



GANDEL
FOUNDATION

Annual Impact Report

2023-2024

Cover image: Renowned Australian artist Andrew Rogers created one of his iconic *Rhythms of Life* artworks in the Atacama desert in Chile in 2004, titled *Ancient Language*. The image of this artwork was used in the promotional materials for Andrew Rogers' retrospective exhibition *Where We Are*, described on pages 12 and 13 of this Report.

Gandel Foundation

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

John Gandel AC and Pauline Gandel AC are co-founders of Gandel Foundation.

They are actively engaged in their philanthropic initiatives and are universally recognised for their generosity, commitment and passion in supporting both Jewish and general causes. Through Gandel Foundation, over the years they have invested more than \$200 million in the community, supporting various charitable organisations in Australia and overseas.

VISION

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

MISSION

Gandel Foundation 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 wellbeing.

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.



John Gandel AC and Pauline Gandel AC



Gandel Foundation respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia and we recognise their continuing connection to land, waters, and communities. We pay our respects to them and their cultures, and to Elders past, present and emerging.

Warning: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples should be aware that this document may contain images or names of people who have since passed away.

Contents

Year of Impact in Pictures	4
Year of Impact in Numbers	6
Chairman’s Report	7
CEO’s Report	8
Grant Recipients in 2023-24	9
Jewish Museum of Australia – Gandel Centre of Judaica	12
Community Grants Sandro Demaio Foundation – Little Food Festival	14
Major Grants Ending Loneliness Together – Loneliness Awareness Week	16
Flagship Grants Melbourne City Mission – Youth Housing Initiative	18
In Focus: Food Security	20
List of All 2023-24 Grant Recipient Organisations	22
Directors and Team	23

Ardoch Youth Foundation



Ardoch Youth Foundation is a well-known youth education organisation focused on improving educational outcomes for children and young people in communities facing disadvantage. Gandel Foundation supported Ardoch a number of times in the past, including with multi-year grant funding, and more recently with funding in 2023 for their *Writers in Residence* school-based program.

The *Writers in Residence* program sees published authors deliver book-writing workshops for primary school students. This year one of the authors involved (and there were five) was Vikki Conley, winner of the 2023 Children’s Book Council Book of the Year Award (pictured with students from Roxburgh Rise Primary School).

Vikki spent six weeks helping students imagine and create their own work, who in the end produced the wonderful “5D’s Heart” book! (seen above). Gandel Foundation’s funding supported the delivery of this inspiring literacy and writing program in five schools, engaging over 200 students.



Year of Impact in Pictures

1. August 2023

MONASH UNIVERSITY GANDEL AND COOPER SCHOLARSHIPS

Gandel Foundation has three significant scholarships at Monash University: John Gandel Scholarship, Pauline Gandel Scholarship, and a third scholarship named in honour of a prominent Indigenous human rights activist, the William Cooper Indigenous Leadership Scholarship. In August the most recent scholarship recipients visited Gandel Foundation offices and spent time with the Foundation Chair, John Gandel AC and Deputy Chair, Graham Goldsmith AO.

2. September 2023

CABRINI LISA THURIN WOMEN'S HEALTH CENTRE

The Lisa Thurin Women's Health Centre, established in 2021 through the support of Gandel Foundation and its Director Lisa Thurin, marked a significant advancement in women's mental health care and was Australia's first dedicated women-only mental health hospital. Lisa Thurin (left) visited the Centre on the occasion of its second anniversary to hear about the progress of the Centre and the work with women in need.

3. October 2023

ISRAEL

The whole world was shocked by the brutal and deadly terrorist attacks by Hamas in the south of Israel, which has led to a significant and ongoing war between Israel and Hamas which has impacted people throughout Gaza, Israel and the broader region. Gandel Foundation responded swiftly to provide support for the immediate humanitarian needs in this emergency.

4. November 2023

MELBOURNE HOLOCAUST MUSEUM (MHM)

After more than three years of development, the brand new, state-of-the-art MHM was officially opened by the Prime Minister of Australia, The Hon Anthony Albanese MP. The new museum also features a unique exhibition, HIDDEN, which explores the Holocaust through the eyes of child survivors, and which was primarily funded by Gandel Foundation.



5.
December 2023

ARK CENTRE

For the fourth year in a row, Gandel Foundation joined with the ARK Centre and other supporters to present the Multicultural Hanukkah event at Fed Square. The week-long event brings together people from different communities, faiths and backgrounds to celebrate their similarities as well as differences, and foster a culture of respect and understanding.

6.
May 2024

JEWISH MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA – GANDEL CENTRE OF JUDAICA (JMA)

Gandel Foundation supported the JMA yet again to present a major exhibition, focusing on a prominent Australian artist and sculptor, Andrew Rogers, titled *Where We Are*. John Gandel AC and Pauline Gandel AC (middle) joined the official opening event with numerous dignitaries and community representatives. Find out more on pages 12 and 13.

7.
June 2024

GANBINA

Ganbina has been a grant partner of Gandel Foundation for over 10 years, a Shepparton-based Indigenous charity which nurtures young Indigenous students to finish school and go on to further study or employment. Lachlan Harlow was a Ganbina student when he met John Gandel AC at a Gandel Foundation event in 2014. They were reunited 10 years later, with Lachlan now working as General Manager for Ganbina – the ultimate way to ‘pay it back’.



