

Creating real impact and changing lives

SVA VENTURE PHILANTHROPY IMPACT REPORT 2017



THANK YOU

'It's meant I've got a reason to get out of bed every day.'

The Industry Employment Initiative (Read Bill's story on page 35)

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FROM OUR CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Help us change lives by changing the system.

Rob Koczkar

SVA is seeking to build an Australia where all communities thrive, and where everyone has a sense of belonging and empowerment.

We work towards this in a unique way; partnering with philanthropists, social purpose organisations, corporates and government to test, prove, refine and scale effective approaches to tackling disadvantage.

We do this by providing tailored philanthropy, investment and advice to social purpose initiatives, and by making the leading practice we see through our work visible to government decision makers.

Over 15 years we've helped fledgling social initiatives with great promise become sustainable organisations creating real change in people's lives. Thousands of Indigenous kids are finishing school and university because of AIME; young people have found a path out of homelessness with the support of STREAT; and educators across Australia are being supported to bring great practice to the classroom through initiatives like the Bright Spots Schools Connection and Evidence for Learning.

Supporting the SVA venture portfolio can help you both **safeguard** and **amplify** the impact of your philanthropy, placing it in experienced hands committed to collaboration and knowledge sharing.

In 2017 we welcomed five new ventures to the SVA portfolio and, with your support, we're excited by the potential they have not just to change the lives of the people they support, but also to change the way those cohorts are supported across the broader system.

This report shares how we've worked with the ventures in our portfolio over 2017, and the support we are seeking over the next year to take their impact to the next level.

We invite you to join us and play a part creating real impact and changing lives.

Sincerely,



Rob Koczkar



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WHY GIVE THROUGH SVA

We know that we are supporting initiatives that create real impact.

Jill Simes – Chair, Bryan Foundation

SVA is the leading practitioner of venture philanthropy in Australia, having pioneered the approach since our establishment in 2002. Through our venture philanthropy portfolio, SVA brings together funders, partners and ventures to create better social outcomes.

By working with SVA, funders:

- **Safeguard** their philanthropic funding, placing it in experienced, trusted hands;
- Support **outstanding** social ventures that have been carefully chosen and developed;
- **Enable learnings to be gained and shared** on best practice methods for reducing disadvantage;
- **Amplify** their impact through sector-wide collaboration; and
- Join a **community** of engaged philanthropists.

The SVA team has deep strategy, financial and governance acumen which is critical for early stage social ventures to effectively take on substantial funding commitments and grow their impact.

We provide funders with regular progress updates and host events with opportunities to meet other funders and venture partners.

SVA has Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status so all donations are tax deductible.

'The Bryan Foundation has supported SVA for almost a decade. We continue to be impressed by the foresight and rigour they bring to their projects. In supporting SVA, we know that we are supporting initiatives that create real impact – not only for the people and communities who have direct contact with SVA supported programs, but also on broader policy and practice. They take a long-term view, and it works!'

Jill Simes – Chair, Bryan Foundation

'Samsung aims to work with the community to create positive social change at an individual, community and system level. SVA is an important partner to help to create this kind of change because they work strategically across sectors, offer an informed, intelligent and independent perspective and use evidence-based thinking to implement real-world projects.'

Tess Ariotti – Head of Corporate Social Responsibility, Samsung Electronics Australia



WHY I GIVE

It works on a deeper level, and the impact it has is structural.

Rob Keldoulis

ROB KELDOULIS

Rob Keldoulis says that he has been a long-term supporter of Social Ventures Australia because he understands the enormous potential of systems-level change.

'SVA might not be at the coalface, which is an easier space to be at for fundraising. But it works on a deeper level, and the impact it has is structural,' he says.

'And that's where you get major long-term shifts that significantly benefit society.'

Keldoulis likens SVA's influence to investing in infrastructure – the pathways that make it possible for help to reach those who need it most.

'I see SVA as a corporate infrastructure style charity. SVA is the infrastructure. If we use a trading analogy, it's our servers, routers and gateways, things that nobody sees, investments that cost millions, but are critical to the success of the business,' he says.

Keldoulis encourages all who find themselves in a similarly fortunate position to support philanthropic causes. If they want to be certain that they will have a big impact, and aren't looking for quick fixes or personal glory, he says support SVA.

'If you're already wealthy, spending more time making money for yourself is a waste of both the wealth you created and the second part of your life,' he says.

Keldoulis' career began in the late eighties, shortly after graduating from the University of New South Wales with a combined Commerce Law degree, when he went to work as a trader.

'Law grads were being offered \$18,000. Brokering firms were offering grads \$45,000. So it was a no brainer,' he says with a laugh.

Keldoulis has seen a lot in his time as a trader. He survived the crash of 1987, witnessed the dot com boom and bust, and now, the rise and fall and rise again of cryptocurrency.

In 1995 he founded Optiver Australia and spent 20 years trading in both Amsterdam and Australia. His success brought wealth and with it, questions. Keldoulis, a small 'b' Buddhist as he describes himself, has been involved with, and acted as a spokesperson for, the Dalai Lama during his numerous visits to Australia.

It was the Dalai Lama to whom he turned for the answer to some big questions: is wealth moral? Is it ok to be wealthy? Is big business ok?

'The Dalai Lama was consistent. There is nothing wrong with money. What is important is how you make your money and what you then do with your money.'

'The Dalai Lama talks about right work. This is not about judging the profession or type of job you choose to do. Rather His Holiness says of right work that if the job you do only advances you economically, then it is not right work.'

That philosophy is evident in Keldoulis' latest venture VivCourt. The trading firm he set up is owned by a charitable entity, so profits can only go to charity. On top of its generous bonus scheme, the company distributes its entire yearly profit amongst the employees as a social bonus and they then direct this profit, which would otherwise go to shareholders, to charities of their choice.

'It's a step further than box-ticking corporate social responsibility, which holds little engagement with employees,' Keldoulis says.

The social responsibility now rests with the employees. If they work well, the company makes profits and they get to give these profits away.'

VivCourt is Keldoulis' way of turning trading, a business he readily admits is 'pure capitalism', into 'right work'.



WHY I GIVE

Now we have narrowed our focus on to the things that are most important to us.

Rebecca Gorman

REBECCA GORMAN & JOHN SEVIOR

Rebecca Gorman and John Seviore are reluctant to call themselves philanthropists. Neither come from families with histories of substantial donations and the practice of giving in this way has developed slowly.

'We started off in a fairly ad hoc way, but now we have narrowed our focus on to the things that are most important to us – educational opportunity and environmental improvement,' Gorman says.

Both Gorman and Seviore worked as journalists before Seviore entered funds management, where he has been for the past twenty years.

'I was lucky enough to be in the right place at the right time,' Seviore says.

Despite losing both parents at a young age Seviore credits a good education with giving him a start.

Rebecca worked mainly at the ABC in Radio Current Affairs and Radio National covering social affairs and policy and she maintains a strong interest in this area. She now runs a beef cattle operation near Gundagai in southern NSW using the regenerative agriculture principles of Holistic Management.

'Training in holism reminds us that you can never assume that what you've learnt today won't change tomorrow because everything is interlinked and constantly adapting – in both physical and social environments. So a constant for us is being open to education and new ideas,' she says.

Converting this into a philanthropic approach can take some time.

'We don't want to replicate something already being done or encourage programs that aren't shown to be effective,' Gorman says.

'Everyone is busy in businesses, working, and supporting their families, so figuring out how to best redistribute wealth and opportunity can be difficult.'

'Partnering with an organisation like Social Ventures, knowing the kind of due diligence they do on the projects they support, is fantastic. They work on long-term relationships that include evaluation and succession, so you can see whether your contribution is having an impact.'

Seviore says he and Gorman are under no illusions that they've done anything spectacular to arrive in their fortunate position.

'But once here, we feel a responsibility to share it around,' he says.

'It's been wonderful to meet some extraordinary people who are focused on challenging the growing inequalities of our time,' Gorman adds.

'We are constantly blown away by the ideas and effort that they offer their communities and we feel very privileged to be able to support them.'



THE SVA APPROACH

SVA partners with social purpose organisations with the potential for significant impact, both to positively impact the lives of people in need and to influence the way the system works. We also incubate solutions where we see a specific need.

These organisations and incubations form our venture philanthropy portfolio.

We support our portfolio of ventures to **increase their impact, prove that what they are doing works, and extend the benefits of their models to other communities facing similar needs.**

We take a multi-year, engaged partnership approach which includes:



Funding

Multi-year funding to build sustainability and reach.



Capacity building

Active, hands-on support for leadership team.



Evidence

Support to use data to understand what works and manage to outcomes.



Networks

Access to SVA's deep networks to unlock skills, knowledge and resources.

