



**EDUCATION  
CHANGES LIVES.  
AND FAMILIES.  
AND COMMUNITIES.**

**From the CEO's desk...**



Hallelujah, it's a new year and great things are happening, beyond the vaccine rollout!

At CEF Australia we are waist deep in finalising grants as well as awarding a load of national scholarships from our CEF Extra program. It's a wonderful feeling to be helping students and families in this way. We know just what it means and how far they can go with the support of their local community.

And just like our volunteers and donors, we love to experience the overwhelming gratitude from our recipients. Many of us in the office have been fortunate to attend several of the grant ceremonies where we did just that - met the fabulous students and families where these stories all begin.

Teagan from Temora speaks candidly about her appreciation on several levels and it's why we are sharing her story in this newsletter.

Lastly, this level of support wouldn't be possible without the ongoing commitment of our partners who share our vision of educational equity. Our long term relationships with The Snow Foundation and Audi Foundation continue to make a huge impact and we look forward to announcing some new partnerships in the very near future.

Best wishes,

*Juliet*

Juliet Petersen, CEO

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**2021 partners in for the long haul**

We're excited to announce that two of CEF's long time supporters have committed to ongoing partnerships, testament to their belief in our work and to making a difference for regional youth.

Since 2017, Audi Foundation has provided student scholarships and operational support, both vital to the ongoing success and growth of CEF. Audi Foundation will again partner with CEF in 2021

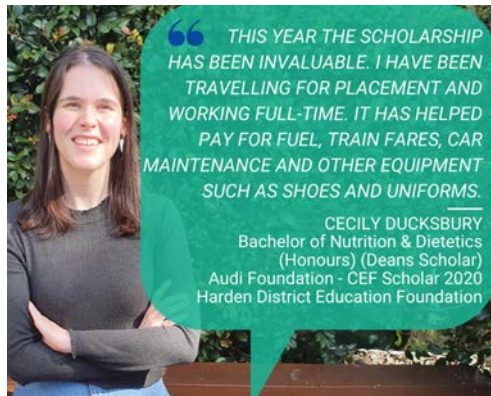


**Audi Foundation**

to provide an incredible 14 student scholarships and will support engagement with regional communities and Audi staff to increase the reach of our work. We are also excited to announce that, Audi Foundation will be the principal partner of the 2021 CEF Alumni Awards.

"The Audi Foundation is committed to supporting organisations and charities that work to improve educational outcomes of students facing disadvantage and other barriers to learning. Our partnership with CEF strongly aligns with this vision and we are delighted to be able to support students with the opportunity to create brighter futures," said Paul Sansom, Chairman of the Audi Foundation.

"We look forward to seeing these scholars become the future scientists, teachers, engineers and artists that will drive progress in Australia and around the world," said Mr Sansom.



For more than a decade, The Snow Foundation has provided vital student scholarships in the Canberra region and funding to grow the capacity of the national office.



From 2021, The Snow Foundation will partner with CEF for an amazing five years to provide continued national office funding and 15 scholarships across the Shoalhaven, Yass, Braidwood, Goulburn and Snowy Monaro local foundations.

"The Snow Foundation are passionate about students from rural and regional areas gaining access to post-school studies and are intent on helping close the participation gap which exists between country and city students." Georgina Byron, CEO - The Snow Foundation

CEF CEO, Juliet Petersen, says "the commitments made by these partners to CEF and regional students shows their understanding of the importance of education, and the effects that bushfire, drought and the pandemic have had, particularly at the local level. We are very grateful for the ongoing support of these two wonderful organisations."



**April Rodda**

**Snow Foundation - CEF Scholar 2020  
Shoalhaven Education Fund  
University of Wollongong  
3<sup>rd</sup> year, Bachelor Law/Bachelor Politics,  
Philosophy & Economics**

"The funds from CEF and The Snow Foundation have assisted me incredibly. I was able to purchase a laptop which is up to date and compatible with all the programs used by my lecturers and fellow students.

"I have also purchased a gift card for Fantastic Furniture so that when I am hopefully able to get back to uni this year, I will be able to buy a bed and a mattress. Knowing I don't have to stress about this takes a huge burden off as I will be able to try to find a place without stressing how I will even sleep."

