



Chances for Children Sponsorship Prospectus

Our mission

'The absence of money or support will not stand in the way of a young person achieving their potential'.

Dare to Dream

About Chances for Children

Chances for Children is a program of Mallee Family Care that aims to remove financial barriers for young people in the Mallee to achieve their potential.

Established in 2000 in partnership with Mallee Family Care and the then three water authorities, Chances is unique compared to other funds and programs in that it is locally based, established by the local community and supported both financially and in kind by local individuals and businesses.

Our purpose

Financial circumstances and rural isolation can often severely impact on a young person's capacity to achieve their goals.

The State of Mildura Rural City Report 2018 indicates:

- The proportion of 17-14 year olds neither completing VCE nor undertaking further education and training in our district is 25.1% compared to the Victorian average of 11.6%.
- The proportion of persons in our district who did not complete Year 12 is 54.7% compared to the Victorian average of 37.4%
- The proportion of low income families in our district is 22.6% compared to Victorian average of 17%
- Children in our district in low income, welfare-dependent families is 14.8% compared to Victorian average of 9.5%

Research also tells us that by providing disadvantaged young people with support and resources they need to further their education, we are helping to break the cycle of disadvantage.

Chances for Children provides financial and personal support to young people of the Mallee, north west Victoria and south west New South Wales communities to assist them to reach their potential in education, sporting and cultural pursuits.



Our impact – how we make a difference

We are proud to be able to say that since its launch in 2000, Chances for Children has provided mentoring and financial support for over 1,850 young people from our region to the tune of over \$4.7M. This is an achievement that we are justifiably proud of and would not be possible without the support and generosity of our community.

“Chances paid for my music tuition as a child, and now I am a music teacher part time whilst I study full time at University.

Chances for Children has enabled me to develop my musical skills to a level where I am able to teach and majorly support myself.

I always know that I can rely on Chances in a time of need.”

NAOMI
TERTIARY & NON TERTIARY RECIPIENT (MUSIC)

STEVI | TERTIARY RECIPIENT

“Chances has provided me with mentoring, financial support and budgeting assistance which I am so thankful for.

Studying at SuniTAFE would not have been possible without this support.”

Stevi was nominated to be the 2017 Tour de Murray Ambassador



“I am extremely thankful for the funds provided for the utilities and stationery I needed for school.

It allowed me to be in the same position as the other students and not feel stressed by being at a disadvantage.”



PHOEBE
KEEPING KIDS AT SECONDARY SCHOOL

Our work – what we do

Chances for Children tailors funding and support for each individual recipient. Our Recipient Support Officers work with the recipient and/or their families/guardians to identify what monies are required to fill the financial gap – ‘make up the difference’.