Incubation stage

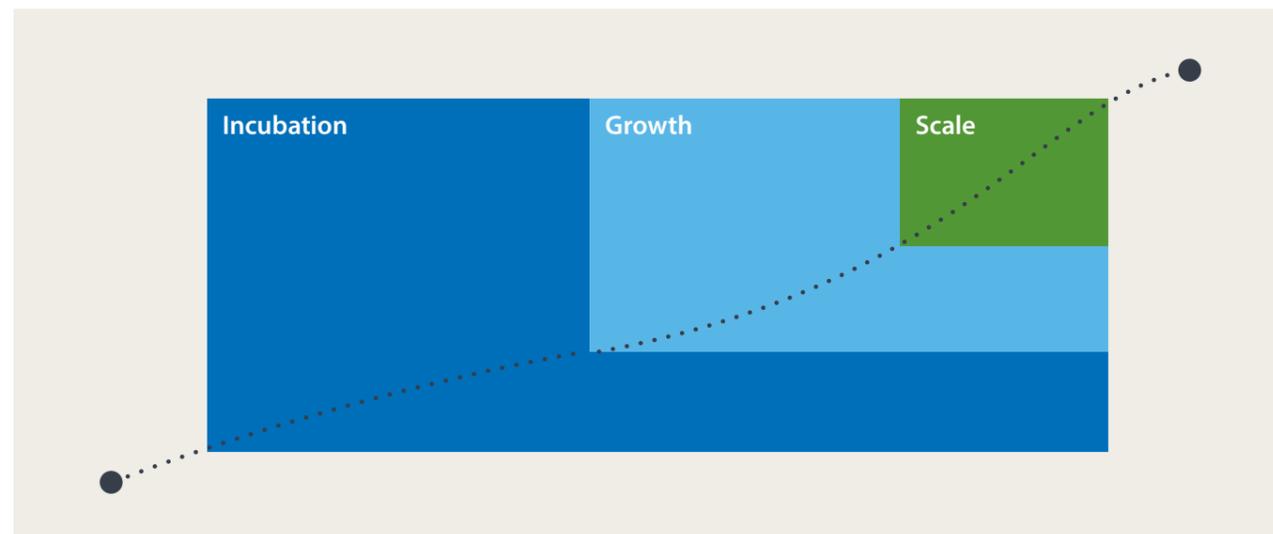
SVA partners with **incubation stage**, innovative models that have high potential to transform how services are delivered. SVA's support catalyses their ability to prove their model and strategically focus on how they can have wider impact.

Growth stage

Growth stage ventures are beginning to establish themselves and SVA works with them to capitalise on their early success, and grow the impact of their model.

Scale stage

Critically, as the ventures in the portfolio reach **scale stage** and become increasingly resilient, they require less 'hands on' involvement from SVA, and we start to step back to prepare for the venture to graduate from the portfolio.



THE SVA APPROACH

We help our partners understand, build and share evidence of what works to change lives for the better.

SVA has always been an evidence driven organisation. We work with our partners to understand, build and share evidence of what works to change lives for the better.

As part of this, SVA has combined our practical experience with publicly available data and research to present our perspective in four focus areas – Education, Employment, Housing and First Australians – which we know to be significant drivers of better outcomes for people experiencing disadvantage.

Prospective venture partners must demonstrate that their approach aligns with the evidence on what drives better outcomes for their target beneficiaries, outlined in the SVA Perspectives.

You can find the full SVA Perspectives at socialventures.com.au/sva-perspectives/



There are 15 organisational characteristics that SVA believes – and the evidence shows – are important for effectiveness.

In 2017, we launched the *SVA Fundamentals for Impact*, drawing on the collective experience of many global practitioners and experts, international academic evidence on what effective funders and social purpose organisations look like, and SVA’s own experience in Australia over 15 years.

Developed specifically for the social sector, there are 15 organisational characteristics that SVA believes – and the evidence shows – are important for effectiveness.

We use this model to understand how best to partner with the ventures in our portfolio to help grow and scale the impact of their programs.



- ◆ CLIENT CENTRED
- ◆ EFFECTIVELY RUN
- ◆ ENGAGED WITH THE ECOSYSTEM

Find out more about the SVA Fundamentals for Impact at socialventures.com.au/sva-fundamentals-impact

What does SVA mean when we talk about systems change? An overview of our work with Evidence for Learning provides an example.

Over the past two years SVA has incubated and grown Evidence for Learning, to support great practice across all schools and classrooms in Australia.

Despite increasing investment in school education in Australia, national and international tests aren't showing improved results. There is a lack of rigorous evaluation of policies and programs to understand their actual impact on learning, and the knowledge that does exist is not readily accessible or usable.

In 2017 Evidence for Learning demonstrated that it had become an influential voice in the national education debate.

Evidence for Learning builds, shares and encourages the use of evidence to strengthen school decision making and improve students' educational outcomes. It does this through initiatives including the Australian Teaching & Learning Toolkit, which shares the evidence on effective teaching practices through a free online resource; and the Learning Impact Fund, which funds research into the efficacy of promising education programs and approaches.

Evidence for Learning has an ambitious agenda, working with a vast network of stakeholders across the education system. This includes advocating for a national independent evidence provider to help to direct the growing education spend towards high-impact teaching practices.

SVA has been working alongside Evidence for Learning on an intensive campaign involving direct government engagement, coalition building and leading public debate, to build support for this body.

In 2017 Evidence for Learning demonstrated that it had become an influential voice in the national education debate when the *Productivity Commission Inquiry into the Education Evidence Base* adopted many of the recommendations from SVA's submissions.

By the end of 2017 more than 12,300 educators had accessed the Teaching & Learning Toolkit.

At the same time educators and parents are regularly accessing information about effective teaching and learning practices through the Teaching & Learning Toolkit. By the end of 2017 more than 12,300 educators had accessed the Teaching & Learning Toolkit four or more times and a partnership with News Corp in January 2018 shared evidence based learning activities with families nationwide.





2017 VENTURE SNAPSHOT



Information on each venture’s model, progress and funding needs is outlined in the following pages, together with an overview of the support SVA provided in 2017. Venture profiles are organised according to their key area of focus:

 EDUCATION	 EMPLOYMENT	 FIRST AUSTRALIANS	 GRADUATED VENTURES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BackTrack 16 Bright Spots Schools Connection 18 Evidence for Learning 20 Dismantle 22 Mimi’s House 24 Restacking the Odds 26 Wings to Fly 28 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Schoolyard 32 Industry Employment Initiative 34 Vanguard Laundry Services 36 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AIME 40 Malpa 42 Marnin Studio 44 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CareerSeekers 48 High Growth Jobs, Talented Candidates 50 STREAT 52 First Australians Capital 53

Matt worked well with his peers, demonstrating that he had good people skills.

Dismantle (Read Matt's story on page 23)





FUNDING PARTNERS

4 Bevans Foundation

Andrew and Prue Kennard

John Sevier and Rebecca Gorman

The Magnolia Foundation

Sally Foundation

Joined portfolio: May 2017

BACKTRACK

Economic disadvantage is higher in rural and regional Australia compared to urban regions. Rural and regional residents experience higher rates of housing stress, social disengagement, service exclusion and economic exclusion largely due to a lack of access to health support, poorer education outcomes, and declining employment prospects.¹ Young people in these communities are particularly vulnerable and have a greater chance of falling through the cracks. This can result in a lifetime of disadvantage and a deterioration in rural and regional community structures.

HOW BACKTRACK IS ADDRESSING THE ISSUE

BackTrack works with young people in rural and regional communities who are having a hard time to help them turn their lives around. The program assists young people to develop healthy foundations that result in positive life pathways and full participation in their communities.

WHAT'S INNOVATIVE ABOUT IT?

Most existing services in Australia fail to effectively connect and serve the

multiple needs of the most disadvantaged young people. This is often the result of government and other funding for programs being specifically linked to time-bound outcomes. BackTrack takes a different approach, allowing all individuals to develop at their own pace.

All program activities are designed to allow participants to gain a sense of belonging, strong positive identity and the self-belief to pursue their personal aspirations. Effective wrap-around support is provided to participants, which may include accommodation, support through the justice system, mental health support and individualised mentoring.

An evaluation of the program by four universities has measured the following impacts due to a young person's participation in BackTrack over a six month period:

- 87% of graduating program participants in employment or further education
- School suspensions down 70%
- Severe psychological distress halved
- Weekly illicit drug use down 25%
- Reduced crime – juvenile crime has reduced by 55% in Armidale over the 7 years BackTrack has been operating

GOAL OF SVA PARTNERSHIP

As a result of the success achieved in Armidale, BackTrack is receiving overwhelming demand from communities across Australia to support the development of BackTrack style programs in these regions.

SVA is partnering with BackTrack to provide community mentoring support and develop a sustainable and modularised program that will enable efficient scale. This expansion has the potential to result in improved service delivery for young people in rural, regional and remote communities across Australia. Programs will operate with a clear line of sight to work-ready skills development, work experience, and local youth employment.

Currently BackTrack is supporting pilot programs in Bourke, Dubbo, Condobolin and Lake Cargelligo. Discussions are taking place with the communities of Orange, Kempsey, Moree and Tamworth as the next most likely sites to rollout BackTrack's community mentoring support.

The community mentoring project will enable Armidale to act as a centre of excellence which youth workers and community leaders can attend to receive targeted training on how to implement and operate a BackTrack style program.

SVA SUPPORT

2017

Partnership funding: \$150,000 to support BackTrack and enable them to hire new staff and mentor new communities

Capacity building: Supported BackTrack to complete a detailed strategic plan and establish strong operating foundations that will support scale

Evidence: Working to develop a comprehensive evaluation framework that is embedded in program delivery

Networks: Pro bono review to support the review of legal requirements associated with a feature documentary on BackTrack to be released in 2018

Advocacy: Supported BackTrack with knowledge about advocacy opportunities and Government relations

2018

Partnership funding: \$280,000 to support BackTrack and underwrite its community mentoring activities

VENTURE IMPACT

In 2017 BackTrack:

- ✓ Was equipped to support **40 young people** at any one time
- ✓ Expanded its residential support from **4 nights** per week to **7 nights** per week
- ✓ **Launched a Group Training Organisation** that supports young people to transition into mainstream employment

CASE STUDY



From troubled kid, to sustainable work, and a voice for youth on the wrong track

Thirteen-year-old Tyson had experienced significant hardship by the time he arrived at BackTrack in 2011. His family life had broken down and he had completely disengaged from school. He was on a path that many of the BackTrack kids are heading down including crime, homelessness, drug and alcohol abuse.

Tyson's involvement with BackTrack sparked a turning point in Tyson's life.

His involvement with the justice system has considerably reduced and he has obtained year 10 schooling qualifications, despite never getting past year seven in the traditional school system.

He's had a transformative impact on how the justice department staff of this centre view support for juvenile detainees.

During a stint in detention, Tyson started up his own BackTrack style program and ran daily case management and mentoring support for other boys in the centre.

