



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

From the CEO's desk...



With COVID restrictions now in full measure here in NSW, the ferocity of this dreaded virus is clear. While we are all in this together, it really doesn't make the increased lockdown measures any easier to cope with. Hopefully the contents of this Spring newsletter and 2021 Student Impact Report will!

And with my kitchen table this morning to become a classroom once again for my own three 'students,' this is also where I acknowledge and express my deepest gratitude for the thousands of amazing teachers, lecturers, aides, and support people who have enabled our students' learning to continue throughout the pandemic. Their dedication towards ensuring the best possible education outcomes be achieved in a time when so much is stacked against them.

This period has given me new admiration for our students, from primary through to tertiary. For those of you who have tried remote learning, you will know the commitment required is not easy. And for many of our CEF grant recipients, this style of delivery and learning is all they've known for their tertiary study. From the CEF family, you are commended for your incredible efforts during this time.

Enjoy the read, the warmer days and stay well.

Juliet

Juliet Petersen, CEO

Proof in the Numbers

Despite ongoing challenges, the CEF model continues to deliver by expanding its support for rural and regional youth.

CEF's mission has long been to raise aspiration, create opportunity and enable access to further education.

The Student Impact Report is an annual snapshot that illustrates the value of CEF in the community, as well as nationwide.

The 44 foundations spread throughout five Australian states and territories continue their work to support young students in their communities. This is bolstered by the work of CEF national office and our relationships with generous and like-minded individuals, organisations and philanthropic foundations.

To say this year, and last, have been a challenge would be an understatement. Following the tragedy of natural disasters, the COVID-19 pandemic has seen us all rethink the way we deliver services, our operating structures, staff and volunteer working arrangements and all the rest! Despite this, our report captures the incredible impact of CEF in 2021, showcasing key results that have been achieved;

- ✓ 648 students received grants and scholarships
- ✓ Nearly \$2 million in support delivered
- ✓ Over \$14 million since 1993

This year we've managed to tick a few goals off the list, including securing new long term partnerships and growing our mentor and alumni programs.

Further proof of the difference CEF can make in the community is seen with alumni taking the chance to give back via our Aspirational Influencer program which you can read about on the next page.

These results would not be possible without you and your continued belief in the power of education. For this, from the bottom of our hearts, thank you.

Katie Walker Outstanding Service Award

2021 NOMINATIONS OPEN NOW!

Founding member and Board director of CEF, Katie Walker, was also instrumental in establishing the local presence in Yass. She is very aware that CEF volunteers provide wrap around support for the entire community, and the young people seeking further education.

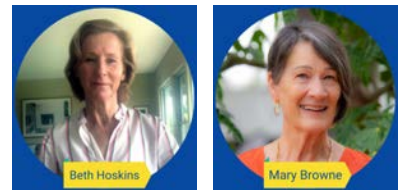
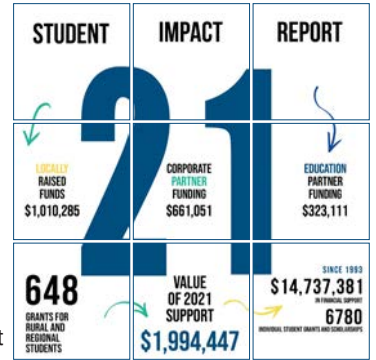
The Katie Walker Outstanding Service Award recognises the exceptional commitment of more than 400 volunteers from the 44 local foundations throughout Australia.

Katie explains, "this year continues to be a relentless challenge which impacts all aspects of life. Despite this, CEF foundations are creating innovative ways to fundraise and support students aspiring to access further education.

"Our volunteers inspire students, communities and each other. I encourage you to celebrate and honour their efforts by nominating outstanding members."

Nominate at www.cef.org.au/our_volunteers

* Nominations close Friday 1st October



2020 Katie Walker Outstanding Service Award winners, Beth Hoskins - CEF Goulburn and Mary Browne - Great Lakes Education Fund

CONNECT

- www.cef.org.au
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Aspirational Alumni



Current research shows there is a lack of aspiration to undertake further education from rural and regional students. Secondly, even when the desire is there, the location and financial barriers often seem too great. CEF's Aspirational Influencers program seeks to make goals achievable by increasing aspirations, positive thinking and understanding of further education opportunities.

The program is a tailored approach to increasing education aspirations of students within the CEF footprint. Various activities will be undertaken by our influencers, collaborating with our volunteers to determine what will work best for each community:

- Workplace visits for high school students
- Mentoring
- School or in-community talks
- Audiovisual content

These nine past and present recipients understand first-hand the obstacles facing rural and regional youth. They have agreed to volunteer their time, working with us to connect with students and communities, showing them what is possible in post-school education and how to make it happen.

