRALIA
Goods for the Greater Good

HUNGER FOR KNOWLEDGE
General donation

JEWISH HOUSE CRISIS CENTRE
General donation

KIDS UNDER COVER
Cubby House Challenge (Matching Grant)

LAUNCH HOUSING
South Melbourne Families Service

LENTARA UNITINGCARE
Emergency Relief for Asylum Seekers

MAKE A DIFFERENCE DINGLEY VILLAGE
Leave No One Behind

MELBOURNE JEWISH CHARITY FUND
The Gandel Yom Tov Project

NGAANYATJARRA PITJANTJATJARRA WOMEN’S COUNCIL
Increasing the Understanding and Value of Enterprise in Remote Communities (Indigenous Grant)

SERVANTS COMMUNITY HOUSING
Kooyong Giving Tree

STATE SCHOOLS RELIEF
Education Resources for Victorian Secondary School Students

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY VICTORIA
CEO Sleepout (Matching Grant)

UNITINGCARE WODONGA
Volunteers Empowerment Project

VICTORIAN YMCA YOUTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES
YMCA ReBuild

WOMBAT HOUSING AND SUPPORT SERVICES
Wombat Small Assist

WOMEN’S HOUSING
Supporting Housing Solutions for Women

MAJOR and FLAGSHIP Grants

Arts & Culture

ART GALLERY OF BALLARAT
FACE – An Education Project
(Year 2 of a 2-year grant)

IBLIEJERRI THEATRE COMPANY
MARGUK Education Program
(Year 1 of a 2-year grant)
Funded in partnership with the Lord Mayor’s Charitable Foundation
JEWISH MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA – GANDEL CENTRE OF JUDAICA
Amy Winehouse: A Family Portrait Exhibition

MULTICULTURAL ARTS VICTORIA
Emerge Cultural Leadership Program

MUSEUM VICTORIA
The Pauline Gandel Children’s Gallery
(Year 2 of a 2-year grant)
Fund in partnership with the Victorian Government

THE ANZAC CENTENARY PUBLIC FUND
Grant in Support of the Fund
(Year 2 of a 3-year grant)

THE AUSTRALIAN BALLET SCHOOL
project assemblé – The Australian Ballet School’s Student Residence

Education

ARDOCH YOUTH FOUNDATION
Expanding Ardoch’s Building Early Language and Literacy Program in Melbourne’s West
(Year 1 of a 3-year grant)

ASYLUM SEEKER RESOURCE CENTRE
WISE (Worldly, Independent, Sufficient, Empowered) Women Program
(Year 3 of a 3-year grant)

BROTHERHOOD OF ST LAURENCE
RESET Program
(Year 3 of a 3-year grant)

JEWISH HOLOCAUST CENTRE
Hide and Seek: Stories of Survival, Middle Years School Program
(Year 1 of a 3-year grant)

MONASH UNIVERSITY
The John Gandel and Pauline Gandel Equity Scholarships

Health and Medical Research

ACCESS
The Access Coffee Cart Social Enterprise
(Year 1 of a 3-year grant)

ALFRED HEALTH
Ultrasound Centre of Excellence
(Year 1 of a 2-year grant)

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS
Fiji Appeal, in Support of Emergency Shelter and Water and Sanitation Activities (Challenge Grant)

CABRINI HEALTH
Capital Works Grant
(Year 5 of an 8-year grant)

EMMY MONASH AGED CARE
Grant for the Capital Appeal
(Year 3 of a 3-year grant)

JUSTICE CONNECT
The Women’s Homelessness Prevention Project (WHPP)
Funded in partnership with the Lord Mayor’s Charitable Foundation

NATIONAL AGEING RESEARCH INSTITUTE (NARI)
An Action Plan to Tackle Elder Abuse in Victoria

NATIONAL DISABILITY SERVICES
Ticket to Work Pilot in NDIS Trial Sites
(Year 1 of a 3-year grant)
Funded in partnership with the Barr Family Foundation

ON THE LINE AUSTRALIA
Clinician Prescribed Suicide Prevention Self-Management Application

SANE AUSTRALIA
A Comprehensive Online Platform for Mental Health
(Year 3 of a 3-year grant)

SNOWDOME FOUNDATION
Gandel Philanthropy-Snowdome Innovation Fellowship – The development and Use of Biomarkers to Optimise Early Phase Lymphoma Clinical Trials Using a ‘World-First’ Class of Anti-Cancer Drugs
(Year 2 of a 3-year grant)

STARLIGHT CHILDREN’S FOUNDATION
Starlight Express Room at the New Monash Children’s Hospital
(Year 2 of a 2-year grant)

VERY SPECIAL KIDS
Family Support Regional Expansion: Bendigo Office
(Year 1 of a 3-year grant)
Funded jointly with the local fundraising initiative – the Bendigo Tour of Tasmania Cycling Group

Youth at Risk

BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS
Big Futures Expansion – Regional Victoria
(Year 2 of a 2-year grant)

CENTRE FOR MULTICULTURAL YOUTH
Shout Out Program – Enabling Young Migrants and Refugees to Speak Out for Themselves
(Year 1 of a 2-year grant)

FARESHARE
FareShare Kitchen Garden – Engaging Youth at Risk
(Year 1 of a 2-year grant)

GOOD SHEPHERD AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND
Improving Outcomes in Early Years in Hamilton

HOPE STREET YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES
Hope to Home Program
(Year 1 of a 2-year grant)

INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL COMMISSION
Child Rights – From Principles to Practice – an Online Child Rights Training Course
(Year 1 of a 2-year grant)

SMILING MIND
Strengthening Smiling Mind’s Technology Platforms for Users and Teachers
Funded jointly with the Lord Mayor’s Charitable Foundation

Jewish Identity & Leadership

B’NAI B’RITH ANTI-DEFAMATION COMMISSION
The 2016 Annual ADC Gandel Oration

UNITED ISRAEL APPEAL
REFUGEE RELIEF FUND
General annual grant

ZIONIST FEDERATION OF AUSTRALIA
Taglit Birthright Program
(Year 2 of a 3-year grant)

