



# ANNUAL REPORT 2023

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

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# CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

This year was the first of a three-year strategic plan for the Denmark Community Foundation. This plan provides a framework for planning and decision making for the Board of Management who volunteer their time to act as trustees of community funds on behalf of the Denmark community.

The Foundation's vision is to create a community that is a welcoming, resilient, inclusive and connected, and we do this by generating, managing and distributing funds that strengthen the Denmark community.

The Foundation's main focus area for 2023 - 2025 is the reduction of social isolation within our community. Making effective decisions relies on access to high-quality information, and with this in mind, we engaged Consultant Juliet Grist from Rural and Regional Economic Solutions to undertake a desktop analysis of publicly available information supplemented with local interviews. This report covers risk and protective factors for social isolation in Denmark. It will be completed by the end of the year and will inform our actions in 2024.

This data analysis was made possible through the support of the Minderoo Foundation and Community Foundations Australia.

*“Loneliness and social isolation can affect anyone, but they tend to affect some groups, areas, and communities more than others, which can lead to health and well-being disparities.” Rural and Regional Economic Solutions Pty Ltd*

## Community Grants

In response to our focus on improving social connectedness, the Foundation invited local community groups to apply for financial support in a grant round in July 2023.

Loneliness and social isolation are now considered major health concerns for regional communities. The Foundation is committed to playing its role in tackling this significant problem. We will do this by supporting grassroots organisations that have the skills and networks to make a real difference to people living in Denmark

The following projects were supported:

**Denmark Kwoorabup Community Garden** - Green Skills Inc

To support the delivery of a series of community workshops that encourage shared gardening and social connection. Amount \$1,140

**Christmas Lunch** - Denmark Community Resource Centre

To support the delivery of the 2023 Christmas Lunch for vulnerable and isolated people. Amount: \$800

**Mount Hallowell Bio Blitz** - Denmark Environment Centre

To support this community event with a special focus on citizen science, women scientists and social connection. Amount: \$2,500

**Christmas Festival - Down South Creative**

(auspiced by Denmark Community Resource Centre)

To support the delivery of the community Christmas Festival in 2023. Amount: \$2,500



*Denmark Kwoorabup Community Garden - image courtesy of Green Skills Inc.*

During 2023, the Foundation also received requests from the community for support and were able to provide the following funds:

**Denmark School of Air - Denmark FM**

(auspiced by Denmark Community Resource Centre)

To support the delivery of workshops for young people in 2023. Amount: \$1,500

**Responsive Support**

To support the training and development costs of a young person in need. Amount: \$400

## Working in Partnership

Securing and managing donations for the benefit of the Denmark community is a key activity of the Foundation. In partnership with the Foundation of Rural and Regional Renewal, DCF is able to accept tax deductible donations for specific projects and causes.

In 2023 we supported the visionary work of Denmark Futures Inc. by creating an FRRR sub-account for the receipt and distribution of donations specifically to support solutions that address housing affordability. More information about Denmark Futures can be found at [www.denmarkfutures.org.au](http://www.denmarkfutures.org.au)



Our Safety Net was a program that aimed to increase the awareness of suicide prevention strategies within the community. This program came to an end during 2022. The Foundation continues to acknowledge the need for additional support for our community, and as such we brokered a new relationship between major donor, Thompson Shipping Group and Albany Youth Support Association to increase the quantity of services available to young people in Denmark. Special thanks to former Deputy Chair, Heather Moyle for her work on this initiative and our ongoing gratitude to Craig Thompson for his commitment to the local community.

## Sub-fund Activity

Denmark Community Foundation holds in trust a number of funds held for specific activity.

### Denmark Hardship Sub-Fund

This fund helps those in the community who are living rough or going through a very difficult time, and is delivered in partnership with local community groups.

