The image features a dark teal rectangular box in the upper right corner containing the Fremantle Foundation logo. The background is a landscape photograph of a dry, rocky riverbank with a large pile of driftwood in the foreground and a blue river in the middle ground. The sky is clear and blue. A large orange diagonal shape with a wavy pattern is in the bottom left corner, containing the report title and tagline.

**Fremantle  
Foundation**  
Philanthropy for WA

Western Australian  
Relief and Recovery Fund  
**IMPACT REPORT**  
**2020-2023**

For the community, by the community

## Indigenous Acknowledgment

Fremantle Foundation wishes to acknowledge the Aboriginal people of the many traditional lands and language groups of Western Australia. We acknowledge the wisdom of Aboriginal Elders both past and present and pay respect to Aboriginal communities of today.

▼ Fitzroy River Jan 2023, photo courtesy of FISH (Foundation for Indigenous Sustainable Health)



# Western Australian Relief and Recovery Fund

Community led projects: moving forward together.

Fremantle Foundation established WARRF (WA Relief and Recovery Fund) in early 2020 in response to the **COVID-19** pandemic and subsequent crises, including the **Wooroloo bushfires 2021** in the Perth outer metropolitan area and **Fitzroy River floods 2023** in WA's Kimberley region.

All funds raised through WARRF support non-profit, charitable organisations working in impacted communities by providing small to medium-sized grants to aid recovery and build resilience for the future.

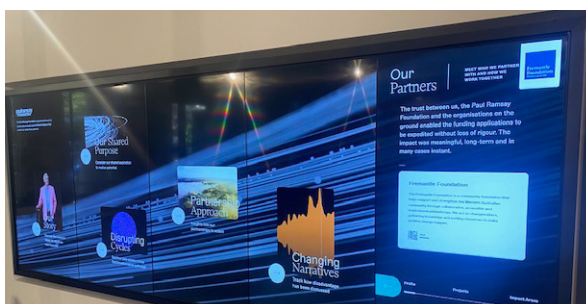
Importantly, the fund provides a much-needed way for West Australians and philanthropic partners, such as the Paul Ramsay Foundation, to support our impacted communities following the pandemic and devastating natural disasters.

## Why Fremantle Foundation took the lead

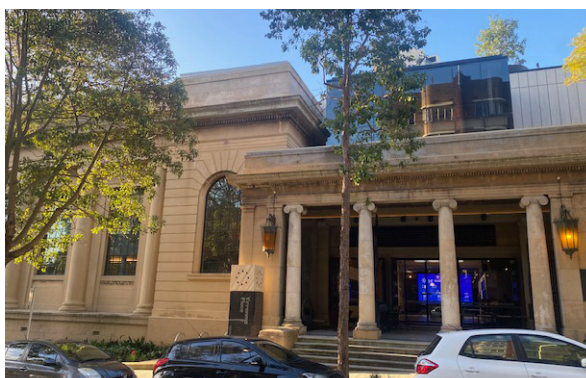
As a community foundation we are ideally placed to support communities in recovery post disaster due to our fundraising capability, relationship with local philanthropists, efficient grant-making infrastructure and our community engagement approach that enables a **community led process** to rise to the top.

Through a broad-reaching fundraising campaign Fremantle Foundation was able to mobilise tax-deductible donations from West Australians looking for a way to support those communities impacted by **COVID-19**, **bushfires** and **floods**.

Prominent national philanthropic foundation the Paul Ramsay Foundation, as well as community members and Fremantle Foundation Named Fund donors, in particular the Bibbulmun Fund, all contributed to the overall fundraising efforts.



▼ St Patrick's Community Support Centre



▲ Paul Ramsay Foundation, Yirranma Place



▲ Wooroloo Bushfires

# Total funds distributed

**\$1.09m**  
Total funds distributed

Combined with major gifts from Paul Ramsay Foundation and community donors, Fremantle Foundation raised **\$1,144,959** to support communities affected by **COVID-19**, **Wooroloo bushfires** and **flood-impacted** remote communities of the **Fitzroy River Region**, exactly when they needed it most.

As of November 2023, we have **awarded 28 grants** and **distributed \$1,091,504** to community organisations.

- ▶ After the Fitzroy River Floods.