MEET OUR ASPIRATIONAL INFLUENCERS

Madeline Davis

Yass Grant Recipient (2018-2021)
Bachelor of Laws
University of Canberra (current)

Michael Ison

Braidwood Grant Recipient (2011-2012)
Bachelor of Advertising & Marketing
Communications
University of Canberra (graduated 2015)

Erin Reardon

Temora Grant Recipient (2012)
Bachelor of Physiotherapy
Charles Sturt University (graduated 2015)

Lachlan Barrett

CEF Coonamble Grant Recipient (2017-2019)
Bachelor of Education (Primary)
University of Sydney (current)

Heather Walker

CEF Grenfell Grant Recipient (2020-2021)
Cert IV Wool Classing & Diploma in
Agriculture, TAFE (2020)
Bachelor of Education, Charles Sturt
University (current)



Rohan Milliken

CEF Snowy Monaro Grant Recipient (2019-2021)
Bachelor of Paramedicine
University of Melbourne (current)

Deme Welling

Great Lakes Grant Recipient (2014-2015)
Bachelor of Speech Pathology
University of Newcastle (graduated 2017)

Saul Brady

Great Lakes Grant Recipient (2016)
Bachelor of Commerce & Bachelor of
Economics
University of NSW (graduated 2020)

Raymond Happ

Coonamble Grant Recipient (2012-2015)
Bachelor Arts & Bachelor of Teaching
University of New England (graduated 2015)



Do you know a CEF grant or scholarship recipient, past or present, who you think deserves acknowledgement (and a cash prize!) for the wonderful person they are and the great things they are doing?

Nominate at www.cef.org.au/cef-alumni-awards/

* Nominations close Monday 27th September

The 2021 Alumni Awards are proudly sponsored by



Audi Foundation



V is for VET

And V is also for Victory... a game changing partnership that sees our VET sector students receive significant additional funding.

Approximately one third of rural and regional students choose Vocational Education and Training (VET) study such as TAFE, apprenticeships and short courses. This training can be more attainable (and affordable) than university study and can equip our young people to take on those all-important trades – we've all needed an electrician, plumber, mechanic or hairdresser at least once! Adding to the benefits of a VET education, wage comparison data shows the median full-time income for university graduates is \$54,000; whereas a TAFE NSW graduate is earning \$56,000...win, win!

CEF currently has education partnerships with more than 15 universities and colleges across Australia to provide matched funds (co-funding) to CEF supported students attending their institutions. Unfortunately, the VET sector does not have the same access to funding to enter into similar arrangements. We are therefore so excited to have enlisted backing from a philanthropic foundation to provide an additional \$112,000 in support to first and second year students studying in these much needed areas.

At CEF, the VET sector cohort is underrepresented (approximately one sixth of our recipients) and we predict that providing matched funding will attract more VET students applying to CEF. Additional support for these students highlights the importance of VET sector study as a valid option after school, particularly in regional areas.

With trying times impacting the fundraising abilities of our local foundations, this funding is a magnificent boost to their efforts.

“This is fantastic! I have often felt badly that our VET students could not access extra funds like our uni students.”

Charlotte Middleton, Chair, Hastings District Education Fund

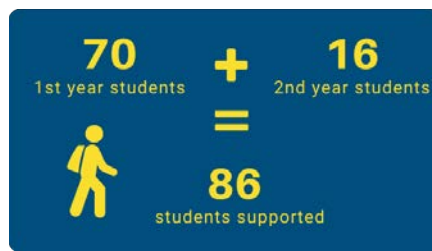
“The funds I have generously been donated have been put towards my tool box which I use on a daily basis. I have been able to reduce the stress of expenses such as rent, fuel and daily purchases and am very grateful for that.”

Timothy Button
CEF Central Australia
Cert II Aircraft Engineering, TAFE



“I chose this course as I don't enjoy school but wanted to find ways to finish school having accomplished something. I'm very close to finishing and will be very happy and proud of myself as it has been a challenge. The funds helped me buy the equipment I need, like clothing, back packs, hiking boots etc. I appreciate this and am very grateful for CEF.”

Haylee Bellato
CEF Coleambally-Darlington Point
Cert III in Outdoor Education



UNMASK your POTENTIAL
2022 CEF Scholarships Guide
www.cef.org.au/scholarships-guide

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Donate to a CEF local foundation during September and October and your donation will be doubled!

There is no doubt that students from rural, regional and remote areas face unique and often significant challenges in undertaking, aspiring to and accessing education.

Double your donation to help make their education goals a reality

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 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 make my tax receipt in the name of:

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

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

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

Expiry Date CCV Visa MasterCard AMEX

Signature

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



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