Year of Impact in Numbers

95

Grants allocated

56

Community
Grants

37

Major and Flagship
Grants

2

Legacy Grants

Grants made in each Area of Interest (all categories):

17

Arts & Culture

24

Health & Medical
Research

7

Poverty &
Disadvantage

9

Community
Development

2

Indigenous
Programs

9

Social Cohesion
& Inclusion

13

Education

11

Jewish Identity
& Leadership

3

Youth at Risk

\$198k

average size of a
Major or Flagship Grant
(excludes Legacy grants).

\$20k

average size of a Community Grant.

48

number of organisations supported
with strategy development,
advocacy, fundraising support
and guidance, connections,
professional advice and other
types of non-financial assistance.

Chairman's Report

The past year has been immensely challenging but also filled with inspirational giving and continued focus for our family's philanthropy.

Global tragedy

The entire world was rocked with the Hamas terrorist attacks on October the 7th and the ensuing conflict which has brought death, destruction and suffering on all sides. As a proud Jewish family, we responded quickly to provide funding for humanitarian assistance and emergency response. We hope that the suffering and the loss of lives will soon end such that the recovery phase can commence for all those affected.

Domestic challenges

Sadly, the conflict in the Middle East has had significant implications in Australia. We are a successful multicultural society but conflict a world away has materially affected community relations here. The rise in tensions, animosity and confrontation has been difficult to watch, but even worse has been the rampant rise of antisemitism and intolerance, profoundly affecting our community. Despite all that, we remain steadfast in our dedication to building a strong, resilient, inclusive and safe society, and we will do that with all people of good will, and with organisations that are prepared to work with us to overcome these challenges and build a better future for all.

Our giving

A few years back we managed to achieve a significant milestone by commencing a legacy project in Israel in our focus area of Health & Medical Research, the Gandel Rehabilitation Centre at Hadassah Hospital. This year I am pleased to note

that we are progressing with a legacy project in Australia, this time in the focus area of Arts & Culture, with our support to the NGV for their contemporary building development. This commitment will be further finalised in the coming months.

Farewell

It is with a great deal of sadness that we farewell our long-term CEO, Vedran Drakulić OAM. Vedran has been with us for nearly 13 years and in that time, he truly transformed our philanthropic giving and our foundation, making it more professional and steering it to become one of the leading philanthropic entities in Australia. On behalf of my wife Pauline and I, and our whole family, I wish to thank Vedran for his exceptional service to the foundation and the long-standing and significant contribution he made to the family's charitable activities. I wish him all the very best for the future!

Thanks

As always, I share my gratitude with the many people that make our philanthropy what it is – a passionate family affair with a decent dose of grounding and a professional approach to it. My family is always first, with my dear wife Pauline and our youngest child, Lisa, helping us all to keep imagining and dreaming of making life better for people in need.

Our Deputy Chair Graham Goldsmith AO has very much been a driving force in helping to further professionalise our activities, and he is an invaluable member of our hands-on Board. I am particularly proud that we now have a third-generation family member on our Board, Steven Gandel, who brings a fresh – and young

– pair of eyes to our deliberations. Finally, I thank our long-standing Director Barry Fradkin OAM, who continues to provide valuable insight and reflections.

I never forget our small but high-powered team which runs the day-to-day operations of Gandel Foundation, led so ably for more than a decade by Vedran, and effectively assisted by Nicole Brittain, as well as our new team additions Drossos Haramantas and Rhylla Mitchell. I thank them all for their ongoing commitment.



John Gandel AC
Chairman and Co-Founder

“We remain steadfast in our dedication to building a strong, resilient, inclusive and safe society for all.”

“The charities are the ones creating social impact and making an actual difference in people’s lives, day in and day out.”

CEO’s Report

The Gandel family’s philanthropy continued strongly this year, further building on the performance and results of the previous years and reaching new heights.

Challenges

This Annual Impact Report provides information and details on some of the 95 grants that have been allocated to our partner organisations in Gandel Foundation’s areas of interest, and the impact our partners are creating for people in need. The grantmaking activity of the Board and team was profoundly affected this year due to the start of the conflict in Israel and Gaza, with the tragedy and suffering in the Middle East igniting animosities and antisemitism at home. Gandel family has always been a staunch advocate for multiculturalism and for strengthening our social cohesion, and despite these tensions they will continue to work to create a world where everyone is valued and supported, regardless of their cultural background, religion, ethnicity or the colour of their skin.

Always there for the community

As I bid farewell to the Gandel family and Gandel Foundation, I feel it is worth reflecting on the impact that this family and their philanthropic activities have had on our community over the past decade or so. In the simplest of terms, in the past 13 years alone, Gandel Foundation provided 1,673 grants to over 615 charities, to the tune of nearly \$152 million dollars – an amount which excludes the corpus of the foundation and any forward commitments. A massive contribution to this society and its people by any measure.

But probably even more important and impactful has been the Gandel Foundation’s contribution through our partnerships and relationships with the charities and not-for-profit organisations, who work at the coal face. Gandel Foundation may provide funding, advice, knowledge, connections and influence, but the charities are the ones creating social impact and making an actual difference in people’s lives, day in and day out. They are the true heroes in all this, and I salute them all.