Indigenous Programs

BEYOND EMPATHY
The Maven Project
(Year 1 of a 3-year grant)

CHILDREN’S GROUND
Wurdurd Ganyigarmerren Project in Kakadu West – “We Walk Together to Help the Children”
(Year 2 of a 2-year grant)

GANBINA
Jobs 4U2 – Education, Training and Employment Program
(Year 2 of a 2-year grant)

TANGENTYERE COUNCIL
Strategic Support for the Tangentyere Youth Patrol

THE TORCH PROJECT
Post-Release Program – State-wide Indigenous Arts in Prisons and Community Program
(Year 1 of a 3-year grant)
Funded in partnership with the Ivy H. Thomas and Arthur A. Thomas Trust, managed by Equity Trustees

WHITE LION
The Bundji Bundji Tiddass Program Supporting Young At-risk Women
(Year 3 of a 3-year grant)
Community Grants are provided in six key Areas of Interest:

- Arts & Culture
- Education
- Health & Medical Research
- Poverty & Disadvantage
- Social Cohesion & Inclusion
- Community Development

In 2015-16, Community Grants distributions were at just under $1.7 million, allocated through a total of 116 grants and donations.

Community Grants are generally intended as one-off contributions for a specific program or initiative, to be delivered within a set period of time, usually no more than 18 months.

Community Grants are open for application by any charitable organisation that meets the eligibility criteria. For more details visit www.gandelphilanthropy.org.au.

The 32nd Kaldor Public Art Project

Jonathan Jones’ barrangal dyara (skin and bones), Royal Botanic Garden, Sydney, 2016.

Thousands of bleached white shields echoed the masses of rubble – the only remnants of the Garden Palace building after the fire. A native kangaroo grassland formed the heart of the installation, activated and enlivened by presentations of Indigenous language, performances, talks, special events and workshops each day.

The artwork took its name, barrangal dyara, meaning ‘skin and bones’ from the local Sydney Gadigal language, on whose country the project took place, with approval from the community.
**THEATRE WORKS**

*Bright World, Education and Access Program*

*Bright World* is a play that celebrates the courage in standing up for those who are oppressed through exploring the legacy of the two playwrights’ ancestors. It focuses on William Cooper, an Aboriginal activist who, in his 70s, led a march to Melbourne’s German Consulate in December 1938, protesting against Kristallnacht, The Night of Broken Glass.

The cross-cultural collaboration was written by Elise Hearst, whose grandparents fled Nazi Europe, and Andrea James, a Yorta Yorta Kurnai woman who is a descendant of William Cooper.

Andrea says, “It was the only such protest in Australia and was organised by people who weren’t even citizens in their own country.”

With support from Gandel Philanthropy, *Bright World* premiered at Theatre Works, a hub for new theatre work and new Australian writing.

**William Cooper’s story**

Kate Hancock, Theatre Works’ General Manager, says, “When ARTHUR, the producers, presented it for consideration we were intrigued by William Cooper’s story and excited by the opportunity to raise awareness about his story as an Aboriginal activist and hero. With not many people knowing about him, the work was important in educating people.

“The message at the play’s heart is about standing up for what you believe in and other people’s basic human rights.”

“*Bright World* was the first show to be created through Theatre Works’ new residency model. One of the benefits was the time to develop cross-cultural partnerships on the work.”

ARTHUR Producer Belinda Kelly says they also launched a new Education and Access Program that includes collaboration with several cultural partners — the Jewish Museum of Australia, the Jewish Holocaust Centre, B’nai B’rith Courage to Care (Victoria) and the Koorie Heritage Trust, as well as schools and education providers.

“The notion of legacy that the playwrights explored has contemporary echoes. So many years later that act is really inspiring for young people.

“Standing up for human rights

“There are so many points of provocation, prompting discussion. For young people there are questions about justice, discrimination, racism, reconciliation of people within their own family histories, and the notion of inter-generational trauma and legacy. It’s the dark and light sides passed down to the descendants of Holocaust survivors and Indigenous Australians, and how we come together from different backgrounds and have a conversation about that.”

For Playwright Andrea James, *Bright World’s* inclusion on the VCE Drama list means students have the opportunity to explore the history’s importance as well as the way Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people make theatre together.

“Bright World’s importance is also in showing humankind’s enormous empathy for one another. Having spoken to other Holocaust survivors today, the power of William Cooper’s act really resonates. To know that someone who was so persecuted in his own land had the humanity to speak up for them is powerful still — for all of us.”

**FAST FACTS**

- *Bright World* is on the 2016 VCE Drama and Theatre Studies Playlist
- It will tour through regional Victoria in 2018
- It reached its box-office target before opening

“These are deeply personal histories, but it’s quite experimental in its telling, so we had a lot of responsibility to the whole communities who have a stake in the way this history is told, as much as we do as theatre-makers.”

Co-playwright Elise Hearst says, “What we want the audience to think about is who they are, including in terms of their Australian identity. Then to consider what their relationship to the First People is — what we are indebted to and grateful for.

“*Bright World*’s performance brought to the stage the story of William Cooper, an Indigenous elder who protested against Kristallnacht in 1938.

PHOTO: SARAH WALKER
According to government figures, one in 100 Australian children are affected by Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). For these children, moving from one activity or setting to another can be difficult. The transition from kindergarten to school can be acutely problematic, as they face unique challenges heightened by ASD, including a lack of social interaction, communication and adaptive-living skills (such as toileting and eating). Stress levels potentially increase due to routine interruptions and changes, which also affect the children’s families. Teachers at primary school may also be unaware how to deal with ASD-associated behaviours, or how individual children will react. Behaviours can include non-compliance, a lack of consistent participation in activities, aggression and tantrums.

