



YEARS OF IMPACT
1923 - 2023

CONNECT

SUMMER | 2023



In this edition of *Connect*, we celebrate the opening of our For Purpose Impact Accelerator Hub and invite you to join our centenary story project.

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CENTENARY NEWSLETTER
SERIES | ISSUE 3



Cover

Acting Chair Janina Gawler with Lord Mayor Sally Capp AO (centre) and Dr Catherine Brown OAM officially open the For Purpose Impact Accelerator Hub.

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Lord Mayor's Charitable Fund
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Lord Mayor's Charitable
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CEO's Message



*Affordable Housing Challenge:
Town Hall Avenue site meeting.*

Brave and thoughtful philanthropy

As I leave the Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation after 12 years as CEO, I know I leave an institution that is a leader in Australian philanthropy. The Foundation is brave, trusted and forward looking. We are driven by addressing the big challenges facing our community, which change over time. We are powered by collective giving, including through our first bequest from our founder Sir John Swanson to many bequests from generous Melburnians to game changing bequests from Eldon Foote QC and Arthur Martin, and regular, community, charitable fund account and initiative giving.

As we celebrate the Foundation's centenary, we have taken the time to reflect on the Foundation's contribution and impact. As CEO, I have tried to capture the essence of the Foundation's DNA as a brave and forward looking public community foundation. The Foundation has also been responsive to change and our ability to adapt has been demonstrated during the COVID-19 pandemic where we funded key support services and capacity building projects to support the charitable sector.

The Not-for-Profit Digital Transformation Hub developed by Infoxchange, which we funded from an idea to a full developed service reaching 10,000 users and growing, is an example of this. The ability to understand an issue, identify capable partner(s) to develop a response, and to support the testing and development of a new service is the backbone of impactful philanthropy.

The Foundation is always learning and collaborating with the goal of understanding community challenges and potential solutions. The new Impact Report is a very good overview of our approach. We aim to have a clear understanding of an issue, the outcomes we want to achieve and the change we want to see and then we work with our grant partners to learn as we go. Going in early to support new ideas, providing follow on grants to help programs scale or go deeper, sharing what works and co-funding are all part of this approach. Across our 100 years and thanks to our donors, we have provided almost \$200 million in grants, valued today at approximately \$590 million. Over time, we have been able to achieve a significant impact on the health and wellbeing of Greater Melbourne.



The Foundation's CEO Dr Catherine Brown OAM with David Spriggs, CEO of Infoxchange, at a For Purpose Impact Accelerator Hub site meeting. Infoxchange is one of the partner organisations to be located at the new Hub.

Philanthropic funding is special. It can do things that government and business cannot do because it can take early risks and it can take a long-term perspective. We can support social innovators from the start. We can think about current and future generations. This requires a thoughtful approach and some bravery. Sir John Swanson demonstrated these traits when he established the Foundation in 1923 (first incorporated in 1930) and I see them as deeply embedded in our approach to philanthropy.



Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation Board 2013. The Foundation's Chair Robert Masters welcomed international philanthropy experts Peter Hero, Richard Fahey and Dipender Saluja to Melbourne.

The Foundation has supported an inclusive Melbourne for many years and across all the waves of migration. We work to overcome disadvantage, whether that is getting more older women into affordable housing, or more young people into jobs of the future. We are working with many organisations in local communities to build stronger networks to prepare and respond to heatwaves and other disasters as climate change impacts increase.



In 2022, Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation celebrated the 20th anniversary of its Youth in Philanthropy program. Dr Catherine Brown OAM presented certificates of achievement to all students participating in the program.

I came to the Foundation with deep experience in the charitable and philanthropic sector. It has been an honour to lead the Foundation for the last 12 years. Through bequests and donations, we have trebled in size and have moved to a balance of responsive and proactive granting. We have introduced the Innovation grants program and our impact area collaborative Initiatives such as the Affordable Housing Challenge, Next Economy Jobs and the Climate Resilient Neighbourhoods program. We have actively responded to COVID-19, heatwave and disasters. We have supported giving circles and community funds. We added a gender lens in 2013 and a climate lens in 2016 to help us understand these perspectives more deeply. We are active collaborators, and the new For Purpose Impact Accelerator Hub will enable the Foundation to be even more active convenors.