Since being released Tyson has maintained meaningful employment and has aspirations to be a youth worker to help people like himself who are having a hard time.



MAJOR CORPORATE AND TECHNOLOGY PARTNER

Samsung Electronics Australia

With additional funding support from

Cameron Foundation
 Day Family Foundation
 Department of Education and Child Development – SA
 Department of Education and Training – VIC
 Department of Education – NSW
 Mutual Trust Foundation
 Rebecca Gorman and John Sevier
 The Ian Potter Foundation
 The Vaux Family Education and Learning Foundation
 Thyne Reid Foundation

Collaborating partner

ACER

Venture founded: November 2013

BRIGHT SPOTS SCHOOLS CONNECTION

There is a considerable gap in resources and achievement levels within schools from different socio-economic communities.

Students in low socio-economic communities are more likely to start from further behind and by the age of 15, can be up to five times more likely to be low performers than a student in a higher socio-economic area.² Investing in education presents a significant opportunity to boost life choices for young people.

Improving the STEM skills of students is especially important to help them prepare for the changing labour market and unlock access to employment opportunities so they may reap the rewards of a growing economy.

HOW THE BRIGHT SPOTS SCHOOLS CONNECTION IS ADDRESSING THE ISSUE

Founded and convened by SVA, the Bright Spots Schools Connection supports a community of exceptional school leaders in disadvantaged communities to improve the educational outcomes of their students.

STEM Learning is a particular focus for the Bright Spots Schools Connection through our partnership with Samsung Electronics Australia. The STEM Learning Hub brings STEM expertise and support to schools in communities where those resources are most needed.

WHAT'S INNOVATIVE ABOUT IT?

The Bright Spots Schools Connection is a powerful model of professional collaboration and networking design informed by global best practice in education and learning.

The schools are convened in a model of multiple communities of practice. Schools in the network identify priorities then share and refine effective practices together across Australian states. This creates an evidence base that can accelerate school and education systems improvement and impact using action research.

It allows school leaders in tough communities to learn from one another, and effective practice to spread so that the entire system becomes stronger.

GOAL OF SVA PARTNERSHIP

SVA founded the Bright Spots Schools Connection to support the development of strong school leadership and to inform systems transformation, so that all Australian children have access to a great education that sets them up to thrive.

SVA SUPPORT

2017

- Partnership funding:** \$1.94m in support including funding and technology distributions to schools
- Capacity building:** 150 school support visits in 2017 and delivery of the first Connection International Exploration to North America to explore and share education best practice and connect into international networks
- Evidence:** Each of the 50 Connection schools developed a Project Action Plan based on a program logic framework, and committed to sharing their learning within broader systems networks
- Networks:** Four national three day Thought Leadership Gatherings delivered with 120–150 participants attending each event
- Advocacy:**
 - Presented to the Commonwealth Department of Education's STEM Partnership Forum at Parliament House in Canberra, followed up by invitation to respond to the Issues Paper for STEM Industry School Partnerships;
 - Made a submission to the Commonwealth Independent Review into Regional, Rural and Remote Education

2018

- Partnership funding:** Target of \$1.4m in support, including funding and technology distributions to schools
- Capacity building:** Deliver over 150 individual and group activities and further scope potential to scale into rural, remote and regional locations
- Evidence:** Conduct integrated independent evaluation of The Connection focussing on impact on student learning; impact on school leader capacity building; and opportunity to impact systems change
- Networks:** Introduction to business and academic networks to stimulate new ways of thinking

VENTURE IMPACT

In 2017 the Bright Spots Schools Connection:

- ✓ Grew from a network of 26 to **50 schools**
- ✓ Launched the STEM Learning Hub
- ✓ Supported schools across NSW, VIC and SA, representing **2,800 teachers** and **30,000 students**
- ✓ Presented on STEM to the Prime Minister's Community Business Partnership at Parliament House
- ✓ Researched international best practice and opportunities for schools and education systems in Australia
- ✓ Commissioned the Foundation Paper *STEM education for all young Australians* in partnership with Samsung

CASE STUDY



Positive outcomes at Wirreanda

Of the 900 students at Wirreanda Secondary School 10% have an Indigenous background, 12% are on a Negotiated Education Plan for students with disability, and over 40% receive additional government funding to assist in their schooling.

In 2017 Wirreanda, which is situated in Morphett Vale in the southern suburbs of Adelaide, became a Powerhouse School within the STEM Learning Hub – an expansion of the SVA Bright Spots Schools Connection cohort, supported by Samsung Electronics Australia.

While it is still early days for the partnership, it has already sparked a number of positive outcomes.

- Teachers are proactively involved in curriculum change
- Increases in female students opting to take senior STEM subjects has been recorded, and
- The adoption of new approaches like Spirals of Inquiry reflect the school's appetite for improvement and student growth.



MAJOR CORPORATE PARTNER

Commonwealth Bank of Australia

With additional funding support from

Berg Family Foundation
Robert and Lyn Backwell
VicHealth

Collaborating partners

Evidence for Learning has three governance and advisory bodies who provide guidance and direction to Evidence for Learning – the Steering Group, Expert Reference Council and the Research Use and Evaluation Committee. Members of these groups are a diverse range of leading figures from education, academic research, government and business.

Separately, there is an independent panel of evaluators for the Learning Impact Fund, of organisations and research groups with expertise in education research and policy, as well as experience with randomised controlled trials.

For a full list of these valued collaborators and advisors visit evidenceforlearning.org.au

Venture founded: May 2016

EVIDENCE FOR LEARNING

Children in Australia don't have an equal opportunity to access a high-quality education, with children from disadvantaged backgrounds likely to start behind and be at high risk of falling further behind. Education plays a crucial role in improving life chances and makes the biggest difference for learners in disadvantaged settings.³

HOW EVIDENCE FOR LEARNING IS ADDRESSING THE ISSUE

Evidence for Learning builds, shares and encourages the use of evidence to strengthen school decision making, to improve students' educational outcomes. Evidence for Learning initiatives include the Australian Teaching and Learning Toolkit, which shares the evidence on effective teaching practices through an online resource, and the Learning Impact Fund which funds research into the efficacy of promising education programs and approaches.

WHAT'S INNOVATIVE ABOUT IT?

SVA incubated Evidence for Learning to fill a gap in the market for greater evidence in Australian education. It operates as an independent organisation across all sectors of the Australian education system, and is based on the successful model of the UK based Education Endowment Foundation.

GOAL OF SVA PARTNERSHIP

SVA works in partnership with Evidence for Learning to promote wider adoption of evidence based practice throughout the Australian education system. This includes advocating for government support for an independent evidence body that will provide services to all Australian schools and educators.

SVA SUPPORT

2017

-  **Partnership funding:** \$2.56m in funding for four research trials through the Learning Impact Fund
-  **Capacity building:** Worked with nine organisations to build tailored Teaching & Learning Toolkits that map approaches to specific school improvement frameworks required by their governing organisations
-  **Evidence:** Partnered with the NSW Department of Education to link easy-to-digest research directly to the NSW School Excellence Framework for public schools, reaching more than 2,000 schools across NSW
-  **Networks:** Partnered with the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL) to develop practical resources for implementing effective feedback models in schools
-  **Advocacy:** Provided support for direct government engagement, coalition building and leading public debate – in order to build support for a new Australian Education Evidence Broker

2018

-  **Partnership funding:** \$1.95m in funding including \$1.25m for the continuation of Learning Impact Fund trials
-  **Capacity building:** Partnership with Monash University Initial Teacher Education students to equip them with evidence skills
-  **Evidence:** Evaluation results of three Learning Impact Fund trials released
-  **Networks:** Evidence for Learning to share insights with other SVA education projects to improve the evidence ecosystem in education
-  **Advocacy:** Continued government advocacy for an independent evidence body

VENTURE IMPACT

In 2017 Evidence for Learning:

-  Delivered workshops and presentations to more than **2,400** educators across seven states and territories
-  Had more than **12,300** educators access the Australian Teaching & Learning Toolkit four or more times during 2017
-  **294,187** page views for the Australian Teaching and Learning Toolkit
-  **213** schools, **8,597** students and **498** educators took part in Learning Impact Fund trials
-  Productivity Commission Inquiry into the Education Evidence Base adopted many of the recommendations from SVA's submissions
-  Gonski 2.0 review explicitly referenced access to evidence to improve education outcomes nationwide

EDUCATOR VOICES



'We were very much driven by the research and the evidence-based approach that was provided by the Toolkit. All the hard work was done. We had lots of faith that this would work if we implemented it. I believe that it has.'

'You're not picking needles out of a haystack; it's very tailored; it's very catered towards what physically is going to work in the Australian classroom.'

Kath Perrier
Assistant Principal, Lourdes Hill College



FUNDING PARTNERS

Azure Capital Charitable Foundation

Euroz Charitable Foundation

Jon and Caro Stewart Family Foundation

McClement Family Foundation

Impact Investing Discovery Grant – supported by Philanthropy Australia and NAB

Joined portfolio: July 2017

DISMANTLE

Young people in regional communities are often more likely to disengage from education and employment, and are at greater risk of suicide than young people in metro areas. Only 67% of students in regional areas complete year 12 compared to 77% average completion for Western Australia, and young people in regional and rural areas are 1.5–1.8 times more likely to be at risk of suicide.⁴

Despite the increasing need, youth service organisations in regional communities often do not have the capacity to support at-risk young people effectively due to limited access to programs and services, and dependence on external organisations for funding and delivery.

HOW DISMANTLE IS ADDRESSING THE ISSUE

Dismantle's BikeRescue program supports young people in WA to improve their social and emotional wellbeing, while also building transferrable skills. It is run in partnership with youth service providers and transition partners, ensuring appropriate wrap-around support is

available before, during and after the program. Facilitators work with the young people to dismantle and reassemble two bikes each, with participants keeping one for themselves and giving one to a local charity.

