



Annual Report 2021

Welcome

The Coca-Cola Australia Foundation (CCAF) is a joint philanthropic initiative between Coca-Cola Europacific Partners Australia and Coca-Cola South Pacific that distributes \$1.1 million annually to organisations that align with its mission to *‘create possibilities for a brighter, more sustainable future for Australians today and for generations to come’*.

Importantly, the CCAF mission closely reflects the sustainability objectives of both companies and is aligned to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. The CCAF pursues these aims through both its Flagship Partner and Employee Connected Grants programs.

Since its establishment in 2002, the CCAF has provided more than \$18 million to hundreds of organisations in support of programs and initiatives that positively impact the lives of many Australians, as well as the environment.

Employee Connected Grants

The Employee Connected Grants support charitable organisations in communities where our employees live, work or have personal connections. These one-off grants of up to \$25,000 provide an opportunity for both Coca-Cola Europacific Partners Australia and Coca-Cola South Pacific employees to support charities they connect with and care about.

Flagship Partner Grants

The Flagship Partner Grants support charities with clear and measurable programs that address a challenge aligned with the CCAF’s mission. Up to \$200,000 is provided each year, for three consecutive years.

In 2021, a Flagship Partner Grant was awarded to First Hand Solutions in support of its IndigiGrow initiative, which aligns to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 10 ‘Reduced Inequalities’.

Note: This \$1.1m total is made up of funding from both Coca-Cola Europacific Partners Australia and Coca-Cola South Pacific. The full amount may not be granted in any given year due to partnership or Foundation timelines. Any remaining funds are held over and granted in following years.

Message from the Chair

As the Chair of the Coca-Cola Australia Foundation, I am in the fortunate position to witness the wide-ranging and inspiring work being done by non-profit organisations large and small across the country.

In 2021 we supported the not-for-profit sector as it continued to navigate significant challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic, whilst it was being relied on by vulnerable members of the community more than ever.

We also cemented the CCAF's refreshed mission, awarding over \$1.2 million to dozens of impactful organisations that share our vision to create a brighter, more sustainable future for Australians today and for generations to come.

It's an honour to be able to support the many innovative programs being delivered by these charities to make positive impacts in areas including the environment, mental health, employment, youth development, social connections, and inclusivity in their communities.

A key highlight was announcing First Hand Solutions as the CCAF's latest Flagship Partner, with the organisation being awarded a \$600,000 grant over three years. Through its IndigiGrow program, First Hand Solutions is empowering young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people by providing cultural reconnection, education, employment and enterprise opportunities.

The program has had a successful year, employing and training apprentices who are now managing the IndigiGrow plant nursery almost unassisted and going on country each week to source cuttings and seeds for propagation as part of their important work to rejuvenate native plants in the local area.

We're also incredibly proud of the success of our Employee Connected Grants program, which, in 2021, provided one-off grants of up to \$25,000 to support projects close to the hearts of our employees. 29 community organisations received CCAF funding to help their efforts in areas including the environment, mental health, employment, youth development, social connections, and inclusivity.



Each year, I am humbled to learn of the many great organisations that play important roles in the lives of our employees and their loved ones. In particular, we are proud to have been able to support these organisations as they continue to manage the impacts of the pandemic, providing moments of connection when they are needed most.

Overall, our grant partners for 2021 are shining examples of how unique and creative approaches to social issues can result in meaningful impact. We are proud to contribute to the positive work being done by these charitable organisations, and we are inspired daily by the human spirit showcased in their drive to create brighter, more sustainable futures for Australians.

Looking ahead to 2022, during which we will celebrate the CCAF's 20th anniversary, it's pleasing to reflect on many of the incredible organisations we have supported so far and we are optimistic about the new partnerships that will be formed in the years ahead.

Malcolm Hudson
Chair
The Coca-Cola Australia Foundation



**Who
we've
helped**

The CCAF is proud to create possibilities for a brighter, more sustainable future for Australians today and for generations to come through our Flagship Partner Grants and Employee Connected Grants.

Organisation	2021 \$	2020 \$
Act For Kids	25,000	
A Stitch in Time		25,000
Ardoch		25,000
Australian Refugee Volunteers Incorporated		24,858
Autism Spectrum Australia (Aspect)	25,000	22,200
BackTrack Youth Works		24,175
Barnardos Australia		19,560
Batyr Australia Limited	24,512	
Bell Shakespeare		25,000
Big Brothers Big Sisters Australia Ltd	25,000	
Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute		25,000
Bravehearts Foundation Limited	25,000	25,000
Butterfly Foundation	24,984	
Camp Quality Limited	25,000	
Can:Do 4Kids (Townsend House Inc.)		15,000
Caring for Our Port Stephens Youth (COPSY) Inc	25,000	
Cerebral Palsy Alliance	13,500	
Cowboys Charity Limited	25,000	
Dignity Ltd		25,000
Dismantle Incorporated	21,200	
Earthwatch	140,230	197,036
Eco Barge Clean Seas Inc	25,000	
First Hand Solutions Aboriginal Corporation	200,000	189,000
Giant Steps Australia Limited	25,000	
Grandparents for Grandchildren		12,538
Guide Dogs Victoria		24,940
Human Nature Adventure Therapy	22,750	
JOLI Community Limited		24,000
Kanyini Connections Ltd	25,000	