I would like to personally thank every donor and reader for your continued support of the Foundation during my time as CEO. It has been a pleasure to work with you all. I will stay connected to the Foundation as a donor and of course my passion for community giving, catalytic philanthropy, social innovation and addressing climate change continues.

The Foundation is a connector in a web of wonderful Melburnians, all demonstrating generosity through giving or through their commitment to a job with purpose. Philanthropy is the glue that keeps us together and helps support our community in good times and bad.



Catherine Brown

Dr Catherine Brown OAM
Chief Executive Officer

For Purpose Impact Accelerator Hub Opening



Opening celebrations at the new For Purpose Impact Accelerator Hub.

Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation officially opened its new For Purpose Impact Accelerator Hub and welcomed donors and grant partners to join in the opening celebrations.

The opening of the For Purpose Impact Accelerator Hub was a special occasion to mark a significant milestone in the Foundation's history. The Hub is a gathering place for non-profit leaders, service innovators, social enterprises, thought leaders, and philanthropic supporters, all collaborating and converging with a shared vision—to transform Melbourne into an inclusive and sustainable city.

The Hub stands as the Foundation's fresh future focused strategy for the next 10 years and has been designed to be a centre for philanthropic innovation. Here, funders, social enterprises, and other solution-oriented for-purpose organisations will work to form collaborative paths and develop solutions to address some of Melbourne's most urgent challenges.

Speakers at the event included Hub partners David Spriggs, Chief Executive Officer at Infoxchange, Jaison Hoernal, Chief Executive Officer at Good Cycles and architect Mastura Mokhtar from Six Degrees. The Foundation's Acting Chair Janina Gawler and board member Rob McGauran spoke about the Foundation's vision for Melbourne as a leading and thriving city.

Lord Mayor Sally Capp AO helped to officially open the Hub by cutting the grand opening ribbon alongside the Foundation's CEO Dr Catherine Brown OAM.

Catherine said, "It is a place for non-profit leaders, social enterprises, and philanthropic funders to come together and work towards making Melbourne an inclusive and sustainable city for all people."

The Hub's project team included:

Architect:

Six Degrees

Project Manager:

Tierney Property Services with Johnstaff

Builder:

Pirotta Services

Honorary Advisers:

Danny Burger, Debulit Property,

Rob McGauran, MGS Architects & Foundation Board Member



**For Purpose Impact
Accelerator Hub**
By Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation



Visit us at the Hub!

Contact our Donor Services team via email or phone to book your visit:

E philanthropy@lmcf.org.au

T 03 9633 0033

For Purpose Impact Accelerator Hub by
Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation

Level 4, 454 Queen Street, Melbourne 3000

Located close to Queen Victoria Market.

Unlocking Melbourne's green space and biodiversity



Merri Creek, near Abbotsford. Credit: Chris Clarke

Unlocking interconnected corridors of green space in densely populated areas around Melbourne is the focus of a new partnership project with The University of Melbourne and not-for-profit design practice, OFFICE.

Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation provided a \$50,000 grant to support Melbourne Biodiversity Network which plans to increase the biodiversity of underutilised corridors including powerline easements, pipe tracks, waterways, and floodway.

This funding supports the first stage of the project, with researchers from the University and OFFICE consulting with a range of stakeholders to understand how this vision might be realised potentially through public parks, walking trails and bike paths for local residents in dense urban areas, and the regeneration of wildlife habitats.

The Foundation's CEO Dr Catherine Brown OAM said, "Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation is proud to support the Melbourne Biodiversity Network project because, over the longer term, it presents an opportunity to show that collectively working to care for and connect with the natural environment can also strengthen our city region's social capital and its climate resilience."

New tool measures compelling value of social housing



Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation is supporting affordable projects across Greater Melbourne.

The compelling value of social and affordable housing can now be quantified, thanks to an Australian first calculator that estimates wider social, economic and environmental benefit.

