

29 MAY 2024

## Members get behind the causes that matter most to Australians: addressing domestic violence, homelessness and cost of living

Over the past year, more people have relied on charities than ever before. Almost all of us will either directly experience, or know someone who is grappling with: domestic and family violence, homelessness, or the soaring cost of living.

It is not surprising many local community organisations are stretched thin, with some charities being forced to turn people away. We know Governments alone can't solve these issues, so our Members are responding in different ways to:

- lend a hand to those most in need through their local community organisations and
- support charities that are working to educate and prevent these social issues from worsening in our communities.

In Ipswich, Orange Sky Laundry and Rosies Street Outreach each received \$1,500 from United Service Lodge thanks to double matching from Hand Heart Pocket.

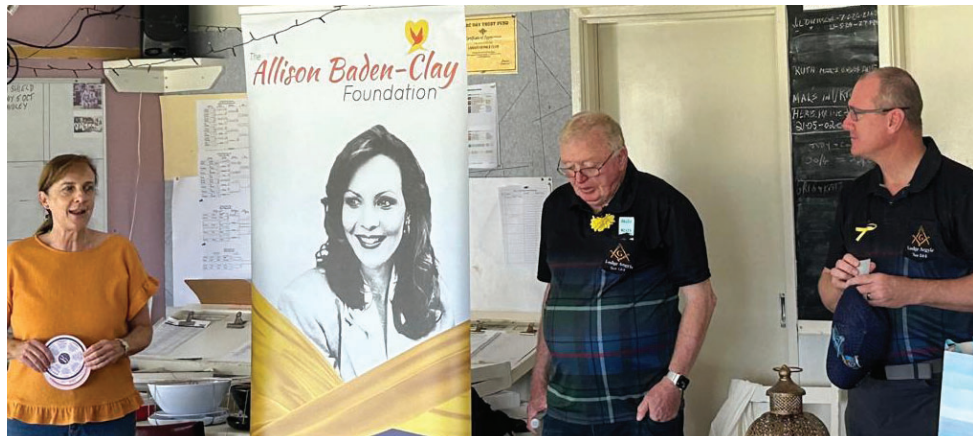


**Pencil it in:  
2024 Year in Review**

**Tuesday 22 October  
10:00am to 12:30pm**

**308 Queen Street  
Brisbane City**

See page 2 for further details



Chair of the Allison Baden-Clay Foundation, Vanessa Fowler OAM, addressing participants of Argyle Lodge's community bowls day, earlier this month.

Photo courtesy: The Lockyer and Somerset Independent newspaper

In FNQ, Better Together Community Support Inc received \$3,000 from Barrine Lodge and Hand Heart Pocket for their community outreach program.

Earlier in May, as part of Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month, Argyle Lodge of Forest Hill hosted a community bowls day at Laidley for the Allison Baden-Clay Foundation raising \$5,250 with matching from Hand Heart Pocket. The funds will go towards community programs and the prevention of coercive control, which was recently criminalised in Queensland.

Hand Heart Pocket is proud to back Members' efforts in supporting their communities. Matched Giving allows Members and Lodges to amplify the impact of their volunteering, fundraising and donations, for the causes that matter most to them.

Lodge activities are eligible for up to \$5,000 in matching from Hand Heart Pocket each year, with \$500 in matching available each year for individual Members. There's never been a more important time to support your community, so get your applications in today!

### Give, fundraise or volunteer for community organisations providing:

- Community welfare and homelessness support
- Domestic and family violence support
- Child, youth and family services
- Health services
- Mental health services
- Aged and palliative care
- Disability support
- Education for disadvantaged children
- Volunteer rescue
- Disaster response and preparedness
- Medical research

**Then apply to HHP and get your efforts matched with a donation**



# From the Chairman



A warm welcome to our May newsletter. If you are planning on making any end-of-financial-year donations, be sure to find out if your chosen charity qualifies for Matched Giving and get your applications in.

If you or your Lodge has already used your allocation for this financial year then congratulations! And the good news is, you're about to get a new Matched Giving allocation when 1 July arrives. I'd love to see more Lodges and Members get involved in Matched Giving next financial year. It's easy to apply and doubles the impact of your work in the community. Scan the QR code on page 1 to get started or reach out to the Hand Heart Pocket team if you have any queries.

## More support for community recovery

In March, our disaster relief partner GIVIT told us about the dozens of families who are still doing it tough

after Tropical Cyclone Kirrily in North Queensland earlier in the year.