Organisation	2021 \$	2020 \$
Keep Australia Beautiful New South Wales		24,700
K.I.D.S. Foundation	25,000	
Kids Under Cover	25,000	
Landcare Australia	200,000	25,000
National Centre for Childhood Grief	24,700	
National Trust of Australia (Queensland)		25,000
NSW Friendship Circle Inc	25,000	
NWQICSS		25,000
Outback Futures Ltd.		23,800
Phoenix House Youth Services Incorporated		25,000
Project Etico Australia Limited trading as Hotel Etico	25,000	
Project Youth	25,000	
Raise Foundation		23,328
Shine for Kids	22,750	
Sports Challenge Australia		20,000
Sunshine Butterflies	25,000	
TAD		16,880
The Carers Foundation Holdings Ltd	25,000	25,000
The Humour Foundation	25,000	
The Trustee for Sir David Martin Foundation	24,000	
The Warrior Woman Foundation	25,000	
THREE for All Foundation Ltd		24,750
Total Environment Centre		24,935
Very Special Kids		24,352
Waves of Wellness Foundation	25,000	
Womens's and Girls' Emergency Centre (WAGEC)	25,000	
Yarruwala Youth and Family Services		25,000
Youngcare		25,000
Youth Opportunities Association (SA) Inc	20,000	

Total grants to approved charities 1,238,642 1,086,036



Our Flagship Partner Grants support charities with strategic programs that address a challenge aligned with our mission. Up to \$200,000 is provided each year, with each partner supported for three consecutive years.

Indigenous-led organisation, First Hand Solutions was appointed as a Flagship Partner for three years from 2021. We are proud to play a role in the development of its IndigiGrow program providing employment and upskilling opportunities to young Aboriginal people.

First Hand Solutions joins fellow Flagship Partner EarthWatch, through which the CCAF supports the Wetlands not Wastelands initiative aimed at tackling marine pollution in the Gulf of Carpentaria.

Looking ahead to next year, the CCAF is proud to be onboarding a new Flagship Partner that focuses on efforts to enhance water security; Landcare Australia.

FIRST HAND SOLUTIONS

IndigiGrow employment and capacity building project



First Hand Solutions is an organisation that specialises in finding hands-on solutions to issues faced by Aboriginal people, families and communities.

The organisation has a particular focus on providing young Aboriginal people with the opportunity to work and gain skills, knowledge and experience from positive Aboriginal role models and community elders.

With the help of the CCAF, First Hand Solutions is expanding and delivering its IndigiGrow program, which aims to sustain people, land and culture through the propagation of native plants, including bush foods.

IndigiGrow now has seven full-time staff, including five apprentices, four of whom are supported by the CCAF. Apprentices and school-based trainees gain hands-on experience at the IndigiGrow Nursery, providing retail and wholesale native plants

for sale. One apprentice has also completed Certificate III in Bushfood Production Horticulture at Wollongbar TAFE on the NSW North Coast.

sustainable future that has ultimately helped us to expand our capabilities and capacity to make a difference in the lives of young

“We have a shared vision to create a better, more sustainable future that has ultimately helped us to expand our capabilities and capacity to make a difference in the lives of young Indigenous Australians and in preserving Indigenous culture, language and the environment.”

Peter Cooley, CEO of First Hand Solutions Aboriginal Corporation

Apprentices are empowered to take on operational roles within the nursery and were instrumental in reopening the nursery’s online store during the pandemic, coordinating sales and deliveries.

Peter Cooley, CEO of First Hand Solutions Aboriginal Corporation, said: “Our partnership with the Coca-Cola Australia Foundation has been instrumental in delivering our IndigiGrow program, demonstrating the impact relationships between corporate and for-purpose organisations can have. We have a shared vision to create a better, more

Indigenous Australians and in preserving Indigenous culture, language and the environment.

“Since we have reopened to the public, our apprentices are able to run the nursery and go on country weekly, sourcing seeds and cuttings for propagation and monitoring endemic local species. I am so pleased with the progress and efforts these young people have displayed to date and look forward to what we can achieve in the next two years with the support of the CCAF.”

An aerial photograph of a beach with turquoise waves crashing onto a golden sand beach. The water is a vibrant blue-green, and the foam of the waves is white and frothy. The sand is a warm, golden-brown color. The overall scene is bright and sunny, with a clear sky visible in the upper right corner.

Employee Connected Grants



Each year, we provide grants of up to \$25,000 each for charities endorsed by our employees to go towards programs or projects that align with the CCAF mission.

Our employees nominate a wide range of charities across Australia every year – charities they care about and where they have a strong personal connection. These connections may be through volunteering or experiencing first-hand the positive impact the organisation has had on their family, friends or communities.