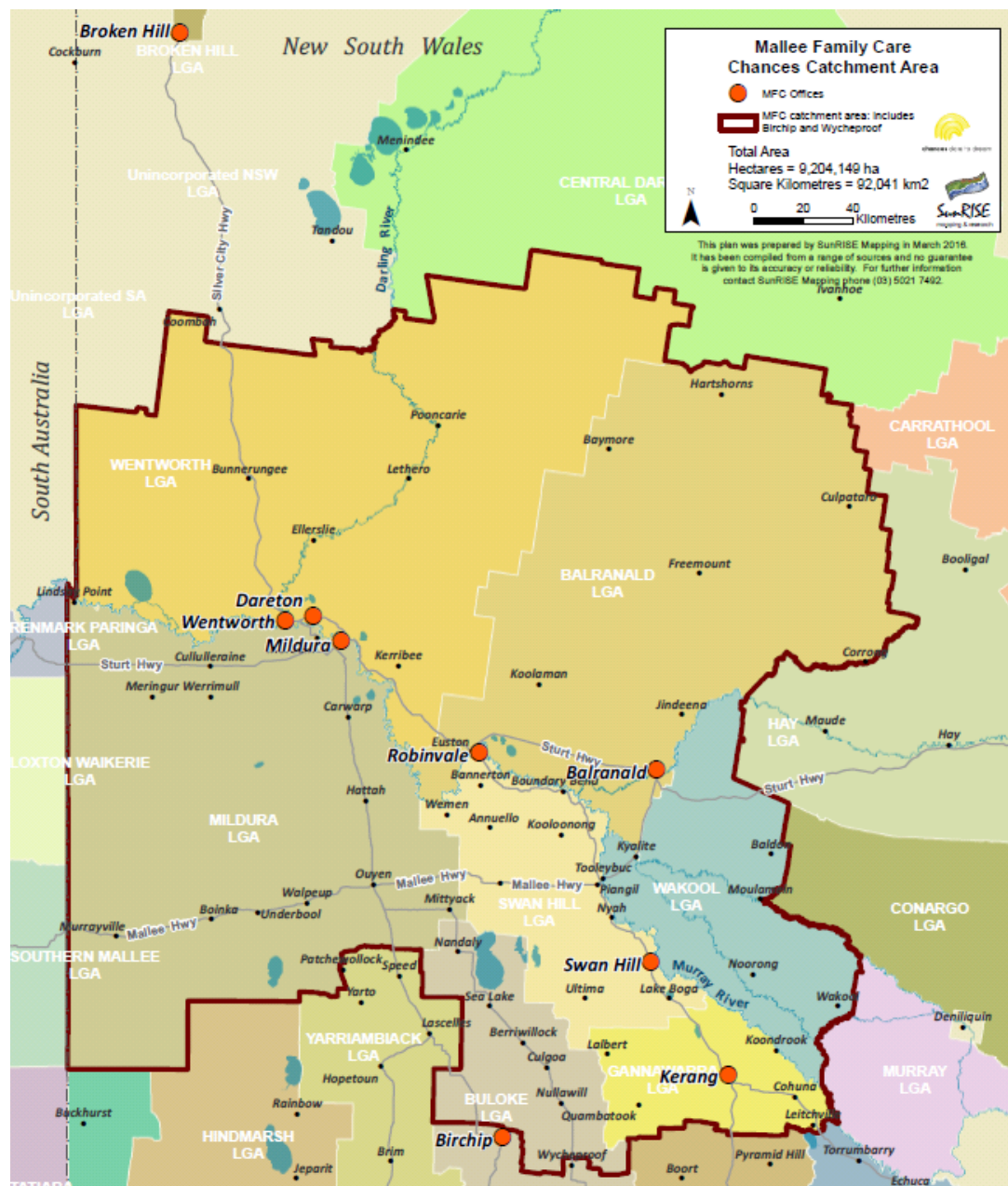
Recipients are identified through two funding rounds annually, where they are assessed against guidelines developed to take into account the unique circumstances facing young people from our geographically isolated region.

To further support our young people, Chances for Children offers a mentoring program to tertiary scholarship recipients, recognising that mentoring is an ideal partner to the financial support offered.

The success of Chances for Children has been recognised on many levels – with its key feature being a local solution to the local issue of high rates of social and economic disadvantage in our region.

To this end, the model developed for Chances for Children has been shared with other communities so they too can ensure their most vulnerable members are not bound by their economic circumstances.

Mallee Family Care Chances Catchment Area



Our scholarships

Tertiary scholarships

The Chances for Children team works with young people who are undertaking tertiary studies either at University, TAFE or other registered training organisations, to assist them with living and study costs. This is done by working with them through their student budget twice a year at the beginning of each semester.

Chances for Children commits to support a tertiary recipient for the duration of their degree, should they need it. Each year Chances staff work with approximately 100 tertiary recipients with many attending universities located outside of the Mallee.

Chances for Children do not pay fees that can be deferred via HECS/Student Loans.

Non Tertiary scholarships

Chances for Children also provides support for non tertiary activities such as:

- Sport or music at state or higher level
- Leadership
- Arts
- Allied Health – all other avenues of funding must be explored/exhausted first.

Keeping Kids at Secondary School scholarships

Chances for Children provides support to young people attending years 11 and 12 through our Keeping Kids at Secondary School fund. Through this fund we provide assistance with compulsory curriculum related school fees, text books, curriculum based camps and study trips and uniforms. We often find that these recipients go on to tertiary study with the assistance of our tertiary scholarships.

Various studies have shown a direct link between the educational experiences of young people and their lower incomes and lower status in employment prospects. This confirms our belief that providing every opportunity for a young person to complete their education plays a crucial role in their life opportunities, impacting on their lives, their families and often in turn their community.

For all of our scholarships we encourage applicants to pursue other areas of funding where available. Chances for Children funding is provided only where all other avenues have been exhausted.

Transparency of process

Tertiary and Non Tertiary scholarship applications are assessed by a group of independent local individuals known as the *District Selection Committee*. We maintain two committees', one for the Southern Mallee and one for the Northern Mallee, with membership requiring that the individual reside within the area that is covered. Members of these committees represent varied areas and professions of our community and are anonymous to ensure fairness of the process.