To date, Dismantle has supported over 650 young people through over 50 WA based partners.

WHAT'S INNOVATIVE ABOUT IT?

An effective social franchise model will reduce the barriers to scale into both regional and metro areas by reducing the cost of delivering the program. Growing the BikeRescue program through an alternative social franchise model will ensure that the program can be sustainably delivered through agencies in the long term; and more young people can consistently experience the best version of the program.

GOAL OF SVA PARTNERSHIP

SVA is supporting Dismantle to develop a social franchise model for scaling BikeRescue into regional communities. The model recognises the importance of local program delivery for ensuring sustained outcomes in regional communities, and will enable Dismantle to train and equip local partners to effectively deliver the BikeRescue program themselves.

SVA SUPPORT

2017

Partnership funding: \$100,000 to support Dismantle and cover the salary costs of a Program Development Consultant

Capacity building: Initiated research into the licence model

Networks: Pro bono legal advice on the ownership structure of BikeDr

Evidence: Assisted Dismantle in developing a program logic for the BikeRescue program

2018

Partnership funding: \$200,000 to support Dismantle and cover the salary cost of a Program Development Consultant and overheads

Capacity building: Analysing research outcomes, building the pilot program, strategic planning, rolling out the program

Evidence: Developing a framework and systems for data collection so that BikeRescue can build evidence about program effectiveness and integrate that into the pilot design of the model

Networks: Access to pro bono legal, IT and social franchise support and expertise

VENTURE IMPACT

To date BikeRescue has:

- ✓ Worked with over **50** youth agency and school partners
- ✓ Delivered the program over **70** times to more than 650 young people aged 13–17 years old
- ✓ Expanded the model to Geraldton and Karratha

CASE STUDY



How rebuilding a bike helped Matt improve his self-esteem

Before arriving at Dismantle Matt had been missing school and displaying anti-social behaviour.

While refurbishing bikes for Dismantle mentors connected with Matt and he opened up to them about his aspirations in life.

He wants to work with computers once he finishes school. During this time he also discussed the family issues that were behind his decreased attendance at school.

Matt worked well with his peers, demonstrating that he had good people skills and worked well in a team; his mentors encouraged this behaviour and feedback suggested that his social skills and abilities outside of the program improved.

His teachers also reported that he was applying himself with a renewed vigour in his computing and mathematics classes.

By the end of the program Matt had finished two bicycles and his self-esteem improved dramatically. He now has aspirations for his future that he is confident he can achieve.



FUNDING PARTNERS

Bryan Foundation

Montgomery Investment Management

Quinn Femelle PAF

Collaborating partner

University of Queensland – Institute of Social Science Research

Joined portfolio: November 2016

MIMI'S HOUSE

Approximately 5% of children in Queensland's Moreton Bay area are highly vulnerable and are at risk of falling out of the school system. These children often lack the support systems needed to help them develop emotionally, socially and academically at school.

HOW IS MIMI'S HOUSE ADDRESSING THE ISSUE?

Mimi's House supports and empowers children to reengage in school, learning and life. It does this through a 12-month structured mentoring and nurturing program for children from Prep to Year 5.

WHAT'S INNOVATIVE ABOUT IT?

The Mimi's House program uses a child centred approach to empower and equip children to manage their emotions and overcome the challenges they may face at school and in their personal lives. In addition, Mimi's House takes a holistic approach in its support by engaging the family, community, and school networks to ensure that the benefits extend beyond the direct program involvement.

GOAL OF SVA PARTNERSHIP

SVA is supporting Mimi's House to refine and embed the Mimi's House model, replicate the program and build an evidence base that supports wider adoption.

SVA SUPPORT

2017

Partnership funding: \$205,000 to support Mimi's House and provide additional human resources

Capacity building: Provided pitch coaching assistance to Mimi's House founder which led to successful fundraising; strategic program governance advice to build organisational resilience

Evidence: Commenced development of an evaluation framework, including development with the program logic that articulates project outcomes, and brokering a partnership the University of Queensland – Institute of Social Science Research

Networks: Brokered Pro Bono support from QIC to refresh the website; and from lawyers to document program processes

Advocacy: Facilitated discussions with the QLD Department of Education to raise awareness of Mimi's House and seed critical relationships

2018

Partnership funding: \$200,000 to support Mimi's House and provide additional human resources

Capacity building: Supporting the program for replication, including codifying the program model and building staff's strategic fundraising capability

Evidence: Partnering with the University of Queensland Institute of Social Science Research to continue development of a best practice evaluation framework

Networks: Brokering pro bono support for the legal review of Mimi's House operations; development of HR induction processes for recruitment and retention; and facilitating introductions to organisations that can share learnings about replication

VENTURE IMPACT

In 2017 Mimi's House:

✓ Supported **51 children** (up from 30 children the previous year)

✓ Supported **29 families** to connect with local services

On average, over the course of the year, Mimi's House children showed:

- **Improved ability** to pay attention in class
- ✓ **Improved behaviour** including: feeling more physically composed, having fewer fears and worries, sharing more with other children
- **Improved mood**

CASE STUDY



Teaching Noah to trust

Noah was eight when he started his first year at Mimi's House.

He was referred by his school, who had grave concerns about his disengagement from learning, behaviour issues, and mental health.

At first, Noah's behaviour while at Mimi's house was explosively reactive and guarded. On physical contact he would scream 'Don't touch me!'

Over the course of the year Noah gradually came to trust the Mimi's House team, and enjoy himself while there.

He loves to cook and play Minute To Win It.

'They listen and we get to do things, different things, and it's fun!' he says.

'Everyone gets a turn, everyone is involved. It's calm.'

Noah's mum says he didn't have a positive male role model in his life until Mimi's House.

'The only one who has stopped to listen to him is a worker there,' his mum says.

'Now Noah can't stop talking about him.'

His school has also reported positive changes.

Noah now seeks help from his teachers, is more inclined to start set tasks, and his learning has improved.

'It's so good to know that there's someone else out there who knows my son like I do,' Noah's mum says.



FUNDING PARTNERS

Department of Social Services,
Australian Government

Family Foundation

Mitchell Institute

Paul Ramsay Foundation

Collaborating partners

Bain & Company

Family Foundation

Murdoch Children's Research Institute
(MCRI)

Venture founded: July 2016

RESTACKING THE ODDS

Inequities emerging in early childhood often continue into adulthood, contributing to unequal rates of low educational attainment, poor mental and physical health and low income. In some cases, this experience is part of a persistent cycle of intergenerational disadvantage.

Inequities constitute a significant and ongoing social problem and – along with the substantial economic costs – have major implications for public policy.

HOW RESTACKING THE ODDS IS ADDRESSING THE ISSUE

To redress inequities, research tells us that efforts should be delivered during early childhood (pregnancy to eight years of age) to deliver the greatest benefits. Restacking the Odds focuses on five key evidence-based interventions 'that reflect the continuity and complementarity of services needed' after interventions in early childhood: antenatal care; sustained nurse home visiting; early childhood education and care; parenting programs; and the early years of school.

WHAT'S INNOVATIVE ABOUT IT?

The intent of the program is to use a data-driven approach to develop measurable best practice indicators of quality, quantity and participation. These indicators will help identify gaps and priorities in the service systems in Australian communities.

Preliminary indicators will be tested in 10 communities over the next three years to determine which are pragmatic to collect, resonate with communities, and provide robust measures to stimulate community and government action.

GOAL OF SVA PARTNERSHIP

The project is focused on supporting service delivery organisations and funders to understand how to best focus their effort in delivering high quality services that reach the targeted population. The research will apply a structured, quantitative lens to the issues, and simplify the challenging task of identifying priorities for action across a complex ecosystem.

SVA SUPPORT

2017



SVA has been involved in Restacking the Odds since its inception, participating in the process to formulate the design and focus of research. SVA's ongoing role includes providing strategic direction for the project and supporting the process of translating the research into policy and practice



The research project has secured three years of funding

2018



Over the next 12 months the collaborating partners will commence publication of research findings and test the Restacking the Odds evidence based measurement framework in another two communities to understand how services are delivered and identify opportunities for change





FUNDING PARTNERS

Bryan Foundation

Crawford Foundation

Collaborating partners

Griffith University

Joined portfolio: June 2017

WINGS TO FLY

One in five children are starting school vulnerable in at least one of the five developmental domains.⁵

Research has shown that social and emotional wellbeing is a critical enabler for children to develop numeracy and literary skills. At the same time there is a gap in the capacity of early years' professionals to support children to build their social and emotional wellbeing.

HOW WINGS TO FLY IS ADDRESSING THE ISSUE

Informed by neuroscience, Wings to Fly delivers training programs to early years' professionals that builds their understanding, capacity and strategies to support children's resilience and wellbeing. By recognising how to observe certain behaviours, activities can be adopted which help stimulate specific neurological pathways needed for learning. The program is being delivered to educators in Queensland, NSW and Victoria, and the online platform will shortly enable training throughout Australia.

WHAT'S INNOVATIVE ABOUT IT?

The Wings to Fly training program is unique in equipping educators with enhanced observational techniques and tailored activities designed to specifically stimulate the brain functionality needed for learning. By bringing together developments in neurological science and education systems, Wings to Fly educators are able to nurture specific areas of neurological development, establishing better learning outcomes for children.

GOAL OF SVA PARTNERSHIP

SVA is supporting Wings to Fly to grow the reach of its program by supporting development and implementation of different modes of training delivery, while growing its income base.

