



**2020
Annual
Review**

**Waratah Education
Foundation Ltd**

INTRODUCTION

WHO WE ARE

Founded in 2000, the charity initially operated the non-selective independent K-12 Reddam House School for nearly 20 years.

Following the sale of the school at the end of 2019, the charity exited from its role as operator and the Waratah Education Foundation was born.

Our history as an educational establishment has engrained in our Foundation the want to continue to advance education in Australia and we have a unique opportunity to help address today's educational issues.

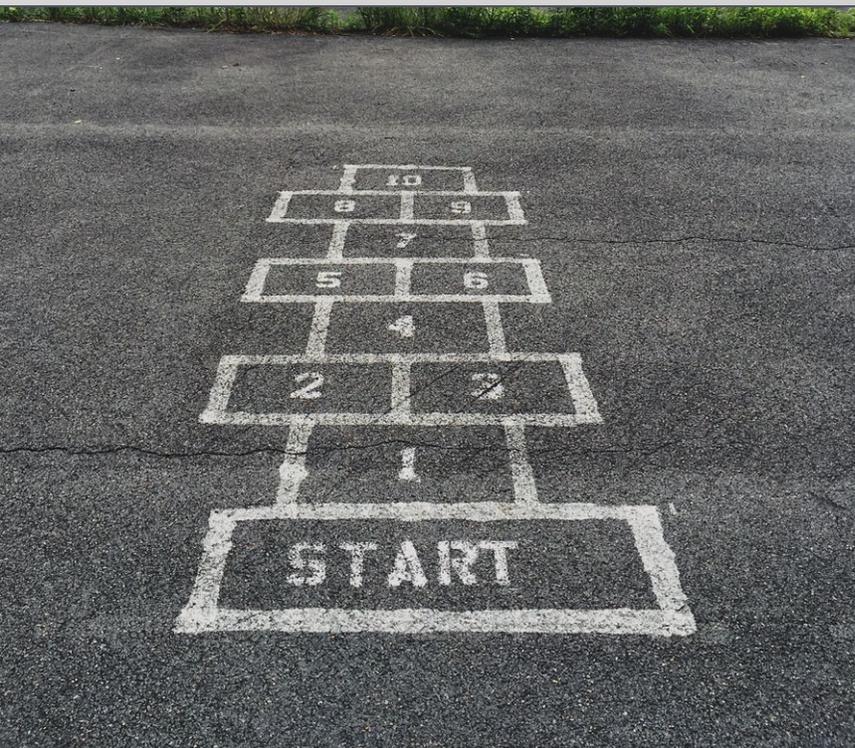
WHAT DO WE DO

Waratah Education Foundation supports programs that pursue, promote and improve education outcomes, so all children in Australia can gain essential life skills and realise their academic potential.

Waratah Education Foundation support educational activities and programs that help break the cycle of poverty and disadvantage amongst marginalised communities.

Waratah Education Foundation facilitate and support the development of knowledge through research programs which may prove to enhance the wellbeing of children and young people.

Waratah Education Foundation aspires to continue to make a difference to children in Australia through the power of education.



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CEO SUMMARY

2020 for the Waratah Education Foundation was always going to be a year like no other. Having shifted as operator of a K-12 school to a charitable grant giving Foundation, the outlook at the start of 2020 was a little unknown as to how the inaugural year of our Foundation would perform.

Australia had already started the 2020 year without a break in the drought and a horrendous bushfire season. The global pandemic caused by the outbreak of Covid-19 brought the world to a standstill in March 2020.

Education was impacted as home schooling commenced across Australia for most students. This required a huge acceleration in digital learning platforms, but for many schools and students, they could not access the learning due to a lack of technology and internet access.

One of our first projects was purchasing laptops for a school and their students in need.

Plans of joining not-for-profit and educational networks were then quickly abandoned as we all settled in to work from home and city events and programs were either postponed or moved online.

Despite this I have connected with several wonderful charities doing remarkable work and it has been amazing to watch how quickly organisations adapted to the new normal.

To say in what way the pandemic impacted our year would be challenging, if we measure our success on how many people we have been able to assist throughout 2020 then I believe we can call 2020 a successful maiden year, as you can see in our Impact Report.

