



FOUNDATION UPDATE - JUNE 2020



From the Chairman

Earlier this year, the Eastern Star Foundation Board completed the assessment of grant applications and approved the recipients of its first grant round since becoming a philanthropic foundation. As you know, we had hoped to announce the successful grant recipients at the Grand Chapter of Queensland Installation on 4 April 2020. However, this event was cancelled due to the pandemic.

As it is likely to be some time before

larger gatherings can be held, we thought it was important to proceed with the announcement of our successful grant recipients. We hope to hold an official cheque handover ceremony to celebrate the grants later in the year.

I am therefore pleased to announce that three worthy charities have been successful in our first grant round being Lady Musgrave Trust, Blackall Range Care Group, and Palliative Care Queensland's Ambulance Wish program. We believe that all three initiatives will help the Eastern Star Foundation to strengthen its vision to empower those who enhance the quality of life for our ageing communities.

We have dedicated this newsletter to provide more information about the grants that have been awarded and the benefits they will provide to the community. Representatives of each of the charities have been interviewed to provide you with a deeper insight into the

organisation and how the grant will be used. An announcement about each of the grants will soon be released to the media and will be published on the new Eastern Star Foundation website which will be live at the end of July.

I am proud of how the foundation has evolved over the past couple of years and am excited to share this wonderful news with you.

Yours sincerely

Jonathan Nantes

Chairman, Eastern Star Foundation

**The Eastern Star (Australia) Foundation
Ltd trading as Eastern Star Foundation**
ACN 166 950 321 · ABN 36 640 477 592

Registered office:
PO Box 1202, Fortitude Valley QLD 4006
Mosaic, Level 1, 826 Ann Street,
Fortitude Valley QLD 4006
Ph: 07 3493 6093

info@easternstarfoundation.org.au

Grant helps ageing population to live well on Sunshine Coast Hinterland

A social and recreational hub which enables older people and the elderly on the Sunshine Coast Hinterland to stay connected is set to undergo an expansion, with **Blackall Range Care Group Ltd receiving a \$100,000 grant** from Eastern Star Foundation.

Here's what Blackall Range Care Group Chief Executive Officer Greg Mannion had to say about the grant.

Tell me about Blackall Range Care Group

Blackall Range Care Group Ltd. is a community-based organisation providing in-home community care services to aged care and NDIS clients. These services include nursing care, allied health care, respite care, personal care, domestic assistance, home maintenance, transport, and centre-based daycare. We operate in the Sunshine Coast Hinterland region in South East Queensland from Maleny in the south to Gympie in the north and have three offices – Maleny, Flaxton and Nambour. We have 140 employees and

180 volunteers who are all focussed on supporting our community and helping people live their best life at home.

What will the grant be used for?

This grant is going to be used to refurbish our Nambour site, which was established almost 40 years ago and make it more useable for our clients. The Clubhouse Respite Room building will be remodelled, repainted and fitted-out with new furniture and equipment. This will provide a significant uplift to the social activity of our Nambour community and will provide us with the opportunity to increase the social interaction of our clients.



Blackall Range Care Group Chief Executive Officer Greg Mannion

What will the grant mean for your organisation?

Without this grant, we simply could not afford to refurbish the site and make it a great place for our clients to visit. Being able to use the grant to upgrade the site will mean more of our clients will be able to take part in the activities that we undertake. And we can undertake more activities to attract more of the community to take part. Both of which will have a marked effect on the health and wellbeing of our clients.

What will the grant mean for your clients?

Many of our clients rely on this centre for their social interaction which is critical for their health and wellbeing. So attracting more community members and offering a larger suite of activities will enhance the health and wellbeing of the community who take part. After the last few months of social isolation, many of our clients are really looking forward to returning to their normal visits. To have a newly refurbished area will be a thrill.

Funding fast-tracks new program to help end homelessness for older women in QLD

It will soon be easier for older women experiencing homelessness or at risk of being homeless in Queensland to navigate their way to a better life, as Eastern Star Foundation announces a **\$100,000 grant to The Lady Musgrave Trust**.

The Lady Musgrave Trust Chief Executive Officer Karen Lyon Reid answers some questions below about what the grant will mean for the organisation and women experiencing homelessness or at risk of being homeless.

