

## FOUNDATION UPDATE - OCTOBER 2021



## From the Chairman

I am pleased to report that our 2021 grant recipients have continued to progress their initiatives as best possible, despite the challenges of the pandemic.

Last month, I visited Suncare Community Services on the Sunshine Coast for the unveiling of the newest vehicle in their fleet. This new Toyota Corolla will be driven by volunteers, making sure more elderly residents can participate in the community and stay socially connected. Many of these residents live away from the city centre and would otherwise struggle to remain independent.

The \$45,000 grant provided by ESF covered the cost of the new car as well as its running costs for a year.

Suncare's Community Visitors program currently helps more than 40 elderly residents across the Sunshine Coast and Brisbane to get out and about.

Similarly Guide Dogs and Australian War Widows Queensland will deliver their new vehicles before the end of the year and Hear and Say is on track to launch their new website around the same time. We congratulate our grant recipients for their perseverance to bring their initiatives to fruition during these challenging times.

The official reopening of the Blackall Range Care Group Day Respite Centre in Nambour was also pushed back due a recent lockdown. They were a 2020 grant recipient of ours, and have redeveloped their place of respite for elderly locals. I'm sure we will get to meet with them soon.



Our financial position remains strong with our investment portfolio growing by \$500,000 since May 2021.

Our grant round for the 2021-22 year is now open. We hope to award these grants in March next year.

Our Annual General Meeting will take place on Thursday 11 November at the OES Hall in Woolloongabba. The meeting will once again only be open to company members due to COVID-safe requirements. However, I encourage you to read a copy of our Annual Report which will be made available on our website in mid-November. I look forward to sharing our results with you.

Yours sincerely

## **Jonathan Nantes**

Chairman, Eastern Star Foundation

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## Funds enable community participation



ESF provided a \$45,000 grant for Suncare's new vehicle and its running costs for a year



ESF Chairman Jonathan Nantes, Suncare client Frances and Chairman Mario Pennis



Suncare's program supports 40 people on the Sunshine Coast and Brisbane