Thank you and goodbye

As mentioned, I will be completing my time with Gandel Foundation after nearly 13 years of helping John and Pauline and their family ‘do good’. It has been an absolutely amazing journey, and I will forever be grateful for the opportunity and the privilege that I have been afforded through this role. It has been an immense honour to do this job, which was never just a job for me, but a true calling. Thank you!

John and Pauline have always been a most generous couple, but they give so much more than money – they exude inspiration, energy, compassion and commitment to make the world a better place. I will always remember them! To Lisa Thurin and Graham Goldsmith, thank you for your incredible support and guidance, and I will miss working with you both! To Steven Gandel and Barry Frackin, you each add to the strength of the Gandel family’s giving, and I wish you well for the future.

Last but not least, to my small but wonderful team – thank you. Special thanks are reserved for my long-standing colleague, Nicole Brittain, who has been on this journey for nearly the same time as me. She is an incredible individual with true humanity at heart, and I hope she will continue making a difference for a long time.

Goodbye!



Vedran Drakulic OAM
Chief Executive Officer

Grant Recipients in 2023-24

In the 2024 Financial Year, Gandel Foundation Directors approved a total of 95 grants across the three core levels of giving – Community Grants, Major Grants and Flagship Grants, and two grants that are registered as Legacy Grants.

The past 12 months have continued to pose significant challenges in terms of prioritisation of granting. There has been continued focus on alleviating hardship faced by the community due to financial pressures and the cost-of-living crisis, which was combined with the need to provide humanitarian assistance in the aftermath

of October the 7th terror attacks in Israel and the subsequent Gaza conflict.

Below is a list of all grant recipients in 2023-24, itemised according to the grant level and the Area of Interest, in alphabetical order, along with a short description of the funded program or activity.

Community Grants

Arts & Culture Grants

AUSTRALIAN CULTURAL FUND

COJA (Council of Jewish Artists)

HELLENIC MUSEUM

Support for Future Exhibitions

JEWISH MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA – GANDEL CENTRE OF JUDAICA

Arts Programs Support

MELBOURNE YOUTH ORCHESTRAS

Core Artistic Programs

MUSICA VIVA

Support for Core Programming

NATIONAL GALLERY OF VICTORIA

General Support

SALTPILLAR THEATRE

Theatre Production

ST MARTINS YOUTH ARTS CENTRE

Theatre Performances for Young People

THE ARTS CENTRE

- General Grant
- Wonderbox – Sensorium Theatre 2025

THE JEWISH CULTURAL CENTRE AND NATIONAL LIBRARY, KADIMAH

Core Artistic Programs and Food Festival

Community Development Grants

AUJS

Building AUJS Capacity to Address Antisemitism

AUSTRALIANS INVESTING IN WOMEN

Organisational Capacity Building Support

COMMUNITY SECURITY GROUP

Volunteering Event

INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL SERVICE AUSTRALIA

Family Mediation Service

JNF

Capacity Building Support

THE JOINT

General Core Support

THE TRUSTEE FOR THE JCCV CULTURAL FUND

Support for JCCV's Core Community Activities

THREAD TOGETHER

Core Programs in Support of Clothes Recycling

ZIONISM VICTORIA

Core Organisational Support

Education Grants

ADELAIDE HOLOCAUST MUSEUM AND STEINER EDUCATION CENTRE

Support for Core Teacher and Student Educational Programs

ANNE FRANK EXHIBITION AUSTRALIA

Exhibition Touring in 2023

ARDOCH

Writers in Residence Program

COURAGE TO CARE

Educational Programs in Schools

MARCH OF THE LIVING AUSTRALIA

Interfaith Innovation Lab Against Antisemitism

QUEENSLAND HOLOCAUST MUSEUM AND EDUCATION CENTRE

Support for Core Teacher and Student Educational Programs

STATE SCHOOLS RELIEF

iPads for Non-verbal Students Program

SYDNEY JEWISH MUSEUM

Support for the International Holocaust Remembrance Day

THE TRUSTEE FOR THE COUNCIL FOR JEWISH EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS

UJEB's Core Educational Programs

Health & Medical Research Grants

EMMY MONASH AGED CARE

General Support

ENTERTAINMENT ASSIST

Support for the Mental Health Research Project

FOOD LADDER

Installing Food Ladder Hydroponic Food System in Schools

JEWISH CARE (VICTORIA)

- General Grant
 - Generations of Women Brunch
 - Support for Core Programs
-

KOALA KIDS FOUNDATION

Children's Support Kits

PROJECT ROCKIT FOUNDATION

In-school Programs Addressing Bullying and Racism

SANDRO DEMAIO FOUNDATION

Little Food Festival

THE BUTTERFLY FOUNDATION

Eating Disorders Programs – Core Support

VISION AUSTRALIA

Life-Ready Program

Poverty & Disadvantage Grants

BOYS TO THE BUSH

Engaging Indigenous Youth

FOODFILLED

Capacity Building Support to Deliver More Aid

MELBOURNE CITY MISSION

Sleep at the G – Matching Support for Gandel Foundation Team

MELBOURNE JEWISH CHARITY FUND

Food and Material Support for the Most Vulnerable in the Community

MORNINGTON PENINSULA FOUNDATION

General Support for Mornington Programs

READY SET

Transport and Fit Out Costs

SECONDBITE

Core Food Assistance Programs

Social Cohesion & Inclusion Grants

ALL THINGS EQUAL

- Staff and Team Uniforms and Training
 - Core Programs for Youth With a Disability
-

