



2020/2021

# *Annual Report*

**EMPOWERING VICTORIAN WOMEN  
AND CHILDREN SINCE 1887**

# *The Queen's Fund*

***“Truly important and life enhancing service.”***

- July 2020.

REFERRING AGENCY: MCAULEY HOUSE



## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

The Queen's Fund respectfully acknowledges all traditional custodians of the land and waterways in Victoria and we pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

**QUEENSFUND.ORG.AU**

# In the past year, The Queen's Fund has provided assistance to 1,407 women across Victoria.

**IT IS PARTICULARLY REWARDING WHEN WE HEAR BACK FROM SOME OF THE WOMEN AND THEY TELL US HOW THE SUPPORT HAS IMPROVED THEIR LIVES.**

*"This enables my homeless clients to have a head start. It ensures that their tenancies are best supported, and they are less likely to become homeless again. (This was especially important during COVID-19 when people had to stay at home)."*

The client and her three children were made homeless, when she escaped family violence. They lived in a local motel while they searched for an affordable rental property. The cost of the motel, plus the need to find bond and two weeks' rent upfront, placed significant financial strain on the client.

The Queen's Fund contributed \$350 towards her first month's rent, which gave the client the chance to stay on top of her rent payments and sustain her tenancy.

- August 2020.

**REFERRING AGENCY: BETHANY**

*"Student cried tears of happiness when I called to notify them that the application was successful."*

The client is a single mother, with a teenage daughter. They escaped family violence but struggled financially, as the mother is unable to work, and her only income is the Disability Support Pension. The daughter was unable to home-school when COVID-19 restrictions were introduced because her laptop was broken, and the school could not fix it.

The Queen's Fund paid \$308.55 for a refurbished laptop from B2C Community IT Recyclers which was delivered directly to their door.

- May 2020.

**REFERRING AGENCY: WHITTLESEA COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS**

*"My client is incredibly relieved to have some financial pressure removed. This is helping her support her four children in the context of facing mental health challenges."*

The client is a single mother of four children, struggling to pay for necessities for the family as her children get older. She has diagnoses of Bipolar Disorder and Borderline Personality Disorder, which significantly impairs her daily functioning. She is unable to work due to being frequently unwell.

The Queen's Fund paid \$350 for Coles vouchers to put food on the table, while Anglicare offered financial counselling to help her gain control of her finances.

- June 2020.

**REFERRING AGENCY: ANGLICARE**



# 2020/2021 YEAR IN REVIEW



*\$ 462,307*

TOTAL FUNDS PROVIDED

*\$ 329* AVERAGE GRANT



*1,407*

WOMEN ASSISTED



*1,759*

CHILDREN ASSISTED



*1,564*

APPLICATIONS



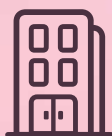
*54*

FAST TRACKED  
APPLICATIONS



*128*

REFUGEES ASSISTED



*\$ 422,021*

TRUST AND FOUNDATION  
DONATIONS



*\$ 97,923*

INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS

## WHY WOMEN NEED OUR HELP

FAMILY VIOLENCE

\$ 139,666

HOMELESSNESS  
HOUSING

\$ 117,517

MENTAL ILLNESS

\$ 74,194

FAMILY CRISIS

\$ 62,607

MEDICAL

\$ 40,384

DISABILITY

\$ 27,940



OUR EDUCATION FUND ASSISTED  
OVER **159 WOMEN TO UPSKILL THEMSELVES,**  
AND A FURTHER **116 WOMEN TO SUPPORT**  
**THEIR CHILDREN'S EDUCATION.**

## WHAT WE HELP WITH

\$ 97,722

BASIC NECESSITIES

\$ 87,775

EDUCATION  
(CHILD AND SELF)

\$ 81,329

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

\$ 63,793

RENT

\$ 49,402

UTILITIES

\$ 34,069

TRANSPORT

\$ 31,045

MEDICAL

\$ 17,172

MOVING  
AND STORAGE COSTS

# ABOUT US

*"The Queen's Fund provides great support for disadvantaged single mums."*

- October 2020.

**REFERRING AGENCY:  
BROTHERHOOD OF ST LAURENCE**

## OUR VISION

To financially assist and empower single women and children in Victoria who are in distress, crisis or emergency situations.

## OUR MISSION

The Queen's Fund provides financial aid to single women and children in Victoria who are subject to hardship. Grants are allocated to women who are referred by community organisations and welfare agencies.

The Queen's Fund encourages women to increase their self-worth, skills and knowledge through the:

- provision of short-term emergency relief to alleviate immediate financial crises with rent, medical and household expenses;
- allocation of educational grants to increase access to educational opportunities; and
- provision of grants which give women a chance to rebuild their lives and nurture their children.

## ABOUT US

The Queen's Fund provides emergency funding to Victorian women and children in crisis.

The assistance we provide can help prevent homelessness, enable a woman to escape family violence, provide education or training for a woman and/or her children, pay essential medical bills or provide crucial breathing space so a woman can get her life back on track.

We work with social workers who are in the best position to determine how to help the woman in need. They continue to support her after our emergency relief has been provided.

Founded in 1887, we are one of Victoria's oldest charities. Our Committee is unpaid and we have very low overheads. A historical bequest from a Committee member covers our overheads. This means 100% of the money you donate goes to the women and children who need it most.

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

***“Women are more vulnerable to COVID-19-related economic effects because of existing gender inequalities”***

**- MCKINSEY GLOBAL INSTITUTE**

During 2020, applications to The Queen's Fund fell by 20%. We believe this was due to a number of factors including welfare services being closed; women being unable to leave their homes because of domestic abuse; the introduction of Government financial support and the Government moratorium on evictions.

Sadly, our prediction that applications for assistance would significantly increase when Government supports were removed at the end of March 2021 proved to be true. At our April 2021 meeting, we received 180 applications. Well above our pre-COVID average of 160 a month and a 35% increase on the number of applications from the previous month.

Over the last 12 months, women have been more heavily impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic than men, exacerbating existing gender inequalities. Women lost more jobs than men, shouldered more of the increase in unpaid work and were less likely to receive Government support - see *page 11* for why disadvantaged women will need organisations like The Queen's Fund more than ever before in the coming months.

With the help of our pro bono partner Shine Solutions, The Queen's Fund pivoted to be able to review and approve applications for assistance remotely during the COVID-19 lockdowns. This more efficient approach will help us to cope with the increase in demand in 2021/22. See *pages 8-9* to learn how we helped women affected by the COVID-19 lockdowns.