### Youth Sub-Fund

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

- Access local support
- Undertake training courses to improve their job prospects
- Overcome financial barriers that prevent them from participating in training

In 2023, a commitment has been made to support the work of the Umbrella Group Great Southern Inc. and their MIYAD Wheels Program (previously Wheels for Work). The Foundation acknowledges that acquiring a driver's licence is an essential ingredient to gaining employment and will subsidise the cost of driving lessons and supervised driving hours for young people in need of support. For more information go to [www.uggsinc.org.au](http://www.uggsinc.org.au)



### Radiation Machine Project Sub-Fund

These monies are being held to assist Denmark people with transport, accommodation and other related expenses in accessing the facility in Albany.

### Leech - Partington Botanical Art Prize Sub-Fund

Previously the Leech Partington Botanical Art Prize supported exhibitions of botanical artists in Denmark in 2021 and 2022.

In 2023, the awards were offered in October, at the Flora Exhibition at the Janet Holmes a Court Gallery, West Perth. First prize of \$1000.00 was won by Margaret Pieroni and People's Choice \$250 by Carolyn Murdoch.

The five-year Memorandum of Understanding with Denmark Community Foundation expires in December 2023. In a generous agreement with the donor, the remaining funds be transferred to the Denmark Hardship Fund administered by DCF.

## Governance

In 2023 we continued our focus on strengthening the governance of the Foundation with a number of Board Members participating in Australian Institute of Company Directors governance training facilitated by Denmark Futures. Our Secretary, Vicky Wilson also completed Institute of Community Directors training in governance requirements for taking minutes.

All our Board Members met the requirements of Responsible Persons detailed by the Australian Taxation Office. This is a special requirement for registered charities with tax deductible status. This status was achieved through individual Board Members becoming members of the Institute of Community Directors with a commitment to uphold a Code of Ethics

*“An ethical approach to not-for-profit governance should set out the fundamental principles that guide the actions of not-for-profit organisations, and the boards and committees that govern them”*

*Institute of Community Directors Australia*

### Institute of Community Directors Code of Ethics

1. **Commitment:** *I took up this position to work for something larger than myself. I will carry out this work honestly and in fairness to everybody involved, placing the interests of others before my own.*
2. **Compliance:** *I will work within the law, and within the rules, and I will see that my organisation does too.*
3. **Conflicts:** *In my dealings with the organisation I shall be honest and open, and shall not take any advantage of my position on the board.*
4. **Confidentiality:** *I shall keep secret any secrets that have been entrusted to me, and I shall freely tell anyone anything they are entitled to know.*
5. **Conscientiousness:** *I shall do the job fully and without reservations.*
6. **Communication:** *I shall know what the organisation does, and why, and I shall tell the world about it.*
7. **Community:** *I will treat the people involved with the organisation respectfully, fairly and without prejudice.*

You can read the full Code of Ethics at [www.communitydirectors.com.au/icda-code-of-ethics](http://www.communitydirectors.com.au/icda-code-of-ethics)

## Governance continued...

### Scope

The Board of DCF WA oversees the governance of two entities:

Denmark Community Foundation (WA) Inc. 77 322 574 894 a registered charity established 14 February 2011.

Denmark Community Fund, ABN: 13 787 571 065 a registered charity established 24 March 2014, and is a Public Ancillary Fund.

### Meetings

Since the 2022 Annual General Meeting, the Board has had ten (10) Ordinary meetings.

#### **Board Members**

December 2022 - November 2023:

Chairperson:	Annette Carmichael
Deputy Chairperson:	Heather Moyle (resigned April 2023), position vacant
Treasurer:	Karen Burford
Secretary:	Lesley Murphy AO (resigned April 2023), Victoria Wilson (from May 2023)
Committee Members:	Adrian Baer Jennifer Partington Julia Rainbird Victoria Wilson (up to May 2023)
Youth representative:	vacant

### Auditor

Current legislation does not require the Foundation to present audited accounts. However, as part of our enduring commitment to good governance and transparency the Board of Management engaged Paul Gilbert FCPA MBA to undertake an audit of our financial statements for 2022/2023 Financial Year.