## The process

2020		2021	2022	2023	
April–July	August–November	February–July	April–July	January–May	June–September
In the first weeks of <b>COVID-19</b> we were inundated by charities seeking funds to assist those most vulnerable.  With the impact of <b>COVID-19</b> becoming clear we launched WARRF successfully raising \$318,200.	To gain a deeper and clear understanding of community needs, we engaged with councils, community leaders and those on the ground in the impacted regions.  Grants opened and applications received with ten grants awarded across the WA community.	The week long <b>Wooroloo bushfires</b> burnt 27,000 acres, devastating communities and environment.  We engaged with council, community leaders and those on the ground to identify needs.  Four grants were awarded.	The second major surge of <b>COVID-19</b> infections in WA happened.  We raised an additional \$3000,000 from Paul Ramsay Foundation.  Engaged with community and thirteen grants were awarded across WA.	WA's Kimberley Fitzroy River flooded devastating property and vital infrastructure.  We raised \$500,000 with our granting co-led by Indigenous leaders.	Since visiting Fitzroy five Indigenous led or owned charitable organisations have been funded to date.

Community Foundations have established deep connections to their local communities. As such, they can rapidly provide vital support to address short-term and long-term community needs by supporting local non-profit organisations that provide direct and critical services to those impacted by disasters and crises.

By utilising Fremantle Foundation's fundraising and grant-making capability and leveraging our relationships with donors, philanthropists, government, charities and community leaders, we can support affected communities in their recovery post a disaster, leading to stronger, more resilient and inclusive communities for the future.

# WARRF Impact Snapshot

**26**

Number of charitable organisations supported

**10**

Aboriginal organisations supported

## Data Collection Method

1. Donations received
2. Grant applications
3. Grants distributed
4. Grant reports quantitative & qualitative

## Total number of grants 35

### Distributed

**24**

Metro

**4**

Regional

**7**

Remote

### Focus area

**9**



Housing, Homelessness and Disadvantage

**13**



Education, Employment, Training

**10**



Healthy, Resilient and Inclusive Communities

**3**



Charitable Sector Capacity Building

### Recipient Groups

**4**



Grants to organisations supporting Children

**5**



Grants to organisations supporting Adolescent

**10**



Grants to organisations supporting Adults

**13**



Grants to organisations supporting Family



# COVID-19 2020

Total funds distributed \$268,504

Grant recipient	Grant	Outcomes	Contributed to areas of impact
<b>Australian Dental Health Foundation</b> Dental healthcare for people experiencing homelessness or disadvantage	\$44,300	Helped keep the clinic open during COVID-19 by appointing a part time Dental Nurse.	Improved health outcomes for people experiencing homelessness.
<b>Barking Gecko Theatre</b> Access to the arts for disadvantaged children	\$20,000	415 primary school aged children living in low socio economic areas were able to attend a live show to imagine, dream and hope for a better future during COVID19.	Positive impact on disadvantaged children's academic, social and emotional skills whilst building their individual creativity and self-expression.
<b>DADAA</b> Digital access to the arts for people with a disability or are disadvantaged	\$31,000	3 x arts workers for 3 months and purchase of digital equipment. Access to digital equipment so clients can engage in workshops and interact with support workers virtually during COVID-19.	Improved health and wellbeing for people with a disability.
<b>Dress For Success</b> Career support for women in need	\$28,173	Recruitment of a career Support Coordinator to assist women who had lost their jobs or were finding it difficult to gain employment during COVID-19.	Improved employment opportunities for disadvantaged women.
<b>Fremantle Mind Inc</b> Improved treatment and care of people affected by depression	\$25,000	Alliance Against Depression community-led initiative promoting the improved treatment and care of people affected by depression during COVID-19.	Improved quality of life for participants, and the wellbeing of the community.
<b>Nyamba Buru Yawuru</b> Mabu Mayi Social Enterprise Café support for Yawuru and Indigenous youth to achieve their training and employment goals	\$25,000	Continued employment of an Indigenous chef. Directly supported 200 meals delivered to Yawuru Elders during COVID-19 and working with the community development team to ensure care packages reach elderly and vulnerable community members.	Improved health and wellbeing and increased employment opportunities for Indigenous youth.
<b>Southern Aboriginal Corporation</b> Community care packages	\$25,000	Collaboration and partnerships with Aboriginal Organisations to deliver 360 Foodbank hampers and vouchers to regional areas of Narrogin and Katanning during COVID-19.	Improved community relations and increased community participation. Stronger and healthier Aboriginal communities in Narrogin and Katanning.
<b>St Patrick's Community Support Centre</b> Doorstep Dinners	\$15,000	Coordinated 100 volunteers to deliver meals to vulnerable and isolated people from restaurants during COVID-19. Coordinated transition off the program and long term food support options provided.	Improved health and wellbeing and increased community participation.
<b>St Patrick's Community Support Centre</b> Digital Access	\$27,531	Digital equipment purchased including computers, monitors, cameras and phone charging stations. Wiring and NBN connections installed and sound proof booths to allow people experiencing homelessness to access to technology and keep connected with friends, family and support services during and beyond COVID-19.	Improved quality of life, health and wellbeing for participants, and created a more inclusive community.
<b>Woolkabung Kiaka Aboriginal Corp</b> Food relief	\$15,000	Extended community outreach and connected with families in need of food security and support on a bi-weekly basis in the South West of WA during COVID-19.	Stronger and healthier Aboriginal communities in the South West of WA.
<b>Fremantle Foundation</b> Project Delivery and Granting Fee	\$12,500	Contributed during COVID-19 to part time foundation staff salaries, project development, community engagement, delivery, collaboration and reporting.	Increased the foundations sustainability and effectiveness by strengthening our internal systems and ability to deliver better outcomes for our beneficiaries.

