

1 JUNE 2022

Victorian Freemasons give generously to Queensland flood victims

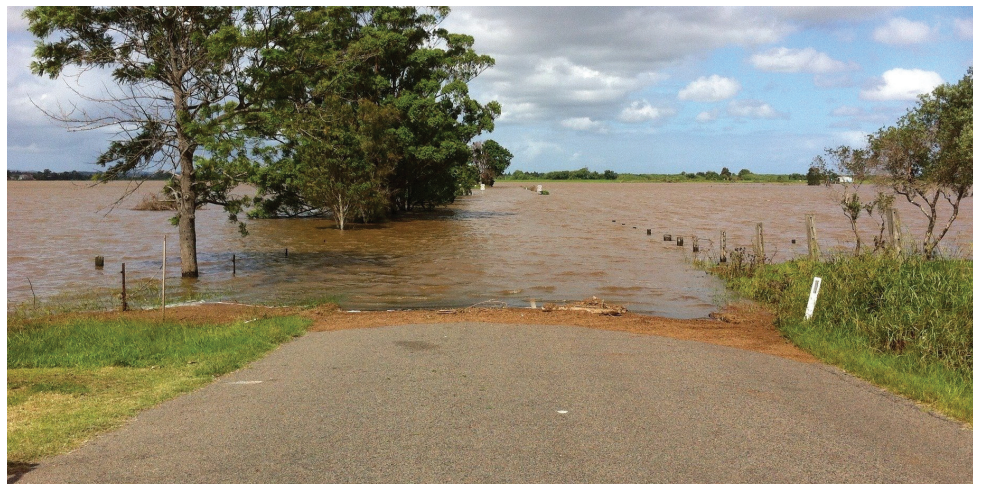
Communities impacted by the floods in recent months, have not been forgotten by our Southern friends.

Freemasons Victoria and Freemasons Foundation Victoria have made a commitment to donate \$100,000 to help with recovery efforts in Queensland, through the Hand Heart Pocket GIVIT Disaster Relief appeal.

Freemasons Foundation Victoria Chairman, Rodney Lavin, said they were proud to make this donation on behalf of the Freemasons of Victoria.

“Our Brothers and all our friends in Queensland have suffered greatly during the recent floods. We hope that this financial gift assists in the recovery and helps things get back to normal as soon as possible,” Mr Lavin said.

“Having been through some significant natural disasters in years gone by, such as the Black Saturday bushfires,



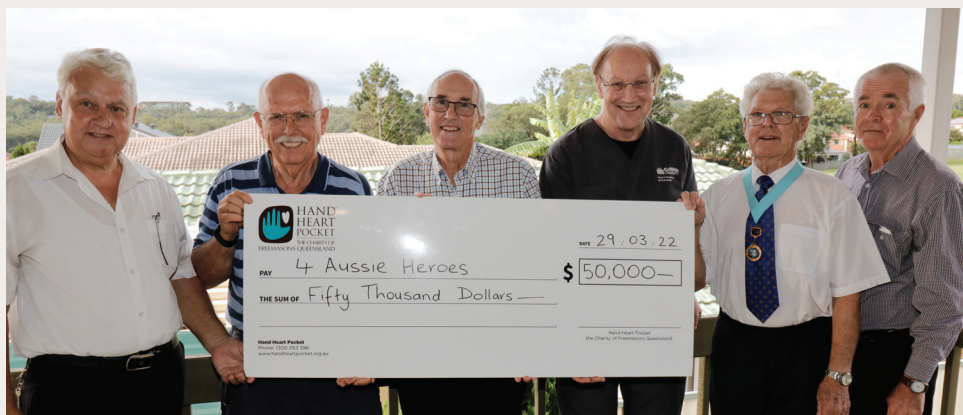
we know how important a community-led approach to recovery can be.

“We stand in solidarity with those devastated by the floods and indeed the Freemasons of Queensland through their philanthropic foundation, Hand Heart Pocket,” Mr Lavin said.

HHP GIVIT Disaster Relief appeal

Members donated	\$11,285
HHP	\$100,000
Vic Freemasons	\$100,000

Good together: matched giving and Member-led initiatives



4 Aussie Heroes Foundation, a not-for-profit that runs life-saving mental health rehabilitation programs for current and former defence force personnel and first responders received a \$50,000 donation initiated by Enoggera-Thistle, Barron Barnett and Thespian Freemason Lodges, with the help of Hand Heart Pocket. The organisation will purchase a new tractor, grounds maintenance equipment, audio-visual and office equipment. Read more: handheartpocket.org.au/news

Funding snapshot

2021-22 (as at April 2022)

\$191,841

Member-led giving to 27 local community organisations

\$1.4M

to youth at risk partnerships

\$50,000

to River 2 Reef Ride in Mackay

\$30,725

to seven families in need

\$137,500

to Queensland flood appeals

From the Chairman

Our Members bring our purpose to life – *to partner for change for people in need* – in communities across Queensland and Papua New Guinea. I'm immensely proud that after two years of uncertainty, our Members are back engaging with their communities. They are fundraising and volunteering their time for the causes they care about. I know our Members' important contribution is being felt across the community, so, if you can, I encourage anyone wanting to make a difference for people in need in their local area to start the conversation with your Lodge. The benefits are two-fold: for you and your community.

