

The Country Education Foundation (CEF) is a national not for profit organisation that helps disadvantaged rural and regional school leavers to access tertiary education, training or jobs – through an equity-based grant program. **In 2015 we have again achieved outstanding results, helping over 460 rural and regional young people across Australia to achieve their education and career goals.**



463

Number of grants given in 2015



\$652,700

Value of grants given in 2015

+



3,458

Number of grants given since 1993



\$333,401

Value of funding provided from our education partners in 2015

=



\$6,429,781

Value of financial support provided since 1993



\$986,101

Value of financial support provided in 2015
(includes grants, university/college co-funding and university experience camps)



=



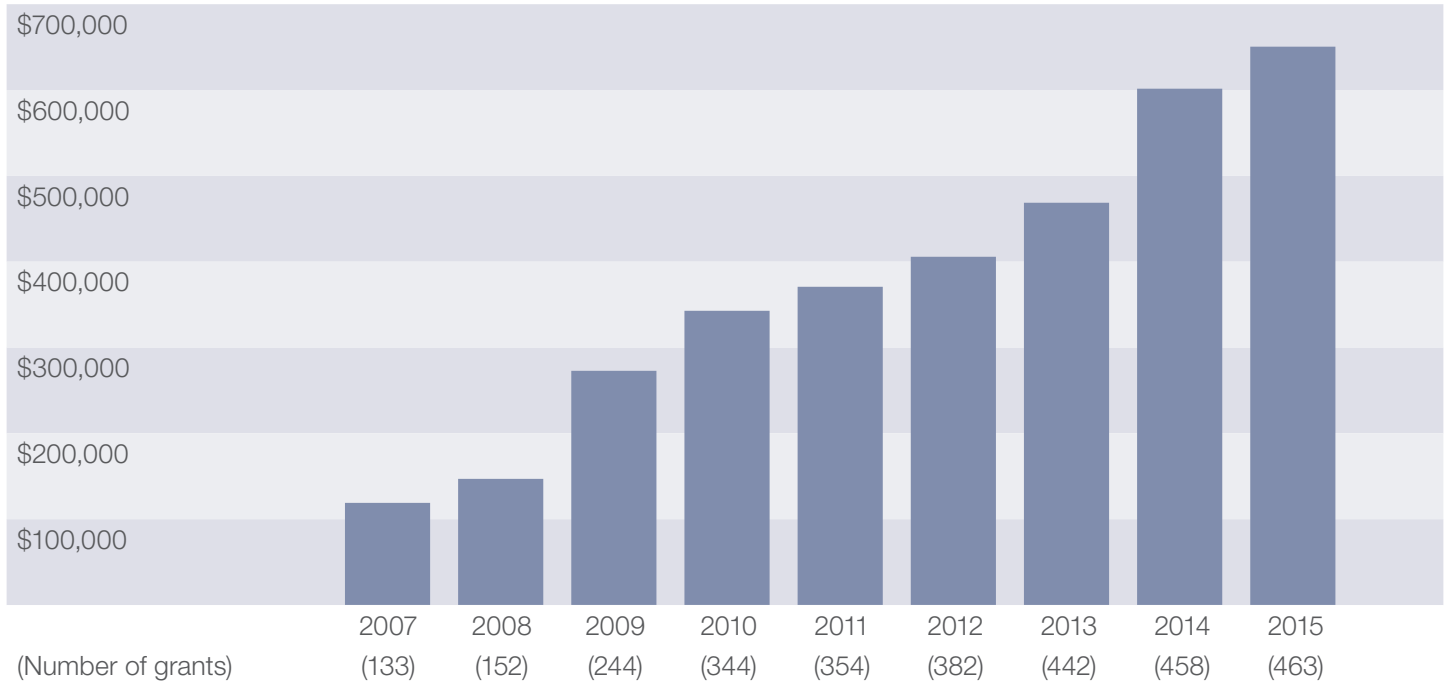
A sound investment

The CEF model of locally-based grants and support delivers a sound return on investment. Research by Social Ventures Australia (SROI Report 2011) indicates that for every dollar invested, a social return of \$3.10 is generated. Beneficiaries include the students, their families, CEF volunteers and the broader local communities in which we operate.

Continued growth

The CEF continues to increase the number and value of grants awarded to disadvantaged rural and regional students, year on year. In 2015, we are supporting 463 school leavers in 41 communities across New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia and the Northern Territory – with grants worth \$652,700.

