



# ANNUAL REPORT 2021

[dcfwa.org.au](http://dcfwa.org.au)



**Denmark Community  
Foundation** (WA) inc.



## **DCF Chairperson's Annual Report 2021**

**2021** has been a very active and successful year for our Foundation with an increase in interest, achievements and activities, approaches by individuals and community groups for assistance in setting up 'named or sub-funds' and oversight of our financial status, as has been outlined in our 2020/2021 Financial Report.

DCF has managed/auspiced community sub-funds for small community groups in providing a simple way to receive and manage donations. Since its inception DCF has distributed over **\$200,000** of community grants to numerous groups and individuals in that time and managed over **\$250,000** of project grants.

### **Community Grants**

Community organisations and individuals who've benefitted from our Community Grants Rounds in the last few years include:

Youth Drama Production Denmark Senior High School, Movies with Meaning, Greenskills, Baroque Inc., Horsepower Denmark (formerly Riding for the Disabled), Weavers of Waste, CWA, Spirit of Play, Gumnuts Childcare Centre, Amaroo Village.....and many more.

### **Managed funds**

The most notable achievement this year was DCF attracting significant grant funding from 2 major funding providers, Lotterywest and the Ecstra Foundation and a specific, private donation from the owners of Seacorp and Hallowell Stud Denmark.

### **Ecstra – Great Foundations Project**

The Denmark Community Foundation was among 10 Community Foundations from around Australia (and the only one in WA) to receive **\$100,000 from the Ecstra Foundation** to create and scale initiatives which address issues of financial exclusion and economic equality.

DCF, with the support of the Denmark Community Resource Centre prepared a series of workshops aimed at improving the financial literacy and capability of local residents across various age groups e.g. tuition in setting up *mygov* accounts and managing superannuation for young people, preparation for retirement, understanding tax and budgeting, low cost cooking, sewing, mending and repair, house and car maintenance, grow your own food etc.

The Foundation worked collaboratively with other local organisations to develop a community map that reflects services, key stakeholders, needs and financial issues for individuals, families and businesses. This grant also supported a project manager to coordinate community initiatives to advance the financial sustainability of Denmark residents.

Denmark Community Foundation and Denmark Community Resource Centre consistently collaborate in a successful, mutually effective partnership.

### **Repair Cafes**

Over 25 volunteers committed to several hours each month for 10 months to teach the public how to repair, adapt, mend or sharpen tools, clothing and other household items, thus reducing waste and saving money. Hundreds of items have been repaired and car checks were available for people to learn basic maintenance for their vehicles. The Cafés also became a meeting place where people could socialise over morning tea or a sausage sizzle with some returning each month and staying for the full 2 hours.



*David repairing electrical items*



*Bike repairer Ali Marshall*

The Community Resource Centre now hosts the Repair Café monthly providing continuity to the successful program and as a platform for conversations and information sharing around financial capability.

A range of separate workshops around financial capability, saving money were also offered including Low Cost Cooking for Adults, Low Cost Cooking, After School for Kids, Cloth Nappy Making, Beginners Sewing and Cards and Conversation.

### **My Money, My Story**

A series of workshops about strengthening women's relationship with their money, including a practical framework to develop a firm foundation for their financial future. This program launched on International Women's Day with a performance by a local women's choir, art exhibition and an overview of the Program. Participants were gifted a book by a local author which explored women's money stories and some Denmark Dollars, gift certificate currency, to encourage the concept of giving back to the local community.



*My Money, My Story*

The initial target group was women who are thinking about their retirement, regardless of when that may be. Most of the participants were older single women, many of whom had recently been through a relationship breakdown, so the timing for planning was opportune.

**Website Redesign** – [www.dcfwa.org.au](http://www.dcfwa.org.au) some funding was used to redevelop our website onto a user friendly, informative one stop promotional tool for the Foundation.