Local Community Partnerships

Maximising our Members' impact in the community remains a key focus for the Board. In addition to our Dollar 4 Dollar matched giving, Lodges can also now be part of a Local Community Partnership. The idea is to get Lodges in a particular region to work together in support of a local not-for-profit over a longer period of time. Hand Heart Pocket will provide a guaranteed amount as a donation and will also match the Lodges fundraising and volunteering efforts with a further donation. This means the benefiting organisation could get up to \$40,000 over two years.

The first step is for Lodges to invite Hand Heart Pocket to workshop the concept with them and identify a local organisation that would most benefit from our support. After due diligence has been conducted, a representative of the local Lodges will become the relationship lead. Hand Heart Pocket will work with them to form the partnership with the local organisation

and provide ongoing support for the duration of the partnership. The local Lodges will take charge of organising fundraisers and volunteering with their partner charity so that Hand Heart Pocket can match their efforts.

75% of respondents to our Member survey last year told us that they volunteer but most do so on their own or with another organisation that they are a part of. By being part of a Local Community Partnership Members will not just fundraise for a cause but volunteer together as well and be recognised for it. This commitment to a local community organisation over a few years provides certainty to the local charity as well. Many organisations have said that while they appreciate one-off donations, continued support over several years can make a huge difference for them. The Members in Toowoomba and Miles respectively invited us to facilitate workshops for them earlier this year and are progressing their partnerships at the moment. Contact the HHP team if Lodges in your area would like to discuss what a Local Community Partnership might look like in your area in the months ahead.

Hardship after a disaster

Within days of our last newsletter going to print, south-east Queensland was devastated by floods. Thanks to our disaster relief partnership with GIVIT – a not-for-profit based in Queensland – we were able to donate \$80,000 on behalf of the Freemasons of Queensland to provide immediate support to people impacted by this natural disaster. This is on top of the \$20,000 originally donated in the new year for the Wide-Bay region.

To put this into context, the area impacted by the floods since the new year is the length of the UK. The hardship and distress this has caused for those already living through a pandemic is heartbreaking to see. I thank all our Members for getting behind our appeal. Freemasons Foundation Victoria and Freemasons Victoria have also committed \$100,000 to our appeal. We thank our Victorian brothers for standing shoulder to shoulder with us at this difficult time. Together we have donated \$211,285, every cent of which has been distributed by GIVIT through local community organisations on the ground to make sure people get exactly what they need.

Our philanthropy

To date, Hand Heart Pocket has committed \$1.94 million in philanthropic giving this financial year. Our Member-led giving has reached a total of \$191,841 in support of 27 local causes so far this financial year. Just over \$30,000 has supported seven families facing hardship.

Thank you Grand Master

Soon we will welcome the new Grand Master, Jeff Harper to our Board. I very much look forward to working with him to help shape our philanthropic foundation for even greater social impact in the years ahead. I would also like to thank our retiring Grand Master, Paul Holland for his service and contribution to the Hand Heart Pocket board over the years. Thank you for being on this journey with us.

Alasdair Begley
Chairman



Partnering for change for people in need

Hand Heart Pocket Board Members, Kirby Leeke, Jane Crombie and Craig Reimers putting pen to paper during the recent strategy session to identify HHP's priorities for the next 12 months, as part of the organisation's broader four year strategic plan.

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the Lands on which we operate across Queensland, especially the Jagera and Turrbal people of Meeanjin (Brisbane), and pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

Working in collaboration for Queensland’s most at-risk young people



According to the Australian Early Development Census almost a quarter of Queensland children are considered developmentally vulnerable in one or more key areas e.g. physical health and wellbeing; social competence; emotional maturity; language and cognitive skills and; communication skills and general knowledge (AEDC, 2021).

Too many young Queenslanders are behind before they even start their adult life, and they are facing more challenges than ever before. That’s why we need to build the systems and structures that will best help young people in need to thrive in adult life. Through the Thriving Queensland Kids Partnership (TQKP) the leaders of our communities, as well as policy makers and funders, can come together to understand what works and what matters for young Queenslanders.

TQKP will steer this important conversation so that we can give young people the best chance for success in their adult lives.

In our last newsletter we announced \$1.2 million in funding for the TQKP over three years. Hand Heart Pocket is proud be part of this collaborative approach. Since then, three other philanthropic foundations have come on board, including The Bryan Foundation, The John Villiers Trust, and the Paul Ramsay Foundation, increasing the total committed to \$7.7 million over three years. This is a Queensland first, bringing together community groups, the government and researchers all with the aim of making life better for young people across our state. Earlier this month the Minister for Children, Youth Justice and Multicultural Affairs, the Hon. Leanne Linard MP launched the collaboration

at Parliament House in Brisbane with a small group of attendees present.