According to the SIGMAH calculator (Social Infrastructure and Green Measures for Affordable Housing) the 40,000 social and affordable homes to be constructed Commonwealth's housing accord will create an additional \$4.4 billion worth of wider benefit over the next decade.

It also provides monetary estimates of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) and environmental benefits from provision of green spaces and access to transport options; as well as measuring the dollar value of lower CO₂ estimates due to the energy performance of new dwellings.

Senior Program Manager Homelessness & Affordable Housing Erin Dolan said that Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation provided a grant for the development of the calculator to recognise how data and technology could show the impact of quality affordable housing.

"It is a robust tool that will estimate Wider Social and Economic Benefits (WSEB) allowing decision-makers to understand how much less expenditure a government will incur in areas such as health, policing, and community services by making homes available to those who need them," said Erin.

Thorne Harbour Health



Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation is supporting Thorne Harbour Health (THH) and Housing Choices Australia (HCA).

Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation's first Affordable Housing Challenge project, a 40-unit development in Preston, is now complete. In an innovative first, it will also see the development of a social services partnership between Thorne Harbour Health (THH) and Housing Choices Australia (HCA) to provide Australia's first LGBTIQ+ focused social housing project.

This important project has been developed in response to the need for culturally safe housing options for LGBTIQ+ people who have experienced discrimination that have negatively affected their housing, wellbeing and health outcomes. This need has been exemplified during the COVID-19 pandemic where experiences of social isolation and poor mental health have disproportionately affected the LGBTIQ+ community.

The development is well located close to shops, transport, amenities and a thriving community. 60 per cent of tenants will identify as LGBTIQ+ with the remaining 40 per cent of residents from other health and housing services.

It has been designed to create a culturally inclusive and celebratory living environment where members of the LGBTIQ+ community who have experiences of stigma, discrimination, isolation or abuse can live with dignity, safety and pride.

Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation has provided a grant to Thorne Harbour Health to fund a project support worker who will facilitate the establishment of this innovative project. The support worker

will identify LGBTIQ+ and allied tenants, engage with LGBTIQ+ community organisations to find residents that would benefit, establish working relationships with other nominating agencies, and facilitate pre-tenancing community building activities.

Belgium Ave Neighbourhood House



NAIDOC banner printing, at Blak Pearl Studio

Blak Pearl Studio is a creative space for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples located in Fitzroy at the Belgium Ave Neighbourhood House. It is an important community studio that provides a unique space for cultural and artistic practice, and provides an opportunity for community connection and engagement, particularly for Aboriginal peoples who are experiencing hardship and disconnection.

Blak Pearl Studio and its programs aim to strengthen community relationships to ensure the longevity of cultural knowledge and community wellbeing - both of which are critical to community resilience.

Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation's grant will support the employment of a studio manager to respond to the growing demand for its arts focused leadership and healing programs. It will support the expansion of the studio's operational hours from three to five days per week to host more collaborative events, health, healing and artistic programs as well as managing external requests for exhibitions, talks, and murals. A three-year strategic plan for the studio will also be developed to support its financial sustainability.

Join our centenary story project



Executive Council 1923; 75th Anniversary Celebrations 1998; Centenary Celebrations 2023

As we commemorate our centenary, we warmly invite you to join our story by contributing your cherished memories and events about Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation in 100 words or less.

In our centenary year, we are connecting with our community to share memories of the past and hopes for the future. We are preparing a centenary snapshot which we hope will become a time capsule for future generations and are encouraging everyone with a connection to the Foundation to participate.

You might like to share what Melbourne means to you and what aspirations you hold for its future. Maybe you'd like to explain why you support the Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation. There is also an opportunity to send a photo or other key documents with your story.

Thank you to our wonderful donors who have shared their stories with us.

Ways to share your story



Write your 100 words on the reverse of this postcard **OR**



Email your 100 words to info@lmcf.org.au **OR**



Visit our website at lmcf.link/100stories to fill out our online form

"One day I was walking down the street with my Dad when we saw a homeless person. I felt sad that this person did not have a home. Later I asked my dad to help me find a charity that supported homeless people. Soon I donated to Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation knowing that even twenty dollars could make a difference."