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIAN JEWRY

Community Engagement Programs

FLYING FOX

Camp Sababa Junior

JEWISH BEREAVED PARENTS

Core Program Delivery

JEWISH CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY

Support for Students with Special Needs who Need Assistance at School

L2R NEXT GEN

Future Makers Program

MACCABI VICTORIA

All Abilities Program

THE ARK CENTRE

Pillars of Light Multicultural Chanukah Festival at FedSquare

Major and Flagship Grants

Arts & Culture Grants

CAULFIELD HEBREW CONGREGATION

Community Outreach Cultural Activities

JEWISH MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA – GANDEL CENTRE OF JUDAICA

- Support for Two Blockbuster Exhibitions
 - Capacity Building Support
Year 3 of 3
-

MELBOURNE HEBREW CONGREGATION CULTURAL ORGANISATION

Core Cultural and Community Programs

MELBOURNE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Holocaust Concert "Kaddish"

NATIONAL GALLERY OF VICTORIA

NGV Contemporary Development – Legacy Grant

Education Grants

COURAGE TO CARE

Social Justice Programs
Year 3 of 3

MELBOURNE HOLOCAUST MUSEUM

'HIDDEN – Children's Holocaust Exhibition
and Hide and Seek Programs
Year 3 of 5

SOCIAL TRADERS

Vision 2030 & Core Support
Year 3 of 4

STAND UP

Social Justice Programs
Year 3 of 3

Health & Medical Research Grants

AMAZE

Peer Group Network Expansion
Year 2 of 2

AUSTRALIANS FOR MENTAL HEALTH

Core Support for Advocacy and Community Organising Work
Year 1 of 3

CANCER COUNCIL VICTORIA

ABC Study Expansion

C CARE

Core Food Security Program - Personalised Pantry Packs

EMMY MONASH AGED CARE

Support for Foundation Establishment

ENDING LONELINESS TOGETHER

Loneliness Awareness Week and CALD Materials and Engagement

HADASSAH AUSTRALIA

- Gandel Rehabilitation Centre – Legacy Grant
Year 3 of 7
 - Gandel Rehabilitation Centre – Legacy Grant
Year 4 of 7
-

FARESHARE

Food Security Support

JDRF AUSTRALIA

Matching Grant for Diabetes Research

JEWISH CARE

Safeguarding Community Appeal

JESUIT SOCIAL SERVICES

Dropping Off The Edge (DOTE) Report

THE FIRST STEP PROGRAM

Full-time Fundraising Manager – Capacity Building Support
Year 2 of 3

Indigenous Programs Grants

CHILDREN'S GROUND

Early Childhood Education and Development in Alice Springs
Year 2 of 2

KARRKAD KANJDI TRUST

Nawarddeken Academy
Year 2 of 2

Jewish Identity & Leadership Grants

AUSTRALIA ISRAEL JEWISH AFFAIRS COUNCIL (AIJAC)

Community Activities Program and Core Operating Support

AUSTRALIAN SPORTS FOUNDATION – HAKOAH CLUB

Hakoah Jewish Community Centre
Year 3 of 3

COMMUNITY SECURITY GROUP

- Community Safety Program
 - Annual Donation
 - Core Organisational Support
-

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIAN JEWRY

Core Organisational Support

THE TRUSTEE FOR THE JCCV CULTURAL FUND

Core Community Programs

ZIONISM VICTORIA

Core Community Programs

UNITED ISRAEL APPEAL REFUGEE RELIEF FUND

- Refugee Relief Fund Grant
 - Emergency Humanitarian Needs in Israel
 - Ongoing Humanitarian Support in Israel
-

Youth at Risk Grants

CENTRE FOR MULTICULTURAL YOUTH (CMY) & headspace

REVEB 2.0 Supporting Multicultural Youth with Mental
Health Needs - CMY and headspace Partnership
Year 2 of 3

MELBOURNE CITY MISSION

Youth Housing Initiative
Year 2 of 3

SMILING MIND

Youth Mental Fitness and Resilience Digital innovation Lab
Year 3 of 3

Andrew Rogers blockbuster exhibition *Where We Are*



With the stated mission to illuminate Jewish life, the Jewish Museum of Australia – Gandel Centre of Judaica (JMA) was established nearly 50 years ago by a group of dedicated volunteers. At the intersection of art and Jewish culture, today the museum is a place for all people to share in the Australian Jewish experience.

JMA creates world-class exhibitions, programs and events, and they design experiences that explore the many voices of the diverse community and showcase Jewish customs, culture, religion, heritage and legacy.

This year JMA presented yet another one of their 'blockbuster' exhibitions, this time featuring the internationally-acclaimed artist and sculptor Andrew Rogers. Andrew is well known around the world

for his unique, large-scale contemporary sculptures, artworks and installations, including the globe-spanning *Rhythms of Life*, a connected set of artworks on earth that are visible from space.