SVA SUPPORT

2017

- Partnership funding:** \$220,000 to support Wings to Fly and hire additional trainers
- Capacity building:** Strategic sounding board to CEO and support to develop business growth plans
- Evidence:** Supported knowledge partnership with Griffith University to measure the outcomes of the Wings to Fly program for early years professionals and young children
- Networks:** Brokered pro bono support for recruitment of new Wings to Fly trainers
- Advocacy:** Commenced discussions with parliamentary representatives about the Wings to Fly program and its benefits to the early years sector

2018

- Partnership funding:** \$340,000 to support Wings to Fly and hire additional trainers to support program growth
- Capacity building:** Support to model and implement organisational growth priorities
- Evidence:** Continue knowledge partnership with Griffith University to build the evidence base and share learnings
- Networks:** Pro bono support to be leveraged on an as needs basis

VENTURE IMPACT

In 2017 Wings to Fly:

- ✓ Supported **138** early years professionals
- ✓ Delivered training across **30** early years centres across South East Queensland
- ✓ Participants reported feeling more supported and better resourced to undertake their work, with **96%** reporting they now had a high or very high understanding of how to better foster wellbeing in children
- ✓ **Improved confidence** of staff to engage with children that have experienced trauma and their parents

CASE STUDY



Look at a child differently, see a different child

The strength of the Wings to Fly program is that it challenges educators to think about not only what to 'do' with children, but also how to 'be' with children.

Occasional Childcare Director Kellie Dykes says Wings to Fly training provides practical strategies and experiences that can be immediately incorporated and embedded into childcare programs.

'It incorporated theories and studies into the impact of trauma and attachment on the developing brain, demonstrated a change of practices in the language we use in our interactions, and a shift to greater awareness,' she says.

'It gave us the skills to support children with the strategies to become comfortable with the emotions they are feeling and to gain self-confidence to listen to others, show empathy, and build positive relationships.'

'It's been really good for helping me gain self-confidence, the skills I need, and to feel supported in my decisions.'

Community Schoolyard (Read Kelly's story on page 33)





FUNDING PARTNERS

Citi Foundation

Department of Social Services,
Australian Government

Collaborating partner

United Way Australia

Venture founded: October 2015

COMMUNITY SCHOOLYARD

Youth unemployment continues to be a persistent problem in Australia, reaching as high as 30% in some communities in Western Sydney. Around 20% of students at Rooty Hill High School and 10% at Plumpton High School are not in education or employment soon after finishing school, compared to a national benchmark of 6%. Also, many schools within Western Sydney are not coordinating effectively with support services to provide students with the support they need.

HOW COMMUNITY SCHOOLYARD IS ADDRESSING THE ISSUE

Community Schoolyard is working to increase economic participation among young people by working collaboratively across Western Sydney. It works with schools to better understand the transition of their students, with local employers to identify training pathways leading to jobs, and with a wide range of local service providers to better coordinate initiatives and achieve sustained outcomes for young people.

WHAT'S INNOVATIVE ABOUT IT?

Community Schoolyard seeks to create systems change through empowering a community to have impact. It has sought to implement a place-based or collective impact approach targeting school retention, youth unemployment and improved transitions.

The primary difference for this project is its approach to the co-ordination and brokerage of partnerships and services across sectors, as well as co-designing the types of interventions with students, their teachers and schools.

GOAL OF SVA PARTNERSHIP

SVA is implementing the Community Schoolyard project to support school students in Western Sydney make more effective post school transition towards further education, training or employment.

SVA SUPPORT

2017

Partnership funding: \$280,000 in support including \$200,000 distribution to United Way Australia to implement the project in Rooty Hill and Plumpton High Schools

2018

Partnership funding: \$135,000 in support including \$75,000 distribution to United Way to deploy the project in five other schools across Western Sydney

VENTURE IMPACT

In 2017 Community Schoolyard:

- ✓ Has grown to an initiative supporting **seven schools**
- ✓ **Supported 265** students through workshops, group conversations and one-on-one meetings
- ✓ Communicated to stakeholders including state and federal agencies, local government bodies, MPs and corporates on interim insights

CASE STUDY



'Helping me get the skills I need'

At Rooty Hill High School in New South Wales, Community Schoolyard provides students with skills-building and mentoring opportunities which make the transition between school and work easier.

Kelly, a year 12 student involved in the program, says it's helped her gain the confidence required to look for a job and career in an industry she's passionate about: business administration.

'It was good to have different things thrown at me to consider, rather than to just get any job,' she says.

'I definitely feel more connected with the opportunities available to me and have learnt how to set goals and identify work opportunities.'

The program teaches students skills that those in more affluent areas might take for granted – how to prepare for an interview, how to talk about personal strengths, and to explain how skills might be applicable to an employer.

That support comes by exposing students like Kelly to mentors with professional careers who can provide career advice and guidance, networks these students might ordinarily have trouble accessing.

These volunteer mentors, from businesses including Kofax, Sydney Pacifica and Western Sydney Migrant Resource Centre, talk to the students about how they began their careers, share their knowledge and experience, and encourage them to follow their dreams.

'We had some fun, but they were so supportive of me,' Kelly says.

'I'd never met anyone like them before, so it was quite good to have this connection.

'It's been really good for helping me gain self-confidence, the skills I need, and to feel supported in my decisions.'





FUNDING PARTNERS

Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources – VIC

Collaborating partners

Business Council of Australia
Coles
Jesuit Social Services

Venture founded: June 2014

INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT INITIATIVE

The national unemployment rate in Australia sits at 5.4% which equates to more than 700,000 people actively seeking work. Alarming, over 550,000 have been actively looking for work for over a year, severely impacting their livelihood and increasing their likelihood of experiencing disadvantage. Conversely, national employers have the resources to hire and train these individuals, yet only 7% engage the current government employment system to recruit staff.

HOW THE INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT INITIATIVE IS ADDRESSING THE ISSUE

The Industry Employment Initiative seeks to improve outcomes for job seekers at risk of or experiencing long term unemployment by engaging employers in the design of training and employment pathways for this cohort. Job seekers are provided with bespoke training, work placements and wrap-around support to support their transition into employment.

WHAT'S INNOVATIVE ABOUT IT?

The Industry Employment Initiative is a demand-led employment model that meets the recruitment needs of large employers while improving outcomes for job seekers experiencing disadvantage. The Industry Employment Initiative's unique model positions SVA as an intermediary between Jobs Victoria as the funder, Jesuit Social Services as the service provider, and large employer partners with a recruitment need.

GOAL OF SVA PARTNERSHIP

SVA is working to improve collaboration and communication between employers, employment agencies and service providers in order to improve outcomes for job seekers. Lessons from the project are forming an evidence base for reform of the national job services system to better meet the needs of both employers and long-term job seekers.

SVA SUPPORT

2017

- Partnership funding:** \$457,000 of support for the project including a \$78,000 distribution to Jesuit Social Services as the service provider
- Capacity building:** Worked with Jesuit Social Services to ensure regular re-evaluation of pre-employment training sessions and employer engagement
- Evidence:** Created data collection frameworks to assist Jesuit Social Services to better measure and evaluate project outputs
- Networks:** Established strong relationships across the Jobs Victoria service provider network
- Advocacy:** Ongoing engagement with the State Government Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources

2018

- Capacity building:** Work with Jesuit Social Services to drive continual improvement of service design and delivery, embedding best practice principles and achieving contract targets
- Evidence:** Collect quantitative and qualitative data to build evidence base
- Networks:** Continue to strengthen Government networks and increase the number of employer-partners and third-party service providers

VENTURE IMPACT

In 2017 Industry Employment Initiative:

- Moved further towards its goal of creating **220** supported employment opportunities for disadvantage job seekers in Victoria
- 135 long-term unemployed jobseekers** were enrolled in pre-employment training, resulting in **56 long-term jobseekers** being placed in employment. Nine employers across four regions in Victoria are now involved the program

CASE STUDY



What does getting a job mean to a long-term job seeker?

'It's meant I've got a reason to get out of bed every day,' Bill* says.

There are many contributing factors to long-term unemployment. Many people have little work experience; they face additional challenges as a result of extended exclusion from the labour market including low self-confidence and limited work skills.

Skills and confidence are the keys to employment and both are elements addressed by the Industry Employment Initiative (IEI).

The demand-led employment program partners with industry to provide long-term unemployed Australians with the support, training and line of sight to ongoing employment with supportive employers.

For Bill, the opportunity afforded by the IEI was a job in hospitality, at a Melbourne-based hotel of a global brand.

Bill participated in a three-week bespoke training program co-designed by the employer and the IEI. This program helped build his confidence, taught him industry-based content that was relevant to the role on offer and included a personal presentation and grooming module which ensured that he met the five-star standards of the hotel.

It's the first real support, Bill says, that he received during his period of unemployment. His prior experience with job agencies had him doing little more than applying for jobs.

'It's 100% better. I'd rather do (training) than spend a month with no job,' he says.

A representative from one of the National IEI employer partners says that the IEI gives companies the confidence to look beyond a candidate's lack of experience.

'It's a more practical way of getting people into the business who genuinely want to work.'

'The entire team and all partners were extremely passionate about it and the level of support to the program and candidates was considerable. The pre-vocational training, I'd never see that done before. It was very helpful.'

*The name of the IEI participant has been changed to respect their privacy.



FUNDING PARTNER

Rebecca Gorman and John Seviour

The Permsew Foundation

With additional direct funding support from

Rob Keldoulis
VivCourt

Joined portfolio: March 2017

VANGUARD LAUNDRY SERVICES

People with mental health issues experience significant long-term unemployment and stigma related to their health issue. In 2011–12, 62% of working age Australians with a mental illness were employed, compared to 80% of those without a mental illness.⁶

HOW VANGUARD IS ADDRESSING THIS ISSUE

Vanguard Laundry Services creates employment opportunities for people previously excluded from the workforce, predominately due to mental health conditions.



WHAT'S INNOVATIVE ABOUT IT?

Vanguard is on track to become a sustainable social enterprise with an in-house Career Development Centre to support disadvantaged jobseekers into sustainable career opportunities.

The venture leverages the purchasing power of large businesses to create social enterprise procurement opportunities that enables job creation for disadvantaged job seekers.