"Thank you so much for helping my daughter to begin her dream... you have given her the best chance for her to succeed. Without Chances she could only have dreamed of the opportunities that now are open to her. You guys are amazing and we are beyond grateful"!!

Di December 2018

Ways your organisation can get involved

Partnerships can take place in many different forms. Whether you want to increase staff engagement or strengthen your brand credibility, we can tailor a partnership that is mutually beneficial.



BECOME A SUSTAINING SUPPORTER

Pledge to donate a minimum of \$1,000 per year for the next three years.

Your ongoing commitment to Chances for Children will ensure that the young people in our community have the opportunity to achieve their full potential regardless of their family's financial circumstances.



FUNDRAISE FOR CHANCES

Nominate Chances for Children as the 'Charity of Choice' for your next workplace or community event.



VOLUNTEER

Chances has a number of working groups and committees you can join as an interested community member.



DONATE

You can make a one-off donation, to the value of your choosing via [GiveNow.com.au](https://givewith.com.au)



NAMED SCHOLARSHIPS

Pledge a minimum of \$5,000 per year for the next five years to establish a scholarship in your organisations/business name.

"I love volunteering at Chances as I believe every young person should have a dream and know that they are supported in making that dream a reality"

Kyla Pollard Chances Volunteer since 2016



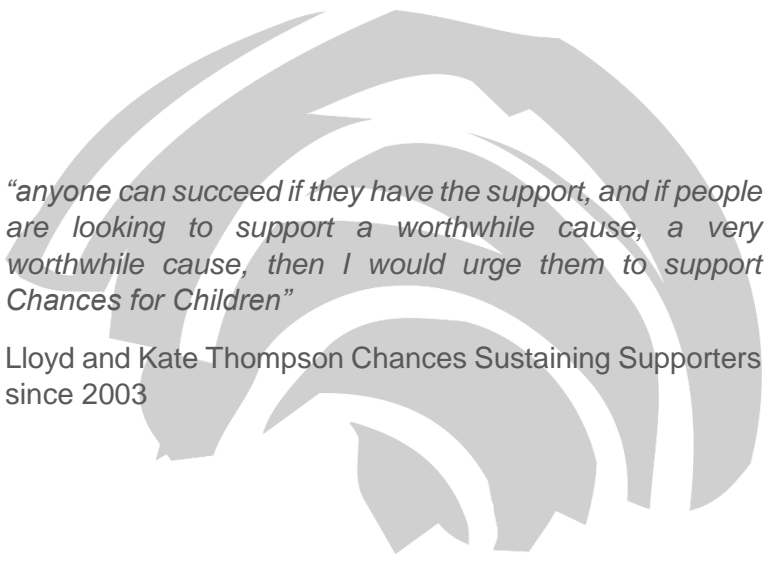
WORKPLACE GIVING

Enable your staff to make regular pre-tax donations.

Workplace Giving is a simple program where your employees have the opportunity to donate to Chances for Children directly from their pay. Employees can make regular, pre-tax donations and receive an immediate tax benefit (rather than wait until tax time).

Participants can opt to donate as little or as much as they wish each pay period. Even \$5.00 per week adds up and can make an enormous difference to a young person's life.

Your donation	Per year	How could that help a Chances recipient?
\$5 per wk =	\$260	secondary school uniforms, shoes and sports clothes
\$6 per wk =	\$312	one weeks rent for a student attending university
\$7 per wk =	\$364	secondary school curriculum based camp/study trip
\$8 per wk =	\$416	food and power costs for a month for a student living away from home
\$9 per wk =	\$468	secondary school text books, stationary and other study items
\$10 per wk =	\$520	placement related expenses i.e uniforms, vaccinations, registrations, equipment etc.



“anyone can succeed if they have the support, and if people are looking to support a worthwhile cause, a very worthwhile cause, then I would urge them to support Chances for Children”

Lloyd and Kate Thompson Chances Sustaining Supporters since 2003

Follow the lead of other local businesses and individuals

Sponsorship programs are important to Chances for Children in that it enables forward financial planning. This makes it possible to accurately assess our ability to assist young people through our funding rounds and make a real difference in their lives.

We are continually heartened and inspired to hear about the impact that Chances for Children has on the young people in our communities and the difference it makes in their lives. The support and ongoing generosity of businesses and individuals, like yourself, plays a major role in ensuring that this work continues.