My last thought however is that we can only improve and our goal for 2021 is to extend our reach even further and fund even more educational projects and to continue to advance education in Australia.

Geraldine Campbell

Our funding projects

Throughout 2020 we have funded 10 projects donating a total of **\$470,580**.

Below see information on these 10 amazing projects, which the Waratah Education Foundation have been very proud to be a part of.

Kesser Torah College



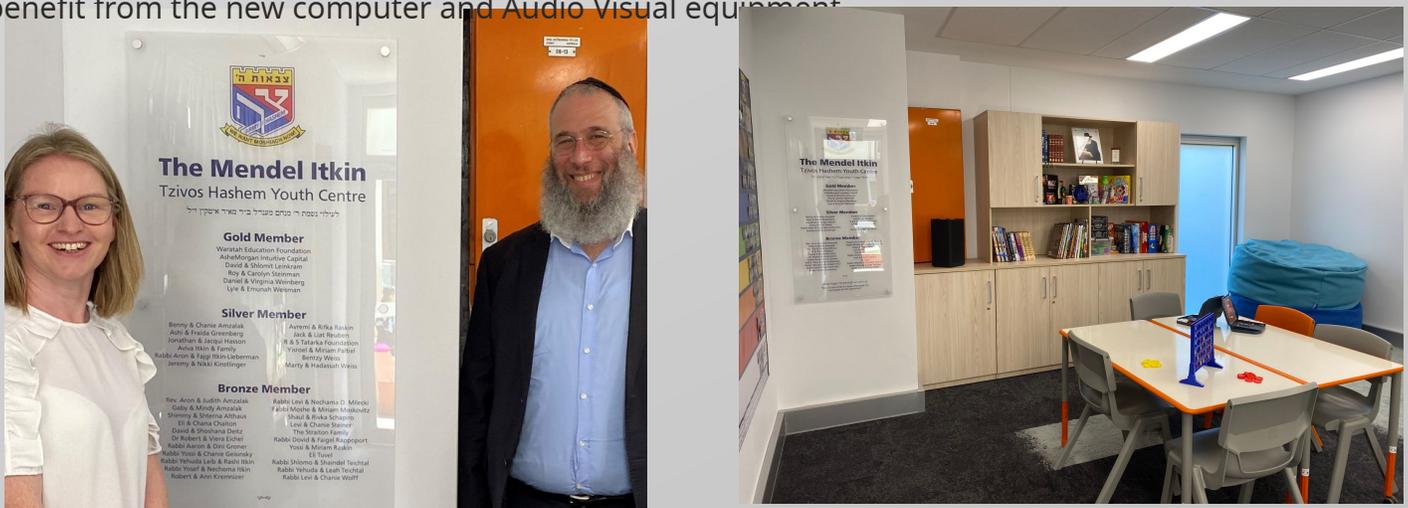
The Waratah Education Foundation was pleased to announce approval for funding for Kesser Torah College in January 2020

Funding was awarded to fund the new Mendel Itkin Tzivos Hashem Youth Centre, which will offer a range of services and resources to enable all students in Years K to 6 to develop a strong Jewish identity and achieve their full potential in Jewish Studies.

Waratah Education Foundation approved further funding for essential IT equipment, mainly computer equipment required for home schooling. Laptops were purchased for pupils in Year 7-12 and once schooling returns to the classroom they will be repurposed and used to launch the first teacher laptop program KT has had. KT also purchased 5 ipads and 25 Chromebooks for the younger students and they will be repurposed into the junior school as KT strives to improve their digital learning.

In addition, KT purchased 10 new interactive smartboards, a laser cutter and several new musical instruments all with the help of funding from Waratah Education Foundation.

Every student at Kesser Torah will benefit from the new Youth Centre and a large proportion will benefit from the new computer and Audio Visual equipment.



CEO: Geraldine Campbell & Board member: Rabbi Mendel Kastel

The new Mendel Itkin Tzivos Hashem Youth Centre

Our funding projects

Australian Literacy & Numeracy Foundation (ALNF)



Established in 1999, ALNF is a registered national charity seeking to assist people in Australia's most marginalised communities to gain literacy skills. ALNF develops, implements and sustains six innovative programs in remote and urban sites:

1. Early Language and Literacy – Addressing the importance and effectiveness of early intervention to prepare and support children for literacy learning in the early school years;
2. Indigenous First Languages – Preserving and revitalising Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander First Languages through the development of interactive digital literacy apps;
3. Refugee Action Support – Supporting English literacy for children and youth of refugee background;
4. Subtext: Art for Literacy – young people of refugee backgrounds build their English language knowledge through creative arts workshops;
5. Share-A-Book and; 6. Literacy Packs - quality resources to support children's literacy learning.