Creating positive experiences

However, supported transition from kindergarten to school can help to establish positive educational and social experiences, thus improving mainstream educational inclusion outcomes.

With funding from Gandel Philanthropy, Abacus Learning Centre was able to run a pilot School Inclusion Program (SIP) to support five children, their families and teachers.

Lauren Moore, Executive Director of Abacus, says, “Our staff used a range of ABA (Applied Behaviour Analysis) teaching techniques, with a particular emphasis on the positive. Our approach is all about finding the things the child does well, and helping them to do it more often. “We teach each child to ‘learn how to learn’ so they can get along in everyday life. ABA therapy is a creative process, implemented with structured flexibility, capitalising on the resources available for each individual child.

“Our clinical team developed SIP with its high-standard therapy and programming. We learned from the results that it will be a positive, effective program as students transition to their chosen school and for Abacus as a non-profit business.”

School ready

With SIP, Kaye and her son were “school ready”. “My child entered school with confidence knowing what expectations were going to be placed upon him. On his first day he walked into the classroom, put his bag away and went straight to the mat — just as he had practiced in the School Inclusion Program at Abacus. ”

“As a parent, I had also practiced leaving my child at school, so the first day was far less stressful for me.”

Kaye’s son’s teacher was also prepared. “As a school we knew what we were able to expect of our new students because there were details available on what SIP had provided, and the students had practiced essential skills at ‘Abacus School’. “

ABACUS LEARNING CENTRE

Transition to Education Program

FAST FACTS

• Abacus was formed in 2008 by parents and supporters who shared a vision to provide intensive early intervention for children with ASD on the Mornington Peninsula

• ABA programs aim to increase skills in language, play and socialisation, while decreasing behaviours interfering with learning

Building confidence in children with Autism Spectrum Disorder is a vital part of their successful transition to school.
INSIGHT EDUCATION CENTRE FOR THE BLIND AND VISION IMPAIRED

3D Printers, CAD Software and Training

Insight Education Centre for the Blind & Vision Impaired offers specialised education, building on the Australian school curriculum with extra activities and the Expanded Core Curriculum. This expanded program comprises compensatory and functional academic skills, including communication modes, social interaction, independent living, recreation, career education, assistive technology, sensory efficiency and self-determination.

Educational programs

As well as the specialist primary/secondary school at Berwick, Insight’s Centre of Excellence is a hub of educational services for vision-impaired students, with a network of specialist units about to roll out at mainstream Victorian schools. Its “InsightOut” Mobile Classrooms — schools on wheels, each with a teacher and an aide — travel to provide specialised education to blind and vision-impaired students at mainstream schools in outer Melbourne and regional Victoria.

Insight founder and Managing Director, Alan Lachman, says, “Education is like Swiss cheese: the greater the holes in a child’s education, the greater the chance they’ll exit. But particularly for kids with a sensory disability, gaps in maths and science education just strike them out.”

Learning with 3D

Encouraged by overseas outcomes from rapidly advancing 3D printing used in science, technology, engineering and maths subjects, Insight acquired two 3D printers and a colour scanner with funding from Gandel Philanthropy to use across all its education services.

“These give us the potential to produce anything that complements our curricula. It could be a bird’s wing, or a topographical map, or the bones in a human ear. One prints larger things in layers, while the second can produce very small items, such as the equivalent of a watch mechanism, and is perfect for fine-motor-skill development.”

Insight uses the printers to match each child’s individual learning needs.

Mobile Classroom teacher’s aide, Thomas Speek, says, “A vital part of Insight’s approach is identifying each student’s needs and combining that with the national curriculum. We then use the 3D printers to form particular devices that further enhance each individual student’s learning accessibility to help them reach their full academic potential. The printers really complement the students’ core learning.”

Alan says, “We will offer this capability around Victoria, so that vision-impaired kids can catch-up where needed and never again fall behind in their learning.”

“(The 3D printer) can make … flat things real. I can see the stuff from the books we read.”

– Christian, 8, junior class, blind

Students at Insight Education Centre have a chance to improve their learning capability through the use of 3D printing. PHOTO: DAVID COHEN

FAST FACTS

- By allowing the children to touch and feel subjects being learnt (e.g. angles in maths), the 3D printers increase understanding, enhancing learning accessibility
- Items already created include: braille cubes and dice, 3D landmark and topographical maps
- The printers give a range of realistic tactile experiences with different surfaces (wood, plastic, metal) and shapes

“If the kids are learning from something, they want to use it. These kids love what the 3D printer does. It’s brilliant.”

– Thomas Speek, teacher’s aide, Mobile Classroom
C CARE
Pantry Packs Program

Care is a volunteer-focused charity aiming to address social isolation, under privilege and poverty. Its intervention programs help those experiencing isolation and disadvantage integrate into all aspects of community life.

Director Shlomo Nathanson says, “C Care creates a sense of unity, acceptance and belonging because it breaks down barriers of difference and segregation.”

Established by the Chabad Jewish Centre in Port Melbourne where Shlomo is the Rabbi, C Care provides respite, care and food services.

Healthy meals

‘After speaking with our many meal recipients, and volunteers observing recipients’ lifestyles, it was clear that if our clients had access to ingredients, they would cook healthy meals for themselves, building their self-esteem and confidence.

‘In 2015 we ran a pilot program for pantry packs, where a box of dry groceries is delivered to those who are unable to buy ingredients themselves due to disability, depression or isolation. It was such a success, we formally rolled out the program in 2016, with funding from Gandel Philanthropy.

“Part of the pantry packs’ innovative approach is tip sheets, giving recipients healthy ideas and easy recipes to prepare nutritious, simple cost-efficient meals with the contents of the box, helping them be more independent and improving their wellbeing, nutrition and confidence.

“It’s proving a very practical yet powerful way to help, connect and empower those in need.”

Volunteers in action

Timnah, 15, a student at Mount Scopus College, sees this every time she makes a delivery.