In 2021, the CCAF awarded almost \$700,000 in grants to 29 employee-nominated organisations. These are just some of the stories from the 2021 Employee Connected Grant recipients.

WAVES OF WELLNESS FOUNDATION

Promoting positive mental health and wellbeing through surf therapy



Waves of Wellness (WOW) Foundation is a mental health and surf therapy organisation, promoting positive mental health and wellbeing through its unique and innovative programs.

WOW aims to break down barriers and stigma around mental health through clinical education focused on practical strategies, while facilitating social connection and building resilience.

The CCAF funding is helping to support the WOW eight-week program, where participants take part in group mental health discussions with qualified clinicians on the shore of the beach, followed by a learn to surf lesson.

WOW was nominated by two employees, Dane Sanders, Construction and Building Facilities Manager at Coca-Cola Europacific Partners Australia, and Kate Solomon,

Integrated Marketing Campaign Manager at Coca-Cola South Pacific, who nominated the organisation for its ability to remove barriers that prevent people from accessing mental health support.

The Employee Connected Grant from the CCAF has helped WOW support the mental and physical health of nearly 50 young people, providing increased possibilities for a more positive life.

“With mental health challenges impacting so many young people, I’m so proud to be able to support WOW as they provide innovative solutions to complex challenges. They understand the power that social connection and the outdoors can have on someone’s wellbeing and are working to make a real difference in the lives of young Australians.”

Dane Sanders, Construction and Building Facilities Manager at Coca-Cola Europacific Partners Australia

“WOW’s mission to create and implement mental health wellness programs is something I strongly believe in and am honoured to support. The work that WOW does and the number of young people positively impacted is inspiring.” Kate Solomon, Integrated Marketing Campaign Manager at Coca-Cola South Pacific

THE HUMOUR FOUNDATION

Proving laughter is the best medicine



The Humour Foundation is a national charity of expertly trained performance artists dedicated to enhancing wellbeing, improving health, and lifting spirits through connection, creative play and humour.

The foundation's Clown Doctors™ program focuses on improving mental health for hospitalised children and young people, with a vision to bring laughter where it is unexpected but most needed. The Clown Doctors' visits are positive and optimistic in both a physical and emotional sense, which can have a profound impact on the young people they encounter.

Peter West, Vice President and General Manager of Coca-Cola Europacific Partners – Australia, Indonesia and the Pacific, nominated The Humour Foundation for its important work providing moments of levity to patients, their families, and friends, as well as the staff who care for them.

“The Humour Foundation understands that children and young Australians need our support and protection, especially when they are ill or vulnerable, and it’s a pleasure to be able to support their efforts through this grant.”

Peter West, Vice President and General Manager of Coca-Cola Europacific Partners – Australia, Indonesia and the Pacific

“The Humour Foundation understands that children and young Australians need our support and protection, especially when they are ill or vulnerable, and it’s a pleasure to be able to support their efforts through this grant. Although they don’t have medical degrees, the Clown Doctors from The Humour Foundation know just how important it is to bring lightness to young people that are ill and enduring the healthcare process.”

With the help of the CCAF, The Humour Foundation has been able to deliver 140 visits across the mental health wards at

Monash Children’s Hospital and Royal Children’s Hospital. The funding has supported weekly one-hour visits by performers to mental health inpatient clinics, as well as ongoing training and professional development for performers, and program monitoring and quality assurance.

THE WARRIOR WOMAN FOUNDATION

Supporting the safety and wellbeing of young women



The Warrior Woman Foundation delivers evidence based mentoring programs for vulnerable young women who have experienced trauma due to abuse or neglect, and who have disengaged with education or employment.

The CCAF partnered with the foundation to support its Young Warrior Woman Program, providing connection, education, and mental health support to young women who are transitioning from out-of-home care into independent living.

The program is designed to reduce the stress involved in leaving care, learning to live autonomously, and preparing for adulthood. Mentors and mentees are partnered to attend an intensive and structured six-month program to learn skills that support their employment, financial independence, future economic security, healthy relationships and goal setting.

“The work that The Warrior Woman Foundation does is incredible as they empower vulnerable young women through a tailored mentoring approach.”

Sarah Susak, Senior Counsel at Coca-Cola South Pacific

Sarah Susak, Senior Counsel at Coca-Cola South Pacific, nominated the organisation because of the direct impact they make on supporting women who have experienced trauma due to abuse or neglect.

“The work that The Warrior Woman Foundation does is incredible as they empower vulnerable young women through a tailored mentoring approach. I am deeply passionate about supporting any human in need but especially women, and I’m proud to be able to give back to such an inspiring organisation to support their unique mentoring program.”

The CCAF grant enabled The Warrior Woman Foundation to match 25 mentees with 25 positive role models and mentors who provided crucial support throughout the duration of the program. Faced with the challenge of COVID-19 lockdowns, the CCAF support played a critical role in the mental health and well-being of mentees, many of which were also navigating their Higher School Certificate.