Eve, 9 years

"100 years, no small feat - extraordinary! We can build on that for the next 100 years for our children's children - from generation to generation."

Joseph

"Melbourne is a beautiful city with a rich history and wonderful culture. It is a major arts hub, and has wonderful coffee and dining lifestyle. The sporting capital of Australia with many different sporting codes and facilities. The city of Melbourne is diverse with many different cultures represented. Yet all benefits are not shared equally. There is a demand for services and assistance. The Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation does much to help others, improving lives and developing community. The Foundation connects us all for the community's wellbeing. It helps create a society that is fair and just for all."

Peter

"Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation has always been at the forefront of the philanthropic sector in Victoria and Australia, directing funding to scale and improve the social and not-for-profit sector, having the courage to fund first with many others to follow. Always conducting excellent events and discussions, that encourage individuals to support. The Foundation is a willing supporter of many organisations that they know will scale and improve society as a whole. I am extremely happy to be a donor for Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation, truly a very inspiring foundation that has done great work in the last 100 years with many more to come."

Jules

Centenary celebrations at Swanson Society Dinner

Lord Mayor of Melbourne Sir John Swanson is acknowledged as the founder and first president of The Lord Mayor's Fund for Metropolitan Hospitals and Charities.

When Sir John established the Fund in 1923, he envisioned an endowment scheme to grow an income in perpetuity so that hospitals and charities would receive a reliable income to plan for public healthcare needs and maintenance.

When Sir John passed away in February 1924, he left a gift of £500 in his Will to the Fund. This would become the beginning of the Fund's endowment scheme.

In September 2015 the Swanson Society was launched to honour valued donors who have included a gift in their Will to the Foundation. It provides opportunities for donors to learn more about the work of the Foundation, social issues of the day, the impact of participating in community philanthropy and to engage with the Foundation's vision for positive social change. Donors are invited to explore how leaving a legacy will support future generations.

A special Swanson Society Centenary Dinner was held on 16 June 2023 at the Melbourne Town Hall to celebrate the legacy of Sir John Swanson, recognise the collective impact and generosity of our donors as well as the ongoing impact of our grants program.

The celebratory event officially opened with a Welcome to Country from Wurundjeri Elder Uncle Ronald Terrick, with well-known radio host and philanthropist David Mann AO as the Master of Ceremonies for the night.

The guest speaker was Dr Wendy Scaife, Director at the Australian Centre for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Studies at QUT, who provided fascinating insights into giving trends in Australia highlighting the positive impact of gifts in Wills.



1. Former Chair Geoffrey Green OAM RFD ED and Pauline Green, former Board member Stephen Hopley, former Board member Ruth O'Dea and Tom O'Dea.

2. Donor Services Co-ordinator Lonia Catalano with Brian Talbot and Ella Talbot

3. Chair Paul Bird with Dr Wendy Scaife, Dr Catherine Brown OAM and David Mann AO.

4. Daniel Murdoch, Alessandra Giannini and Board member Rob McGauran, and Board member Bernadette Murdoch.

A gift for the future

GIFTS IN WILLS



1. Dr Catherine Brown OAM cuts the ribbon to officially open the Martin Family Auditorium at The Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital. The ribbon is held on either side by Brendan Gardner (Hospital CEO) and Danny Mennuni (Hospital CFO); 2. Martin Family Auditorium at The Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital; 3. Arthur Martin and Mavis Martin on their wedding day.

The Martin Family Auditorium at The Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital's new state-of-the-art Education Precinct will be a space in which current and future leaders in eye and ear health will educate, learn, and collaborate.

The development of the auditorium was supported by a generous legacy gift made through the M, L and ADP Martin Fund, a bequest fund of Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation.

Dr Catherine Brown OAM, the Foundation's CEO, spoke at the official opening of the auditorium and officially cut the ribbon.