**CONNECT**

- [www.cef.org.au](http://www.cef.org.au)
- [@countryeducationfoundation](https://www.facebook.com/countryeducationfoundation)
- [@countryeducationfoundation](https://www.instagram.com/countryeducationfoundation)
- [@CEF-Australia](https://www.linkedin.com/company/cef-australia)



# It takes a village... words of thanks from Teagan

From volunteering with a number of organisations helping young children in her hometown to placing fifth in an international film festival raising awareness for disabilities, it is clear that Teagan Mayor has a heart of gold.

**Teagan was raised in a small village of only 300 people between Cootamundra and Temora in NSW.**

She has a true connection to her town saying: 'Temora High School and the community helped me grow and achieve the path I am on today.'

That path has her studying a Bachelor of Education (K-12) at the Albury-Wodonga Charles Sturt University Campus.

**"I believe the ability to help children grow and learn through what I am teaching them sparked the thought of being a teacher."**

From a large family of nine, Teagan says there is never a dull moment at home. Selfless and humble, when she returned home during COVID, she took time to tutor her siblings and help them navigate the online learning experience.

"I found this experience absolutely terrifying but overall, I think it will help me a little bit when I do my future placements," she says.

Teagan took some time last year to write an amazing thank you to Temora & District Education Fund (TDEF), Charles Sturt University and CEF for the support she received that helped to make her first year of university possible.



We could easily write something wonderful about this young woman, however, nothing can demonstrate her kindness, thoughtfulness and gratefulness more than her very own words.

#### ON TEMORA & DISTRICT EDUCATION FUND

"I am forever thankful for the grant I received from the TDEF. I keep in contact with them regularly and continue to support the community in any way I can.

**"It was a privilege that changed my life.**

"There is nothing I can do to measure up to the opportunities the TDEF has provided for me and hundreds of other young adults in the same shoes."

#### ON CEF NATIONAL

"CEF provides amazing opportunities for young people all over Australia. It is such a great feeling to know that the university that I attend supports them and people like myself in their studies as they further their career."

"CEF has changed thousands of lives and supported people into the careers of their dreams, just like they are doing for me."

#### ON CHARLES STURT UNIVERSITY

"I personally would like to thank you for the opportunity that Charles Sturt University, has provided me.

"Hearing of the co-funding scholarship I received was overwhelming and helped me out in more ways than you could've imagined.

"It helped me get a proper laptop that will survive well after I finish my degree. It allowed me to get actual textbooks instead of the online ones, and most importantly it helped to cover the last part of my rent when I came back at the end of session two.

"Thank you for being a partner of CEF, thank you for all your continued support, and most importantly, thank you for providing me with the scholarship."

### Did you know...

CEF has 20 Education Partners across Australia who provide additional funding to CEF supported students. However, it's not just about the money. Our partners also realise that social and transitional support during this time is just as important as financial support.

Through these collaborations, students are also provided opportunities to connect with other CEF recipients at their university and with rural and regional specific services.

[www.cef.org.au/education-partners](http://www.cef.org.au/education-partners)

## Vale Robyn Loder

CEF is saddened by the passing of long-time supporter Robyn Loder.

Established in 2014 to honour the memory of Bruce Loder, one of Auscott's longest-serving employees, The Bruce and Robyn Loder Education Scholarship helped support Robyn's ongoing commitment to rural NSW.

Ten students from the Moree and Namoi regions have received the significant scholarship during that time which was valued at \$11,500 per year for the duration of their course.

#### Excerpt from a thank you letter from Bernadette Quirk Loder Scholarship Recipient, CEF Moree 2018-2020

*2020 has been chaotic in many ways and now more than ever, as a young person I worry about what the future will bring for myself and my generation. However, with opportunities like the Loder Scholarship offered by those as generous as you, I have the ability to stay focused and supported (despite the current situation).*

*Once again, thank you, Mrs Loder, for your support during the strangest year of study yet. I admire and respect the opportunities you have created, and are creating, for myself and others. I hope I can return the favour and provide for my communities as you do.*  
Bernadette





# 2021 Grant Ceremonies

Always our favourite time of year, the past couple of months have been busy with student interviews and grant presentations.

With over 800 applications, COVID hasn't stopped our students striving to achieve their education goals in 2021. Our local foundations have been busily shortlisting, interviewing students and awarding grants.

For our committee members, this is the most rewarding part of 'the job'...meeting the students, learning their stories and hearing them articulate future plans. Often it is the first time they have been in an 'interview' situation but it is all part of the experience of becoming an independent adult!

Before sending them on their way, many local foundations held grant presentations, a fantastic opportunity for recipients and their families to meet each other, committee members, donors and supporters.

