

Monday, 30 June 2008
2:30 pm WST

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FUTURE PROOF WA - DONATE ONLINE TODAY!

People wanting to contribute to the sustainability and vitality of Western Australia can now do so online with the announcement today of a new online donations facility.

The new 24-hour-day, seven-day-a-week service ensures that people can donate to Western Australian Community Foundation at any time. The online donations service is totally secure and ensures that 100% of the donation goes straight to the nominated community.

The purpose of Western Australian Community Foundation is to give communities control over their own destiny through the growth and distribution of endowed funds and the development of community leadership capacity.

Over the past four years, the Foundation has grown from a simple idea to a centre of philanthropy, supporting the development of resilient communities for the benefit of all Western Australians.

Tonia Swetman, Chief Executive Officer, said she hoped the new donations service would attract new supporters and provide an option for donors to connect passion with purpose.

"Donating to an endowed fund is the perfect vehicle to ensure the community benefits in perpetuity," she said.

"By giving to the Foundation, donors have the assurance that gifts will be well managed and invested by an independent, reputable and accountable organisation for the benefit of Western Australians."

"People can make a difference no matter the size of their gift, with the knowledge that their gift will contribute to an endowment to provide a sustainable source of funds today and for future generations."

Individuals and businesses wanting to donate to Western Australian Community Foundation are invited to visit www.wacf.org.au and click on the 'Online Donations' button and follow the prompts.

For more information on Western Australian Community Foundation and the online donations service please call (08) 9224 6000.

(ENDS)

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Overview

Western Australian Community Foundation provides an opportunity for communities to establish long-term sustainability, by creating philanthropic partnerships between those living and working within Western Australia.

It achieves this by helping to build, grow and distribute endowed funds for Western Australian communities. The Foundation serves as an umbrella organisation, providing the necessary financial and legal frameworks – as well as the support services – that enable communities to raise funds and generate an income for themselves in perpetuity.

Western Australian Community Foundation's financial model is also a vehicle through which businesses, individuals and other groups can direct their giving to communities around the state. All donations go towards building an endowed fund – a corpus invested in strategic long-term investments. As the base grows, so does the return on investment. Grants are made from the interest and dividends (return), so the corpus (endowed fund) remains and grows with additional donations, enabling long-term financial security – or the 'future proofing' – of Western Australia's communities.

Western Australian Community Foundation's key aim is to assist communities in Western Australia establish sustainable funding options in a framework and environment that is conducive to sharing, learning, mentoring and open communication. The goals of the Foundation are to:

- Act as an independent catalyst to build, grow and distribute endowed funds for Western Australian communities.
- Facilitate education and learning opportunities that strengthen community self-reliance and build leadership capacity.
- Provide leadership, direction and resources to communities, interest groups and businesses seeking to contribute to and benefit from philanthropic activities.
- Promote and foster sustainable philanthropic community business partnerships across Western Australia.

As Trustee, the Foundation is the umbrella organisation for WA communities to benefit from philanthropy without the burden of administration and governance responsibilities. Desired long term outcomes include an increased focus on building social capital in communities, leading to stronger, self reliant communities and a vibrant and sustainable state. Local advisory committees, made up of a collection of local community representatives, work closely with the Foundation.

Western Australian Community Foundation Board of Directors

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