# Wooroloo bushfires 2021

Total funds distributed \$23,000

Grant recipient	Grant	Outcomes	Contributed to areas of impact
<b>Midlas</b> Free legal and financial counselling services	\$10,000	Assistance with food, clothes, toiletries, and free financial counselling to assist those affected by the bushfires to apply for grants and aid. With funding from Fremantle Foundation we were able to assist them through the last hurdle of getting suitable insurance payouts to begin to rebuild and heal.	Stronger, more connected and resilient community
<b>Disaster Relief Australia</b> Uniting the skills and experience of military veterans with emergency services to rapidly deploy disaster relief teams	\$4,000	Practical hands on assistance to homeowners affected by the bush fires with tasks such a debris clearing.	Stronger, more connected and resilient community
<b>Australian Red Cross</b> Providing comfort and care	\$4,000	Enabled Red Cross teams to provide comfort and care to people affected by the Wooroloo bushfires and support them during their recovery.	Stronger, more connected and resilient community
<b>Blaze Aid</b> Rebuilding of destroyed fences and structures	\$5,000	Blaze Aid coordinated and supported over 20 volunteers a day to rebuild fences for property owners who had been affected by the fires and provided fuel for vehicles, towing equipment and necessities for campers.	Stronger, more connected and resilient community

**Blaze Aid supported up to twenty volunteers a day to rebuild fences for property owners who had been affected by the fires and provided fuel for vehicles, towing equipment and necessities for the campers.**

- ▼ Volunteers from BlazeAid helping to put up a mesh fence for another Gidgegannup resident, Rob de Vos. Photo: Cason Ho.