On behalf of Members, Hand Heart Pocket was able to donate a further \$25,000 to assist our community to get back on their feet.

This year we have donated a total of \$175,000 to GIVIT to support communities affected by natural disasters this summer.

## Our financial position

Our financial position remains strong despite market turbulence, with our Net Assets as at 30 April 2024 at \$215.09 million, representing a 4.5% increase since 1 July 2023. Our total charitable giving year-to-date is \$4.94 million which is on track against our giving budget for the year.

## Save the Date: 2024 Year in Review

The date for our Year In Review event has now been confirmed, for Tuesday 22 October, commencing at 10:00am.

We look forward to sharing the year's highlights with all our stakeholders, including our youth partners, philanthropic sector colleagues and of course, our Members.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all Members for your support, feedback and participation this financial year. The team and I look forward to further strengthening our work with you all in the year ahead.

**Alasdair Begley**  
**Chairman**

# Good Governance series: Transparency and compliance

Good governance and transparency go hand in hand and form part of our core strategic objectives. Our Board's commitment to good governance is backed by strong internal capability within the Hand Heart Pocket team, ensuring that all compliance and reporting obligations are met.

And not only are they met, but we are transparent about our results. In addition to reporting to our Members each quarter, we also have an obligation to report to the Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission (ACNC), the national charities regulator.

The Board of Benevolence has a public profile on the ACNC's website, which lists our Directors (known as Responsible People), our Constitution, Annual Information Statements and our Financial Reports. The latter documents are lodged towards the end of the calendar year, enabling us to finalise our Annual Report and distribute this to Members.

If you have a governance topic you would like us to cover as part of this series please send us an email at [info@handheartpocket.org.au](mailto:info@handheartpocket.org.au)

# Our philanthropic giving 2023-24

(As at April 2024)

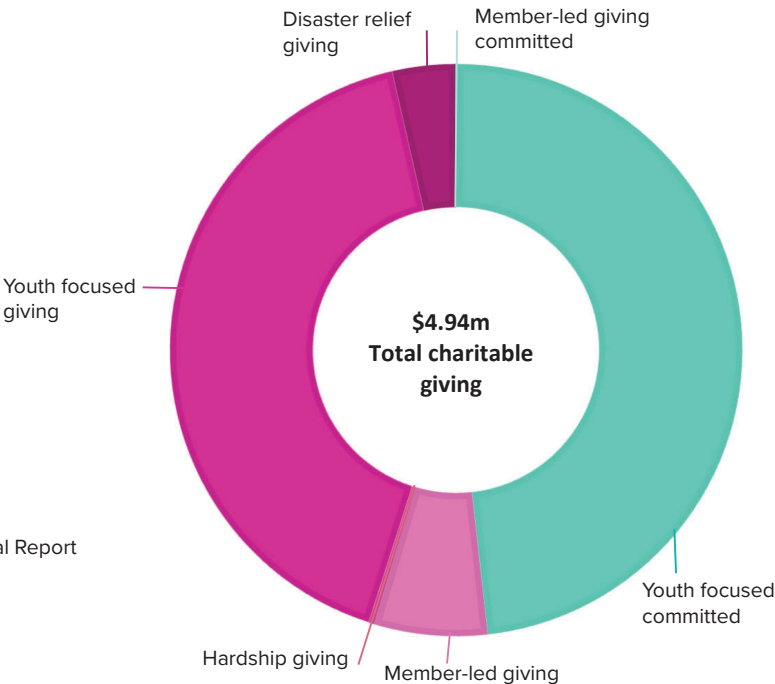
**Giving distributed: \$2,558,865**

- 41.5% Youth focused giving
- 6.4% Member-led giving
- 3.5% Disaster relief giving
- 0.3% Hardship giving

**Giving committed: \$2,383,771**

- 48.2% Youth focused committed
- 0.1% Member-led giving committed

Note: A copy of our audited financials are published each year in our Annual Report and on our website.





## David awarded Freemasonry's highest honour for community service



David is the most recent recipient of the prestigious Order of Service to Benevolence Jewel.

David Hall of Hervey Bay Daylight Lodge is the latest recipient of the Order of Service to Benevolence Jewel, presented in May.

David has been a Freemason for over five decades, commencing his masonic journey in Victoria. In Hervey Bay, where he now resides, David has long championed his local special school, helping ensure students living with a disability have the best chance of finding stable employment when they finish their schooling.

The Lodge, under his leadership, donated almost \$13,500 to Hervey Bay Special School in 2018 for initiatives such as the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program and their modern Trade Training Centre.