Tell me about The Lady Musgrave Trust

The Lady Musgrave Trust is Queensland's oldest charity and was established in 1885. It provides life-saving services to vulnerable women and their children when they are facing critical homeless situations.

Our services include:

- Accommodation and support;
- The production and distribution of the Handy Guide for Homeless Women with 20,000 hard copies being distributed to hospitals, shelters, employment agencies, etc.;
- Hosting the annual **Women and Homelessness Forum**, now in its 12th year.

What will the grant be used for?

This grant will contribute to the rollout of our **Ending Homelessness for Older**

Women project which will create a resource platform (website) for at-risk and homeless older women, so they are aware of where to go for help. The resources will also include the newly launched **Handy Guide for Older Women**, which is a hardcopy, custom-built tool for at-risk women. The forum provides an opportunity for industry experts and stakeholders to get together to collaborate on ways to address this ever-growing social issue.

What will the grant mean for your organisation?

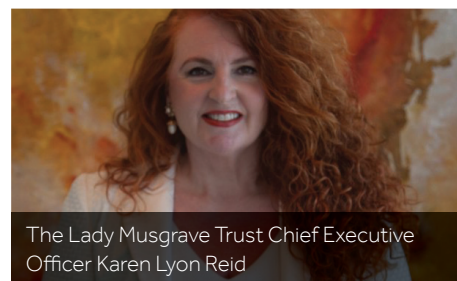
This grant from the Eastern Star Foundation contributes to The Lady Musgrave Trust's mission of reducing homelessness for women and helps us to have a significant impact on women in our community that need guidance and assistance.

What will the grant mean for your clients?

Older women represent a rapidly growing demographic in the homeless population, increasing by 31% between the last two census periods according to the ABS.

In Queensland alone, there are close to 10,000 women of all ages that are considered homeless. Alarmingly, these statistics are growing for older women in particular.

The reasons why women face homelessness in their older years are many and varied, whether that's due to



The Lady Musgrave Trust Chief Executive Officer Karen Lyon Reid

a family breakdown or loss of a partner, domestic violence, poor mental and physical health, poverty or financial difficulties due to loss of employment and lack of superannuation.

Older women experiencing, or at risk of, homelessness report that they do not know where to seek help. Many of these women experiencing homelessness for the first time later in life feel uncomfortable, ashamed and intimidated when approaching services tailored for people who have experienced long-term or repeated homelessness.

This project will empower women with information, and the information will be extensively marketed so that older women do know where to go for help.

On the 5th of August, we will officially launch the Trust's new innovative tool - **The Handy Guide for Older Women**, that builds on the highly successful **Handy Guide for Homeless Women** products, and provides advice, a hands-on toolkit on housing and other opportunities for older women (for adoption across Australia and Queensland).

We will also showcase new housing solutions from local and international innovators.

Program granting dying wishes of ill Queenslanders gets \$50,000 boost



The dying wishes of more terminally ill people will be fulfilled as Eastern Star Foundation awards a **\$50,000 grant to Palliative Care Queensland's Ambulance Wish program**.

Palliative Care Queensland Chief Executive Officer Shyla Mills shares some insights on how the grant will benefit the community.

Tell me about the program

Ambulance Wish Queensland gives people living with a terminal illness the resources, specialist transport and medical care they need to fulfil their final wishes. The program is inspired by and works in collaboration with the Netherlands charity Stichting Ambulance Wens and the UK charity The Ambulance Wish Foundation UK.

What will the grant be used for?

The grant will be used to fund the volunteer village coordinator, to ensure that all program volunteers such as doctors, nurses, paramedics and members of the community, receive the required training to perform their roles within the requirements of the program.

What will the grant mean for your organisation?

Having funding for a volunteer village coordinator role will help us to further develop the program and ensure the smooth scheduling of volunteer activities as well as to measure volunteer engagement.

What will the grant mean for your clients?

When people experience loss, ageing, dying or grief, existing information and support does not always meet their cultural, spiritual, social or emotional needs. This grant will help our patients to have their final wishes met in a way that is consistent their needs and wishes.