ALNF is proposing to extend its delivery of the Early Language & Literacy (EL&L) program on the Mid-North Coast of NSW. The project would include the delivery of EL&L to three public schools in the region with large Aboriginal student populations. EL&L is a best practice program for early years education that incorporates speech and language pathology and education best practice principles expressly designed to optimise the language and literacy outcomes of disadvantaged children.

EL&L equips educators, parents and community members with the knowledge and tools required to work with their own children to develop foundational language and literacy skills via:

- Training and skill-building workshops in direct, explicit instruction in pre-writing, pre-phonics, oral language and vocabulary development;
- Uniquely designed multisensory resources designed to extend oral language and early literacy experiences for children;
- Ongoing workplace mentoring for participants and participating sites.

This wonderful video highlights the importance of this program: <https://youtu.be/KB7LBkB7VxU>

Waratah Education Foundation were pleased to award funding to ALNF to deliver the EL&L program to 3 public schools in the mid-North Coast of NSW.

For further information on the work done by the ALNF please visit: <https://alnf.org/program/early-language-literacy/>

Our funding projects

Tikva Incorporated

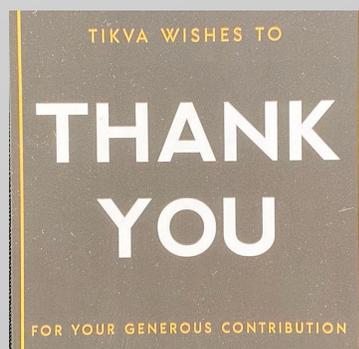
Tikva was established in 1983 collecting second-hand clothes for families in need, delivering food parcels and then progressing to helping pay bills.

Tikva are attempting to alleviate poverty and provide emotional support. They mainly support families with low income, single mothers, and large families.

Tikva approached the Waratah Education Foundation with a proposal to provide financial assistance to help with the purchase of school uniforms, books and supplies for their many families in need.

The start of a new school year can be an incredibly stressful and expensive time of the year and for some children they have never had a new uniform.

Waratah Education Foundation therefore provided funding to Tikva Incorporated to help families under financial pressure with the cost of new uniforms and shoes for the new 2020 school year.



Our funding projects

Ngaoara Limited



Ngaoara is an Aboriginal not-for-profit focused on child and adolescent wellbeing, including issues of child safety, development and cultural education

Ngaoara work with children, families, services, government and non-government agencies to help children articulate their concerns, respond to their needs and support them to develop strategies for healing and growth.

A major project of Ngaoara currently is the Trauma Assessment, Referral and Rehabilitation Outreach Teams (TARROT) initiative, which they are delivering in NSW, the ACT and the NT which is used to undertake assessments for children affected by Trauma.

As part of the TARROT work, they have tailored screening tools to better benefit Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children. They have engaged IT expertise to create a software app for the screening tools, so that they can be uploaded to digital devices such as iPads, and self-administered, or completed with the support of health and education staff.

Waratah Education Foundation donated funds to purchase digital devices and software, and to engage a data manager to collate and report on the screening findings in real time to inform care plans and other strategies for students identified as being vulnerable, at risk or affected by trauma, and/or with mental health and social & emotional wellbeing issues.

For further information on the work of Ngaoara please visit: <http://www.ngaoara.org.au/>



TARROT

TRAUMA • ASSESSMENT • REFERRAL &
REHABILITATION • OUTREACH • TEAMS •

Our funding projects

MacKillop Family Services-Good Grief



MacKillop is committed to supporting communities in NSW that have been devastated by the recent bushfires, drought and now the effects of COVID-19. They have spoken with community and school leaders, mental health and wellbeing teams and community members regarding the impacts of these events and what effect they have and will have on the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people.

