

## Philanthropy 101 – Frequently Asked Questions

According to [Philanthropy Australia](#), the 5,000 philanthropic organisations across Australia will give away approximately \$1 billion dollars to community projects across Australia. This, coupled with the fact that Neighbourhood Houses/Centres can use the ANHCA Public for DGR to apply for funds from philanthropic trusts/foundations requiring DGR status, presents a HUGE opportunity for Neighbourhood Houses/Centres to diversify their revenue streams and rely less on local, state and federal government as well donations from individuals and businesses to fund their programs.



### 1. What does the term philanthropy mean?



According to Philanthropy Australia, philanthropy is the planned and structured giving of money, time, information, goods and services, voice and influence to improve the wellbeing of humanity and the community. The philanthropic sector refers to trusts, foundations, organisations, families, businesses and individuals who engage in philanthropy. 'Acts' of philanthropy come in many shapes and sizes: it could be the local baker who donates bread to a barbecue organised by your Neighbourhood House/Centre, a

printing company who does not charge to print flyers to promote an event and/or a philanthropic trust/foundation that funds a project at your Neighbourhood House/Centre.

It is important to note that not all acts of philanthropy such as the donation of goods and services can be covered under the ANHCA Public Fund for DGR.

### 2. Why is philanthropy important to Neighbourhood Houses/Centres?

Neighbourhood Houses/Centres are traditionally very reliant on local and state government funding to deliver programs. This can leave your Neighbourhood House/Centre in a vulnerable position should there be changes to government funding. Diversification of revenue streams to include philanthropic support assists to manage risk and opens up new funding opportunities.

### 3. How can your Neighbourhood House/Centre get philanthropy 'on-board'?

Now that Neighbourhood Houses/Centres across Australia have access to DGR status through the ANHCA Public Fund for DGR, it is much easier to get philanthropy on board.

- Philanthropic trusts/foundations and corporates provide a wide variety of funding opportunities. As a result of the ANHCA Public Fund for DGR, Neighbourhood Houses/Centres now have access to the tax status required by the majority of philanthropic trusts/foundations and corporates which means they are eligible to apply for grants available through philanthropic trusts/foundations and corporates.
- Be strategic about your grant applications. Your project should be aligned with the strategic direction of your Neighbourhood House/Centre.

- Consider who will benefit from the project the subject of the proposal, why the project is important and how it will be sustainable beyond the project funding. Collaboration with other organisations and a budget that accurately reflects the project are looked upon favourably by philanthropy trusts/foundations and corporates.
- Once you have developed the concept for the project, identify appropriate funding opportunities through philanthropic trust/foundation and corporates. A number of websites list grant opportunities including <http://community.grantready.com.au/>
- Prior to writing the grant application, read the guidelines thoroughly to ensure the aims of the project fit within the criteria. You should also speak to the appropriate contact person and run the project idea by them to gauge their feedback.
- Keep in mind that some grants are ongoing (no closing date) and some have specific rounds (publicised opening and closing dates). Be proactive towards grants; be aware of what grants are available and what their timeframes are.