



Improving Life Outcomes

\$8m

**\$8M in
funding**



**over 8 years
of operations**



**28 different
charities**



**30,000+
beneficiaries**

**200+ Greater
Bank volunteers
annually**



**Giving 1000+
hours of time**



**Nominated for
state-based
volunteering
awards**





A message from the CEO

We say it every year, but 2018 seemed to fly by! It felt like only yesterday we were reflecting on our content for our 2017 review! As is evidenced by the speed of the year, it was an incredibly busy one for the Greater Charitable Foundation, full of change, growth, and most importantly, improving life outcomes for families and communities.

As you will read below, we were again overwhelmed by outstanding applications as part of our 2018 funding round. I continue to be impressed by the amount of passion and innovation emanating from the not for profit sector, as organisations are working tirelessly to create lasting social change. The Board had a very difficult decision in selecting the successful charity partners, and in the end, we welcomed 6 charities to our family who are creating significant change across the areas of health, youth development, education and health and wellbeing research.

Our Greater Charitable Foundation Board also experienced change. Early in the year, we farewelled Staff-Appointed Director, Mr Jye Smith, along with our esteemed Chairman, Mr Ian Nelmes.

Mr Nelmes had been on the Board of our Foundation since its inception in 2011, and had a major impact on guiding the Foundation's vision and direction over the past 8 years. Mrs Anne Thurlow, who has also been a member of our Foundation Board since establishment was appointed as the new Chairperson, and has been active in the role since June 2018.

We also welcomed a new Director to the Board, Mrs Jayne Drinkwater. Mrs Drinkwater is a current Non-Executive Director of Greater Bank, having been a member of its Board since October 2010. Mrs Drinkwater brings with her a wealth of knowledge and experience, and above all, a passion for supporting the community.

I hope you enjoy reading just some of the highlights from the year that was 2018 at the Greater Charitable Foundation!



Anne Long
CEO Greater Charitable
Foundation



2018 Funding Round Outcome

More than 150 applications were received as part of the Greater Charitable Foundation's 2018 Funding Round. In the end, the Board allocated more than \$900,000 in funding to six different charities, including both new and previously funded partners. These successful charities received between \$25,000 and \$334,000 to deliver services aimed at improving the life outcomes of families and communities.

The 2018 Funding Round also saw the Foundation make the largest contribution to charitable organisations in South-East Queensland, with more than \$350,000 directed to the region.

The six successful charities included Cancer Patients Foundation, Children's Hospital Foundation QLD, Clontarf Foundation, McGrath Foundation, National Centre for Childhood Grief and OzHarvest.



Greater Bank Dubbo Branch Manager Cassie Reynolds handing over the cheque to boys from the local Clontarf Dubbo Academy

"We were faced with a difficult task, but out of more than 150 applications, the charities we have welcomed on board complemented the work of our existing partners in making an impact on the lives of those most vulnerable across the communities in which we operate."
Anne Long, CEO



Who we supported throughout 2018

TANTRUM

A theatre-in-education experience providing young people with increased knowledge around the impacts of domestic violence and the avenues of support available to them.



Supporting cancer patients who are parents of young people aged 12-25.



Supporting the Child Life Therapy program to help counteract the fears and anxiety that hospital experiences can provoke for children.



Supporting a skill development and nutrition program for disadvantaged young people, families, men and women.



Supporting an intensive workshop on 'Children's Grief' for school counsellors in the Hunter Region and the distribution of 'Grief Resource Packs' to support bereaved children and their families.



Supporting medical research into stroke treatment and rehabilitation.



Improving the education, discipline, life skills, self-esteem and employment prospects of young Aboriginal men.



Giving people diagnosed with cancer the skills to help manage the side effects of their treatment in a way that enables them to retain their self-esteem and confidence.



Providing respite and family accommodation for children living with cancer.



Harnessing the power of collective investment between government, business and philanthropy to improve the lives of those living in rural, regional and remote Australia.



Supporting a McGrath Breast Care Nurse to help improve the outcomes for people diagnosed with breast cancer in the Hunter Region.