“I believe C Care is truly making a difference, and I am so happy that I am able to be a part of such a rewarding and special thing, in providing people with the basic necessity of food. I decided to pack C Care pantry packs as a way of getting friends involved in giving back. I love the work C Care does. Delivering the packs is equally as rewarding, as we love seeing the smile on the people’s faces with gratitude for us and C Care.”

Fellow volunteer Tahni, 12, also enjoys seeing first-hand how recipients benefit.

“It is very fulfilling because it makes me feel like I have done something to help people. I get to feel like I really made a difference. I have gained a greater appreciation of how lucky I am, and I also enjoy mixing with the other volunteers and feeling proud once we have finished all the jobs we have been assigned.”

C CARE Pantry Packs Program

FAST FACTS

• C Care’s pantry pack program delivers an average of 59 boxes to 75 people each month

• The packing and the delivery of the pantry pack boxes is done entirely by volunteers

C Care relies on countless volunteers, such as the students from Mount Scopus College, to help prepare and deliver the pantry packs to those in need.
Each year, 1,000 Women at Risk refugees are resettled in Australia, mostly regionally. This visa category is for highly vulnerable women who are subject to gender-based persecution or serious abuse. Many come with traumas from family loss, death, displacement, rape, poverty and the impacts of prolonged war and loss of hope. Being without the traditional male partner, they are thrust into the role of household head, with responsibility for settling into their new country. Limited English and a lack of confidence and connections outside their immediate ethnic circle exacerbate their isolation. The life of women in Australia is fundamentally different to their experiences.

Social inclusion
With support from Gandel Philanthropy, Diversitat ran a pilot in North Geelong for newly arrived Women at Risk Afghan refugees, establishing a friendship circle with local community volunteers to build friendships and cultural exchange. The whole group focused on activities to improve social inclusion, support the women to become more confident in undertaking new activities and participate more actively within the local community. Promoting tolerance and understanding within the local community was another objective, as the women, easily identifiable as Muslim, often bear the brunt of negative attitudes to Islamic culture.

Group topics included family issues, Australian and Afghan hospitality, understanding differences between the two “worlds”, feeling safe in Australia, how to be healthy and fit, fashion across the two cultures, parenting, and futures and dreams.

Building confidence
Suzanne Cooper, Diversitat’s Team Leader of Community Development and Multicultural Mental Health & Wellbeing Officer, said before the program many of the women were reluctant to travel outside North Geelong, being unfamiliar with signage, fearing getting lost, not knowing places to visit, cultural differences, safety factors and a lack of English.

“Program outcomes included a much greater confidence in using English and increased everyday vocabularies. Some of the women were much more confident in going beyond North Geelong, and one is even going to learn how to drive!”

“The participants felt having the opportunity to speak with Australian women, and share cultures, including food, helped them feel that they belong in Australia. There is also greater trust in the broader community — particularly in ‘friendly Australian women’. Some of the participants have also initiated contact, and arranged to visit the volunteers. It’s been a wonderful outcome for social inclusion and community development.”

“I look forward with excitement to Wednesdays and meeting and enjoying the company of all the women and what I am learning.”

– Afghani participant

“Women Together” Friendship Circle

Diversitat worked with the recently arrived Afghan women and Australian volunteers to build friendships and strengthen cultural exchanges.
The 50-unit High Street Elderly Persons Estate at Northcote in inner Melbourne is home to 65 residents, aged 55 to 80, spanning more than 10 nationalities.

Gina Wittingslow manages Northcote’s Jika Jika Community Centre, a member of the Australian Neighbourhood Houses & Centres Association.

“Part of this public housing estate is a community space, which tends to be an extension of people’s lounge rooms. It’s professionally designed and fantastic, with a kitchen, outdoor area, medical consultation rooms, bathroom areas and space for a Men’s Shed.”

The space fell into disuse due to a combination of factors, with residents left feeling disenfranchised and isolated. Disability and language barriers compounded these issues.

Building a community space

“Although we have run cooking classes there as part of Darebin Council’s healthy-eating program, along with other small-scale activities, the space wasn’t being used anywhere near to its full extent, leaving residents thoroughly disappointed.”

With funding from Gandel Philanthropy, Jika Jika Community Centre is working with the estate’s residents to develop a community action plan and support establishing a range of community-based events and activities that strengthen participation and social inclusion. Jika Jika Community Centre’s Community Development Worker, Jenny Rayner, says gradually the residents began talking to each other, instead of solely to her during the twice-weekly visits she conducts.

“The whole vibe’s different. We’ve got games there now and a Chinese library with newspapers. It’s looking cosier too. I know of residents who are exchanging books with each other, which never happened before.”

Gina says, “People need friends, it’s that basic, and this project has facilitated that. As part of it, many residents have also asked us to run English classes here.”

“People come here and have a cuppa and talk. Otherwise there is nothing to do; we would stay in our homes and watch TV all day.”
– female resident, early 70s, East Timorese origin

Stronger sense of connection

Amina*, who has lived in the estate for six years, says the re-opened community space has given her somewhere to go during the day. She has benefited from exercise classes with the local yoga master and enjoys the craft sessions.

“I like to make things; they are nice. I don’t speak much English, but I listen to conversations around me. Listening helps my English. Maybe it will help me to speak to more people.”

For Ermelinda*, having lived at the estate for just four months, her favourite exercise, craft and morning tea sessions, means she knows who her neighbours are.

“Without this, we would never have met everyone. These classes would not run.”

*Names changed

“It’s good I have somewhere to go; it is good for people to see each other.”
– female resident, 74, Bosnian origin

Craft activities at the High Street Estate help residents reconnect and be active.