We are always incredibly grateful for the support we receive from our donors, partners and pro bono advisers. See *pages 22-23* to learn how the Victoria Golf Club Women's Committee continued to raise funds to support The Queen's Fund even during lockdown. See *pages 12-13* to learn about the unique ways Origin and the Tobin Brothers Foundation have shown their support. And see *pages 14-15* to learn why two of our regular donors choose to support us year on year.

The Queen's Fund would not exist without the hard work and dedication of our volunteer Committee and I would like to thank them all for their commitment during such a difficult year. Andrea King, Sally McInnes and Helen Moylan have made the decision to retire this year. See *pages 13, 28 and 29* to learn about the significant contribution they have made to The Queen's Fund. Their experience and advice has created and guided a strong Committee that is well placed to meet the coming demand.

*Sally McLean*

- May 2021

# 2020/2021 COVID-19

**SINCE MARCH 2020, THE QUEEN'S FUND HAS SPENT \$154,101 HELPING 466 WOMEN AND 946 CHILDREN WHO WERE DIRECTLY AFFECTED BY THE COVID-19 LOCKDOWNS.**

The greatest need has been for iPads/laptops so children can home-school and women can study online or stay connected with family or community support. The main reason why the women needed support was loss of job and reduction of income. These women were unable to access JobKeeper. We also saw an increase in requests for assistance from international students and an increase in requests for household goods during the periods when opportunity shops were closed.

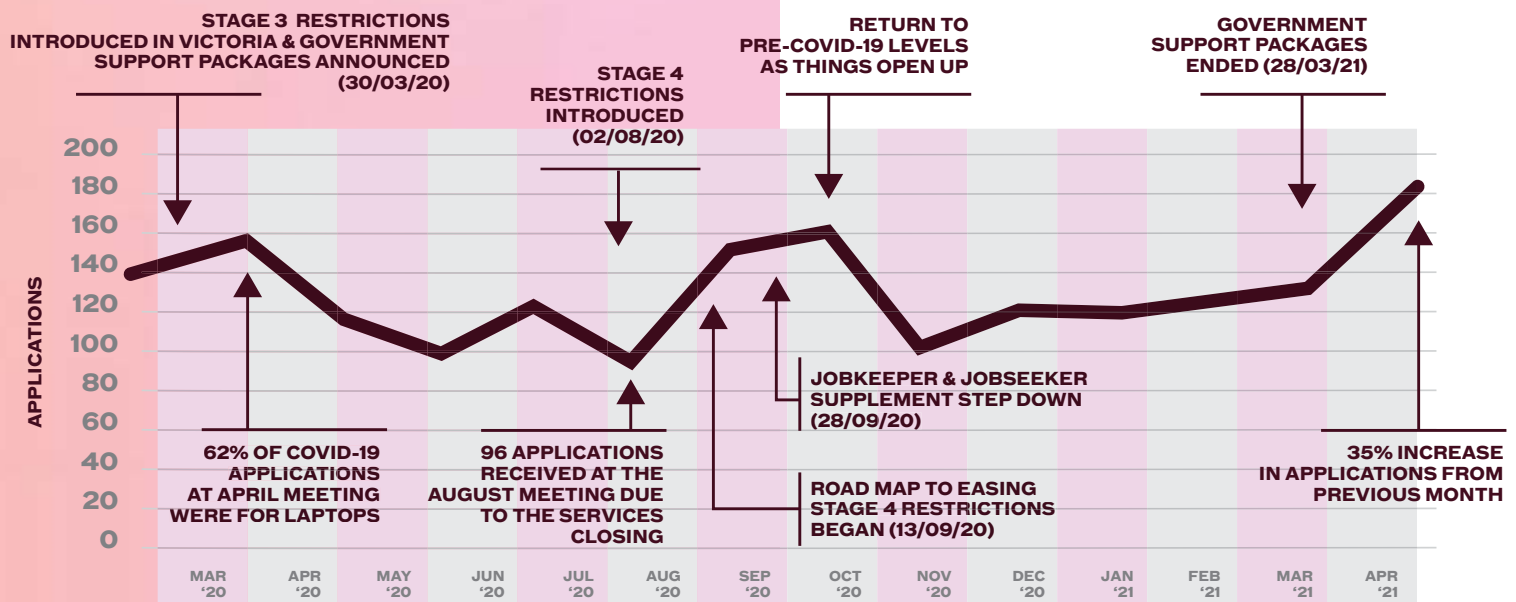
"This funding will maintain this [international] student's only safe accommodation option and provide 4-5 weeks' time for her to secure employment now that COVID-19 restrictions have eased sufficiently to present employment opportunities."

A survivor of family violence and single mother of a child with Autism Spectrum Disorder had her shifts as a casual childcare worker cut back to one shift per week. She was unable to afford her rent as a result. The Queen's Fund contributed \$350 towards her rent.

- November 2020.  
**REFERRING AGENCY:  
THE STUDY MELBOURNE STUDENT CENTRE**

- August 2020.  
**REFERRING AGENCY:  
NOAH'S ARK EARLY  
INTERVENTION SERVICES**

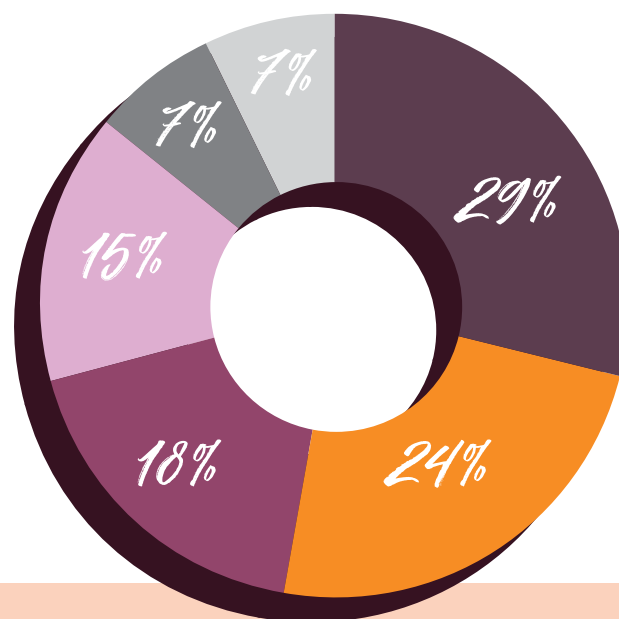
## TIMELINE OF THE IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON TQF APPLICATIONS





## REASONS WHY ASSISTANCE WAS NEEDED

(% OF COVID-19 RELATED APPLICATIONS)



The client is a refugee and is a single mother to a toddler. The child has been co-sleeping with his mother but he now needs his own bed. The social worker normally sources furniture and related items from other charities but they have either stopped their operations or are only delivering food. The Queen's Fund granted money for a single bed and mattress.