GOAL OF SVA PARTNERSHIP

SVA is working to help Vanguard to grow from an idea to a financially sustainable, high impact social enterprise within 10 years, with 500 FTE (1,000 jobs) and 5,000 lives positively affected.

SVA SUPPORT

2017

Partnership funding: \$150,000 to support Vanguard Laundry Services and help consolidate its operating model

Capacity building: Built the 2017 financial model for Vanguard, enabling the organisation to understand its position and set clear targets. SVA also sat on the Board and helped shape the building blocks of the organisation, including finance, risk, HR, and governance

Evidence: Provided input into the Theory of Change workshop, run by the Centre for Social Impact at Swinburne University

Networks: Introduced Vanguard to a funder who provided a low-cost loan to the organisation to accelerate growth

Advocacy: Based on the Vanguard experience, SVA has developed a Contract Readiness Support initiative aiming to deliver more social procurement deals

2018

Partnership funding: \$150,000 to support Vanguard Laundry Services and help consolidate its operating model

Capacity building: Support to develop the strategic plan for the next three years including scoping replication opportunities through negotiation, financial modelling and legal advice

Evidence: Working with the Board to refine the social model and increase the number of successful job transitions to other employers

Networks: Building a network of support for replication to one additional site in 2018/19

VENTURE IMPACT

In 2017 Vanguard:

- ✓ Employed **32 staff members** at 30 June 2017, including 23 target group staff (72%)
- ✓ Achieved a **90%** retention rate at 26 weeks for people living with mental illness, vs a 14% retention rate at 13 weeks achieved by Department of Employment Services programs
- ✓ Grew laundry revenues by **500%**
- ✓ 81 days saved in the Toowoomba Mental Health Ward for staff compared to the previous 12 months – a **\$243,000 benefit** to the health system
- ✓ Wellbeing index showed Vanguard staff **10% happier** than the national average

CASE STUDY



Empowering James with money and meaning

James* had applied for numerous jobs, but nobody would hire him. At one point he spent an entire year trying to get hired.

When he finally did get a job, it didn't work out because of the workplace's perceptions around mental illness.

Today James has steady employment with Vanguard Laundry. It has improved his sense of self.

Working in an environment that feels safe has made life just that little bit easier. He's particularly pleased to be following in the footsteps of his father, who also used to work in a laundry.

'I'm proud of Dad for doing what he did, I'm very proud to be able to work in a laundry too,' he says.

Steady employment has made a real, positive impact on James life. He was able to save enough money to make a special trip to Sydney to see his daughter for the first time.

While he was nervous, it turned out to be a great weekend and his daughter said it was everything she wanted.

'Working in the laundry suits me down to a tee!' he says.

*The name of the employee has been changed to respect their privacy.

For June, Marnin Studio is a place where she can earn money doing what she loves.

Marnin Studio *(Read June's story on page 45)*





AIME

Indigenous young people's Year 12 attainment rate is 61.5% compared to their non-Indigenous peers' school attainment rate at 86.4%.⁷

HOW IS AIME ADDRESSING THE ISSUE?

AIME is a mentoring program based at universities that builds a bridge back to the most disadvantaged high school kids. It aims to have every one of the high school kids it reaches through to university, employment or further education and training.

WHAT'S INNOVATIVE ABOUT IT?

AIME demonstrates how effective support and inclusion enables Indigenous students to perform as well at school as non-Indigenous students. The program is based on three key insights:

1. Indigenous identity is a reason for success, not failure
2. Once kids feel secure in their Indigenous identity, they have the strength, grounding and knowledge to operate in more than one world
3. From a base of belonging and self-worth, education gives kids a voice, power and influence to make the world fairer.

GOAL OF SVA PARTNERSHIP

SVA has supported AIME since 2009, providing hands on capacity building, funding and introduction to the networks that have enabled AIME to grow from supporting 25 students to having supported over 10,000 students by the end of 2017. SVA provided \$50,000 to AIME in 2017.

VENTURE IMPACT

In 2017 AIME:

- ✓ Reached **7,522 mentees** and **1,674 mentors**
- ✓ Served **3 new communities**
- ✓ **Grew revenue** by 16%
- ✓ **Went global** – sharing the model with partners in South Africa, Uganda and Canada

AIME will graduate from the SVA venture portfolio in mid-2018.

CASE STUDY



AIME taught me to be proud of my culture

Destiny Gittens was removed from her biological mother's care when she was two years old.

'I don't remember being put into foster care but I do remember crying when I read an article written about me under her care,' she says.

'I read how DHS rocked up to her doorstep one day and she was in the lounge room with her boyfriend. There were alcohol bottles everywhere. A DHS worker walked into my room and saw me on the floor with a soaking wet diaper and alcohol bottles near me.'

Destiny joined AIME in 2014 and credits the organisation with helping her grow into the confident young woman she is today.

'Throughout the years I've been bullied about my weight and my cultural background. I've been called 'Gorilla' or 'petrol sniffer'. Sometimes they would call me a 'dumb black abo',' she says.

'At first it hurt, but my mentors and elders taught me that I shouldn't let it affect me. Our culture is the longest living culture in the world. The words that bullies threw at me only motivated me to teach them the meaning and story behind our culture.'

Destiny plans to attend university to study photography and eventually become an AIME mentor herself.



FUNDING PARTNER

Rebecca Gorman and John Seviour

Joined portfolio: July 2017

MALPA

There is vast inequality in health outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians, with a gap in life expectancy of around 10 years.⁸

HOW MALPA IS ADDRESSING THE ISSUE

Malpa supports community based leadership and draws upon traditional First Australian methods of promoting health and wellbeing for First Australians. Community leaders are empowered to lead inclusive health and wellbeing leadership programs that combine old and new ways of teaching.

WHAT'S INNOVATIVE ABOUT IT?

Malpa's approach is built upon traditional ways that First Australians promoted health and wellbeing among their people. Under the model schools, Elders, community health providers and First Australians are brought together under a collective vision to support young people to develop strong foundations and engagement. Respect for Indigenous

culture drives program activities and provides a strong connection between First Australians and mainstream community services. Young Doctors who participate in the program are effective in sharing learnings with their peers and family members, broadening the reach of Malpa's teachings.

Evidence has shown that Malpa's Young Doctors program results in:

- Improved school attendance for highly disadvantaged students
- Greater awareness and respect for First Australian culture within primary schools
- Strengthened health literacy and participation with health services by young people
- More positive interactions between Indigenous parents and schools.

GOAL OF SVA PARTNERSHIP

SVA is supporting Malpa to strengthen its program and organisational foundations to better support communities to lead inclusive health and wellbeing initiatives. Through strengthening organisational foundations, Malpa will have a strong platform from which to scale.

SVA SUPPORT

2017

- Partnership funding:** \$140,000 to support Malpa
- Capacity building:** Supported Malpa with their three year strategic planning and project forecasting to provide a clear mission aligned pathway to scale
- Evidence:** Supported Malpa to develop operating processes and strategic planning that will enable evaluation and data collection processes to be embedded into day-to-day program operations in 2018
- Networks:** Provided introductions and support to Malpa to connect with pro bono legal and HR advice

2018

- Partnership funding:** \$280,000 to support Malpa, hire an Indigenous Community Director and strengthen in-community capacity development
- Capacity building:** Develop a detailed strategy for community expansion; training and operational support to deliver on-ground capacity building support to community program staff
- Evidence:** Evaluation framework and data collection strategy to track longitudinal outcomes; detailed review of core program attributes driving success
- Networks:** Ongoing connection to pro bono partners as needs are identified

VENTURE IMPACT

In 2017 Malpa:

- ✓ Ran **20 programs** across 10 communities
- ✓ Supported **300 Young Doctors**
- ✓ Employed **20+** Indigenous community members
- ✓ Piloted the expansion of the Young Doctors program to **Year 5 students**

CASE STUDY



Training Young Doctors to Close the Gap

Five years ago, Malpa founder Don Palmer was visiting a First Australian community in Alice Springs, and the level of sickness and general poor health experienced by people shocked him.

He spoke with the community's Elders and asked how this happened. The Elders spoke about how health interventions don't consider the Aboriginal way, or seriously involve Aboriginal people.

For First Australian communities health knowledge has traditionally been passed down from those with knowledge to a few young children, who have the right outlook, aptitude and attitude. These children then grow up with the knowledge, and sense of responsibility, necessary to improve the health and wellbeing of their community.

Malpa's Young Doctor project draws upon this traditional knowledge, and western practice of medicine, to improve health outcomes in First Australian communities. To date the program has taught more than 1000 Young Doctors, between the ages of nine and 11, to be health ambassadors and positive role models within their communities.

And it's having an impact. Palmer gives the example of a young Dhalayi Doctor in Kempsey who was a reluctant participant in the project. He'd long been disruptive in mainstream class. He began the 15-week course in grade four, and would make trouble in nearly every session. When the program came to an end he asked to continue to participate.

'Next time around he was outside the meeting room often fifteen minutes early and asking how he could help.'

'He became something of a role model to the other Dhalayi Doctors. At the end of last year he was elected by his fellow students as head student.'



FUNDING PARTNER

Azure Capital Charitable Foundation

IJM Foundation

Jon and Caro Stewart Family Foundation

McClement Family Foundation

Rob Thomas

Joined portfolio: June 2016

MARNIN STUDIO

Many Indigenous women and families living in remote communities face immense challenges including family violence, intergenerational trauma, health and wellbeing, as well as limited employment and economic opportunities. Their strength and resilience is compromised by multiple complex problems, including historical and ongoing dispossession, marginalisation, and racism, as well as the legacy of past policies of forced removal and cultural assimilation.⁹ These issues contribute to the high levels of poverty, unemployment, violence, and substance abuse seen in many Indigenous communities. They also impact negatively on Indigenous children, who demonstrate poor health, educational, and social outcomes when compared to non-Indigenous children.⁹

HOW MARNIN STUDIO IS ADDRESSING THE ISSUE

Marnin Studio is an arts and therapeutic studio operating out of the Marninwarntikura Women's Resource Centre (MWRC) in Fitzroy Crossing. The studio is one of the many wrap-around services that MWRC has to support women through the complex issues they face in healing from intergenerational trauma.