To learn more head to our website

<http://www.chancesforchildren.com.au/About-us/Our-People>

<http://www.chancesforchildren.com.au/supporters>

Corporate sponsorship benefits

The benefits of a partnership with Chances for Children to your organisation include:

- Chances for Children has Deductible Gift Recipient and Income Tax Exempt Charity Statuses so any donations made are tax deductible
- Opportunity for promotion of the partnership and joint marketing opportunities
- Media recognition and exposure (where approved by you)
 - Mallee Family Care annual report
 - Chances for Children website
 - Chances for Children Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/chances.mildura/>
 - Chances for Children enewsletter <https://mailchi.mp/7f24fa283672/chances-for-children-newsletter-387119>
- Rights to advertise your support of Chances for Children in your publications and digital communications
- Event invitations
- Networking opportunities with other corporate supporters and leaders

Jodie Langford

What did you study?

Bachelor of Arts (Languages) - Japanese and Linguistics
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) – Applied Japanese Linguistics

What did Chances funding help you with?

Moving from Mildura to Melbourne was a big move, but the expenses that come with living in the big city were probably the biggest shock. The funding I received from Chances really helped reduce that stress whilst I was finding my feet and helped me be able to focus on my studies.

How did it make a difference to your study life?

Through Chances funding I was able to start University on my best foot and it set me up for success later in my studies to enable me to do my Honours degree. With the worry of “how will I juggle work and study, so I ensure I can pay rent” removed it meant I was able to focus on my studies, achieve the best scores and adjust to this new and exciting stage in my life. I can’t thank Chances enough for giving me that opportunity.

What has been your biggest accomplishment to date?

My biggest accomplishment was completing my honours thesis and being able to present my research at two conferences. Writing 15,000-20,000 words of research is no easy feat and when I finished I couldn’t believe not only what I did, but how much I grew over the year whilst writing it. It was my biggest challenge and biggest accomplishment.

What’s your advice to current recipients who may be in the same position as you were?

It’s a big step to leave home and there can be some unknown surprises along the way (since when does food cost so much?) but don’t be discouraged and lean on your new found university friends! I bet a lot of them are in the same position and might even give you some handy tips on how you make mi-goreng exciting. Use the opportunity Chances provides to get a good start into University. Get used to how studying at uni is, get a job and most importantly have fun and enjoy this period of your life. It’s one of the most exciting there is after all! Be brave, be bold and take on challenges with vigour!

"When you donate to Chances you are helping young people get that head start in life they sometimes don't have. Your support means there is one more doctor in the world saving lives, one more tradie building houses for families, one more singer bringing joy to their audience. Everyone's opportunities are endless because the financial barrier is removed". Jodie 2018



Stacey Pringle

"Without Chances I would not have finished my diploma, without a doubt I would have packed up and moved home in the first few months. They assisted me with everything to get by living by myself for the first time."

With a love for creativity, Stacey left her home in Kerang at the completion of secondary school, to pursue a Diploma in Photography at the Commercial Arts Training College in Melbourne.

"I worked in photography for a little while, however my real passion always rested with design, so I decided to pursue this further and finished my Bachelor of Communication Design a couple of years ago. Whilst studying I worked and learned from the team at stationery brand kikki.K, and now I work full time at Peninsula Leisure on the Mornington Peninsula working across design, user experience, marketing, front end web and much more." Having completed her degree, and now working in an industry that she loves, Stacey attributes her success to the constant support of those around her.

"Chances gave me the support I needed as a young adult who had never lived alone and just moved 300km away from my family. They assisted with my day to day expenses and school expenses. I was also lucky enough to meet some great people at meet ups. Without a doubt I would have either moved home after a few months of Uni or spent all my time working outside of school if it wasn't for Chances. They allowed me to really focus on my studies and in doing so I walked away from my Diploma at the top of my class and received multiple awards for my studies."

Enjoying the learning opportunities that come about in her current role at Peninsula Leisure, Stacey plans to stick around for a few more years, and is considering some additional upskill courses to stay at the top of her game.

"Your money goes towards great kids who often have nowhere else to turn and are trying so hard to be the best they can be". Stacey 2018



Next step

For further information please contact

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Keep in touch with us

Call or email us to subscribe to receive our newsletter either via email or in the post.

Checkout our website <http://www.chancesforchildren.com.au/>



Follow us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/chances.mildura/>

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#daretodream