

MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS
IN 2025-26

Growth & Milestones

Growth across our funds, partnerships and giving means more support can reach Canberra's community organisations over time.

- Reached **\$7.4 million** in assets across CMCF and HAC
- Surpassed **\$6.86 million** in grants made since inception with partners
- Our Named Funds have grown to almost **\$3 million**

Awareness & Engagement

- \$800,000+** raised through community campaigns
- More Canberrans connected to local causes, with **88 charities** and **ten food pantries** amplified through the Canberra Day Appeal and 100s4Thousands campaigns and 1,000 runners participating in the Canberra Day Fun Run
- Local giving and leadership celebrated, through the launch of Impact Week and the presentation of the 2025 Canberra Philanthropy Award to Roger Tall

Partnerships & Community

- 350+ charity partners** at the heart of our work, bringing local knowledge, lived experience and practical solutions to Canberra's challenges
- Strengthened our Corporate Giving Program, engaging **46 businesses**, including 15 HAC Heroes, 10 HAC Activators, 21 HAC Champions, contributing funding, advocacy, skills, services and practical support
- New cross-sector collaborations are strengthening Canberra's community sector, including co-design of the Canberra Community Data Hub with Snow Foundation and the inaugural Not-for-Profit Collaborative Innovation Forum with CBRIN, the University of Canberra, Snow Foundation, ANU McCusker Institute, Millhouse Ventures and Running 4 Resilience

Giving & Granted

\$1.8 MILLION
Distributed to local charities and community organisations

\$1.5 MILLION
Raised during the year for investment and future grantmaking

YOUNG PEOPLE HELPED SHAPE
Funding decisions through a participatory grantmaking pilot with the Y Canberra and Snow Foundation.

17 LOCAL INITIATIVES SUPPORTED
Through the Connected Communities Grant Round with GreaterGood, building social connection and belonging across Canberra

WHAT LOCAL FUNDING MADE POSSIBLE

From food relief and safe housing to disability leadership, youth opportunity and stronger social connection, HAC funding helped local organisations respond to immediate need while creating pathways to longer-term wellbeing and inclusion.

CHIEF MINISTER'S CHARITABLE FUND - SHARED INVESTMENT FOR A STRONGER CANBERRA



Stewarded by Hands Across Canberra, the Chief Minister's Charitable Fund brings ACT Government funding together with the knowledge, relationships and resources of philanthropy, business and community organisations to back locally led solutions and respond to emerging needs.

In 2025-26, CMCF supported **38 organisations** to advance inclusion, opportunity, connection and support for Canberrans experiencing disadvantage.

Established in 2018 with a \$5 million ACT Government contribution, the CMCF is a long-term resource for the Canberra community. Annual Government support, including **\$529,470 in 2025-26**, helps ensure the Fund can respond to emerging needs today and invest in the strength of our community for the future.

SINCE 2018, THE CMCF HAS:

- Supported **271 local projects**, contributing more than **\$3.4 million** to the community
- Leveraged over **\$9.45 million** in additional investment through philanthropy, business and peer foundations
- Helped strengthen collaborative grantmaking through the Canberra Foundations Collaborative
- Enabled new approaches to community investment, including pilots, collaborative grant rounds and the Canberra Day Appeal

STORIES OF LOCAL IMPACT



"The grant was critical to launching Allara Drives, our social enterprise driving school. Since launching three months ago, eight women from refugee backgrounds have obtained their Ps through our subsidised lessons and volunteer program, gaining greater independence, confidence and access to employment and community life."

JESSICA WRIGHT, CEO & FOUNDER, ALLARA DRIVES
GRANT SUPPORT: \$12,500, FUNDED BY HAC/CMCF
PICTURED: AQILA, ALLARA DRIVES INSTRUCTOR



"The most significant impact of participating in the Youth Parliament has been the confidence it has given me to speak up about issues that matter to young people."

YOUTH PARLIAMENTARIAN
GRANT SUPPORT: \$50,000, CO-FUNDED BY HANDS ACROSS CANBERRA/THE CHIEF MINISTER'S CHARITABLE FUND AND SNOW FOUNDATION



IMPACT REPORT
2025-26
STRONGER TOGETHER

Building our Future Together



Scan to view the full report and stories from our donors, supporters and grant recipients.



WELCOME

Our focus at Hands Across Canberra this year has been on new ways to serve our community, build capacity in our charity sector and grow awareness of need in Canberra.

Through the Canberra Day Appeal, regular grantmaking with our partners at the Snow Foundation, John James Foundation, Aspen Medical and Davencare, and the Chief Minister's Charitable Fund, we supported work on strengthening wellbeing, inclusion, opportunity and belonging across Canberra.

We successfully trialled grantmaking decisions that give a voice to participants through the ACT Youth Parliament and partnered with the GreaterGood fund on a Connected Communities grant round.

Our work with the Sue Salthouse Leadership Fund on disability continues and our 100s4Thousands Christmas Appeal helped many Canberra families put food on their tables in the festive season.