Marnin Studio particularly supports local women to heal in a culturally appropriate manner that is safe and therapeutic, whilst also developing skills and an income. This is done through healing and building intergenerational cultural pride, by creating and selling quality art products.

Marnin Studio has a strong focus on creating a wider community impact through the women becoming cultural leaders and engaging women in surrounding communities.

WHAT'S INNOVATIVE ABOUT IT?

Marnin Studio sits within an organisation that provides wrap around services to women dealing with entrenched intergenerational trauma. Women are supported to heal, build skills, share cultural knowledge and pride, and receive income through the sale of their artworks.

GOAL OF SVA PARTNERSHIP

SVA is supporting MWRC and Marnin Studio to broaden support for the women of Fitzroy Crossing and surrounding communities, by creating a model that can play an integral role in providing a good balance of economic empowerment, skills development and wrap-around support for the women, whilst maintaining an environment that is sensitive to complex intergenerational trauma of women and children.

SVA SUPPORT

2017

Partnership funding: \$220,000 to support Marnin Studio and hire a studio manager

Capacity building: Helped develop business systems and processes, which allow the studio to accurately, efficiently and consistently track and report their work

Networks: Provided introduction to legal firms for pro bono legal advice and development of contracts

Evidence: Assisted the studio to develop a Measurement, Evaluation and Learning framework, as well as data collection processes, to better track their impact

2018

Partnership funding: \$220,000 to support Marnin Studio and contribute to staffing costs and overheads

Capacity building: Support refining current processes and systems to ensure the organisation can meet its long-term goals. Business planning support will also ensure growth

Evidence: Sharing insights on successfully building an enterprise in a remote community within a trauma informed and service delivery environment with other similar enterprises

Networks: Facilitating legal, financial, and IT support for the studio through pro bono networks

VENTURE IMPACT

In 2017 Marnin Studio:

- ✓ Had **83** registered artists attend with **20–30 women** attending each week (average attendance of **40%**)
- ✓ **7 women** on average participating every day

CASE STUDY



Therapy, income, and community

For June Smith, Marnin Studio is a place where she can earn money doing what she loves.

June has worked and lived in the Bayulu community near Fitzroy Crossing in the Kimberly region of Western Australia for most of her life.

'A long time ago I worked at Go Go Station School (now Bayulu School), as a teacher's aid, teaching sewing to Grade 1 students with some old people,' she says.

'I've worked at the Bayulu Store and a cook for a while for the old people. I started working on screen printing with Cherry Smiler and some other ladies on silk screening at Bayulu many years ago.'

Today June is back sewing again, as part of the (Marnin Studio) art therapy program. She creates designs and makes them into block prints and screen prints, and local bush dyes to be used on cotton, linen, and silk.

'I like working at Marnin Studio because I can relax and ease my mind doing the things I love,' she says.

'I feel happy with all the women around here and getting creative. I would love to see more women coming to be involved, especially the younger girls.'

As she began to bake, Zoe who at first was quiet, shy and withdrawn, began to open up.

STREAT (Read Zoe's story on page 52)





FUNDING PARTNER

JPMorgan Chase Foundation

Joined portfolio: October 2016

CAREERSEEKERS

Humanitarian entrants are among the most vulnerable groups when it comes to labour market integration. With labour force participation rates of humanitarian arrivals at 29%, compared with 61% for those born abroad and 68% for native-born Australians.

HOW CAREERSEEKERS IS ADDRESSING THE ISSUE

CareerSeekers is an adaptation of the successful CareerTrackers Indigenous Internship Program. It opens up professional employment opportunities for skilled humanitarian arrivals in Australia so that they can integrate into the labour market.

SVA specifically worked with CareerSeekers on their mid-career internship program. Program participants are humanitarian arrivals with overseas tertiary qualifications and relevant work experience. Participants undertake paid internships that provide local experience, a local reference and help them establish a network within their chosen profession.

WHAT'S INNOVATIVE ABOUT IT?

CareerSeekers draws upon the CareerTrackers methodology and partners to strengthen employment outcomes for a group of Australians who are similarly disadvantaged in the Australian workforce. It demonstrates the adaption of one program to another cohort and shows strong potential to develop similar programs for other cohorts of job seekers.

One of the core attributes of success of CareerSeekers is its focus on developing strong partnerships with corporate employers. This provides a direct line of sight to employment opportunities for program participants and provides real world training, work experience and supportive personal connections for humanitarian arrivals. This helps to overcome personal and professional barriers to work and provides corporates with a deeper level of insight into the experiences and cultural values that humanitarian arrivals bring to Australia.

GOAL OF SVA PARTNERSHIP

With support from J.P. Morgan, SVA assisted CareerSeekers in developing the foundations to scale beyond the pilot stage.

SVA SUPPORT

2017

- Partnership funding:** Funding support for the below activities
- Capacity building:** Support to develop the foundations required to scale its program
- Evidence:** Advice on the development of an evaluation framework to track outcomes and ensure a robust evidence base is developed as the program scales
- Networks:** Referrals to corporate partners who are able to support with training for CareerSeekers interns

VENTURE IMPACT

In 2017 CareerSeekers:

- Supported **127** participants to undertake pre-employment training
- Supported **97** participants to secure employment
- Secured **46** employment partners to provide internships for humanitarian arrivals

CareerSeekers graduated from the SVA venture portfolio in October 2017.



CASE STUDY



The arc of Rami Habeeb's life has been shaped by war.

Habeeb was born in Northern Iraq the eldest of five siblings. His father was a math teacher and his mother a surveyor at the local council. They would tell him about stories about how wonderful their lives at university were.

'I always had that bright image in my mind. For me, because of war, it was a very different experience,' he says.

Habeeb studied at the University of Mosul from 2002 to 2006, during the height of the Iraq war. He remembers bullets crashing through windows and hitting the blackboard during a lecture.

One day, a car bomb exploded close to campus killing and injuring a number of students.

'Once I have seen something like that, I cannot unsee it,' Habeeb says.

'All mobile network services were shut down for security reasons. When I was able to get back home that day, there was my mother at the front of the house crying. She had been waiting for news of me all that time.

'She begged me not to go back to university.'

Despite the dangers, Habeeb would complete his degree and begin a career in telecoms. By 2013 Iraq had become too dangerous. He and his family made the difficult decision to leave their home.

Arriving in Australia in 2016 as a refugee Habeeb, who by this point had over 10 years' experience as a telecom engineer, couldn't land a job interview. He was eventually referred to CareerSeekers who helped him secure an internship at Ericsson. The internship eventually led to full time position as a network engineer.

'Without this internship I might not be working, or I might have settled for a job well below my capabilities,' he says.

'I feel happy again. Finally my life aligned with my goals. I live safely with my family, and I'm back working in the field in which I'm qualified and passionate.'



FUNDING PARTNERS

NSW Department of Family and Community Services

Collaborating partner

Australian Network on Disability (AND)

Venture founded: July 2015

HIGH GROWTH JOBS, TALENTED CANDIDATES

The labour force participation rate of people with disability has remained low, at around 53% for more than 20 years.

HOW HIGH GROWTH JOBS, TALENTED CANDIDATES IS ADDRESSING THE ISSUE

High Growth Jobs, Talented Candidates mission was to increase the number of people with disability in employment through improving the confidence and capacity of employers in high growth industries to employ people with disability. As part of this project, an online Access and Inclusion Index was developed and a demand-led job brokerage approach implemented in high job growth industries.

WHAT'S INNOVATIVE ABOUT IT?

The initiative sought to fill a gap in existing services, taking a demand-led brokerage approach focusing on the needs of employers and candidates to ensure an effective job match. The High Growth Jobs, Talented Candidates project has also contributed to the evidence base on disability employment.

GOAL OF SVA PARTNERSHIP

Insights emerging from the High Growth Jobs, Talented candidates project will assist SVA and collaborating partners to influence the development of employment policy, particularly the current design of the Disability Employment Services models ahead of National Disability Insurance Scheme rollout.

SVA SUPPORT

2017

- Partnership funding:** \$1.5m was allocated to the project, including a \$900,000 allocation to Australian Network on Disability
- Capacity building:** Established the measurement and evaluation framework, reporting, and communication strategy for the project
- Evidence:** Completed an end of project review that identified key learnings, successes, challenges, and future opportunities to create real impact in this space
- Networks:** Facilitated conversations with the Australian Network on Disability, employers and other key stakeholders, creating opportunities for people with disability to move into employment

VENTURE IMPACT

In 2017 High Growth Jobs, Talented Candidates:

- ✓ Partnered with **8 large employers** including Compass Group, Uniting, IAG, Life Without Barriers, Fujitsu, Infosys, Accor, Australian Unity
- Saw **210** job seekers engaged with providers through information sessions. **142 job seekers** applied for jobs through the program.
- ✓ Of the applicants, **39** secured a job (**27%**). This includes two university undergraduates who first secured a paid internship and were subsequently offered a job. An additional two undergraduates participated in paid internships
- ✓ Importantly, the experience for candidates participating in the project has been overwhelmingly positive, and includes increased confidence
- ✓ Employers and government better understand the conditions needed to bring employees with disability into the workforce

High Growth Jobs, Talented Candidates graduated from the SVA venture portfolio in 2017.

CASE STUDY



John* had been looking for work for 'too long'.

'I think my disability put other employers off after I disclosed it to them,' he says.

'I found it difficult to find work. I struggled to get interviews because most applications are just online. I want to meet people face to face. It was very stressful.'