- June 2020.

REFERRING AGENCY: MELTON CITY COUNCIL

The client is originally from Africa and is trained as a nurse in her home country. Unfortunately her qualifications are not recognised in Australia. She was studying English to improve her literacy so she could study nursing but the course was disrupted by COVID-19 and is now being conducted online. The Queen's Fund contributed \$350 towards the cost of a laptop.

- August 2020.

REFERRING AGENCY: BERRY STREET

## TOP 5 TYPES OF ASSISTANCE GIVEN TO WOMEN AFFECTED BY THE COVID-19 LOCKDOWNS

**EDUCATION**  
(CHILD OR SELF)

120

**BASIC NECESSITIES**

85

**RENT**

55

**UTILITIES**

47

**HOUSEHOLD GOODS**

46

# THE JOURNEY, WHAT WE DO



1.

## THE NEED

Single Victorian woman is in crisis, distress or an emergency situation.



2.

## APPLICATION

Woman meets with social worker (or similarly qualified professional). Social worker applies to The Queen's Fund on behalf of the woman for assistance via online portal.

Assistance provided is in the form of:

- Monetary grants for rent, utilities, household items, basic necessities, medical assistance, education for self or child, transport, storage and moving costs.
- Telstra bill assistance vouchers.
- Utility debt waivers & appliance grants.



3.

## ASSESSMENT

Applications are considered through 2 channels:

- Fast-track to secure housing or if there is a threat of eviction/disconnection.
- Referral meeting – 3rd Monday of every month.



4.

## APPROVAL

Upon approval, grants are sent directly to the nominated third party payee or Referrer via BPAY, EFT, cheques or vouchers. A letter of confirmation is sent to the Referrer.



5.

## RECEIPT OF GRANT

The Referrer meets with the woman to provide confirmation of funding and (if applicable) cheque.



6.

## ACQUITTAL REPORT

Referrer provides The Queen's Fund with an Acquittal Report signed by Referrer and woman to acknowledge assistance provided.

# THE NEED FOR THE QUEEN'S FUND

The Queen's Fund supports single women and children in Victoria who are in distress, crisis or emergency situations.

Single women, particularly those with children, remain one of the groups in our society who are most in need of your support.

More than a third of single mothers and their children are living in poverty<sup>1</sup>. This outcome is due to women tending to have lower employment rates and lower wages than men, paired with a greater caring role for both children and family members.

In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic has hit women much harder than men, and will compound women's lifetime economic disadvantage.

"[The] Queen's Fund continues to make a consistent and impactful effect on the women that I work with. Predominantly these women are living below the poverty line and paying for larger bills that require larger sums of money [and] leaves them with nothing for food or necessities. An incredible service which is accessible and prompt in providing funding."

- March 2021.

**REFERRING AGENCY:  
MCAULEY HOUSE**

During the pandemic, Australian women:

- lost more jobs than men – almost 8% at the peak of the crisis, compared to 4% for men. In Victoria, unemployment levels for women were at their highest in recent history;
- shouldered more of the increase in unpaid work (including supervising children learning remotely) – taking on an extra hour each day more than men, on top of their existing heavier load;
- were less likely to get government support – JobKeeper excluded short-term casuals, who in the hardest-hit industries are mostly women;<sup>2</sup> and
- Australia's early access to superannuation policy, introduced during COVID-19, is likely to further compound the economic impact of the pandemic on women.<sup>3</sup>

*"Amazing help for those who need it most."*

- June 2020.

**REFERRING AGENCY:  
NEAMI NATIONAL**

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<sup>1</sup> Poverty in Australia, 2020, ACOSS/UNSW

<sup>2</sup> Danielle Wood; Kate Griffiths; Tom Crowley (2021):

Women's work: the impact of the COVID crisis on Australian women. Grattan Institute. <https://apo.org.au/node/311282>

<sup>3</sup> Batchelor, R. (2020). The impact of COVID-19 on women and work in Victoria: Research Insights. <https://mckellinstitute.org.au/app/uploads/McKell-Victoria-COVIDImpact-on-women-and-work-in-Victoria-1.pdf>

# IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ORIGIN



**WITHOUT THE SUPPORT OF OUR GENEROUS PARTNERS, THE QUEEN'S FUND WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO SUPPORT AND EMPOWER SO MANY VULNERABLE VICTORIAN WOMEN AND CHILDREN.**

**IN 2020/2021, THE GLOBAL PANDEMIC HIT THE VICTORIAN COMMUNITY HARD, AND DURING THIS TIME, WE HAVE BEEN EXTREMELY GRATEFUL THAT OUR PARTNERS STEPPED UP TO LEND US, AND OUR CLIENTS, A HELPING HAND.**

Leading energy retailer Origin, continues its unfailing support through its Debt Waiver program, partnering with us to provide assistance for women who are unable to pay their active Origin debts.

Origin began its partnership with The Queen's Fund in 2018 to assist vulnerable women with their energy bills in the form of debt waivers. Helping our charity forms part of its national program, which provides bill credits to vulnerable Origin customers across Australia.

## IN CONVERSATION WITH HELEN MOYLAN



**HELEN MOYLAN HAS SERVED AS A MEMBER OF THE QUEEN'S FUND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE FOR 28 YEARS AND WILL BE STEPPING DOWN AT THIS YEAR'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.**

Reflecting on her time with The Queen's Fund, she had been aware of and interested in the work of the Committee previously and was asked to join The Queen's Fund in 1993 by a friend who had been serving on the Committee for some years.

Helen went on to serve in various positions as Honorary Treasurer, Secretary and Deputy President (the equivalent to President today). She has seen many changes over the years – from operations, technology, to the amount of work, as well as the

# IN PARTNERSHIP WITH TOBIN BROTHERS FOUNDATION & 3AW



**THE QUEEN'S FUND WISHES TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO THANK OUR FRIENDS AT TOBIN BROTHERS FOUNDATION FOR THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT, AS THEY DEEM US A WORTHY RECIPIENT OF THE 2020 TOBIN BROTHERS FOUNDATION AWARD, RECOGNISING OUR WORK IN THE COMMUNITY.**

As part of their recognition, our President Sally McLean and Secretary Shireen Reddy were given the chance to feature in an awards recipient video on YouTube, and our Communications team worked closely with Melbourne radio station 3AW 693 to script a 45-second live read through by Evenings host, Denis Walter, promoting The Queen's Fund for International Women's Day on 8 March 2021.

Denis' 45 second script gave us great exposure to a wide listening audience, with an introduction to The Queen's Fund on International Women's Day. With this year's theme being *#ChooseToChallenge*, we were able to tell everyone about our mission to encourage women to increase their self-worth, skills and knowledge, and that, by challenging the world's perceptions and actions every day, we can create an inclusive society.

volume of need from Victorian women. In 1993, The Queen's Fund spent \$89,155 helping 907 women and their children.