One of these installations, titled *Ancient Language* and created in Chile in 2004, was used for the promotional materials for the Rogers' JMA exhibition, and it features on the cover of this Impact Report.

The retrospective exhibition, named *Where We Are*, explores the artistic process and concepts behind Andrew's masterpieces and his current artistic practice. Visitors have a chance to discover the artist's personal journey and evolution through figurative sculptures, abstract forms and his large art works.

Museum Director & CEO, Noè Harsel reflected on this exhibition: "JMA is honoured to host an exhibition of Andrew Rogers, an artist whose works are a testament to the collaborative spirit of art and its power to unite people across continents. The unifying and transformative power of art is at the heart of what we do at the Museum. We are both a keeper of stories for Australia's diverse Jewish communities and a place where people can explore Jewish identity, culture and creative expression."

This exhibition is one of many supported by Gandel Foundation over more than a decade, as part of JMA's 'blockbuster exhibition series', which have helped the museum to attract new and diverse audiences.



Above: John Gandel AC and Pauline Gandel AC joined artist and sculptor Andrew Rogers (on the right, standing) at the opening of his retrospective exhibition at the JMA. Other guests pictured include Gandel Foundation Director and former President of JMA, Barry Fradkin OAM (on the left, standing), Gandel Foundation Manager of Jewish and Israel Programs, Nicole Brittain (second from left, standing) and the JMA Director and CEO, Noe Harsel (on the left, seated).

Past blockbuster exhibitions at JMA

2014



Andy Warhol – Jewish Geniuses

2016



Amy Winehouse – A Family Portrait

2020



Mirka Mora – MIRKA

2022



Helmut Newton – In Focus

2023



CHAGALL

2024



Andrew Rogers – Where We Are

Gandel Foundation

Community Grants

Provided generally as one-off grants within defined Areas of Interest.

Aimed primarily at small to medium-size charities.

Envisaged to provide immediate funding support for a defined program or part of a program.

Grant value up to \$40,000.



Sandro Demaio Foundation

Little Food Festival

The Little Food Festival (LFF) is a free community event that promotes health, wellbeing and sustainability education, focused on the food system.

The Sandro Demaio Foundation brings together like-minded personalities, community organisations, NFPs and philanthropic supporters who actively want to help build a healthier, vibrant and more resilient population and planet.

The festival is an opportunity to educate and empower young people and their families, through fun and play, to connect the dots across the food system, and explore the positive actions that can be taken to create change.

In the words of founder Dr Sandro Demaio, "The Little Food Festival is an opportunity to re-write what the future will look like for our kids and our planet."

Gandel Foundation joined forces with the Little Food Festival for the second time to help provide valuable learning opportunities for young people. The number of visitors and participants grow every year, and the overall impact is quite significant.

In addition to enabling engagement through numerous workshops, activations and performances on the day, the festival organisers are also inspiring wider change, with the establishment of a working group that connects school-based programs and the Department of Education. Then there is also a planned collaboration with ACMI and RMIT to launch the Little Food Film Festival next year, as well as taking the festival to regional communities, with a planned pop-up event at Shepparton in 2025.

Dr Demaio has other plans for the future as well, such as developing the LFF 'school packs' with key food security charities, which will enable educators to produce a digital road-map on how to incorporate food-systems education into their schools.

"Working together with our partners such as Gandel Foundation, we are raising awareness of important focus areas related to food systems such as health and wellbeing, nutrition and sustainability, all in the context of prevention and early intervention. We are on a journey to help our younger generations build a healthier future," concluded Dr Demaio.



The impact of the 2024 Little Food Festival:

10,000 kids and families in attendance

40 workshops, activations and performances

95,000+ people reached via social media

20,000+ visits to the Little Food Festival website

46,000+ subscribers reached via eDMs

1.6 million people reached through PR

Saved 2,610 single use plates, cups and bowls from landfill

Diverted 160 kg of waste from landfill

100% positive social sentiment

98% said they would return in 2025

96% of attendees said they greatly enjoyed the Festival

Major Grants

Aimed to provide a more substantial and meaningful support to achieve stronger and longer-term positive social impact within the specified area of interest.

Can be one-off or multi-year support, depending on the need.

Directed to evidence-based programs that deliver defined positive outcomes in the community, that may provide long-term benefit to the target audience, and that may have the potential to be broadly implemented.

Funding from \$40,000 to a maximum of \$250,000 per annum.

Applications are by invitation only.



Ending Loneliness Together



Loneliness Awareness Week

(One-off Major Grant)

Ending Loneliness Together (ELT) is the national Australian organisation working to raise awareness and reduce the negative effects of loneliness and social isolation in the society through evidence-based solutions and advocacy.

ELT take a central coordination role, bringing knowledge, expertise and action to drive collaborative solutions to creative positive social change in tackling loneliness.