Congratulations to all these students - we know you will do well with your community behind you. And a big shout out to our committee members for their tireless work during this busy time.

Final grant numbers for 2021 will be announced in the coming months.



CEF COLEAMBALLY-DARLINGTON POINT



CEF MERRIWA



CEF NAMOI



CEF COOTAMUNDRA



SHOALHAVEN EDUCATION FUND



CEF GRENFELL



CEF SNOWY MONARO



YASS DISTRICT EDUCATION FUND



CEF ORANGE & DISTRICT



HASTINGS EDUCATION FUND



KAPUNDA HS CENTENARY FOUNDATION



BRAIDWOOD & DISTRICT EDUCATION FOUNDATION



TEMORA & DISTRICT EDUCATION FUND



# Accountability & Transparency

When you choose to donate your hard earned money to CEF, we want you to know how it will be used, and assure you it will be used in the best way possible to achieve maximum impact and positive outcomes for rural and regional students and their communities.

We have more than 450 volunteers across the country who assist in our work, and our Board members all participate on a voluntary basis, providing their knowledge, expertise and connections at no cost.

There are often misconceptions about charities and administration costs. It is important to know that most charities cannot operate without paid staff and other operating expenses. These costs are not separate to our overall mission or the impact we make, in fact they are vital to what we do. One of the things we are most proud of is that we outsource very little work. Our small, passionate team are multi-skilled, and have learnt many new skills to enable us to operate in this way.

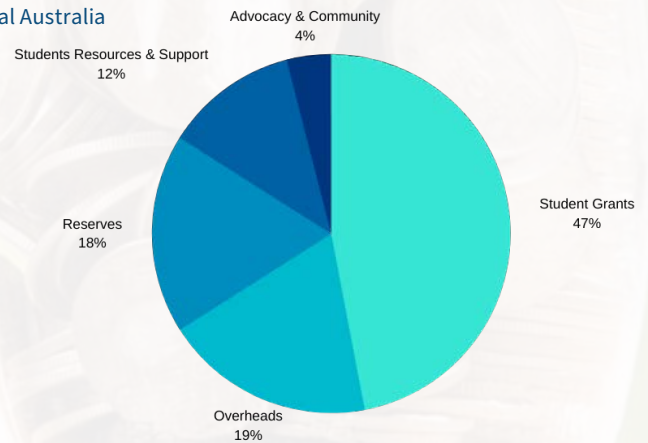
90% of our data, research and systems work is done in-house. Most importantly, all the words, design, images and content you see or hear comes directly from one of our dedicated staff members, who are just as passionate about our mission as you. Below are the things we do spend money on – making it possible to support our volunteers and students.

- ➔ Staff salaries
- ➔ Professional development
- ➔ Electricity
- ➔ Phone and internet
- ➔ IT costs – these include website hosting, software packages and licences
- ➔ Travel for donor and partnership meetings, both current and potential
- ➔ Travel to visit and engage with CEF local foundations across regional Australia

CEF works diligently to manage operational costs each year.

We raise funds for investment in the education of rural and regional students. The collective fundraising efforts see support distributed to students through our network of 44 local CEF foundations which are run by loyal community volunteers. **CEF is committed to restricting organisational overheads cost to less than 20% of total funds raised annually.**

Each year, CEF produces and publishes an annual review and comprehensive audited financial statements which can be found on our website at [www.cef.org.au/reports](http://www.cef.org.au/reports)



## Please donate to help more rural and regional youth continue their education and training

CEF is a registered charity with Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR1) status. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

### There are three easy ways to donate to CEF

**Online:** visit [www.cef.org.au](http://www.cef.org.au) and click the **Donate** button

**Phone:** 1300 652 144

**Mail:** Country Education Foundation  
PO Box 245, Orange NSW 2800

### I would like to make my donation

Weekly  Monthly  Annually  Once off

### I would like to donate

\$25  \$50  \$100  Own choice

Please send my tax receipt to:  my email  my postal address

Name	<input type="text"/>
Address	<input type="text"/>
Email	<input type="text"/>
Phone	<input type="text"/>

### Payment options

**Cheque:** Payable to Country Education Foundation of Australia

**Bank Transfer:** Country Education Foundation of Australia  
BSB: 062-629 Account: 1009 0818 Reference: (YOUR NAME)

### Credit Card:

Name on card

Card number

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Visa

MasterCard

AMEX

Signature

Please send me some information about leaving a gift in my will

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