"Congratulations to The Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital. We were both honoured and very pleased to be able to provide a grant to support this project from the M, L and ADP Martin Fund. Mr Arthur Martin would be incredibly proud of how we have been able to apply his incredible gift for the future of medical learning in Melbourne.

"I'm quite passionate about the specialist eye and ear services and the research the hospital undertakes which is internationally recognised. It's where all the eye and ear specialists receive their education and training.

"Arthur's daughter Lyndal Martin was studying optometry at the time of her premature death. The naming of the Martin Family Auditorium is such a beautiful legacy for the Martin family," she said.

Brendon Gardner, CEO of the Eye and Ear Hospital, said the auditorium is the centrepiece of the new Education Precinct, which also contains a surgical skills training lab, collaboration space, boardroom and a library.

"Philanthropy has been at the core of the Eye and Ear Hospital from its very beginning 160 years ago when founder Dr Andrew Sexton Gray established the Eye and Ear Infirmary after he was overwhelmed by the number of people seeking treatment but unable to pay.

"Philanthropy has paved the way for many great medical advancements at the hospital, including the development of the Bionic Ear. Thanks to Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation and the Martin Family, we now have this stunning new facility to continue to train and educate future generations," he said.

Continuing a family legacy of giving

DONOR PROFILE
JAMIE GARDINER



Jim and Jenny Gardiner.

Jamie Gardiner believes being charitable is part of being human. "My mother and father were both engaged in charitable activities as medical practitioners," Jamie reflects, "and fairness, kindness and public duty were their guiding principles."

His parents, Jenny and Jim Gardiner supported the Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation for over forty years. They met at university and Dr Jim Gardiner went on to become a pioneer of cardiology in Melbourne. He was involved with developing new methods in cardiac diagnosis at the Baker Medical Research Institute in the 1950's – work that later played an instrumental role in the development of cardiopulmonary bypass surgery, which was first successfully undertaken in Australia in 1957.

Jim established the Jenny Gardiner Fund in her name after her death in 2001. His own name was added in 2011. Jim generously left a gift in his Will to the fund, which continues to support the Melbourne community in perpetuity.

Like his parents, Jamie has a commitment to public duty. He's a pioneer of Australia's LGBTIQ+ rights movement and has a passion for Human Rights and LGBTIQ+ issues. When the Foundation's centenary aligned with what would have been Jenny Gardiner's 100th birthday, Jamie and his sister Gillian acknowledged their mother and this milestone through a gift to the Foundation.

As the community foundation for Greater Melbourne, we support our community to leave a legacy they are proud of and lasting impact on their community. Many generations of families have provided support to their local community through Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation.

For anyone considering establishing a charitable fund account, Jamie's advice is, "Just do it!".

Establish a Charitable Fund Account of your own

To learn more about establishing a Charitable Fund Account as an individual or a family, or if you would like to discuss your giving options, please contact the Development Team on:

T 03 9633 0033

E philanthropy@lmcf.org.au

Preparing now to support communities during a crisis

GIVING ACCOUNT
PROFILE – RITCHIES IGA



Ritchies continues to support The Salvation Army Emergency Services teams.

Ritchies Supermarkets embody community spirit and their Giving Account with Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation enables your care for the community to go towards disaster recovery.

In 2008, Ritchies established the Giving Account to provide support during disasters such as fires and floods. The Ritchies Emergency Relief Disaster Fund has now provided over \$850,000 in grants for emergency relief.

Last year, this included \$36,000 towards the NSW Floods and an extra grant of \$14,000 from the Foundation. Ritchies also supported The Salvation Army Emergency Services teams who assisted 10 evacuation centres, and together with 315 volunteers, provided 5000 meals to impacted residents and first responders. As the emergency response transitioned to recovery, The Salvation Army personnel and volunteers assisted in distributing financial support to impacted residents.

Ritchies community giving has a proud tradition that goes all the way back to the founder, Thomas Ritchie, who funded a penny for every pound for local community groups. This year marks 30 years since Ritchies modernised community giving with the launch of their community benefit program. To date, almost \$53 million has been raised. Ritchies Community Benefit program provides customers a way to participate in community giving and to nominate charities for their support.