# COVID-19 2022

Total funds distributed \$300,000

Grant recipient	Grant	Outcomes	Contributed to areas of impact
<b>PCYC Fremantle</b> SafeSPACE Project early intervention for at risk youth initiative	\$10,000	SafeSpace was able to continue delivering its diversionary programs during COVID-19 for vulnerable children and young people at risk. Programs were run before school, after school and into the evening and during school holidays.	Helping to build at-risk children's social and emotional skills, teaching them new skills, providing safe physical activities and building strong positive relationships.
<b>Stephen Michael Foundation</b> Rising Leaders Program Online Delivery	\$20,000	Development and delivery of an online version during COVID-19 of the SMF Rising Leaders program to young people residing in the Northern Goldfields. A positive unexpected outcome of the RLP was the show and tell segment where students by week 6 were actively bringing along items for discussion. Usually, this activity is difficult to foster engagement.	Positive impact on disadvantaged youths academic, social and emotional skills and wellbeing. Increased employment opportunities for Indigenous youth.
<b>DADAA</b> 3 Key Community Projects - Mullewa Community	\$30,000	Mullewa is a regional town located 5 hours north of Perth. During COVID-19 this small community of Aboriginal and non Aboriginal farmers and town people (children, families, elderly) were able to engage with 3 key community projects (Dance Hall, Greenfire, Call and Repeat) that fostered connection, respect and caring for one another.	Enhanced community connection and inclusion. Positive contribution to the environment with the establishment of a native seed and plant nursery. Improved community connection and understanding of Aboriginal culture and language.
<b>Give Write</b> Schools Program	\$10,000	Give Write has distributed 10,000 School Packs to vulnerable children since 2019. COVID-19 funding helped the organisation to remain volunteer based and fulfill distribution commitments and expand to the regional centre of Albany and Bunbury.	Positive impact on disadvantaged children's academic, social and emotional skills and wellbeing.
<b>Care Bags WA</b> Out of Home Care	\$10,000	Over the duration of this grant, Care Bags WA assisted 500 children who entered care arrangements. All Dept of Communities across WA were provided with a full stock of Care Bags for boys and girls in all age brackets up to 16 years.	Positive impact on disadvantaged children's academic, social and emotional skills, health and wellbeing.
<b>The Literature Centre</b> The Young Writers Collective	\$10,000	Supported the hybrid digital delivering model during COVID-19 for The Young Writers Collective during Term 3 and Term 4 in 2022 to low ICSEA schools. One such workshop involved young adult author, Brian Faulkner in person at the Fremantle venue, and live streaming to participating regional schools.	Positive impact on disadvantaged children's academic, social and emotional skills whilst building their individual creativity and self-expression
<b>Southern Aboriginal Corporation</b> Family Support and Relief Program	\$25,000	Funding supported the distribution of warm blankets and two bottles of hand sanitisers to households accessing support. A collection point for blankets and hand sanitisers was established in Tambellup (4hrs south of Perth) where the promotion of "healthy lifestyles choices" was also shared with our clients.	Stronger and healthier Aboriginal communities in the South West of WA.
<b>Ngalla Maya Corporation</b> Deadly Driver Program	\$25,000	Delivering driver training and road safety education during COVID-19 for young Aboriginal people after their release from detention or prison, helping them reintegrate back into life on the outside.	Reduce recidivism of young Aboriginal people and address systemic disadvantage experienced by Aboriginal people.
<b>Woolkabunning Aboriginal Corporation</b> Roelands Aboriginal Mission & Social Enterprise	\$25,000	<b>COVID-19</b> relief packages were distributed to those in need, and operational funding support provided to the farming social enterprise (e.g. wattle seed, honey).	Stronger and healthier Aboriginal communities in the South West of WA.



Grant recipient	Grant	Outcomes	Contributed to areas of impact
<b>Nyamba Buru Yawuru</b> Promoting long term income opportunities for the Aboriginal Yawuru community.	\$25,000	This grant allowed the Mabu Mayi social enterprise cafe to continue to operate, train and develop Aboriginal people interested in hospitality during <b>COVID-19</b> . The funds also assisted in purchasing additional equipment and a safer working place.	Increased employment opportunities for Indigenous youth and adults in remote town of Broome over 2000km north of Perth.
<b>Circus WA</b> Integrated, diverse and inclusive youth performance program	\$10,000	Provided access for youth from disadvantaged backgrounds during COVID-19 to join the We Can Project (Aboriginal Youth Program, All Abilities Program and Young Artists Academy), with the opportunity to participate in 3 showcases in 2024 and develop skills for future employment pathways in the arts.	Positive impact on disadvantaged children's academic, social and emotional skills and wellbeing. Increased opportunities for youth employment.
<b>Imagined Futures</b> Community led programs that focus on the wellbeing of young people	\$25,000	During COVID-19 funding contributed to Mental Health and Wellbeing programs for 347 teachers/ support staff and 311 students, wellbeing Journals that were distributed to 40 school chaplains, Wellbeing Zone Pilot Project that reached 60 young people and their families. Celebrating Culture Through Sport to 470 children.	Positive impact on disadvantaged children's social and emotional skills, mental health and wellbeing.
<b>St Patrick's Community Support Centre</b> Aboriginal Peer Navigator Program	\$25,000	Funding supported the training and employment of 12 Aboriginal Peer Navigators to provide support to Aboriginal people navigating access to temporary housing and wraparound services.	Increased employment opportunities and skills development for Aboriginal people. Improved access to temporary housing and wraparound services for Aboriginal people experiencing homelessness.
<b>Fremantle Foundation</b> Project delivery and granting fee	\$50,000	Contributed to part time foundation staff salaries, project development, community engagement, delivery, collaboration and reporting.	Increased the foundation's sustainability and effectiveness by strengthening our internal systems and ability to deliver better outcomes for our beneficiaries.