### Deductible Gift Recipient Status

The Denmark Community Foundation currently holds DGR2 status. This status presents some limitations to the operation of the Foundation. We continue to participate in the efforts of Community Foundations Australia to expand our tax deductibility status to include DGR1. Progress on this has been slow however looks promising for 2024.



## Thank you

The Denmark Community Foundation is an exceptional asset for the Denmark community.

We would like to thank our regular donors who make monthly donations to our sub-funds with a generosity and commitment that ensures the longevity of the Foundation.

### **Denmark Community Fund DGR 2 Account**

Harley Lane  
Stockdale Building

### **Denmark Hardship Fund**

Jennie Partington  
Ruth Halbert

### **Denmark Youth Fund**

Matt Sivyer

It takes a special commitment from community members to preserve and grow this Foundation. My deepest gratitude to Heather Moyle who stepped down as Deputy Chair this year. She played a critical role in our response to the Denmark Bushfires in 2022 and provided expert oversight to our youth program. Her behind-the-scenes support of the committee and me as Chair was generous and thoughtful.

I would also like to make special mention of Treasurer Karen Burford who has tackled the complexities of compliance and good financial management with expertise and enthusiasm. I look forward to her ongoing leadership of the Foundation into the future.

This year I have been joined by a committee of skilled people who took their role as trustees of community funds with strong ethics and care. Thank you to Vicky Wilson and Lesley Murphy who both filled the important role of Secretary, and Jennie Partington, Adrian Baer, and Julia Rainbird for your hours of work and effort.

Thank you to Denmark Community Resource Centre for providing us with meeting rooms and efficient support for our administration needs. Our gratitude to Trevor Hunt and Juliet Grist from Denmark Futures and Jo Kemp from FRRR for their expert advice and encouragement.

I also wish to thank our many donors, partners, members and community supporters who make small and large contributions to the work of the Foundation.

It has been a privilege to lead the Foundation as Chairperson for the last two years. My relocation away from Denmark means I step down from this role, however, I look forward to continuing to support the Foundation and our community.

**Annette Carmichael**  
Chairperson  
14 November 2023

# STRATEGIC PLAN 2023 - 2025

<b>Our Vision:</b>	<b>Our Mission:</b>	<b>Our Values:</b>
Denmark is a welcoming, resilient, inclusive and connected community	We generate, manage and distribute funds that strengthen the Denmark community	Inclusion Responsiveness Integrity Cooperation Care
<b>Goal Areas</b>	<b>Priority Objectives</b>	
1. Strengthen our Community	1.1 Support initiatives that reduce social isolation	
	1.2 Provide emergency relief in times of crisis	
	1.3 Encourage local economic activity	
2. Strengthen our Relationships	2.1 Develop effective stakeholder relations	
3. Strengthen our Foundation	3.1 Grow the fund	
	3.2 Grow the membership	
	3.3 Expand our charitable status to DGR1	
	3.4 Enhance marketing and promotion	
4. Strengthen our Governance	4.1 Enhance board capacity	
	4.2 Sustain sound governance practices	
	4.3 Develop a robust grants management framework	

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY 2022/2023

As at the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023, Denmark Community Foundation (WA) Inc, ABN 77 322 574 894 including Denmark Community Fund, ABN 13 787 570 065 held total funds of \$111,553 of which \$70,298 was held specifically for the benefit of the Denmark Community.

The Board was able to reduce some operating expenses during the 2022/23 year which resulted in a combined Surplus of \$1,493. Grants to the local community from the Foundation totaled \$2,300 with an additional \$32,275 distributed from the Fund to local suppliers to address need in the community.

**Karen Burford**  
**Treasurer**  
**15 November 2023**

# CONNECT WITH US

## Become a Member 2023/24:

Concession: \$40

Individual: \$100

Business / Organisation: \$200

Sign up via our website: [www.dcfwa.org.au](http://www.dcfwa.org.au)

## Contacts:

Email: [admin@dcfwa.org.au](mailto:admin@dcfwa.org.au)

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

Socials: [facebook.com/DenmarkCommunityFoundationWaInc](https://facebook.com/DenmarkCommunityFoundationWaInc)