### Agency Collaboration

- **Anglicare Financial Counselling** – several meetings with Anglicare resulted in a trial of “Community Conversations” where the financial counsellor was present for people to consult with in both a formal and informal manner.
- **Not for Profit Interagency meetings** where Denmark Chamber of Commerce, Denmark Greenskills, Denmark Community Foundation, Denmark Arts, Denmark Community Resource Centre and the Denmark Shire’s Community Development Officer met for regular interagency networking resulting in the above Hardship funding acquisition, potential collaboration and general information sharing. This initiative will be ongoing.

### Lotterywest Covid - 19 Community Assistance Grant

The Foundation acquired a Lotterywest Covid - 19 Community Assistance grant of **\$88,000** for emergency relief services to help meet the needs of locals experiencing hardship due to the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic. The Denmark Community Resource Centre in partnership with DCF, became the delivery agent with a mission to deliver free and discounted food, emergency accommodation, fuel vouchers and heating.

Food relief has been identified as a key need in the community with many people unable to afford to buy food from the local supermarkets. It is a non-judgmental service that offers a dignified solution to food and financial stress within the local community.



**Denmark Community Assistance Program**

Here's how we can help, if you need support.


**Food - Non-perishables & Meals**  
With non-perishable food donated from Second Step, Salvation Army and local packages are available for those experiencing food stress.  
Frozen portioned meals also available.

**Crisis Support**  
Have a chat with a staff member to discover the many different support options we can provide and information from support services providers.  
Service provider contacts are available on back of this flyer.

**Free To Use Services**  
Including access to shower, washing machine, dryer and kitchen for members of the community in need.  
Shower access is also available at the Denmark Rec Centre for a small fee.

**Human Services Agency**  
As agents for Centrelink and Medicare, the Denmark CRC staff can help set up and access your MYGov account, uploading documents, ID confirmation and more assistance.  
Access also available for ATO and DVA.

**Tents and Swags**  
For those who find themselves without a place to stay, there are a small number of tents and swags available as temporary accommodation.  
Good quality blankets & clothing available from Mustard Seed & Red Cross Op Shops and Denmark Tip Shop.



**Community Meals**  
Each Friday there is a free breakfast BBQ, 7.30 - 9 am at the Norma Thornton Park (opposite Little OIA).  
Community meals are scheduled throughout the year and can be purchased for a discounted price.



**Useful Contacts**

Denmark Community Resource Centre	9848 2842
Pivot admin@pivotsupport.com.au	9842 9599
Anglicare St John's Albany	9845 6666
Anglicare 24 hours Domestic & Family Crisis	9845 6000
St Vincent de Paul Albany	9842 2386
Foodbank Albany	9842 6445
Albany Community Legal Centre	9842 8564
DV Assist	1800 60 60 60 1800 080 063

**State Helplines and Emergency Numbers**

Life Threatening Emergencies	000
Women's Domestic Violence Help	1800 007 339
Men's Domestic Violence Help	1800 000 599
Sexual Assault Resource Centre	9345 1828
Crisis Care	1800 199 008
Parenting WA	6271 1200
Kid's Helpline	1800 551 800
Family Relationships Advice	1800 050 321

**Proud Partners:**

Denmark CRC has now been given access to the previous Over 50's group rooms, now called Garden Room 2, in which a small room has been converted into a food Pantry with dry goods, frozen goods and non-perishables. The larger room provides a space for people to meet and for Community Agencies to provide services to clients e.g. 'Our Safety Net' – Youth Suicide Prevention Program

It is anticipated that other emergency services will also be administered from this area, either by DCRC funding or outside community organisations.

### **Seacorp/Hallowell Stud – “Our Safety Net” – Youth Suicide Prevention Program**



The commencement of the new Denmark Youth Mental Health Nurse Service (DYMHNS) represents an exciting way forward for 'Our Safety Net'. A generous donation of **\$25,000** from Craig and Rosemary Thompson, owners of Seacorp and Hallowell Stud Denmark, has enabled this new service providing a very easy, free opportunity for anyone concerned about the mental health of a young person living, working or studying in Denmark.