FAST FACTS

• Jika Jika is one of more than 400 Neighbourhood Houses and Learning Centres across Victoria

• Working through a community-development model, the estate’s residents decide on the activities for their community space

Social Cohesion & Inclusion

AUSTRALIAN NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES AND CENTRES ASSOCIATION

The High Street Project at Jika Jika

COMMUNITY Grants

Gandel Philanthropy Annual Review 2015-16
Transformational scholarships

Through Gandel Philanthropy, the Gandel family has established a transformational scholarship fund to support high-achieving students from disadvantaged backgrounds to study a degree of their choice at Monash University. The Gandel Scholars fund will award two scholarships each year – the John Gandel Scholarship to a male recipient and the Pauline Gandel Scholarship to a female recipient, with selection based on academic achievement, social, personal or financial need and leadership potential.

In a true partnership approach, the award comprises not only the Gandel Scholarship funds for the student, but also a Monash University contribution. The University is providing a comprehensive package of support including campus residential accommodation and a Monash Global grant. Recipients also become ambassadors of the Access Monash mentoring program, fostering development in communication, leadership, presentation skills and strategic thinking.

Margaret Gardner, Vice-Chancellor of Monash University (on the right in the front row) joined John and Pauline Gandel for the official launch of the John Gandel and Pauline Gandel Equity Scholarships.

Major and Flagship Grants are provided in six key Areas of Interest:
- Arts & Culture
- Education
- Health & Medical Research
- Jewish Identity & Leadership
- Youth at Risk
- Indigenous Programs

The largest percentage of grants allocated under the Major and Flagship level of giving was towards Health & Medical Research, at 28%, followed closely by Education at 22%.

Major and Flagship Grants are generally provided over several years – of the 46 grants at this level, 33 are multi-year.

Applications for Major and Flagship Grants are by invitation only. If organisations wish to explore cooperation at these levels, they are encouraged to contact Gandel Philanthropy staff.
The Australian Ballet School (School) had a vision to establish a students’ residence for many years. The former Director, Marilyn Rowe OBE, worked tirelessly for many years, with other School enthusiasts, to bring this vision to reality.

The reasons for establishing a residence have always been quite clear – the students at the School come from all over Australia and also overseas, and for most of the time at least 80% of them would be from interstate. That meant that they had to find their own accommodation, often having to travel long distances to get to the School. At the same time, the School felt the duty of care they owed to students was far from ideal in such a situation.

**Parkville residence**

The work on generating sufficient funds for the residence has been ongoing for several years, with strong support from the Federal Government as well as numerous individual and foundation donors, including Gandel Philanthropy. Finally, the School was in a position to purchase a property suitable for the intended purpose. The property was on a large block of land, centrally located in Parkville, offering substantial scope for both a renovation to the existing home and, in the longer term, adding another stand-alone structure at the back.

**A vision achieved**

Marilyn Rowe says “Achieving a student residence was the last outstanding part of the vision I set for the School when I commenced as its Director 16 years ago. It has taken many years and a great deal of fundraising, but we succeeded. As the School celebrated its 50th Anniversary in 2014, it was a fitting way to mark that milestone by bringing to fruition that which I dreamed of so long ago.”

After the purchase, the building was renovated and extended. While some of the original features of the house have been retained, the new extension has been added to ensure all the important elements for a student residence were there. The former lounge and dining rooms became common or study areas, while the new section included a commercial kitchen and dining area, another larger common room and an enclosed outdoor area with barbecue.

**FAST FACTS**

- The Australian Ballet School celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2014
- The School is the main supplier of dancers to the national company, the Australian Ballet, and many other ballet companies, domestically and overseas
- Some 80% of the School’s students are from outside of Victoria

**New home for ballet students**

The building was named Marilyn Rowe House, and it was officially opened in January 2016 by the Governor General of Australia, His Excellency, General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Retd). The residence, which is run as a boarding house, is already home to 22 aspiring dancers, ranging in age from 13 to 18 years old. The residence can accommodate 35 students.

Having a residence also means that the School, as the national centre of excellence in classical dance training in Australia, is now in a position to meet the duty of care needs for all students from non-metropolitan Melbourne.

Another important way in which the residence has been used in 2016 was to offer it to the School’s visiting interstate and international students. This means the residence also gets to be populated during school holidays, and provides the visiting students with a cost effective and safe accommodation option, instead of a hotel.
The Asylum Seeker Resource Centre (ASRC) established its “Innovation Hub” in early 2015. The Hub aims to increase both the capabilities and participation socially and in work of those seeking asylum. With three year funding from Gandel Philanthropy, ASRC established WISE Women as a program through its Hub, to provide women refugees and asylum seekers – who are generally less-well supported – with a safe, encouraging and educational space. Through WISE Women, female Hub involvement has more than doubled, achieving ASRC’s aim to raise women’s participation rates across its training and employment programs. A major principle of WISE Women is including participants in designing, delivering and leading ASRC programs and services.

Building capacity of women
Anila Aftab-Schroers, ASRC’s Innovation Hub Women’s Program Co-ordinator, says, “WISE Women has enabled the Hub to address needs defined by the women themselves regarding their education, employment, small-business aspirations and recreational activities. Most of all, it has offered them a way to connect with each other and to define pathways to achieve goals they may never have realised in their home countries.” For each, “success” and “change” are different — finding kinship and support, being able to up-skill to gain employment, or knowing enough English to confidently engage in conversation.

Stories of success
Coming to Australia from Nepal with five very young children, single mother Karuna* could speak no English. Now 41, two years of ASRC English classes have enabled her to “hold a conversation with anyone in Australia without the help of my children”.

“I don’t have study or work rights. This fact has been a source of great frustration for me.” However, Karuna feels comfort at ASRC, and WISE Women feels like a second home.

“Joining the program I was a shy and reserved person, but I have come to realise that we were all going through the same issues, and knowing that, it allowed me to be more open and confident in speaking. It has changed the way I view myself, allowing me to realise that I am a confident person and that I can achieve anything I set my mind to.”

Anahita,* 53, has also benefited from being part of the WISE Women Program. Originally from Iran, she lives with her daughter and young granddaughters and has now developed mechanisms to deal with different and difficult situations.