Loneliness is a critical issue of the modern times and has been recognised as a public health priority for many countries. The national survey conducted by ELT last year found that nearly 1 in 3 Australians are feeling lonely at any given time, and that community stigma and misconceptions are preventing many from speaking about it, or seeking help. Associate Professor Michelle H Lim, the CEO and Scientific Chair of ELT, commented that "We need to stop thinking of loneliness as a 'soft' issue. We are living in an everchanging world. The speed and size of those changes can, for many, make it harder to develop and maintain healthy social relationships. The good news is that opportunities for greater social connection can be built and strengthened."

After supporting ELT with a Community Grant in 2023, Gandel Foundation again joined forces in 2024, this time with a Major Grant. The funding was targeted towards assisting

ELT to ensure representation and inclusion of culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities, by engaging them in the program and by 'speaking' to them in their language. Research shows that CALD people are one and a half times more likely to experience loneliness than other people.

ELT undertook to develop new and translate existing loneliness prevention educational materials in other languages than English, as well as to develop stories of lived experience through amplifying CALD voices.

Materials such as fact sheets, guidelines, training videos and sections of the ELT website were developed in Arabic, Chinese and Vietnamese, and also available in AUSLAN on the Loneliness Awareness Week website (www.lonelinessawarenessweek.com.au).

In 2024 ELT held their second Loneliness Awareness Week, following on from the huge success of the inaugural event held in 2023. The week provides a significant opportunity to increase awareness of the nature and challenges of loneliness, and a chance to learn more about how to take action by seeking a connection or starting a conversation about loneliness.

The week generated significant media coverage and awareness, as well as interaction with the public, with nearly 600 million media impressions, more than

20,000 visits to the website and over 3,000 downloads of key resources such as supporter kits, reports and tip sheets.

Commenting on the week, Associate Professor Lim concluded that "We are striving to create a stronger culture of connection which can fuel wider and deeper bonds and thereby help to tackle loneliness. A better-connected society is a more resilient society – better equipped to collectively face and embrace the changes, crises and challenges of the 21st century."

1 in 3

Australians feel lonely at any given time

1 in 4

Australians are persistently lonely

41%

of young people (aged 18-24) are persistently lonely

1.5 x

more affected – people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds

Flagship Grants

Top level of granting by the Gandel Foundation (excluding Legacy Grants).

Aim is to provide support for significant, flagship-type activities and programs that address underlying causes of social issues.

Flagship Grants offer considerable funding to undertake initiatives that will help strengthen, or build, more resilient, more vibrant and more inclusive communities.

Envisaged to drive noticeable, long-term and sustainable positive social impact.

Funding from \$250,000 to a maximum of \$2 million per annum.

Can be awarded as a one-off grant, or over a number of years, depending on the need.

Applications by invitation only.



Melbourne City Mission

Youth Housing Initiative

(Three-year Flagship Grant)

Melbourne City Mission (MCM) is one of Australia's oldest, largest and most diverse not for profit community service organisations, with a vision to create a fair and just community, and uplift and empower the most vulnerable and disadvantaged people.

Through more than 80 of its programs spanning homelessness, housing, disability, early childhood development and many other areas, MCM creates new possibilities and better futures for children, young people and adults.

Gandel Foundation has been supporting MCM for a number of years now, specifically in the area of youth homelessness. Most recently the two organisations joined forces again on a pilot project of the MCM, the Youth Housing Initiative (YHI).

YHI is a four-year integrated support and housing program that aims to address a significant gap in the homelessness services system, where young people are able to access the support services and long-term housing they need for their specific circumstances. This innovative model centres on a young person's changing support and housing needs.

The focus is on enabling the young person to gain the confidence and financial capability to exit into the private rental and away from subsidised, supported housing resulting not only in improved individual wellbeing, but also significant government savings.

MCM has over many decades built a strong reputation in the sector for

tackling the root causes of homelessness and working toward supporting young people, including those who have experienced considerable trauma, to transition out of homelessness and into adult independence. As such, they are perfectly positioned to deliver this pilot project, and a number of funders joined them in this endeavour, most notably the Victorian government and around a dozen philanthropic foundations, including Gandel Foundation. Importantly, Monash University will gather evidence about the impact of the program and the anticipated significant economic, community and individual benefits.

This program looks to build the independence and resilience of young people to address the complex personal and structural causes of their homelessness over a sustained support period. The three pillars of the YHI model are stable housing, therapeutic support and personal development.

To date, MCM have supported 56 young people across three housing areas with long-term stable housing, therapeutic support, personal development coaching, employment and education counselling, and financial assistance.

All participants are aged 18-24 and they have all experienced homelessness, have complex needs, and require a level and length of support not currently available elsewhere.

One of the client stories, shared here, provides an insight into the impact of the YHI program on a young person's life.

Elise is a nineteen-year-old who has experienced years of homelessness. Elise reports staying in many short-term and risky places, at times having to flee in the night to avoid dangerous situations. Elise has a high work ethic and is very focused on creating a career and a comfortable and safe life.*

Throughout her periods of homelessness, Elise has continued to study. Elise reports struggling to make lasting social connections, and this has played a part in her instability in housing. She is keen to explore options for assessments for ADHD and Autism and engage with associated therapies.

Elise moved into an apartment in March and has absolutely thrived with the sense of relief of stable and supported housing. Elise has recently landed a great new job, noting to the YHI team that employment like this was never an option while she was homeless. YHI and Elise have created a full list of things to work on, including clinical assessments.