James Cameron, Company Director of Ritchies Stores, explains why Ritchies set up the disaster relief fund.

“When a national or international disaster or incident occurs, we need to act fast to make a difference. Ritchies decided to support the Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation to build up funds and have access to support in a hurry. Whether it be the Victorian bushfires, NSW floods, or, in past years, farming drought support, we want to help where we can. The Foundation is an independent body that administers the funds and directs them to the best possible places.

“We know any funds donated to Lord Mayor's Charitable Fund will be sent to the most effective place to be used.”

James also values the auditing and transparency of the process. “It gives us even more comfort that the money is well spent.”

To find out more information about how you can support Ritchies Emergency Disaster Relief Fund as a Ritchies customer, please visit: ritchies.com.au/loyalty

RITCHIES **IGA** + **LIQUOR**

To learn more about your corporate or personal giving options, please contact the Development Team on:

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Connect_Summer2023

I would like to make a centenary donation to
Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation

☐ \$100 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$1,000

☐ Other \$ _____

☐ Card

Please charge my: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express

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Please make payable to **Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation**

Personal Details:

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Gifts in Will

☐ I have included a gift to Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation in my Will

☐ I am considering leaving a gift to Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation in my Will

Ways to give

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Tear off this donation slip and send to:

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Melbourne VIC 3001



Phone:

Please call
(03) 9633 0033

Monday - Friday
9am - 5pm



Online:

Visit

lmc.f.link/DonateCentenary23



Alternatively, scan here to make your gift online




☐ I wish to opt-out of occasional newsletters and event invitations

All contributions of \$2 or more to Lord Mayor's Charitable Fund (ABN 63 635 798 473) and Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation (ABN 48 042 414 556) are tax deductible. Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation is the trustee of the Fund.



My centenary donation



Make your centenary donation today and be part of the Foundation's future vision for a thriving Melbourne for all.

Collection notice:

Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation collects, uses and holds your personal information to process and receipt your donation, communicate with you about our campaigns, events, fundraising appeals and causes you may wish to consider supporting.

If you do not provide this information, we may not be able to process your donation. Due to the nature of our organisation, personal information collected by us may be disclosed to Foundation personnel, contractors and third-party data hosting service providers located overseas including in the United States of America. All personal information collected will be securely stored by the Foundation and protected from unauthorised use or access. In most cases, where the Foundation uses or transfers information to an overseas third party, the information will be de-identified. In making a donation, you consent to your information being disclosed outside Australia for this purpose. We will take all reasonable steps to ensure that your personal information is used by third parties securely and in accordance with the *Privacy Act 1988* (Cth), in our terms of engagement with those parties. For more information on how we handle your personal information, the Foundation's responsibilities and your rights please review our Privacy Policy at lmcf.org.au/privacy.

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SEASON OF GIVING

Our Centenary Season of Giving 2023

As Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation celebrates our centenary and 100 years of impact, it is important to reflect on all that has been achieved thanks to the compassion and generosity of many generations.

Across our 100 years and thanks to our donors, we have provided almost \$200 million in grants, valued today at approximately \$590 million. Over time, we have been able to achieve a significant impact on the health and wellbeing of Greater Melbourne. This wonderful generosity has been key to Melbourne's reputation as the home of philanthropy in Australia.

With a history now spanning one hundred years, we know Melbourne better than anyone. We understand the issues Melburnians are facing - and how to address them, together.

Today, the Foundation is proactively addressing economic inclusion, community resilience, homelessness, and climate change. We have the experience but for what's next - we need you. To build the future we imagine, the one that Melbourne deserves, we need your help. The next hundred years relies on right now.

Join us this Season of Giving to become part of our history and make your centenary gift.

Thank you to those who have already generously celebrated this milestone with us. All gifts have impact and help create positive and lasting change for the lives for all Melburnians.

How to make your donation



Mail

Please fill out the attached donation slip and post it to the Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation



Online

Please visit

lmcf.link/DonateCentenary23



Phone

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