Her proudest achievement over her 28 years with The Queen's Fund was establishing The Queen's Fund's Education Fund, which is now one of the charity's most popular relief measures, empowering women to continue to educate themselves and their families.

During her time with The Queen's Fund, Helen has seen the positive impact our services have made to many women and children, but the reasons why they seek assistance have not really changed.

"Women fleeing domestic violence, inheriting debts from partners, grandmothers looking after their grandchildren, women leaving prison or recovering from drug/alcohol use, attempting to get their lives back on track, women attempting to re-train, trying to pay education expenses for their children, women

who are experiencing severe illness. The list goes on. One area which has seen a big increase is the number of mature women who are virtually homeless. They are a new class of welfare recipient who must move from rental to rental, in a market which is increasingly unaffordable on their limited means."

Of her time working with The Queen's Fund, she notes that the Committee has slowly evolved to a membership that comprises a much more diverse range of skills and backgrounds, that at its heart works hard to deliver "essential relief right to the source of the need, without wasting any money on running costs, salaries and bureaucracy."

"The growth and development of The Queen's Fund and its operations over the last few decades has been wonderful to see, on the one hand, and rather sad, on the other. The demand for our services has only continued to grow, reflecting the sheer volume of complex issues which continue to affect women and children. I can't see this changing in my lifetime."



# IN CONVERSATION WITH MARY-LOU ARCHIBALD & MELISSA GOODE

**REGULAR DONORS ARE INCREDIBLY IMPORTANT TO THE QUEEN'S FUND. AS A RELIABLE SOURCE OF INCOME, THEY HELP US TO MAKE A SUSTAINED IMPACT IN EMPOWERING SINGLE VICTORIAN WOMEN IN NEED. THEY ALSO RECEIVE GREATER SATISFACTION FROM THEIR GIVING AS THEY SEE, OVER A LONGER PERIOD OF TIME, THE DIFFERENCE THEIR SUPPORT IS MAKING.**

The Queen's Fund is fortunate to have the support of a number of regular donors. Below is a conversation with two donors who have been giving to The Queen's Fund for a number of years, Mary-Lou Archibald and her daughter-in-law Melissa Goode.

Both women have valuable insight into charities and women in need from working and volunteering in the not-for-profit sector. Mary-Lou has volunteered for Vision Australia Radio for 25 years, the Red Cross Welcome Home from Hospital Initiative, the MS Society, the Stroke Foundation and Meals on Wheels. Melissa has volunteered for her local kindergarten, Darebin Community Legal Centre and currently works as Legal Counsel for Australian Red Cross.

## ***How did you hear about The Queen's Fund?***

**Mary-Lou:** Through an old friend Andrea King, who is on The Queen's Fund Committee. I remember saying to her that it sounded exactly like the sort of charity I would like to support - helping women who may fall through the cracks.

**Melissa:** I know about The Queen's Fund through



my old school, university and work friend Sally McLean, who also happens to be The Queen's Fund's current President. However, it was Mary-Lou who first explained to me The Queen's Fund's simple and effective model of providing support to women.

## ***Why do you care about supporting single women in need? What's your personal connection?***

**Mary-Lou:** I have learned about the plight of single women in all aspects of my life - as a physiotherapist at the Alfred Hospital Outpatients, by supporting children through The Smith Family and even through some of my acquaintances following a divorce. I have seen first hand the struggle faced by single women and their children. Even single women who have been given opportunities like a good education are only a job loss away from needing support from charities.

**Melissa:** I am distressed by the particular hardship I see being faced by many women. Domestic violence, the gender pay gap and the fact single women are often the primary caregiver for children, all place women at a significant disadvantage. I love that The Queen's Fund provides very practical support to assist women as they try to overcome the challenges they face.

***There are lots of charities doing important work. Is there anything different about The Queen's Fund that inspired your support?***

**Mary-Lou:** The Queen's Fund is run by women, for women. That, to my mind, is truly empathy in action. I am impressed with the way The Queen's Fund operates, particularly that every dollar donated goes to the women in need. The format of the assistance is excellent with clients being professionally assessed and referred by social workers. This, along with the modest yet crucial amounts of money given, is crisis management at its best.

**Melissa:** I love that 100% of the money I donate goes to enabling women to pay for something essential. The Queen's Fund operates on a simple model that means money can flow through to women when they need it most. The Queen's Fund empowers women to decide what help they need rather than imposing a one-size-fits-all approach. I also admire the dedication of the volunteers that run The Queen's Fund in such a professional and transparent way.

*"Thank you very much for your contribution - it allowed us to help a vulnerable client in a time of personal crisis."*

- MARCH 2021.  
**REFERRING AGENCY:  
FREE TO FEED**



# SOME OF THE REFERRING AGENCIES WE WORK WITH



Brotherhood of St Laurence  
Working for an Australia free of poverty



# REFERRING AGENCIES

We received applications from 229 national and state agencies from across Victoria of which 83 had not previously applied in the 2019-2020 period. Our top ten agencies accounted for 41% of the 1,407 approved applications.

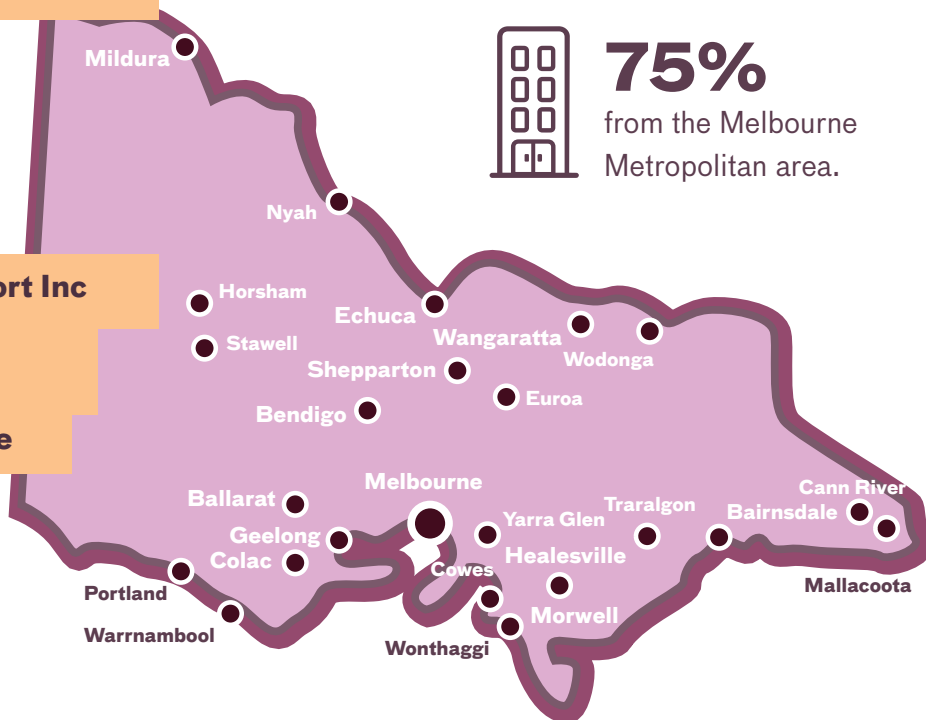
***“ Thank you for the amazing support that you provide to our women and families within our community.”***

- June 2020.