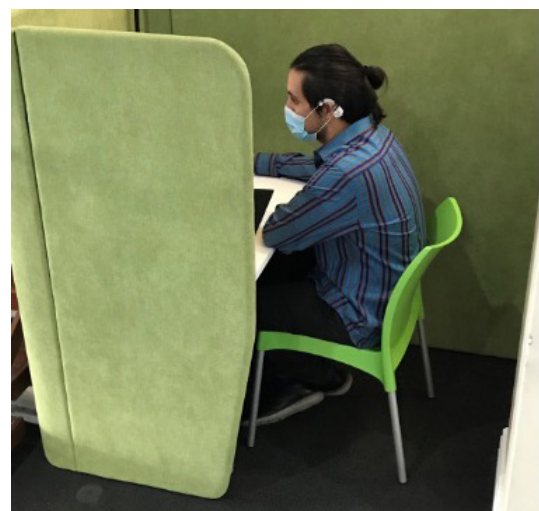
**“St Pat’s is helping to keep clients connected by providing access to the internet to people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.**

How would you look for a new home or job or keep up to date with **COVID-19** information and breaking news without the internet?

Thanks so much to Fremantle Foundation for funding our new internet hub and installing computers and NBN access across our lodging houses and Day Centre.”

**St Pat’s**

St Pat's client accessing the internet during **COVID-19**. ▶



# Fitzroy River floods 2023

Total funds distributed \$500,000

Grant recipient	Grant	Outcomes	Contributed to areas of impact
<b>Foundation for Indigenous Sustainable Health (FISH)</b> Helping to break intergenerational cycles of trauma and disadvantage in Aboriginal communities.	\$90,000	Securing, purchasing and transporting into Fitzroy Crossing an all-terrain caravan to be used for staff quarters and a mobile office. The purchase and support of running costs for a fully equipped 4WD based at Bawoorrooga Community and casual employment of community worker.  To support flood response and recovery for remote communities	Stronger and more resilient Aboriginal communities in the <b>Fitzroy River</b> area.
<b>Yanunijarra Aboriginal Corporation</b> Creating employment and training opportunities for Aboriginal people and caring for country.	\$65,000	Funding has been used to purchase replacement (mobile kitchen & trailers) and new equipment to assist with the clean up after the floods.	Stronger and more resilient Aboriginal communities in the <b>Fitzroy River</b> area.
<b>Central Kimberley Football League</b> Australian rules football competition in the Kimberley region of WA representing a number of local Aboriginal communities.	\$90,000	Reactivation of the football Development program	Improved health and wellbeing for people in the <b>Fitzroy River</b> area.
<b>Gurama Yani U</b> Fitzroy Valley Men's Shed	\$90,000	Indigenous Employment Support Initiative providing support pathways to sustainable employment and capability building.	Improved employment opportunities for Aboriginal people in the <b>Fitzroy River</b> area.
<b>Bunuba Cultural Conservation Institution</b> Yajillara Festival	\$30,000	The 2023 event prioritized community resilience, re-connection, rebuilding, and hope.	Improved community wellbeing and cultural connection in the <b>Fitzroy River</b> area. The event proved to be a very powerful coming together of the town of Fitzroy Crossing to celebrate culture, to reconnect with kin and to reflect on the resilience of many families.
<b>Fremantle Foundation</b>	\$120,000	Project Delivery, <b>Capacity Buidling</b> , Granting  Community led, site visit to Fitzroy and Supply Nation conference	Increased the foundation's sustainability and effectiveness by strengthening our internal systems and ability to deliver better outcomes for our beneficiaries
<b>Funds still to distribute to community</b>	<b>\$15,000</b>	In discussions with Martuwarra <b>Fitzroy River Council</b> .	Protecting our environment and Aboriginal cultural connection to the Martuwarra (Fitzroy River)

▼ Sue Stepatschuk, Kim Collard & the FISH team.



▼ Rene Dingo, Kim Collard, Sue Stepatschuk & Willigan



In early January 2023, Western Australia's Kimberley region was battered by ex-tropical cyclone Ellie, causing the **Fitzroy River** to rise to record high levels, devastating property and vital infrastructure and leaving hundreds of people homeless, and further isolating up to 40 vulnerable indigenous communities who rely on services and medical assistance in Fitzroy Crossing.

In response, Sue Stepatschuk from the Fremantle Foundation and Kim Collard, highly regarded Indigenous leader and Chair/ Founder of The Bibbulmun Fund, in partnership with the Paul Ramsay Foundation, raised \$500,000 to support the Fitzroy River community.