“I realise that the difficulties I am facing, others are facing as well and that at times it is helpful to go out connect with people and have a conversation. It has also helped me realise what is important in my life, that I am a priority and to take my life day by day. I have learnt that the most important person in life is me, my health, my happiness and that I am unique. I have learnt so much through this journey and have so much to be thankful for — it is a great program that has done a lot for me.”

*Names changed

FAST FACTS
- WISE Women’s name stands for “Worldly, Independent, Self-sufficient and Empowered” women
- Volunteering in WISE Women leadership and mentoring capacities helps ASRC clients build professional and life skills, and adds to ASRC’s organisational resource pool
- In 2015, 50 members enrolled in vocational training – a 200% increase on the previous year
JUSTICE CONNECT

The Women’s Homelessness Prevention Project (WHPP)

Just Connect’s Women’s Homelessness Prevention Project (WHPP) aims to prevent women and their children being evicted into homelessness. With the grant from Gandel Philanthropy, provided in partnership with the Lord Mayor’s Charitable Foundation, the holistic, integrated program combines tenancy legal representation with social work support to women and their children at risk of becoming homeless.

Lucy Adams is Manager and Principal Lawyer of Justice Connect’s Homeless Law service. “Legal issues never exist in a vacuum. We’re able to prevent evictions and address both the legal and non-legal issues that put women at risk of homelessness.”

Combining legal and social work

A pro bono lawyer from project partner Herbert Smith Freehills works with a WHPP lawyer and Justice Connect social worker.

WHPP lawyer Patrick Warner says, “Our clients are some of the most vulnerable women in Victoria. Many are victims of family violence at risk of homelessness — often for the first time — and are struggling to build a new life with children in their care. Ensuring they have access to high quality legal advice and representation with their housing issues means they stand the best possible chance of avoiding the recurring cycle of disadvantage that homelessness represents.”

WHPP social worker Rachelle Driver, says, “With a psycho-social approach, I can refer women on to appropriate services to help them take the steps to slowly recover from their trauma and to be able to move positively forward.”

Alleviating crisis situations

Gail*, 47, has an intellectual disability resulting in literacy issues. Her eviction notice was due to the damage her abusive ex-partner had caused to the neighbour’s property. Working with WHPP, Gail felt comfortable for the first time to talk about these issues. Through WHPP Homeless Law was able to put a hold on the eviction, giving her time to relocate and receive intensive support. Gail avoided the crisis that eviction brings with it.

“For the first appointment it was different, new and nervous for me, as I had not been in this situation at all. They had helped me more than words can say — it was so different.

“I really loved working with Rachelle as she knew a lot of contacts in people that can help me in my crisis situation that I was in. Thank you for putting me on to [the] women’s social support worker and for everything you have done for me. I have been going on outings and met up with people, they are a lovely support people.”

*Name changed

FAST FACTS

In WHPP’s first two years:

• 83% of clients at risk of eviction avoided homelessness
• 102 women, with 153 children in their care, received legal advice, negotiation with landlords, VCAT representation, and links with family violence counselling, financial counselling, employment, housing and mental health services

The WHPP initiative assisted more than 100 women and their children with integrated legal and social work support.

“It made my life a lot different … [it] turned my situation a lot better. It turned my whole life real good. I thank you so much for all you have done for me.”

– Gail*, 47
Beyond Empathy

The Maven Project

Beyond Empathy (BE) works with people experiencing recurring hardship, using the arts to alleviate disadvantage by influencing change and enriching their lives and their communities’ wellbeing.

The beginning

Gandel Philanthropy supported BE to establish Maven. The project focuses on the professional development of young people who have been involved in BE’s general ventures and demonstrated leadership skills both with other young people and in their ability to practice their chosen art form. The current three-year grant is a continuation of the pilot Gandel supported as a Community Grant in 2014.

BE Executive Director Kim McConville says, “Maven places professional Aboriginal artists as mentors across regional NSW. The mentees are at the centre of creating works within their community. By teaching and learning at the same time, these mentees come with a huge degree of humility and have a deep empathy, allowing them to engage in a very meaningful way. They go from disengaged to engaged, and start to bring in other young people from the community, lifting everyone up.”

Connecting and learning

Professional musician David Leha, of Radical Son, says, “I value the position of being a mentor with Maven in the community. I’m much happier within myself.

“Maven is supportive, nurturing, caring. I find purpose in the arts through being valued, and being able to learn and give back to others. Through Maven, I’m hoping to improve in my craft and help other artists to do the same.

“I’ve learnt that it takes a lot to stay connected to the people that we work with in community, and the people I work with really appreciate the connections made through projects like Maven — as do I.”

For Nathan Weatherall, Maven has been life changing.

“I’m growing; I can’t go back now, I’ve come too far. These opportunities have given me a different pathway. Life would have been very different, that’s the truth. If I didn’t have this, my relationships with my family would be different. I had a ruthless attitude and I didn’t take (rubbish) from nobody. I think about the consequences of my actions now.”

Through Maven, Nate has learnt a lot about his craft.

“My aim has changed by being involved in the project. I know now I’m not going to be a massive hip hop star, but what I do know is that I am a hip hop artist and I want to help younger kids learn tools — how to use a computer, music programs, how to write, have a new-age cultural voice. The computer has replaced clap sticks and traditional ways of telling our stories.”

“I’ve been off government benefits for five months. It’s the first time in my life. I’ve been able to put a roof over my kids’ heads and provide for them.”

– Nathan Weatherall, mentee

Maven emerging dance artist, Steve Quinlin, leads a troupe of boys in traditional dance at Festival of the Brolga, Moree.

PHOTO: MAVEN PHOTOGRAPHIC ARTIST, RAPHAELA ROSELLA.

FAST FACTS

• Beyond Empathy uses the arts to influence change and enrich the lives of individuals and communities experiencing recurring hardship

• The Maven project is a hub for creativity, imagination, collaboration, learning, skills, cultural exchange and community

• Working as artistic leaders and teachers, professional Aboriginal artists develop new, multidisciplinary Australian work

Maven emerging dance artist, Steve Quinlin, leads a troupe of boys in traditional dance at Festival of the Brolga, Moree.