In her own words – from Elise:

“Having stable housing through the Youth Housing Initiative has given me the crucial stability needed to move forward with my life and pursue my goals.

With a secure place to live, I can now focus on my studies at RMIT, training to become a lighting technician for live events.

This stability has alleviated much of the stress and uncertainty that previously dominated my life, allowing me to concentrate on my personal and professional development.

I can now plan for the future with confidence, knowing that I have a supportive environment that fosters growth and recovery.”

**Name changed for privacy*



In Focus: Food Security

The term 'food security' can be defined as "Access by all people at all times to enough food for an active, healthy life. At a minimum this would include having acceptable, nutritionally adequate and safe foods available and the ability to acquire food in socially acceptable ways without resorting to emergency food supplies or coping strategies." (VicHealth definition).

Food security is a major and prevalent challenge and is seen as a growing health, social and economic issue, driven largely by poverty and disadvantage. A 2021 study done by the City of Melbourne noted that since 2019, food insecurity has increased 7.5 percent and demand for food relief increased 47 percent. More

recently, the 2023 Foodbank Hunger Report stated that nearly half of the general population in Victoria – 48 percent – "now feel anxious or struggle to consistently access adequate food." The combination of factors such as the COVID emergency, followed by the cost of living crisis and other financial pressures means that this situation is likely to persist for some time.

Gandel Foundation has had a long-standing and significant focus on food security, supporting numerous charities over a long period of time who aim to provide food assistance to the most vulnerable people in the community, with a deliberate emphasis on not just ensuring food supply

for those in need, but that they receive healthy, nutritious food, in a dignified way.

Following is a short description of a few of the key food security charities that have been supported by Gandel Foundation in the past 10 or so years (either continually or from time to time):

FareShare

FareShare has been providing free, nutritious cooked meals since 2001. From its kitchens in Melbourne and Brisbane, they transform rescued, donated or homegrown food into millions of healthy ready-to-eat meals that feed dignity and wellbeing for millions of Australians in hardship.

2012-2024

Support for food security programs and organisations over the past 10-plus years – below is a list of only some of Gandel Foundation's past grant recipients providing food relief in the community:

2012

FareShare – One Million Meals – funding for a new FareShare kitchen to expand production of meals

2013

African Australian Network – Community Food Program

SecondBite – Victorian food expansion program

2014

Geelong Food Relief Centre – Truck purchase to expand the food rescue program

2015

Melbourne Jewish Charity Fund – The Gandel Yom Tov food relief project

UnitingCare Ballarat – Café meals program, Ballarat

2016

Safe Steps – Food and material needs of women and children supported by Safe Steps

2017

Gateway Social Support Options – Foodlink program

Tasty Plate – Tasty Plate Food trailer

2018

FareShare – FareShare Brisbane kitchen – cooking 3 million meals for vulnerable people in Qld, NSW, ACT and NT

2019

C Care – Pantry Pack food relief program

St Mary's House of Welcome – Weekend meals program

2020

Children's Ground – Food and material aid for remote Indigenous communities (COVID grant)

Souper Kitchen – Food relief program

2021

St Vincent de Paul Society – Victoria – Support for Vinnies' soup vans to deliver more meals to homeless clients (COVID grant)

Foodbank Victoria – expanding the food distribution program (COVID grant)

Youth Activating Youth – Food and material aid for the most vulnerable in the community (COVID grant)

Souper Kitchen – Food relief program

2022

Jewish Care – Food vouchers, kosher meals, food boxes for the most vulnerable (COVID grant)

VACCA – Food support for vulnerable Indigenous families in regional Victoria and other Metro areas (COVID grant)

Loddon Campaspe Multicultural Services – Essential and culturally appropriate food assistance for multicultural families

in the Loddon region (COVID grant)

2023

OzHarvest – Food relief for the most vulnerable

The Community Grocer – support for food boxes

Smile on Seniors – Care packages and food assistance

2024

C Care – Food and material support for the most vulnerable

SecondBite – Core food support programs

FoodFilled – capacity building support to expand food assistance

Images:

1.

2012

John and Pauline Gandel (on the left) receiving a briefing on the planned expansion of the FareShare kitchen in Abbotsford, which when completed enabled the organisation to produce over a million ready-to-eat meals a year.

2.

2015

The first CEO Sleepout that the Gandel Foundation CEO Vedran Drakulic participated in. He would go on to do it for 8 years, raising some \$1.2 million for the Vinnies in the process – most of which was thanks to matched funding provided by Gandel Foundation.

3.

2018

The Loddon Campaspe Multicultural Services in Bendigo was supported by Gandel Foundation to run a social enterprise which provided culturally appropriate meals to multicultural and other clients.

4.

2021

Gandel Foundation (then Gandel Philanthropy) providing matching support to Foodbank Victoria for their major appeal, which was highly successful.

5.

2023

OzHarvest receives a grant in support of their core food relief activities in Victoria.

6.

2024

C Care continues to grow and expand, reaching ever more people and families in need.