The world's first father-focused obesity prevention program for preschool-aged children, providing fathers with the knowledge, parenting skills and motivation to improve their health and become healthy role models.



Transforming the hospital experience for kids and families living with serious illness.



Supporting a Hunter/Central Coast-based Financial Counsellor for people affected by cancer experiencing financial hardship.



Improving Life Outcomes - A Case Study

Greater Charitable Foundation is currently funding Healthy Youngsters, Healthy Dads (HYHD), the University of Newcastle's world-first, father-focused obesity prevention program for preschool-aged children led by Professor Philip Morgan and his team. The funding will enable 200 families to access the program over the next 2 years.

Scott O'Neill, 36, and his daughter Grace, 4, from Lambton are recent graduates of the program and gained a lot from their involvement in terms of father/daughter bonding and bringing the topic of health to the family agenda.

"I've always been quite an active bloke but never really focused on the importance of staying fit for my long-term health," said Mr O'Neill.

"I enjoyed all aspects of the HYHD program; being involved with my youngster in such a hands-on way each week through spending quality time and being active was really rewarding and enjoyable"

"We both loved the weekly sessions and we'd aim to set aside time each day when I got home from work to do at least one of the take home activities from the program.



Scott and Grace O'Neill

"Grace really got into it and I've seen a major improvement in her technique for a number of sport skills and a significant increase in her vegetable, fruit and water intake, which is the biggest motivator to keep me in check too."

Volunteering

Volunteering remains a key platform for our Foundation, and we're lucky enough to have engaged and passionate Greater Bank employees who generously give their time and skills to our charity partners. More than 200 Greater Bank employees have volunteered more than 1,000 hours of their time to our charity partners in the last 12 months alone.

During National Volunteer Week 2018, we were thrilled to announce the outcome of our Greater Charitable Foundation Employee Volunteer of the Year Award. This year, two Greater Bank employees received the award, recognising the way in which they had gone above and beyond in their capacity to volunteer and give back to our community partners.



L-R: Portia Wendt (Maitland City Council), Abbey Keogh (Greater Bank Branch Manager), Anne Long (GCF CEO) & Ingrid Kaczor (Greater Bank Community engagement Manager)



Greater Bank Compliance Officer Bern Rennie receiving her award from the NSW Centre for Volunteering

Greater Bank Compliance Officer, Bernadette Rennie, received the award in recognition of the time, skill and support she had given to 11 different Charitable Foundation partners since 2013. The other recipient was Greater Bank Branch Manager, Abbey Keogh, who had consistently given up her time to support her local grassroots community partners.

Bernadette Rennie also received a nomination in the Centre for Volunteering NSW state-based volunteering awards. Bernadette was recognised in the Corporate Volunteer Individual category for the extensive amount of volunteer support she has provided to charities.

Our Greater Charitable Foundation Directors are also passionate volunteers! Our Greater Bank Executive Appointed Director, Marie Hanson-Kentwell participated in a three-day immersion experience with the Clontarf Foundation in September. The experience began with an employment forum for Clontarf students in years 9-12 from across the Mid North Coast region, before Marie joined nine other Clontarf supporters and a number of the year 11 and 12 students on a camping trip to Point Plomer! The group took part in a range of activities such as surfing, scuba diving, worming, before nightfall came and the boys performed a number of traditional Indigenous dances and shared stories around the campfire.



Greater Charitable Foundation Director Marie Hanson-Kentwell at the Clontarf Immersion Experience with Mason from the Clontarf Port Macquarie Academy

2019 - The Year Ahead

As we look towards the fast-approaching New Year, we're excited at the prospect of our impending 2019 Funding Round, which will open on Monday 25th February 2019, and close at midday on Friday 29th March 2019!

We're also thrilled to continue to see our funded programs rollout into the community.

At the Greater Charitable Foundation, we are all about making long-lasting, sustainable change, and it is our core vision to make a significant difference to our communities.

See you next year!

Don't forget to follow us on social media!





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