**REFERRING AGENCY:  
ORBOST REGIONAL HEALTH**

## THE 10 AGENCIES THAT MADE THE MOST APPLICATIONS TO THE QUEEN’S FUND IN 2020-2021 WERE:

- Whittlesea Community Connections
- The Salvation Army
- WAYSS Ltd
- Uniting
- Launch Housing
- Anglicare Victoria
- Bethany Community Support Inc
- Neami National
- Caroline Chisholm Society
- Brotherhood of St Laurence



The Queen’s Fund has received applications for assistance to women and children during the 2020-2021 financial year from the Melbourne Metropolitan area as well as regional Victoria including but not limited to Aireys Inlet, Ararat, Bairnsdale, Ballarat, Bendigo, Binginwarri, Camperdown, Cann River, Colac, Cowes, Drouin, Euroa, Freshwater Creek, Geelong, Healesville, Horsham, Kalimna, Main Ridge, Mallacoota, Merbein, Mildura, Morwell, Nyah, Ocean Grove, Orbost, Port Fairy, Portland, Rosebud, Sale, Shepparton, Stawell, Torquay, Traralgon, Toongabbie, Warragul, Warrnambool and Wodonga.



**25%**

women and children are  
from Rural and Regional  
Victoria.



# OUR IMPACT

1.



**PREVENTION OF  
HOMELESSNESS**

2.



**ENABLING ESCAPE  
FROM DOMESTIC  
VIOLENCE**

3.



**MAKING LIFE EASIER  
BY REPLACING/  
REPAIRING VITAL  
HOUSEHOLD ITEMS**

4.



**INCREASED SENSE OF  
SELF-WORTH, SKILLS  
AND KNOWLEDGE  
THROUGH EDUCATION  
AND TRAINING**

5.



**PREVENTION OF  
DISCONNECTION OF  
ESSENTIAL UTILITIES**



6.



**IMPROVED HEALTH  
THROUGH THE  
PAYMENT OF  
ESSENTIAL MEDICAL  
BILLS AND PURCHASE  
OF ESSENTIAL  
MEDICAL ITEMS**

7.



**ENABLING  
ATTENDANCE  
AT SCHOOL AND  
ESSENTIAL  
APPOINTMENTS  
AND HELPING WOMEN  
FEEL SAFE BY KEEPING  
THEIR CAR ON THE  
ROAD**

8.



**ALLEVIATION OF  
FINANCIAL PRESSURE  
AND ASSISTANCE WITH  
SOCIAL INCLUSION  
FOR CHILDREN BY  
PAYMENT OF SCHOOL  
COSTS**

9.



**INCREASED ACCESS  
TO EMPLOYMENT  
OPPORTUNITIES SO  
WOMEN CAN BECOME  
MORE SELF RELIANT**

10.



**PROVISION OF CRUCIAL  
BREATHING SPACE SO  
WOMEN CAN GET THEIR  
LIVES BACK ON TRACK**

# OUR IMPACT

## PREVENTION OF HOMELESSNESS AND ENABLING ESCAPE FROM FAMILY VIOLENCE

*\$ 162,294*

**473 WOMEN**

*The Queen's Fund provided 245 women with household items, 186 women with rent/bond, 29 women with moving costs and 13 women with storage costs.*

*"The Queen's Fund is a great help to women fleeing family violence and their children."*

- January 2021.

**REFERRING AGENCY: WAYSS**

## ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE

*\$ 47,890*

**153 WOMEN**

*The Queen's Fund helped 101 women with medical costs, 33 women with medical issues or a disability with utility bills and 19 women with car costs so the woman or her child can get to medical appointments.*

*"The funding will enable the client to understand her current undiagnosed condition [dyslexia] to be able to move forward with her life, her studies, to improve her situation for her young children and to be able to engage in the workforce at completion of her studies."*

- May 2020

**REFERRING AGENCY: HOLMESGLEN INSTITUTE  
ACCESS TO EDUCATION AND TRAINING PATHWAYS**

## ACCESS TO EDUCATION AND TRAINING PATHWAYS

*\$ 87,774*

**275 WOMEN**

*The Queen's Fund helped 116 women with child education, 159 women with self education and sourced a refurbished computer from B2C Community IT Recyclers for 94 women.*

*"Your contribution has supported my client to start a therapeutic course that opened up a new career."*

- January 2020.

**REFERRING AGENCY: BETHANY**

## ENABLING WOMEN TO GET THEIR LIVES BACK ON TRACK

*\$ 228,453*

**688 WOMEN**

*The Queen's Fund helped 298 women with basic necessities, 245 women with household items and 145 with utility bills.*

*"This funding has allowed them the space to get back on their feet and move forward in their life (medical/courses/rent...). This has helped to enrich their lives and also the lives of their children."*

- June 2020.

**REFERRING AGENCY: BROTHERHOOD OF ST LAURENCE**

# VICTORIA GOLF CLUB

**THE VICTORIA GOLF CLUB WOMEN'S COMMITTEE HAS BEEN SUPPORTING THE QUEEN'S FUND SINCE 2015, DONATING OVER \$68,000 IN THAT TIME. THROUGH THEIR INCREDIBLE GENEROSITY AND SPIRIT OF GIVING, THE WOMEN'S COMMITTEE AND THE WOMEN MEMBERS AT VICTORIA HAVE DIRECTLY ASSISTED OVER 400 SINGLE VICTORIAN WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN CRISIS, DISTRESS AND EMERGENCY SITUATIONS.**

The Women's Committee's mission is to support the interests and the welfare of all women members at Victoria Golf Club. The Women's Committee works hard to ensure its women members feel connected to each other and engaged with the Club, not just through golf but with the many other social activities on offer at the Club.

As part of this goal, the Women's Committee fundraise for the charities it supports, including The Queen's Fund.