Recently John's period of long-term employment came to an end when he got a job as a café assistant with Compass Group, a leading hospitality and services company that provides services at Westpac Group's corporate offices in Barangaroo.

Day to day, John is required to restock the fridge in the café as well as provide extra support on the other levels. He is also expanding his skills through extra training.

'It is a good lift up to have this opportunity. It has given me a confidence boost and I didn't have to rely on family. I did it myself,' he said.

The Australian Network on Disability and Max Employment worked with Compass Group to help improve managers' confidence when recruiting and hiring people with disability. Additionally, they adapted the interview process so it was less formal, and John could have a support person with him.

The process saw John attend four day pre-employment training which gave him a boost in confidence ahead of his first day on the job.

'It feels so good to have an income and not rely on the disability support pension,' John says.

'Compass and Westpac have been good, because they understand.'

'I can be open about my disability.'

*The name of the employee has been changed to respect their privacy.



STREAT

44,000 young Australians under the age of 25 are homeless, with 57% of them destined for long-term unemployment. 52% are looking for a job.¹⁰

HOW STREAT IS ADDRESSING THE ISSUE

STREAT is a social enterprise helping homeless young people to have a stable self, stable job and stable home. Through its six hospitality businesses in Melbourne STREAT provides young people with supported pathways to employment – including assistance finding stable housing, vocational skills, improved mental health and wellbeing.

WHAT'S INNOVATIVE ABOUT IT?

STREAT demonstrates how social enterprise can become financially sustainable and effectively provide pathways to employment for the most disadvantaged in society.

GOAL OF SVA PARTNERSHIP

Over an eight year partnership SVA worked with STREAT to prove, improve and scale its operations to reach more young people and become increasingly financially sustainable. SVA and STREAT will continue to advocate for systems change through sharing insights from the STREAT model to advocating for employment services reform.

SVA SUPPORT

2017

Partnership funding: \$65,000 to support STREAT

Capacity building: Support to refinance the loan it used to build the Cromwell St site

STREAT graduated from the SVA venture portfolio in June 2017.

VENTURE IMPACT

In 2017 STREAT:

- ✓ Worked with **346 young people**, bringing the total to **845 young people** over STREAT's first eight years
- ✓ Young people rated their sense of belonging at STREAT at **100%**
- ✓ **92%** are employed or in further training 6 months after completing their main course
- ✓ **91%** have maintained or improved their housing situation during their course

STREAT has grown from helping 15 young people in 2010 to 346 in 2017. STREAT continues to grow its business operations, with sites regularly smashing sales records. STREAT is now over **70% self-funded** through its business, and its new Cromwell St site will help STREAT on its journey towards financial sustainability

CASE STUDY



A budding patisserie owner overcomes difficult circumstance

When Zoe arrived at STREAT as a 16-year-old, she was struggling.

Her life at home was troubled, and she desperately wanted to find work so that she could move out of home and live independently.

She'd completed year eight at a Steiner School, but after transitioning to a mainstream school in year nine, she hit a wall. A breakdown meant she was unable to complete her education.

Determined not to give up, Zoe looked for other options. She loved to bake, and when she learned about STREAT she signed up for its Entrée program. She decided to do work experience at STREAT's brand new artisan bakery.

As she began to bake, Zoe who at first was quiet, shy and withdrawn, began to open up.

The STREAT team got to know an intelligent and deeply sensitive young woman, full of ambition. At the same time they began to learn just how difficult Zoe's life was. She had been caring for a parent who was struggling under the weight of a serious drug addiction.

Zoe opted to continue with STREAT, accepting a place in its intensive Main Course training program, where she excelled. This was despite a series of fainting spells, which the team discovered were caused by barely eating. Her family had less than \$20 a week for groceries.

STREAT was able to feed Zoe and send her home with food on a regular basis, enabling her to complete her qualifications and the entire twenty-week course. Thanks to her exceptional effort, STREAT had no problem placing Zoe with Epicure.

Zoe has been with Epicure since her graduation in mid-2017 and loves it. Her goal is to become a pastry chef, and to one day open her own patisserie.



FIRST AUSTRALIANS CAPITAL

Many First Australians face significant economic exclusion from society, and experience intergenerational economic disadvantage. The 2018 Closing the Gap Report has identified that after a decade of government investment only three of the seven targets are on track. Halving the unemployment rate, the target most closely linked to economic development, is one of the three targets to expire having never being met.

HOW FIRST AUSTRALIANS CAPITAL IS ADDRESSING THE ISSUE

First Australians Capital is an Indigenous led non-Government organisation that provides enterprising First Australians and businesses with access to development, support networks and capital, so that they can build their capacity for sustainability. It is through economic empowerment that true self-determination is achieved.

WHAT'S INNOVATIVE ABOUT IT?

By linking 60,000 plus years of Indigenous business experience with the modern market place, First Australians Capital draws on the cultural, creative and economic strengths and assets of First Australians, which empowers them to drive their own prosperity.

VENTURE IMPACT

In 2017 First Australians Capital:

- ✓ Grew to **2.3 FTE** staff
- ✓ Worked with **103 enterprises**, turning over in excess **\$30m** and employing over **1100 employees**

First Australians Capital joined the SVA venture portfolio in January 2015 and graduated in April 2017.



FUNDING PARTNERS

Department of Social Services,
Australian Government

The Permew Foundation

TAILORED SUPPORT TO FUNDERS

For funders who wish to leverage SVA's expertise to support initiatives outside of the venture philanthropy portfolio, SVA offers tailored support packages that can include strategic grant selection and building the capacity of grantees.

Grant management support could include:

- Design of social impact strategy;
- Design of grant guidelines and selection of grantees;
- Outcomes management and evaluation; and
- Event and showcasing support.

Capacity building support to grantees could include:

- Support to grantee leadership team to improve operating processes and capabilities;
- Input into grantee organisational strategic planning;
- Evidence base development and impact evaluation; and
- Access to networks.

SVA has supported funders including Google and Microsoft in this way.

CASE STUDY



GOOGLE IMPACT CHALLENGE

SVA collaborated with Google to deliver their 2016 Google Impact Challenge in Australia. As Google's Australian implementation partner, SVA supported:

- Selection of grantees aligned to Google's strategic vision;
- Grantees to successfully execute their projects and maximise their social impact with sustainability; and
- Connections to industry partners and advisors to support the growth and development of grantees.



CASE STUDY



HAPPY PAWS HAPPY HEARTS

SVA administers the funding for the Happy Paws Happy Hearts program, a high potential venture focusing on providing positive interactions for people experiencing social isolation.

Happy Paws is supported by the English Family Foundation, Geoff Wilson, Mark Osborn, and Paul and Sue Bide. Paul Bide and Mark Osborn also provide extensive capacity building support.

Happy Paws provides a community led, ground up solution for ensuring isolated people are connected into meaningful life activities, including people with mental and physical disabilities and older Australians.

To date the program has delivered 1955 participant interactions which equates to 5865 hours out of isolation.



PORTFOLIO LEARNINGS

Bold ambition is what sparks change at scale.

In 2017 we saw a number of SVA ventures graduate from the portfolio, having reached a level of maturity that gives us confidence they will flourish without SVA's direct support. It's incredible to see how far they've come, yet helpful to remind ourselves that in some cases, the SVA partnership goes back almost a decade.

Reflecting on what has enabled the progress of ventures like AIME and STREAT, the themes also hold true for the newer ventures we've welcomed to the portfolio over the past year. Here's what we've learned...

Relationships are key

It takes time to build trust, but it is the critical element to a successful partnership. With trust comes transparency, and a mutual understanding of how we can best work with ventures to help grow their impact.

Learning is two-way

While SVA provides expertise to ventures, each venture contributes to the knowledge base of SVA, which allows us to share insights with other projects striving for similar outcomes and greater impact.

Collaboration is essential

Time and again SVA's venture partners have said that the networks that SVA brings are uniquely valuable. Whether it's sourcing pro bono services for core business functions, introductions to like-minded organisations and partners, or bringing policy makers to the table, this comprehensive and tailored support isn't commonly available outside of SVA.

Progress isn't linear and things don't always go to plan

The ventures in our portfolio are seeking better outcomes for people, not products, and often in complex circumstances. Balancing effective service delivery while striving for greater impact is tough, and there will be bumps along the way. That's why SVA's combination of tailored, multi-year capacity building support is crucial in creating organisational resilience, so that ventures can better weather the ups and downs.

Bold ambition is what sparks change at scale

AIME is a great example of a simple but ambitious idea – creating educational equality for Indigenous kids through mentoring. The drive and vision of AIME's founder and team inspired others to contribute and collaborate, creating the transformative change we are seeing today. Social change takes time, and we're in it for the long haul.

Will you join us?

Sincerely,

Este Darin-Cooper
Director, Venture Philanthropy

David Williams
Executive Director, Venture Philanthropy

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Engagement

Our vision is to create a community of supporters that work together to tackle some of the most pressing issues in Australia. To assist this, SVA will arrange a number of opportunities for its supporters to engage and collaborate.

Please indicate your interest in participating in the following activities:

- SVA events providing access to sector experts for thought leadership and knowledge sharing
- Opportunities for you (and your family/colleagues) to engage directly with our work and build a deeper understanding of the issues impacting our communities
- Quarterly briefings with SVA executives to keep you apprised of the work you are supporting and its impact

Reporting

SVA is committed to using evidence to drive systemic change. We work to prove and improve our impact and share that learning.

Please indicate below if you would like to receive:

- Annual reporting on the impact of SVA's work
- Short news updates on the important announcements relating to SVA's work
- SVA's digital publications, which capture lessons learnt from across our organisation

Pro Bono and In-Kind Support

If you or your organisation is interested in providing pro bono or in-kind assistance, please indicate the areas of support below and we will be in touch to discuss your interest and availability:

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