This includes the donation of kitchen equipment such as a coffee machine and outdoor café blinds. In addition, David coordinated with other local Lodges and groups within the Masonic Family to secure \$50,000 in 2019 from Hand Heart Pocket for the development of the spacious outdoors area of the Trade Training Centre.

As an additional show of support, David has encouraged the Lodge to get behind the student-run coffee shop when it is open to the public every Friday morning.

For David, his OSB jewel represents the work that the Members and Ladies of the Hervey Bay Daylight Lodge have been doing together for their community over the past decade. Congratulations David!



Hand Heart Pocket Champion and Atherton Hospital Friends of the Foundation Treasurer, Tony Birch; President Mary Fitzsimons and Secretary Jo Barnes.

## Tony has his finger on the pulse at Atherton Hospital and beyond

Tony Birch has his finger on the pulse at Atherton Hospital. Not only is he the Hand Heart Pocket Champion for the Atherton region, but he is also the volunteer Treasurer at Atherton Hospital Friends of the Foundation, a volunteer group connected to the Far North Queensland Hospital Foundation, looking after people from Tully to the Torres Strait.

The group has 30 regular volunteers helping with fundraising activities such as weekly bingo sessions, raffles, events and providing the hospital trolley service. Each year they collect about \$100,000 from fundraising, bequests and donations for the benefit of Atherton Hospital.

Last year, Tony had his volunteer hours matched for the first time, with \$500 donated by Hand Heart Pocket. More recently his Lodge (Barrine) donated \$3,082, thanks to double matching from Hand Heart Pocket. The donation is being used to purchase equipment for the Oncology Ward at Atherton Hospital. Additional facilities in Atherton mean that more patients can be treated locally without having to travel to other hospitals, enabling them to remain close to their family and friends during their treatment period.

If, like Tony, you're on the committee for a local charity, contact Hand Heart Pocket to see if your organisation qualifies for Matched Giving.

**The role of Hand Heart Pocket Champions like Tony, is to work with the Lodges in their region to ensure Members are aware of the support available through, Hand Heart Pocket and act as the go-to person for the region about our programs.**

**To enquire about becoming a Champion, please scan the QR code below or call us on (07) 3493 6000.**



## Case Study Thriving Queensland Kids Partnership: putting our heads together to build the social systems of tomorrow



The Thriving Queensland Kids Partnership is focused on 'connecting, catalysing and learning together' about what works and what doesn't in local communities.

Across Queensland, there are many local leaders, organisations and communities working to improve outcomes for children, young people and their families. Communities, practitioners and young people themselves know what's needed but often the system structures aren't set up to use this expertise.

This is where the Thriving Queensland Kids Partnership (TQKP) comes in. TQKP brings different sectors, communities, and voices together to think differently about how to co-design the systems of tomorrow, to improve the outcomes for children and young people in Queensland.

The TQKP backbone team was established in 2022, with \$1.2 million over three years in philanthropic funding from Hand Heart Pocket. Other philanthropic partners soon joined with a total commitment of \$7.7 million from other donors.

Building new social systems takes time and TQKP is establishing

structures and connections now that will build on this work for the next decade. TQKP currently has 10 initiatives underway, each focused on 'connecting, catalysing and learning together' about what works and what doesn't in local communities. Visit the TQKP website to find out more, at [www.aracy.org.au](http://www.aracy.org.au)

### TQKP Initiative Spotlight 1: Thriving Kids Brain Builders Initiative

We are making neuroscience knowledge more accessible to those that support children and families in communities across Queensland, through access to online resources and modules. Since its launch last year, the free e-learning short course *Understanding Brain Development* produced by TQKP and Emerging Minds, together with The University of Queensland's Queensland Brain Institute (QBI) has been downloaded 1,126 times.



Thriving Queensland  
Kids Partnership  
connect • catalyse • learn

### TQKP Initiative Spotlight 2: Thriving Kids Data Roadmap

Establishing a common, cross-sector approach helps to demystify data, meaning more organisations and communities can access it, learn from it and use it. In turn, this supports effective targeting of resources and better collaboration across Queensland amongst community members, community services, and government. The Place Data Framework sets out the types of data that exist, how data is captured, and how it is used, highlighting gaps and identifying the practical things that would help communities use information about them, and available to them, to create better outcomes for local people.

#### Contact us:

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The Board of Benevolence and of Aged Masons, Widows and Orphans' Fund trading as Hand Heart Pocket the Charity of Freemasons Queensland  
ABN: 54 216 065 828 Charity No: CH2627

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