Increasingly, we're exploring innovative ways to increase our impact. This year, we'll launch the Canberra Community Data Hub in collaboration with the Snow Foundation and support from the .auDomain foundation. This online tool for measuring need across the ACT represents the first time this analysis has been done on a jurisdiction-wide scale nationally.

After a very successful pilot project last year, we'll run a second innovation forum for the not for profit sector. With the key partners the University of Canberra and the Canberra Innovation Network we'll examine hunger, bringing people together to develop grassroots local solutions.

Our capacity building work continues to grow. This year we've teamed up with our Canberra Foundations Collaborative partners to provide training on fundraising, AI for charities, benchmarking, mental health safety and more.

Building a better Canberra together requires imagination, innovation and collaboration. Thank you to every charity partner, donor, business, foundation, government agency and community member who contributed this year. When communities, funders and partners share what they know and act together, we are all stronger.



Greg Boorer (Chair), left
Hands Across Canberra and the Chief Minister's Charitable Fund

Her Excellency The Governor General Honourable **Sam Mostyn AC**, centre

Genevieve Jacobs (CEO), right
Hands Across Canberra and the Chief Minister's Charitable Fund

Hands Across Canberra acknowledges the Nggunawal people as Traditional Custodians of the lands and waters of the ACT and surrounding region. We recognise the enduring connection to Country of other Aboriginal people and families with connection to this region. We pay our respects to Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. We acknowledge their continuing culture, knowledge, care for Country and contribution to the life of Canberra.

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS IN COMMUNITY

Every day, more than 350 local organisations respond to need, build connection and create opportunity across Canberra.

Their knowledge of the communities they serve, and their determination to keep showing up, are at the heart of a stronger, fairer city.

We are grateful to the donors, businesses and supporters whose generosity, expertise and connections help make this work possible. Together, we can direct more resources to the organisations closest to the issues and help them continue the work that matters.

This year, 46 businesses and community allies joined our Corporate Giving Program, strengthening the network behind local charities.



HAC HEROES

Our outstanding champions who go above and beyond to promote and support our mission.

BAL	Shaw and Partners
Brand and Peta Hoff	Snedden Hall & Gallop
CDC	The Tall Foundation
Cord Civil	The Village Building Co
Gears4Giving	
GoodLoop	
Master Builders ACT	
Netier	
Optus	
Parker Coles Curtis	
RKDN	





HAC ACTIVATORS

Passionate advocates, actively investing in Hands Across Canberra and the charities we serve.

Canberra Airport	SCA10
Canberra Raiders	SWELL
Charterpoint	Thoroughbred Park
King O'Malleys	Turning Stones Recruitment
one x	
Region Media	



HAC CHAMPIONS

Committed community members amplifying our impact through volunteering, pro bono services, media support, grassroots promotion, and ongoing presence.

ABC Radio	IKEA
ALLBids	Instant Colour Press
Brindabella Insurance Brokers	JB Were
Canberra Business Chamber	NGA
Canberra City News	PJ's in the City
Canberra Convention Bureau	Talkforce Media
Canberra FM Radio	Property Council of Australia (ACT)
Canberra Weekly	SupaBarn
Christine Shaw Properties	The Canberra Times
CBRIN	University of Canberra
Doma Hotels	

HAC SUPPORTERS

The heartbeat of our community—steadily backing our mission through their ongoing engagement, advocacy and contributions:

Thank you to everyone who has backed Hands Across Canberra this year through funding, time, skills, practical support and a willingness to help. Your contribution helps local charities continue their vital work across our community.

100s4Thousands	Capital Chemist	JW Land
ACT Chief Minister's Fund	CentreRed IT	Maddocks
AIIA	Chief Minister's Department Social Club	Mallesons
Aspen Medical	Christine Waring Millinery	Nicholls Anzani
Australian College of Nurse Practitioners	Clonakilla	Parbery
Aviso Speciality	Cockington Green Gardens	Photox
Balloon Aloft Canberra	Commonwealth Club	Prettirinas
Bellchambers Barrett	Construction Control	Reason
Canberra Convention Bureau	Creations Jewellers	Rotary Club of Canberra Sunrise
Canberra Southern Cross Club	Davencare	Rotary Club Sundowners
Canberra Weekly	De Lambert Largesse Foundation	Rotary Club Woden Daybreak
	Directions Social Club	Sam Behr Design
	Eclipse	Seer Data
	Events ACT	SOLVIt
	Festival of Speed	Suburban Land Agency
	Hindmarsh	Successful Alliances
	Home Affairs Social Club	The Data Conversation
	Hotel Kurrajong	The National Zoo and Aquarium
	ICON Water	

RKDN: GIVING THAT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

HAC Hero RKDN shows that giving is about much more than dollars. By sharing their time, creativity and technology expertise, the RKDN team helped three local charity partners grow their impact and connect more deeply with the communities they serve.