The Women's Committee choose to support The Queen's Fund because it is a good fit for the







Committee's mission of women supporting women. "We feel strongly about a connection with a local charity supporting women and children in crisis and we were particularly drawn to the fact that all money raised would be used for this purpose, with minimal overheads," said Women's Committee President, Cathy Huse.

The way in which the women at Victoria Golf Club raise funds involves a significant amount of effort from individuals and groups at the Club. Initiatives include golf, mahjong and card charity days; member excursions; the sale of craft, produce and plants; a lending library; raffles with prizes donated by the Club and members; fashion parades; and, during 2020 and the COVID-19 restrictions, the sale of homemade face masks (one member made over 250 masks!).

Ms Huse praised the efforts of the women at Victoria Golf Club over the years, "The effort and enthusiasm shown by the Social Committee and the generosity of our individual members to support our charities is inspiring."



One member has been running a 'trading table' selling handmade craft, plants and other items on charity days for over 15 years. Another has her garage taken over every year with thousands of seedlings that she lovingly grows into mature plants for sale at their charity day. Other members have been selling curry powder using a secret recipe passed from member to member for over 25 years.

There are other wonderful synergies between the Victoria Golf Club Women's Committee and The Queen's Fund beyond women supporting women, including both being named after Queen Victoria and both being established by pioneering, philanthropic women. The Queen's Fund was founded in 1887 by Lady Loch and the first Associate President of the Victoria Golf Club was Lady Tallis who is credited with introducing Opportunity Shops to Australia in 1925, in order to raise funds for St Vincent's Hospital.

The Queen's Fund is incredibly grateful for the generosity shown by the women at Victoria Golf Club and thanks every member who has volunteered their time and talents to support The Queen's Fund and single women in need.



# GRATITUDE FOR THE QUEEN'S FUND

When women reconnect with The Queen's Fund to express their gratitude, it reaffirms why so many Committee members volunteer their time.

We are thrilled to share a selection of some of the beautiful messages that The Queen's Fund has received in the past year from women expressing their heartfelt gratitude.



*"As a worker, I am grateful for this funding so that I can make sure my clients don't go without essential items that will help them in their journey."*

- April 2021.

**REFERRING AGENCY:  
SACRED HEART MISSION - GREENLIGHT PROGRAM**



"It means so much to the clients that you have supported in being able to access the community, family and education. I am grateful for the speed in which you have approved this application, as I can now continue to support my client with education online."

- November 2020.  
**REFERRING AGENCY:**  
**FAMILYCARE**

"My client is so incredibly grateful for this timely financial support. It will go a long way to relieve her recent stress associated with her medical appointments and bills, which she normally has been able to manage well."

- March 2021.  
**REFERRING AGENCY:**  
**MIND AUSTRALIA**

"My client is very excited and very grateful for the funding she received from The Queen's Fund for her computer and is excited to start her new course."

- November 2020.  
**REFERRING AGENCY:**  
**UNITING**

"The Queen's Fund is life-changing, and I am constantly grateful for all the assistance that you have provided for my clients in dire need."

- April 2021.  
**REFERRING AGENCY:**  
**LAUNCH HOUSING**

**"I absolutely love and value the work of the Queen's Fund. Over my career, there have been numerous clients who have been the recipient of the funds - always there is deep gratitude and relief that there is such help available."**

- November 2020.  
**REFERRING AGENCY:**  
**BETTER PLACE AUSTRALIA**

**"I'm so grateful for the glasses."**

This takes off financial stress, as I am moving house after experiencing family violence and trying to look after my baby by myself. Without this support, I probably just wouldn't have got glasses even though I know that I need them."

- November 2020.  
**REFERRING AGENCY:**  
**WOMEN'S LIBERATION HALFWAY HOUSE**

**"You have made my year; I look at it as the best Birthday present and Christmas gift ever. It's my birthday today."**

"My counsellor said she knew of an organisation that could help with some of my cleaning expenses as I was moving. I'm old, and trying to get up and down to do end of lease cleaning inside and out of the apartment was extremely hard. I had packed up with very little help, and my arthritis had been getting worse. So, to get an end-of-lease cleaner and steam clean was just beyond what I could ever have imagined. You have no idea what a Godsend you were. Thank you so much."