Very few local services offer support of this nature to families or extend to other care givers. By educating and supporting the people around a young person in distress we hope to improve the outcome for the young person. Young people can use the service without the attached stigma of attending a medical appointment for a referral, it is hoped this will allow increased and early interventions for young people.

### **Denmark Community Fund**

Donations which go to the Denmark Community Fund provide grants for projects that support our seniors and youth and build community wellbeing.

The income generated from this carefully managed Fund provides a perpetual and growing source of grant funding for community grants and projects that meet the existing and emerging needs of the Denmark community.

### **Sub funds**

#### **Denmark Hardship Fund**

This fund helps those in the community who are living rough or going through a very difficult time, some finding themselves without a home.

Denmark Community Foundation has partnered with the Denmark Homeless Project to purchase food vouchers, gas vouchers, firewood, toiletry kits, op-shop vouchers and materials to renovate old caravans for use by the group, over and above the funds secured through this year's Lotterywest grant.

#### **Youth Fund**

The Youth Fund provides assistance to eligible Denmark residents aged 17-25 to:

- Access local, confidential crisis support
- Undertake training courses to improve their job prospects

- Overcome financial barriers that prevent them from participating in training

Young people in our town face many challenges, let's pull together and help the next generation become strong, resilient individuals who are connected with their community.

Contributions help young people, who wouldn't otherwise be able to afford it, get a relevant certificate/qualification to improve their work prospects.

**Radiation Machine Project** – has achieved its purpose of ensuring a Radiation Facility is under construction in Albany, primarily due to the efforts of Mary Williams in conjunction with DCF. The facility should be functional by the end of 2022 and the sub-fund monies will assist Denmark people with transport, accommodation and other related expenses in accessing the facility.



### **Leech – Partington Botanical Art Prize Sub-fund**

With over twenty botanical artists exhibiting this inaugural event was held in Denmark over a seven day period in February 2021.

Denmark Community Foundation managed the funds raised from art sales, commission and a raffle was invaluable to its smooth and efficient running. Prize money and venue hire were promptly paid and commission from all art sales and artist's entrance fees documented in the designated account.



***Penny Leech originals***

Although the venue is booked, judges primed and expressions of interest already provided by botanical artists, it's unknown at present whether this will be ongoing. The Leech Partington Botanical Art Prize fund has sufficient money for the awards; however assistance is needed to set up promotional social media, a simple website with entrance details.

## **Acknowledgments**

### **DCF Board Members and Volunteers**

As you all know running any community group is sometimes a demanding task. However it's important to acknowledge the work of all those who've served on the Board over the last 14 years and in particular our 2020 - 2021 Board of Directors Matt Sivyer, Annette Carmichael, Flynn Thompson, Ed Groom, Von Quinn, Leanne Mifflin and Jennie Partington. All DCF members are entitled to attend Board meetings and their input is always welcomed.

Let us also remember and acknowledge the contributions John Coggon, previous DCF Deputy Chairperson, made in the short time he was with us. He assisted in acquiring and delivering items for Homeless Project Denmark and guided some important Board decisions in 2020.

As I stand down as Chairperson I warmly welcome the new 2022 Board members and I that I'll make myself available, if they need information or assistance as they settle in, but will only do so on invitation by them for specific items e.g. continuing to oversee the:

- \* Seacorp/Hallowell grant for OSN (Adele Heaton),
- \* Finalisation of the LW Covid – 19 Grant funds and follow up
- \* Writing/submission of the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR) Strengthening Rural Communities Building, Operational Capacity grant application.

It would be unfair to expect newcomers to take on these commitments, which are already underway. It would be a wonderful segue from old to new if we are successful in acquiring an FRRR Operational Capacity Building grant and a constructive legacy to leave for our Foundation's continuation.

Thank you to all the donors, Board members and members who continue to be part of our Foundation which accomplishes what no other local community organisation can and embodies the importance of action and belief that "Prosperity through Kindness" is a reality when it comes from community collaboration and a belief that "charity begins at home."

Thanks to all.



*Dr Gillian Sellar*

Chairperson – Denmark Community Foundation (WA) Inc.

25<sup>th</sup> November 2021