PHOTO: MAVEN PHOTOGRAPHIC ARTIST, RAPHAELA ROSELLA.
Letter from Rowan, participant in the 2014 program

“My Taglit Birthright Israel experience in December 2014 was so much more than a touring trip – it was literally a game changer in my life.

I grew up in Box Hill, attending Koonung Secondary College in Mont Albert. I’d gone to synagogue on high holidays with my grandmother as a young child, but never really enjoyed it. My Jewish education consisted of my pre-Batmitzvah classes and once I’d had my Batmitzvah, I had no further contact with the Jewish community for 10 years, until I went on Birthright.

First connections

So how does a Victorian police officer, with almost no Jewish connections find his way onto a Birthright bus? In my professional capacity, I attended a function where I met Rabbi Daniel Rabin, who had previously been a Birthright group leader. In a chance conversation, he asked me if I’d like to go on a free trip to Israel. I’d never thought about it before and never heard of Birthright – but once I did a bit of research and found that it was a real offer, with no hidden conditions, I said yes!

Before the trip, I had few expectations beyond the fabulous idea of travelling with a group of young adults. Forty of us quickly became a bonded group and we learned a lot about Israel but we also learned about ourselves. We got to appreciate the fact that there are so many different types of Jewish people and enjoy the complexity. We celebrated Shabbat at the Wailing Wall – all of us singing, dancing, with our arms around each other, all included, religious, secular and everyone in between.

Making friends

I particularly loved making friends with Israelis our own age, which added immensely to our understanding of issues in Israel. The inclusion of the Israelis benefited us all. They now know that they have somewhere to sleep when they do travel and visit Australia and we have friends in Israel too.

I returned from my Birthright trip as a proud ambassador for Israel, able to explain to my friends and work colleagues that Israel is so much more than what we see in the media. Birthright instilled in me a thirst to learn more and embrace my Jewish heritage and identity. It showed me the beauty of the Jewish way of life – in fact, Shabbat on Birthright was the first time I’d ever experienced a Shabbat in my life and I loved it! Birthright made me proud to be Jewish.

A love story

But Birthright gave me even more than that - it was on the trip that I met my fiancée, Tova. Just as my participation came from a chance conversation, hers was a last-minute, last place on the bus decision. We became engaged less than a year after our trip and our wedding was held in September 2016, with Rabbi Daniel Rabin officiating!

Today, I serve on the committee of my synagogue, which I attend whenever I can. We make Shabbat dinners at home, we keep in touch with our group leaders and friends we made on Birthright. Since my return, I’ve been asked to speak at various events about what it’s like to be a Jewish policeman. I talk about Birthright, about Israel and even about Torah – something that would not have been on my agenda only two years ago.

Taglit Birthright Israel was life-changing for me. It brought me closer to my past - my heritage and religion, to my present – my Jewish identity and connection to Israel and to my future – my wife, my future Jewish family.”
**BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS**

**Big Futures program**

Research shows a strong link between students’ wellbeing and their ability to take full advantage of education. In turn, this gives them the greatest chance of unlocking their potential and leading a fulfilling life.

Big Brothers Big Sisters is Australia’s leading youth-mentoring organisation. With two-year funding from Gandel Philanthropy, Big Brothers Big Sisters expanded the Big Futures programs in Melbourne’s outer eastern and western clusters in eight schools.

**Mentoring works**

Amanda Smith, General Manager of Business Development, says, “Mentoring is about identifying a young person’s strengths and helping them to build on those. The model works for many reasons, including because it’s long-term — we advocate prevention through early intervention rather than rehabilitation. One of the most protective factors for a young person’s wellbeing is a one-to-one relationship with a caring adult; this supports their resilience to make wise choices regarding behaviour and attitudes.”

Big Futures has a ripple effect in society, also benefiting the mentors and the young person’s peers and family.

For mentor Amanda Nichols, a full-time carer in her mid-30s for a terminally ill family member, the highlights were numerous. “When you’re a carer if you don’t make the effort to participate in the community, a very insular existence easily creeps up on you. Big Futures gave me a different purpose, somewhere else to be every Monday afternoon. It was an opportunity to make more really good friendships, and the relationship I struck up with Alicia was wonderful.”

Amanda helped Alicia with goal setting, planning and finding opportunities. “When you’re young, with other challenges in life, it can be quite ominous and you don’t know where to start. I helped her with that, but she also helped me in reminding me to focus on what you can control, what is positive and gravitating towards those things.”

**Learning about possibilities**

Alicia, 17, was initially scared about Big Futures, but knew it was a good opportunity for help and to seek advice. “Then I felt very great about the program; I always looked forward to catching up with my mentor because my mentor had helped me with my résumé, cover letter, practicing job interview skills and finding a work experience place for me.

“Big Futures has changed my life. My mentor has also changed my point of views by letting me know that things happen for a reason and that there is so much left to explore in the world and something bad isn’t the end of the world.”

**FAST FACTS**

- Big Brothers Big Sisters supports more than 800 mentor/mentee relationships, with 385 of those in schools
- Big Futures is an in-school mentoring program delivered in several school clusters in Victoria

“Big Futures has changed what I can do with my life now, by whatever opportunity is thrown at me, I should take and use it to get a better point of view to life for my future benefit, and to get to where I want to be.”

– Alicia, 17, mentee
Gandel Philanthropy has a stated Granting Philosophy, which guides the review and assessment of grant applications from charitable community organisations. Below are some of the key factors that are taken into account in that process:

- **Community need & impact**: We will seek to fund programs that meet a genuine, identified need; that are evidence based; and that have the potential for significant or direct community impact and benefit, and broader implementation;

- **Prevention**: We will aim to support programs that focus on addressing the root causes of social or economic inequity, not just remediation;

- **Innovation & sustainability**: We will also seek to support programs that offer innovative and creative solutions to issues, and programs that have the potential to be sustainable over the longer term;

- **Effectiveness & operational strength**: We will aim to support organisations that have a strong track record in meeting the community needs; that appropriately address the accountability, monitoring and evaluation in their programs; and that promote diversity, inclusion and volunteerism;

- **Linkages**: We will support and embrace organisations that work in cooperation and partnership within their program work and that actively encourage collaboration with other key stakeholders in a given field.