- November 2020.  
**REFERRING AGENCY:**  
**BANYULE COMMUNITY CENTRE**

# VOLUNTEER NUMBERS



- 0

**PAID POSITIONS**



- 28

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**



- 6

**DIRECTORS**



- 8

**PRO BONO ADVISERS**



- 3,639

**TOTAL HOURS  
VOLUNTEERED**

(Committee only) <sup>1</sup>



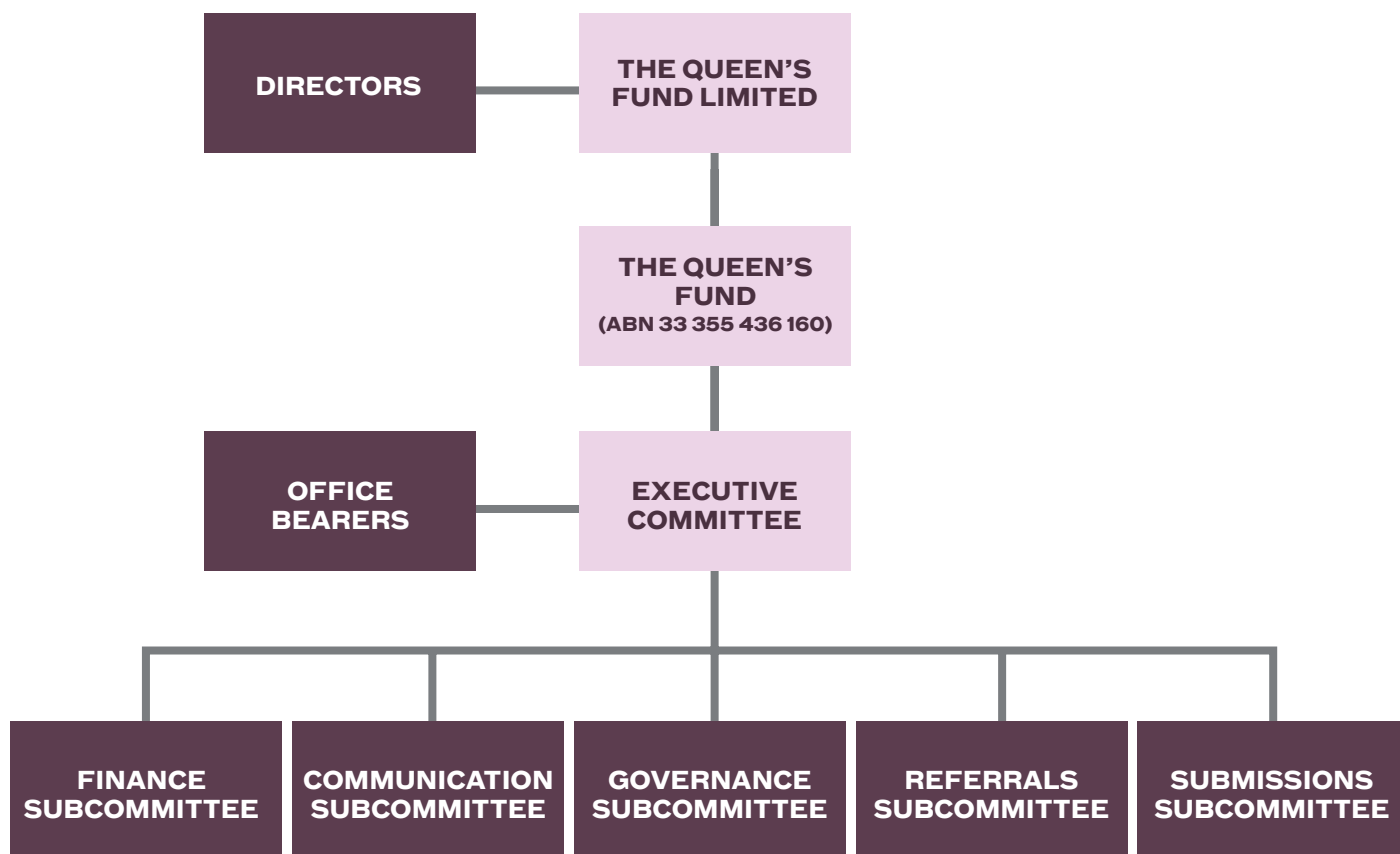
- \$ 152,838

**TOTAL HOURS  
VOLUNTEERED**

(Committee only)

<sup>1</sup> Based on May 2017 to May 2018 Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) figures, volunteers are now worth \$42 per hour (if you look at what you probably would have had to pay for the services if you had not received it from a volunteer).

# OUR PEOPLE



## PATRON

The Governor of Victoria  
The Honourable Linda Dessau AC

## TRUSTEE

The Queen's Fund Limited **(TQFL)**  
(ACN 622 589 600)

## DIRECTORS OF TQFL

Katie Bayley  
William Jones  
Jane McLaughlin  
Gail Owen OAM  
Belinda Thompson  
Frieda Yeo

## COMPANY SECRETARY OF TQFL

Kathryn de Bont

## MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

### OFFICE BEARERS

Sally McLean (President)  
Erica Moloney (Deputy President & Chair of Communication Subcommittee)  
Shireen Reddy (Secretary)  
Frieda Yeo (Treasurer & Chair of Finance Subcommittee)

### CHAIRS OF SUBCOMMITTEES

Katie Bayley (Submissions)  
Kathryn de Bont (Governance)  
Lili Zhao (Referrals)

### OTHER MEMBERS

Margaret Allen  
Sophie Benardeau-Short

Claire Britchford  
Thelma Castles OAM  
Anne-Laure Cavigneaux  
Beatrice Collins  
Lee Ann Connor  
Kathryn Couston  
Beenu Fernando  
Anna Hoy  
Melisa Hudson  
Andrea King  
Sally McInnes  
Jane McLaughlin  
Dimitry Morgan  
Penny Montgomery  
Helen Moylan  
Lalitha O'Donahue  
Lucy O'Sullivan  
Emily Tang  
Mandy Wong

# IN CONVERSATION WITH ANDREA KING

**ANDREA KING JOINED THE COMMITTEE IN 2006 AT THE REQUEST OF HER FRIEND, COMMITTEE MEMBER AND DIRECTOR, JANE MCLAUGHLIN.**

For 15 years Andrea has been a devoted member of the Referrals Subcommittee, reviewing applications for funding each month. She has been Assistant Treasurer for 11 years of her time on the Committee, with her main responsibility being the writing of cheques. This was a significant task in the days when the number of applications were increasing 25% year on year and electronic payments had not yet been established!

As well as devoting her time, Andrea and her husband have been strong financial supporters of The Queen's Fund making significant donations and encouraging others they know to support The Queen's Fund. Instead of gifts for a recent significant birthday, Andrea asked her friends to support The Queen's Fund.

When Andrea joined the Committee in 2006, The Queen's Fund spent \$99,000 assisting 531 women in need and their children. Since then, the amount granted has more than quadrupled and the women assisted has almost tripled.



Despite the increase in demand for The Queen's Fund, Andrea has observed that, sadly, the reason why women seek assistance from The Queen's Fund has not changed a great deal - affordable and safe housing and domestic violence are still top priorities.

Andrea believes The Queen's Fund does excellent work and is a very worthwhile organisation. "I have very much enjoyed my time on the Committee and especially all the wonderful women I have met," she says. She is comfortable retiring knowing that The Queen's Fund is well organised, run by a range of women with a breadth of expertise and one that is leveraging partnerships with companies to assist more women and children in need.



# IN CONVERSATION WITH SALLY MCINNES

## **SALLY MCINNES IS RETIRING AT THE 2021 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, FOLLOWING 21 YEARS OF VALUABLE SERVICE TO THE QUEEN'S FUND.**

Sally is respected for her congeniality, commitment, compassion and willingness to tackle essential roles ensuring the longevity of The Queen's Fund.

Sally joined in 2000 at the invitation of Virginia Byrne, whose daughter was friends with Sally's own. Through her daughter, Sally had learned about The Queen's Fund and was initially interested in joining the Committee as it was unlike anything like that she had done before. Her early impressions of Committee members were that they were very kind, hard-working women.

Sally has been a stalwart on the Referrals Committee since joining in 2012 and has held numerous executive positions. This includes three years as the Assistant Treasurer and six years as Assistant Secretary when she was responsible for liaising with philanthropic organisations and writing submissions. Sally also served as a member of the Submissions Committee for six years, including one year as Chair.

As well as her personal generosity, Sally's hard work has contributed to bringing in much-needed funds to be redistributed to women in crisis. In March 2013 Sally, with her husband John, facilitated a working lunch with 24 philanthropic organisations that



resulted in an increase in donations to The Queens Fund.

Reflecting on her time with The Queen's Fund, Sally considers violence against women as the societal issue that has changed the most in 21 years, albeit for the worse. She says, "I worry that if the children see what is happening, they may be like that in the future. But by empowering women to remove themselves and their children from violent situations, I'm proud of the role The Queen's Fund can play in breaking the cycle."

Sally says working with other Committee members has been extremely rewarding. She believes the diversity of the Committee members brings a greater level of understanding of both the 'who' and 'how' of helping these very women.