TQKP Convenor Professor Michael Hogan said, “Most Queensland children are thriving but too many experience vulnerability compared with those in other states. This gap is closing and the goal of the Thriving Queensland Kids Partnership is to accelerate this trend. We start from the idea that we do better together, that we can take programs and people that are making in-roads, and connect them, learn from them, boost them. We are not about creating a new organisation or service, it is about using what and who we already have, and what we know and learn.”

The TQKP is overseen by the Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth (ARACY).

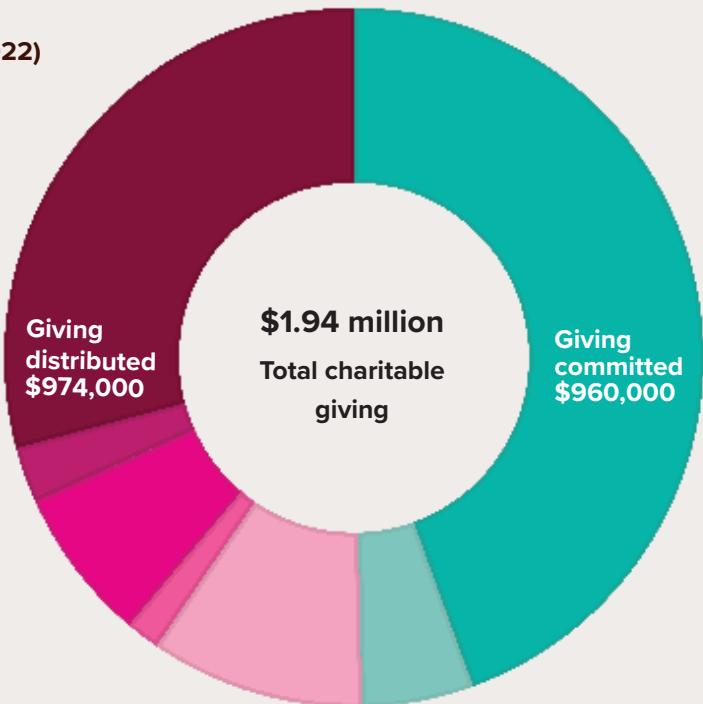
Our philanthropy 2021-22 (as at April 2022)

Giving distributed \$974,000

- 29% Youth at risk giving
- 3% Health and ageing giving
- 7% Disaster relief giving
- 2% Hardship assistance
- 10% Member-led local giving

Giving committed \$960,000

- 44% Youth at risk committed
- 5% Disaster relief committed



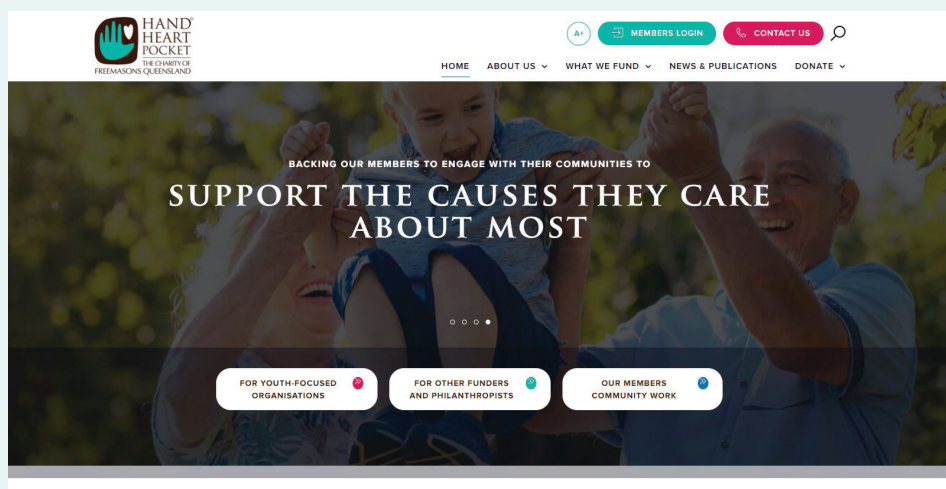
Note: A copy of our audited financials will be published in November.

Keep up to date with our work

The Hand Heart Pocket website has all the latest news and information you need to keep up with the work of Hand Heart Pocket and its Members. You can even read this newsletter online. While you're there check out our dedicated Member-area:

Username: HHP

Password: handheartpocket



Free HHP merchandise to kickstart your community work

Polo shirt sizes limited to S-2XL,
available in black and in navy.
T-shirts available in XS-5XL
Caps available in black and in white

Email info@handheartpocket.org.au
to get yours



New podcast series



Australia's largest philanthropic foundation, the Paul Ramsay Foundation has released season two of their podcasts series, Life's Lottery, backing kids. The series focusses on a range of topics such as the challenges

faced by our most vulnerable young people and how policies, finances and systemic change can contribute to improving their wellbeing and chance at a better life.

To listen to the podcast series visit:
paulramsayfoundation.org.au



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Freemasons Queensland

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