With **Canberra Eagles Basketball**, RKDN built **PAMA**, a platform supporting inclusive sporting, cultural and educational programs while helping participants stay connected to their community and culture.

With **Good Omen Goodeze**, RKDN created a platform connecting Canberra Health Service requests with volunteers who make comfort items for patients, families and healthcare workers. They also developed the **Gogster Maker**, allowing children in hospital to design their own GOG monster, then lovingly handmade and delivered by a volunteer.

Their generosity, collaboration and care are a wonderful example of what it means to be a HAC Hero.



BETTER TOGETHER

When funders work together, local organisations can spend less time navigating multiple processes and more time supporting their communities.

Through the Canberra Foundations Collaborative, Hands Across Canberra works alongside the Snow Foundation, John James Foundation, Aspen Medical Foundation and Davencare Foundation to pool knowledge, align funding and support community-led work across Canberra.



Explore grant opportunities, resources and news at canberrafoundations.org

In 2025, we launched the Not-for-Profit Collaborative Innovation Forum series, convening the inaugural event in collaboration with the University of Canberra, CBRIN, ANU McCusker Institute, the Snow Foundation, Millhouse Ventures and Running 4 Resilience. The first Forum focused on tackling loneliness in Canberra.



NAMED FUNDS: GIVING THAT LASTS

A Named Fund is a practical way to keep backing the Canberra community, now and into the future.

We also acknowledge with gratitude our existing Named Fund holders whose generosity helps make this possible:

- Boorer Family Fund
 - Bray Family Fund
 - Canberra Women's Giving Circle
 - Carolyn Joy Spiers Fund
 - Carter and Co Fund
 - Chinnery Fund
 - Christine Shaw Family Fund
 - G & A Keys Family Fund
 - Gaul Family Fund
 - Gordon Family Fund
 - Hala Batainah Fund
 - Hamlin Hall Fund
 - MacnJulie Family Fund
 - Narrabundah Fund
- O'Donnell Family Fund
 - Running Rare Fund
 - Sophie Mobbs Family Fund
 - SpencerKay Fund
 - Strickland Fund
 - Sue Salthouse Leadership Fund
 - ACT Community Fund
 - Thompson Family Fund
 - Vince Kalokerinos Fund
 - Leemhuis Family Fund
 - Australian Information Industry Association Fund
 - Hindmarsh Family Fund

This year, we welcomed four new Named Funds to Hands Across Canberra: Breslauer Family Fund, R & N Daley Fund, CDC Progress with Purpose Fund and the James Gerald Lumbers Fund.

Together, our Named Funds represent a growing community of people and organisations choosing to give where they live and create a legacy for Canberra well into the future.

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED A BEQUEST TO HANDS ACROSS CANBERRA?

Contact us to find out more about the tax benefits and advantages for your family.
Email: gjacobs@handsacrosscanberra.org.au

WHO WE ARE

We are the ACT's community foundation. We raise funds for Canberra's most vulnerable, we invest it to make it grow and we give it back in grants. We help people give back by connecting generous donors with causes they care about.

Three pillars underpin our work - **awareness, partnering and giving**. Through them, we help community organisations and businesses make a difference in our community. HAC works with more than **350 local not-for-profit organisations**, raising funds and creating awareness.

We strive to strengthen community well-being, now and for future generations. We do this by promoting philanthropy, creating partnerships, and supporting diverse charitable organisations. Since 2018, the foundation has also administered the Chief Minister's Charitable Fund.

HAC TEAM+

BOARD MEMBERS

Greg Boorer, Chair
Charles Cramer, Deputy Chair
Edward Le Quesne, Treasurer
Fiona Hindmarsh, **John Kalokerinos**,
Michelle Steele, **Sammy Williamson** and
Catherine Rule, ACT Government Observer

STAFF

Genevieve Jacobs AM, CEO
Peter Campos, Business Manager
Jo Dean-Ritchie, Communications and Partnerships Manager
Julia Lieser, Grants and Partnerships Manager
Naomi Macsi, Administration and Operations Coordinator

OUR VOLUNTEERS

A heartfelt thank you to the volunteers who gave their time, energy and know-how to Hands Across Canberra this year. From supporting grant rounds and helping with our website to selling raffle tickets, cheering at sporting events and taking part in the Canberra Day Appeal Fun Run, their contribution was felt across so much of our work. Their generosity and willingness to get involved reflect the community spirit that makes Canberra such a special place.

COMPANY SECRETARY

Sue Hart, Commerce Management Pty Ltd

AUDITOR

Bellchambers Barrett

CORE PARTNERS SUPPORTING OUR WORK

We are grateful to our core partners, who provide the professional services and practical support that help keep Hands Across Canberra running throughout the year. Their support makes a real difference to our small team and helps us keep our focus where it belongs: with Canberra's local charities and community organisations.

- Charterpoint (accounting)
 - one x (social media)
 - CentreRed IT (technology)
- Bendigo Bank & GoodLoop (finance and office operations)