# OUR SUPPORTERS

## PRO-BONO ADVISERS

William Moore



Andrew Lane &  
Cressida Staggard



Rod Bridger &  
Steph Bennett



Maree Davidson



Natalie Franks



Glenda Morrison

## CORPORATE SUPPORTERS



## NON-CASH PARTNERSHIPS



***“Thank you so much for the work The Queen’s Fund team do by providing assistance to vulnerable single mothers to create a better future for themselves and their children.”***

- April 2021.

**REFERRING AGENCY:  
BROTHERHOOD OF ST LAURENCE**

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

## SUMMARY OF REVENUE AND OUTGOINGS

	NOTE	2021	2020
Donations - Capital Account	1	\$24,904	\$295,542
Donations - Revenue Account	2	\$522,846	\$505,588
Interest & Dividends		\$69,624	\$88,784
<b>Total Income Available for Grants</b>		<b>\$592,470</b>	<b>\$594,372</b>
Amount Granted	2	\$466,915	\$521,599
Other Expenses	3	\$8,469	\$6,766
<b>Net Surplus</b>		<b>\$141,990</b>	<b>\$361,549</b>

Note 1 - Donations to the Capital Account are unavailable for grants.

Note 2 - Excludes value obtained from non-cash partnerships; includes cheques that have been re-issued.

Note 3 - All expenses in 2020 and 2021 are covered by The Tivey Memorial Fund.

## ACCUMULATED FUNDS

### The Queen's Fund and Trustee for the Queen's Fund

	NOTE	2021	2020
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>\$2,407,484</b>	<b>\$2,025,347</b>

The Queen's Fund complies with all applicable Australian Accounting Standards and Guidelines.

These financial statements are audited by Accru Melbourne (Audit) Pty Ltd.

Please email [secretary@queensfund.org.au](mailto:secretary@queensfund.org.au) for a copy of the complete financials.

# OUR DONORS

## TRUSTS, FOUNDATIONS AND COMMUNITY GROUPS

2U Grocer  
Collier Charitable Fund  
D'Esterre Taylor Charitable Fund  
Erdi Foundation  
Friends of Trinity Trust  
Grosvenor Foundation  
Helen Gyles Turner Samaritan Fund  
Jenkins Foundation  
John Russell MacPherson Fund  
Link 21 Foundation  
Loughrigg Trust  
Stanley Heath Fund  
The Barnes Bequest  
The Hugh D.T. Williamson Foundation  
The J Permsew Foundation  
The Jack Brockhoff Foundation  
The John and Myriam Wylie Foundation  
The Marian & E.H. Flack Trust  
The McPhee Charitable Trust  
The Tivey Memorial Fund  
The Victoria Golf Club Women's Committee  
The William Angliss Charitable Fund  
Tobin Brothers Foundation  
Vera Moore Foundation  
Xi Master, Beta Sigma Phi Organisation

## WORKPLACE GIVING PROGRAM

Morgan Stanley Australia Ltd  
Pact Group Community Giving Program

## MONTHLY DONORS

P Burke	A Chaturvedi
A Drysdale	C Dynon
C Elston	S Harvey
M Munro	J Sharwood
I Smith	M Waterworth
J Wilkinson	

## INDIVIDUALS

A & ML Archibald  
A Barry  
K Bayley  
Y Bayley  
C Bono  
V Bowen  
C Bretman  
C Britchford  
W Britchford  
C Burns  
F Carmody  
T & J Castles  
AL Cavigneaux  
A Chlebnikowski  
K Clark  
J Coleman  
C Collingwood  
P Cox  
F Curtis  
H Dale  
K de Bont  
H Evert  
M Goode  
H Gray  
M Haigh  
S Harkin  
J Hayes  
R Hokkanen  
G Hund  
U John  
W Jones  
M Kenny  
A & R King  
R King  
A Kukreja  
A Lane  
J Lawler  
J Lazzaro  
J Lord  
J Lundy  
C McInnes  
D McInnes  
H McInnes

S & J McInnes  
J & P McLaughlin  
G McLean  
S & M McLean  
D & T McLean  
S Minshall  
R Molnar  
E Moloney  
P Montgomery  
D Morgan  
H Moylan  
L Neve  
A Nicoll  
A Orre  
M Palmer  
N Piner  
J Price  
P Prior  
H Prohasky  
A Quarrell  
K Ramsay  
S Ramsay  
M Readman  
J Rehfish  
I Renard  
A Robson  
N Rodd  
A Rossiter  
B Schilling  
B Silva  
V Stirling  
S Straughen  
B Thompson  
C Thompson  
B & K Thomson  
S Thomson  
C Tran  
C & R Vance  
J Walling  
M Watson  
I Withell  
L Wong  
F Yeo

*"You have made a  
young girl with no  
parents have more  
hope in society."*

- DECEMBER 2020.  
**REFERRING AGENCY:  
MIND AUSTRALIA**





# HOW YOU CAN HELP

## MAKE A ONE TIME DONATION

Your donation, no matter how large or small, will provide vulnerable women and children crucial breathing space to get their lives back on track.

Details on how you can donate can be found on our website:

**[www.queensfund.org.au/donate](http://www.queensfund.org.au/donate)**

## DONATE THROUGH WORKPLACE GIVING

You can help change lives every payday. Workplace giving is an easy and tax-effective way to support The Queen's Fund. It also provides us with a steady, regular source of funds, enabling us to plan for the future.

## LEAVE A BEQUEST

Leaving a bequest to The Queen's Fund is a special way of leaving a lasting legacy with an organisation that has been around for over 130 years. It also allows us to plan for the long-term future.

Please email:

**[secretary@queensfund.org.au](mailto:secretary@queensfund.org.au)**  
to organise a confidential discussion.

## BECOME A RECURRING DONOR

Your monthly donations provide a degree of certainty in our ability to provide assistance to women in need.

When you donate to The Queen's Fund online, simply tick the recurring donation box or set up a scheduled monthly transfer with your bank to:

**Account name:** The Queen's Fund

**BSB:** 063 – 019

**Account Number:** 1012 8344

## VOLUNTEER

The Queen's Fund has been run entirely by volunteers since 1887. You could help to make a difference to the lives of Victorian women in need by joining one of our subcommittees. We are looking for passionate enthusiastic volunteers with interests, skills or expertise in PR/marketing, governance, law, and community or welfare services.

Please email:

**[secretary@queensfund.org.au](mailto:secretary@queensfund.org.au)**  
with details of your skills, experience and availability.

***“The Queen’s Fund fills a vital gap in the availability of assistance for women. Thanks so much for your good work.”***

- February 2021.

**REFERRING AGENCY:  
ANGLICARE**



