



FOUNDATION UPDATE - MARCH 2021



From the Chairman

This is our first newsletter for the year, and already the Eastern Star Foundation (ESF) Board has been busy assessing this year's grant applications.

I am delighted to announce that we have awarded five grants in this year's grant round. The successful grant recipients are Australian War Widows Queensland, Guide Dogs Queensland, Hear and Say, Suncare Community Services, and Samford Support Network Inc. The successful grant recipients will be recognised at the Grand Chapter of Queensland Installation in March.

Australian War Widows Queensland has been awarded a \$100,000 grant. The grant will allow the organisation

to purchase a minivan so staff can transport members to meetings and events, allowing them to have a support network and participate in their community of fellow war widows. The vehicle will be particularly useful to transport war widows living in regional areas. The grant will also provide the first year of multi-year support to help pay for the fuel and running costs of the minivan as well as the costs of running the annual Sub-branch Tax Subsidy Program. The organisation will also receive additional recurrent funding of \$50,000 annually for two further years to support these same programs. This support will reduce the program's operating cost pressures and allow their elderly widows to stay socially connected.

A grant of \$50,000 awarded to Guide Dogs Queensland will allow them to purchase a vehicle and pay for the vehicle's running costs for 12 months. The vehicle will be used to transport the elderly with low or no vision, and their guide dog, to access programs, training and services in the community.

Hear and Say has been awarded a grant of \$49,500 to increase the accessibility of their communications through the redevelopment of their website. The redeveloped website will

help support older Queenslanders stay socially connected through optimised hearing.

Suncare Community Services will receive a grant of \$45,000 to purchase a vehicle and pay for the running costs for a year. The funded vehicle will allow the team to visit older community members more regularly, especially those that are located remotely. It would also allow for the transport of those participants who want to partake in community-based activities.

A \$12,000 grant has been awarded to Samford Support Network Inc to fund mobile alert pendants, IT equipment and volunteer training and transport costs to support the organisation's community support services for the elderly.

We encourage members to consider providing their personal support to these worthwhile organisations through volunteering. We look forward to sharing with you throughout the year how these grants are making a difference.

Yours sincerely

Jonathan Nantes

Chairman, Eastern Star Foundation

Our vision:

To empower those who enhance the quality of life for our ageing communities.

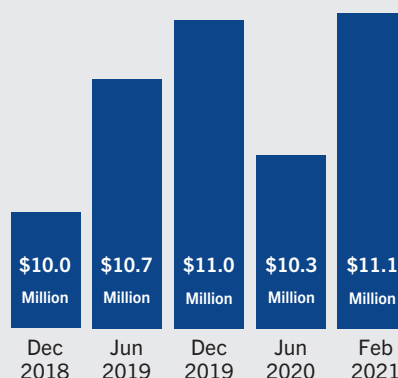
Our mission:

We provide financial assistance to help initiatives become a reality for charities who care for our ageing communities, support their independence, and who are committed to helping them live well.

Our values:

Dignity • Independence • Hope

Value of investment portfolio



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