SecondBite

Started in 2005, SecondBite has grown to become one of the largest free food rescue organisations in Australia with operations in all States and Territories. They rescue and deliver nutritious fresh food free of charge to people in need. SecondBite aims to 'rescue' good food destined for landfill, thus addressing critical social, environmental and economic challenges. (Note: on 1 July 2024 FareShare and SecondBite merged into one food security organisation).

C Care

C Care is a leading frontline community organisation, established in 2011, which

supports individuals and families who are facing food insecurity and also social isolation. Their tailored services provide entry level, culturally appropriate and easy to access food and associated resources for vulnerable communities, fulfilling not only the recipients' nutritional needs but also creating a strong sense of community and connection.

Melbourne Jewish Charity Fund (MJCF)

In existence for over 50 years, the Melbourne Jewish Charity Fund works directly with people and families in need, helping address poverty, restore dignity into people's lives and improve their quality of life. Food

security is one of the key areas of aid delivered by the MJCF, but they also offer financial, medical and rental assistance and support, as well as counselling.

St Vincent de Paul Society – Victoria (Vinnies)

The Vinnies have been around for 170 years and together with their extensive network they provide practical, hands-on support, advocacy and friendship for the most vulnerable members of the community. Vinnies are well known for their soup vans which provide meals every night at numerous locations around the city of Melbourne.

List of All 2023-24 Grant Recipient Organisations

Adelaide Holocaust Museum and Steiner Education Centre	Flying Fox	National Gallery of Victoria
All Things Equal	FoodFilled	Project Rokit Foundation
Amaze	Hadassah Australia	Queensland Holocaust Museum and Education Centre
Anne Frank Exhibition Australia	Hellenic Museum	Ready Set
Ardoch	International Social Service Australia	Saltpillar Theatre
Australian Cultural Fund – COJA	JDRF Australia	Sandro Demaio Foundation
Australia/Israel & Jewish Affairs Council	Jesuit Social Services	SecondBite
Australians For Mental Health	JNF	Smiling Mind
Australians Investing in Women	Jewish Bereaved Parents	SOCIAL TRADERS
Australian Sports Foundation Charitable Fund – Hakoah Club	Jewish Care (Victoria)	Stand Up
AUJS	Jewish Children's Aid Society	State Schools Relief
Boys to the Bush	Jewish Museum of Australia – Gandel Centre of Judaica	St Martins Youth Arts Centre
Butterfly Foundation	Karrkad-Kanjdi Trust	Sydney Jewish Museum
Cancer Council Victoria	Koala Kids Foundation	The Arts Centre
Courage to Care (Vic)	L2R Next Gen	The First Step Program
Caulfield Hebrew Congregation	Maccabi Victoria Sports Foundation	The Jewish Cultural Centre and National Library, Kadimah
C Care	March of the Living Australia	The Joint
Centre for Multicultural Youth (CMY) & headspace	Melbourne City Mission	The Trustee for The Auburn Road Centre Library – ARK Centre
Children's Ground	Melbourne Hebrew Congregation Cultural Organisation	The Trustee for the Council for Jewish Education in Schools (UJEB)
Community Security Group	Melbourne Holocaust Museum	The Trustee for the JCCV Cultural Fund
Emmy Monash	Melbourne Jewish Charity Fund	Thread Together
Ending Loneliness Together	Melbourne Symphony Orchestra	United Israel Appeal Refugee Relief Fund
Entertainment Assist	Melbourne Youth Orchestra	Vision Australia
Executive Council of Australian Jewry	Mornington Peninsula Foundation	Zionism Victoria
FareShare	Musica Viva	

Multi-generational philanthropy

Gandel Foundation is a proudly family-based philanthropic entity, with founders John Gandel AC and Pauline Gandel AC ensuring that other family members are actively involved with the foundation.

Daughter Lisa Thurin has been an active Director for over 20 years, and more recently another family member has joined the Gandel Foundation Board. In November 2023 grandson Steven Gandel was formally appointed to the Board, now ensuring that Gandel Foundation has a truly multi-generational presence by the family.

Multigenerational philanthropic engagement provides an opportunity to bring different family members together to support community causes and help create a lasting change. The diversity of experiences, the age range, the geographic spread and the different philanthropic interests of family members across generations such as that of Lisa and Steven, can ensure better and more robust grant-making and philanthropic impact in the community.

The Board of Gandel Foundation looks forward to working with the representatives of three generations of Gandel family on further strengthening its social impact and contribution.



Steven Gandel represented Gandel Foundation and his family at many events and functions, such as speaking at the official opening of the Adelaide Holocaust Museum and Steiner Education Centre in 2021 (pictured).

Gandel Foundation

TRUSTEES

John Gandel AC,
Chairman

Pauline Gandel AC

Lisa Thurin

Steven Gandel
(appointed November 2023)

Graham Goldsmith AO,
Deputy Chairman

Barry Fradkin OAM

TEAM

Vedran Drakulić OAM
Chief Executive Officer, Company Secretary

Drossos Haramantas
Finance Manager (from March 2024)

Nicole Brittain
Grant Manager, Jewish and Israel Programs

Kiera Moloney
Grant Manager, Australian Programs (until May 2024)

Silva Bernhard
Grants Officer (until March 2024)

Rhylla Mitchell
Grant Administration Officer (from July 2024)

Gandel Foundation
Annual Impact Report 2023-2024
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