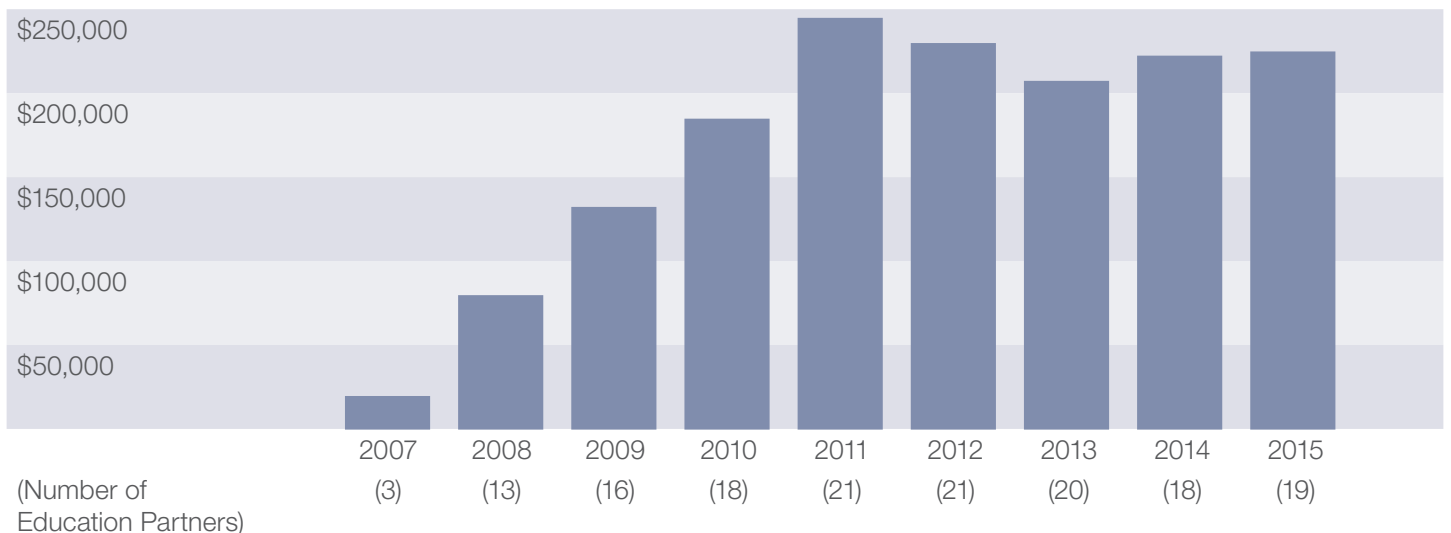
Total value and number of CEF grants awarded



Education Partner support

CEF Education Partners provide matched funding to CEF students studying at their university/college, leveraging local grants and increasing their impact. The CEF partners with 19 universities and colleges across Australia.

Education Partner co-funding for CEF students



Maggie-Kate Minogue – Harden CEF, NSW

Maggie-Kate is a medical student from Harden, NSW, the first in her family to attend university.

From a young age Maggie-Kate knew she wanted to become a doctor having witnessed her younger sister go through life saving surgery and being inspired by the doctors who saved her.

Maggie-Kate worked hard through high school both in her studies and at home where she helped her single mum care for her younger sister. She has received support from the Harden CEF in each year of her degree, to pay for text books and course equipment.



Josh Doak – Yass CEF, NSW

Josh is doing an apprenticeship to gain qualifications as a licensed plumber, which means five years of study and on the job training. It also involves travelling to Canberra each day from his hometown of

Murrumbateman. Josh said the biggest difficulty he faced living in a regional area was the cost of fuel and travel expenses — on top of tools and equipment required for his course. He is grateful for the assistance provided by the Yass CEF which has helped to cover these costs.

When he finishes his course he hopes to work for his current employer and one day start his own plumbing business in a regional area.



Johanna Robertson – Clermont CEF, QLD

Johanna has just left her hometown of Clermont to study beef production at Emerald Agricultural College. She studies full-time but also fits in two part-time jobs — working on a cattle train and in hospitality — to help pay expenses including her 300km round trip to college.

The education grant she has received from the Clermont CEF is also helping her to make ends meet and pursue her goal of becoming a stock agent.



Alex Rowbotham – Broken Hill, NSW

Alex is the first in his family to go to uni, studying primary teaching at La Trobe University in Mildura, with support from the CEF and the Eureka Foundation. To become a primary teacher in a rural area has been his dream for many years.

The financial assistance has helped Alex enormously, particularly when facing the huge expense of leaving his home town of Broken Hill and setting up a house for the first time, so he could pursue his goal to become a teacher.



A word from our supporters:

**Sean Barrett**
Head, Origin Foundation

The Origin Foundation has been a supporter of the Country Education Foundation for the past five years... We renewed our funding after the first period because we were impressed with the results being achieved and their business model...

We believe that the CEF is doing an outstanding job in providing opportunities for young people in regional Australia to pursue their educational and career ambitions, and have found the CEF to be professional, diligent and innovative.

**Ruth Tregale**
Manager Widening Participation, Macquarie University

Our experience of partnering with the CEF on recurring initiatives has in every aspect been an extremely positive one. The expertise and professionalism of the CEF staff has ensured that the outcomes of our partnership have exceeded expectations.

**The Honourable Tim Fischer AC**
Former Deputy Prime Minister of Australia, CEF Patron

By supporting CEF you will be helping to provide life-changing opportunities for disadvantaged rural students—and supporting rural communities across Australia. In ten vigorous years the Country Education Foundation has lifted the lives of many, but in the process, lifted the fabric of many communities and the State and Nation.