Stormbirds and Seasons for Growth (SfG) are both Australian evidence-based and trauma-informed programs. Stormbirds is delivered following a natural disaster and provides an opportunity for children and young people to examine the event and subsequent losses have impacted on their lives. It was developed in 2009 in response to the Victorian Black Saturday bushfires and to date has supported communities following bushfires in Victoria, NSW, SA and WA, cyclones and floods in Queensland and the 2011 earthquake Christchurch, New Zealand.

SfG is delivered to small groups of children and young people over eight weeks. The program is based on the belief that change and loss whilst painful, are part of life. The program supports participants to understand their experience and manage their grief following ongoing uncertainty and major change and loss experiences. To further strengthen the program, in 2020, MacKillop worked with SfG author, Professor Anne Graham (Southern Cross University) to develop a COVID-19 adaptation to ensure critical wraparound support for students at risk of mental health issues associated with the pandemic.

MacKillop will deliver program training to community-based facilitators which will enable them to deliver the program to children and young people. Facilitators can be local teachers and professionals or provided by MacKillop if required. We will support the preparation and logistics of the program delivery, supervision of facilitators and ensure formal evaluation is rigorously implemented. MacKillop will also provide workshop sessions to help adults process the loss and change they have experienced and help them safely and appropriately respond to the needs of the children and young people in their care.

Waratah Education Foundation were pleased to fund 10 facilitators for the stormbirds program, which will support a minimum of 210 children & young people and 20 facilitators for the SfG program, which will support a minimum of 420 children and young people.

Further information can be found: <https://www.goodgrief.org.au/stormbirds>
<https://www.goodgrief.org.au/seasons-for-growth>

Our funding projects

UNSW- Sydney



UNSW
SYDNEY

The Waratah Education Foundation announced approval for funding for UNSW's Access Pathways Programs for 2021 for 3 years.

Our support will help sustain the following three initiatives:

UNSW Winter Gateway Program is a weeklong intensive HSC program that provides academic resources and information to enable educationally disadvantaged Year 12 students from across NSW to better succeed in their HSC.

UNSW Spring Gateway Program is an experiential week for over 150 Year 11-12 metro & regional low SES students. Students self-select subject streams and create a subject specific learning portfolio over the week. This portfolio along with an interview at the end of the week, students may gain an early conditional offer to any UNSW undergraduate degree program.

The Indigenous Pre-Law Program is an access pathway to study Law at UNSW. This 3.5-week intensive residential preparatory course designed to help First Nation students develop the necessary skills to successfully complete law at UNSW. It provides Year 12 Students with an introduction to university life within an environment with provides culturally appropriate support.

Combined these 3 programs will provide disadvantaged high school students with excellent alternative pathways into UNSW Law and the Waratah Education Foundation are pleased to be able to provide this support for the next 3 years.

For further information on the Gateway programs on offer at UNSW:
<https://www.futurestudents.unsw.edu.au/unsw-gateway>

For further information on the Indigenous Pre-Law Program:
<https://www.nuragili.unsw.edu.au/study/indigenous-preparatory-programs>

Our funding projects

Jewish House Covid 19 portal



Jewish House is an independent, not-for-profit organisation helping people in need with crisis intervention and prevention services and support.

Initially, JH started as counselling centre for teenagers and other age-groups who were involved in drug and alcohol abuse. However, with time, it has expanded the services to support homelessness that now include the 24/7 help line, crisis accommodation, psychology, psychiatry, social work, counselling, community education, prevention and positive living programs. The wide range of crisis intervention and prevention services for individuals and families covers issues such as depression, alcoholism, gambling and drug addiction, domestic violence, mental illness, unemployment, anger management, family disputes and other crises besides homelessness. As part of the new approach Jewish House developed JH Kids as a support for the children from the community.

JH Kids is a child-centred organisation that ensures children's needs are always our priority. We aim to intervene early and build up children's innate resilience to face challenging times and enable them to meet future challenges equipped with the necessary tools.

In March 2019 in response to the COVID - 19 Pandemic and the lockdown of NSW, Jewish House launched the COVID -19 portal which included JH Kids and Family resources .