Together, we **co-designed a culturally appropriate project delivery and community engagement method** that placed community input and knowledge at the forefront of the process. This included visiting Fitzroy River to meet and consult with community leaders, in person, to identify areas of need and where funding gaps existed .

This enabled a **community led process** to rise to the top that directly integrated community goals, and objectives into the project..



▲ photo courtesy of FISH

▼ photo courtesy of FISH





photo courtesy of FISH

# Broadening our reach and educating our community.

During the initial disaster recovery campaign, we worked closely with local media and peak body Philanthropy Australia to amplify our call to West Australians to donate and support the WA community.

This philanthropic endeavour made it into the headlines, with two lead articles, "Fremantle Foundation transmits a lifeline" and "The power of local funds to ease the impact of a national health crisis" along with an invitation to present at the Philanthropy Australia National Conference 2022 with the Paul Ramsay Foundation.



Watch our WARRF COVID-19 video here.

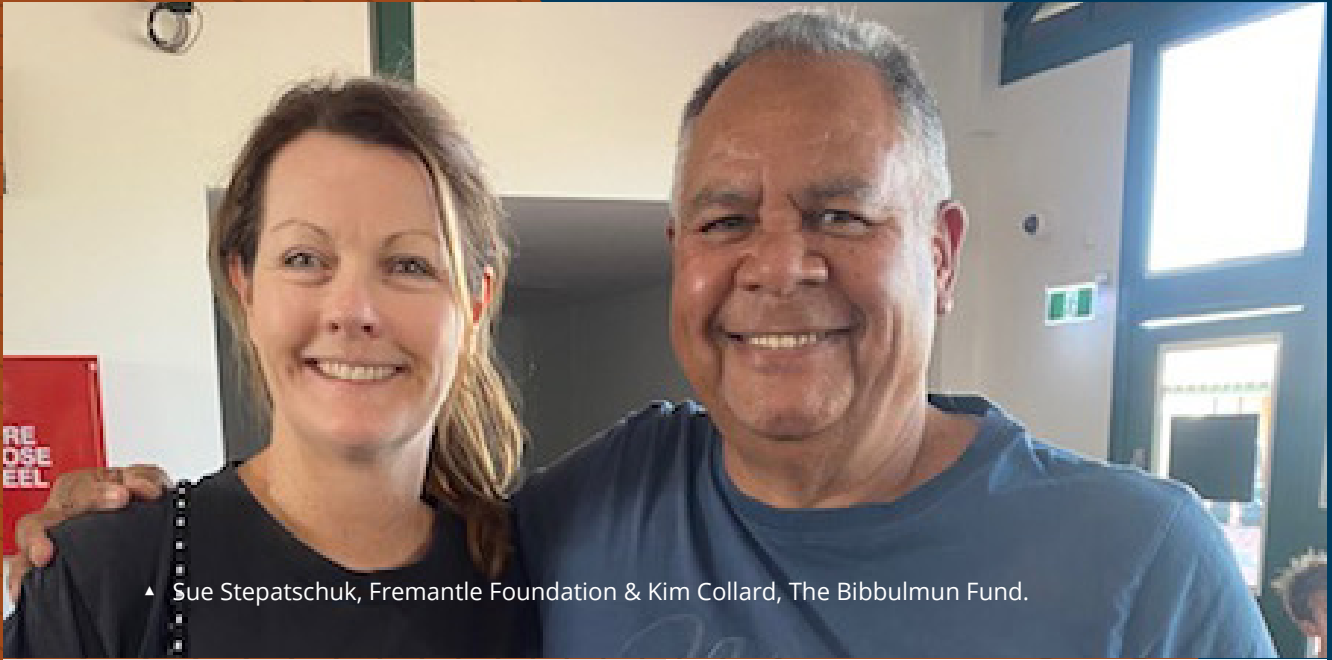


▲ Community Newspapers, July 2020

## The power of local funds to ease the impact of the national health crisis

In Perth and across the broader south-west of the nation, the Wungening Aboriginal Corporation is being funded to deliver food and hygiene parcels to thousands of Aboriginal clients through a collective of 18 local member Aboriginal community-controlled organisations.

▲ Philanthropy Australia article, March 2020



▲ Sue Stepatschuk, Fremantle Foundation & Kim Collard, The Bibbulmun Fund.

## Work Continues.

Fremantle Foundation's WARRF (WA Relief & Recovery Fund) will continue to grow and facilitate community relief and recovery, and promote projects that increase resilience, reducing the impact of future disaster events across Western Australia.

## Contact Us

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