Gandel Philanthropy grants are provided in support of both Jewish and Australian causes and organisations. Organisations can receive a grant within one of the three categories of grants, as stated below.

### 1. COMMUNITY Grants

These grants are allocated up to a maximum amount of $40,000. They are generally envisaged as one-off grants aimed at providing support for a defined program or part of a program. **COMMUNITY** Grants are open for application by any eligible organisation, which delivers programs or services within one of the specified areas of interest, outlined below. More information about this level of granting can be found on Gandel Philanthropy’s website, www.gandelphilanthropy.org.au.

Current Areas of Interest for **COMMUNITY** Grants are:

- Arts & Culture;
- Education;
- Health & Medical Research;
- Community Development;
- Social Cohesion & Inclusion; and
- Poverty & Disadvantage.

### 2. MAJOR Grants

MAJOR Grants reflect Gandel Philanthropy’s wish to provide more substantial and meaningful support to achieve stronger and longer-term positive social impact within the specified area of interest. These grants can be allocated as a single, one-off contribution or be part of a multi-year support, depending on the nature of the need being addressed. As a rule, the aim is to support programs that are evidence-based, that deliver defined positive outcomes in the community, that may provide long-term benefit to the target audience, and that have the potential to be more broadly implemented.

Funding for **MAJOR** Grants can range from $40,000 to a maximum of $250,000 per annum. It is important to note that applications for **MAJOR** Grants are by invitation only. More information about this level of granting can be found on the website, www.gandelphilanthropy.org.au.

### 3. FLAGSHIP Grants

This level of giving was developed with the aim of providing support for significant, flagship-type activities, programs and causes. **FLAGSHIP** Grants are just that – leadership grants that will provide considerable support to undertake initiatives that will help strengthen, or build, more resilient, more vibrant and more inclusive communities.

Funding for these grants can range from $250,000 to a maximum of $2 million per annum, awarded as a one-off grant or over a number of years, depending on the need.

Applications for **FLAGSHIP** Grants are by invitation only. More information about this level of granting can be found on the website, www.gandelphilanthropy.org.au.

Through its **MAJOR** Grants and **FLAGSHIP** Grants, Gandel Philanthropy provides support for Jewish and Australian causes in the following Areas of Interest:

- Arts & Culture;
- Education;
- Health & Medical Research;
- Youth at Risk;
- Jewish Identity & Leadership; and
- Indigenous Programs;

In addition to this structured and formalised approach to grant giving, Gandel Philanthropy retains its flexibility to respond to other emerging or relevant needs outside of this strategy, but only in exceptional circumstances and as identified and approved by the Board of Trustees.
Research shows that early years are critical for building the foundations for learning and lifetime outcomes for all children, particularly those in culturally and linguistically diverse communities experiencing high levels of socio-economic disadvantage, such as those in Melbourne’s west. Early intervention is essential to break the cycle of disadvantage - this project will provide resources and enable trained volunteers to help build young children’s school readiness to improve long-term outcomes.

**Teach For Australia**

Effective school leadership is increasingly viewed as key to improving educational outcomes and leadership is viewed as “second only to classroom instruction among all school-related factors that contribute to what students learn at school” (Leadership Matters, 2013). Furthermore, Australia is facing an impending school leadership gap, with almost three-quarters of Australian principals over 50 years of age (ACER, 2014).

Teach To Lead aims to develop a pipeline of exceptional leaders for disadvantaged schools across Australia. The program was established in 2015 through a partnership between Teach For Australia, the Sidney Myer Fund and Gandel Philanthropy. The first cohort of 16 school leaders, based in Victorian secondary schools, commenced in April 2016.

The selective two-year program is designed to build the skills that matter most in schools facing the greatest challenges, such as coaching others, building effective teams and planning strategically. In the short-term, participants are expected to deliver improvements in student achievement and wellbeing, and in the long-term, to become highly effective principals, leading transformational change.

Teach To Lead has secured funding to expand from the Victorian Department of Education and Training, and the Northern Territory Department of Education. The second cohort will involve 32 school leaders, working in primary and secondary schools across Australia. The program plans to continue to grow in the coming years, reaching as many schools and high-potential leaders as possible.

**The University of Melbourne**

Gandel Philanthropy joined forces with a number of other prominent Melbourne philanthropists to support the establishment of the Alan Goldberg Scholarship at Melbourne Law School. The scholarship acknowledges the remarkable legal career of the late Alan Goldberg AO QC and his enormous contribution to the legal profession, both in Australia and overseas.

The Scholarship is awarded to Melbourne Juris Doctor students who have demonstrated both academic merit and serious financial need. The Alan Goldberg scholarship will play a significant role in the lives of young, talented and committed students who aspire to achieve top legal education at Melbourne Law School.

**Ngroo Education**

Ngroo Education is a NSW-based organisation that works to improve the opportunity for Aboriginal children to achieve their potential by increasing their level of participation in mainstream early childhood and care and other relevant services and settings.

Gandel Philanthropy provided support for Ngroo’s “Walking Together” training model. This program is delivered by Aboriginal educators, who teach non-Aboriginal early childhood educators to understand the relevance of culture and incorporate it into their daily teaching routine. The grant supports Ngroo to work with 18 schools in the Blacktown area, at least 180 parents and children under 6 years and more than 100 teachers.

The course itself includes a focus on Aboriginal cultural practices and Aboriginal ways of communicating. Post-training and mentoring packages are included to ensure the training has been effective and that culturally appropriate service practice is applied.