These resources included guides on how to use age-appropriate language and tools to talk to kids and manage anxiety. There are resources exploring strategies on how to explain the uncertainty and unique circumstances in the world at this time, helping parents explain to their children the reasons they could not see their loved ones, such as grandparents, friends, uncles and aunties. We also developed a list of fun activities to be explored by children, including virtual tours. The COVID-19 portal was a highly successful platform with more than 400 people accessing the resources. In late June, JH Kids launched an online portal for children and families, with checklists, planning worksheets and a vast array of links to various activities.

Waratah Education Foundation were pleased to support the continuing build of this platform.



JH Kids

Our funding projects

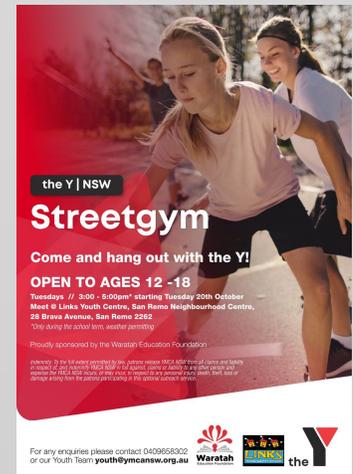
YMCA- Street gym



The Waratah Education Foundation Limited was pleased to announce approval for funding for the YMCA flagship program StreetGym.

Streetgym is a youth outreach program focused on improving the physical and mental wellbeing of disadvantaged young people. YMCA do this by providing free fitness and recreational activities, along with pathways to other services and programs that support, encourage, and build confidence in young people. Streetgym is delivered in local parks for local young people.

Streetgym provides a unique environment to establish important relationships, participate in physical activity and to increase connection to their community. Young people develop self-esteem, empathy, leadership, resilience and develop critical 'soft' skills such as communication, problem solving, team building, initiative, and self-management.



Waratah Education Foundation have provided funding for StreetGym to run at San Remo, Central Coast for the next two years and this program should reach over 1000 young people.

For further information on the YMCA StreetGym programs: <https://www.ymcansw.org.au/community-services/youth/streetgym/>

Our funding projects

Sydney Children's Hospital Foundation - Back on Track Program

The Back on Track program was established in 2006 at The Children's Hospital at Westmead (CHW) and expanded in 2015 at Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick (SCH).

Both hospitals are world-renowned for providing the best care for sick children and their families. The Cancer Centre for Children, CHW is the largest children's cancer unit in NSW. Last year the Centre provided treatment to 157 children newly diagnosed with cancer and to 60 children who relapsed. There were 108 patients treated for various cancer conditions who underwent educational support.

The Children's Hospital Education Research Institute (CHERI) at CHW provides clinical services that promote children's health and wellbeing through improvements in the interface between health and education. Cancer and its treatment can have significant short and long-term effects on the physical, psychological, educational and social functioning of children. Children can spend up to two years away from school while undergoing treatment for cancer. The 'Back on Track' program is overseen by CHERI has been operating for more than 15 years and keeps students diagnosed with cancer educationally and socially connected with their school and peers.

The program employs Education Program Coordinators, who are qualified and dedicated schoolteachers, who work with school aged children from the time of diagnosis until they return to school. Implementation of educational and social support occurs across the hospital, home, and school settings, in partnership with the family, the hospital and school staff. The program provides a link between the student and the school, thereby bridging the gap. The program's holistic approach enables the student's school, family, friends and medical team work together to get the student 'back on track'. Education Program Coordinators deliver the Back on Track program to children referred to the Cancer Centre for Children, CHW and the Kids Cancer Centre Randwick.

Waratah Education Foundation were delighted to award funding to the Back on Track program for the next 3 years and are looking forward to a great relationship with the Sydney Children's Hospital Foundation.

More information on the Back on Track program can be found:

<https://www.schf.org.au/back-on-track>

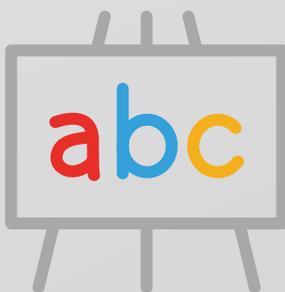


CEO Geraldine Campbell presenting a cheque to Dr Belinda Barton

IMPACT REPORT



\$470,580 Donated



10 Projects Funded



**Directly Benefitted:
1929 Students & children
556 Families & others**

2021 OUTLOOK



**\$0.5 million already
committed for 11 projects**



Waratah
Education Foundation