



**Canberra
Foundations
Collaborative**

Hands
Across
Canberra



Snow
Foundation



John James Foundation

6 February 2025

Media Release

FOURTH GRANT ROUND TO SUPPORT COMMUNITY SECTOR WITH \$1 MILLION

The Canberra Foundations Collaborative (CFC) has announced the launch of its fourth annual grant round, offering \$1 million to local, community-led initiatives that create positive change for the region.

This year, the Collaborative, comprising Hands Across Canberra (which administers the Chief Minister's Charitable Fund), Snow Foundation, and John James Foundation, continues its commitment to supporting the Canberra community through strategic funding and capacity-building efforts.

Understanding the diverse needs of the Canberra community, the Collaborative focuses on grassroots projects that aim to assist vulnerable community members, providing immediate support and fostering long-term, sustainable change from the ground up.

"The Canberra Foundations Collaborative is dedicated to investing in the community and strengthening the for-purpose sector beyond funding," Georgina Byron, CEO of Snow Foundation said.

"This year, we'll continue strengthening connections through events and peer learning, amplifying collective impact for those in need across Canberra. By uniting resources and networks, we empower organisations to create meaningful change."

Grants typically range from \$5,000 to \$50,000, with opportunities for larger, multi-year funding based on project requirements. This flexibility enables support for a diverse range of impactful initiatives.

Snow Foundation aim to respond to the needs in Canberra across a range of cause areas with a deeper focus on preventing family and domestic violence, youth at risk, an interest in First Nations-led initiatives and women and girls – with gender at the heart of their decision making and processes. John James Foundation prioritises health and disability, and Hands Across Canberra targets community wellbeing. However, organisations across all areas of need are encouraged to apply.

"This collaborative was created to help reduce the red tape that many for-purpose organisations face when it comes to funding. By streamlining this process, and working together, these community organisations can spend more time delivering the complex and diverse services the people of Canberra need," Genevieve Jacobs, CEO of Hands Across Canberra said.

“We also see these grants as an opportunity to connect organisations with common goals or similar challenges, to share learnings and collaborate, and grow our collective impact.”

Examples of projects funded in the 2024 grant round include:

- **Fearless Women (co-funded by Snow Foundation and John James Foundation, \$50K):** Delivering free counselling, mentoring, and education programs for girls and young women aged 10-25.
- **Beryl Women’s Refuge (funded by Snow Foundation, \$15K):** Funding for essential equipment in their mobile therapy van, enabling continued support for women and children escaping domestic violence.
- **Community First Development (co-funded by Snow Foundation and Hands Across Canberra, \$40K):** backing the aspirations of First peoples through community-led solutions.

“Over the past three years, the Canberra Foundations Collaborative has supported 191 projects with over \$4.3 million,” Joe Roff, CEO of the John James Foundation said.

“This year, we’re inviting everyone to explore how this grant round can support their vision for change, Together, we’re enabling a more inclusive, collaborative, and vibrant Canberra.”

Initiatives from last year, such as networking events like the Uncharitable Film Screening, End-of-Year Gathering, and The Funding Network live event (which raised over \$125,000 for local organisations), highlight the collaborative, capacity-building spirit of the program. Resources like the Outcomes Measurement Toolkit have also been pivotal in helping organisations measure and showcase their impact.

Two online information sessions are scheduled for Tuesday 11 February at 2pm, and Thursday 20 February at 10am. Registration is required via the Foundations’ websites.

ENDS

Grant applications, criteria, guidelines, and information about the Outcomes Measurement Toolkit can be found at:

- www.handsacrosscanberra.org.au
- www.jjf.org.au
- www.snowfoundation.org.au

Expressions of Interest are open now and close 4 March 2025.

About the Canberra Foundations Collaborative

Hands Across Canberra is an independent philanthropic community foundation, working with more than 300 local community organisations. Funds for this grant round are being provided by *the Chief Minister’s Charitable Fund* which is delivered in partnership with Hands Across Canberra. The foundation is currently running the Canberra Day Appeal, all donations to Hands Across Canberra will go to support organisations through grants. To donate to the appeal, visit canberraday.org.au and for more information about Hands Across Canberra visit www.handsacrosscanberra.org.au

Snow Foundation, established by Terry Snow AM in Canberra in 1991 and led by his daughter Georgina Byron AM as CEO since 2006, is focused on fostering positive social change. It supports a range of causes, from grassroots entrepreneurial projects to established organisations and exceptional

leaders working for social change. The Foundation is committed to catalysing community infrastructure and have a deep focus on youth at-risk, domestic and family violence, being a respectful and useful ally to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and giving to women and girls through a gender lens – <http://www.snowfoundation.org.au>

John James Foundation is an independent broad-based healthcare charity providing a range of programs and assistance to the people of Canberra and beyond. Keep up to date on their activities on www.jjf.org.au

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