

## Strategic Action Plan 2021 – 2023

### Introduction

The Bass Coast Community Foundation Board has articulated priorities for the next five years. The priorities are informed by a recently commissioned demographic profile prepared by Profile Id.

The Foundation aims to:

- Strengthen communities, increase resilience, wellbeing and opportunities for Bass Coast residents.
- Identify and address inequities and disadvantage through evidence based early intervention.
- Maintain a sustainable corpus to fund the programs our community needs.

### Strategic Priorities

The three priorities are listed below with reference to data that describes issues in the Bass Coast community.

#### Reduce the incidence and risk of homelessness and housing stress.

Housing stress continues to grow in Bass Coast and the groups most affected are single women over 60 and young people.

- *The number of lone persons in low-income households in Bass Coast is higher than the Victorian average.*
- *Households experiencing rental stress increased by 11.6% in 2016.*

*Source: Demographic characteristics of vulnerable or disadvantaged groups in Bass Coast. Id.com*

#### Increase the aspirations of young people through skills, knowledge and learning.

Young people are the future of our community and their participation in every aspect of community life supports their development.

- *13% of 15–24-year-old young people were not employed or in education.*
- *28.7% of 18–24-year-old young people were experiencing rental stress.*

*Source: Demographic characteristics of vulnerable or disadvantaged groups in Bass Coast.Id.com.*

#### Increase opportunities for local women and girls.

Female participation in employment, education and community life delivers positive economic and social outcomes.


- *50% of women in Bass Coast have an individual income of less than \$499 per week compared with 38% of men.*
- *1/3<sup>rd</sup> of females in Bass Coast live in households where they are they are alone or a lone parent with dependent children.*
- *Bass Coast family violence rates are higher than the Victorian average. In Bass Coast for the 12 months ending September 2020 the family violence incidents were up by 32%.*

*Source: Demographic characteristics of vulnerable or disadvantaged groups.*


**The action plan** outlined below articulates the outcomes, actions, responsibilities and measures of success that will guide the work of the Board and the executive officer over the next two years.

**Focus area**


**1. Increase participation of young people through skills knowledge and learning**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Lead role</b>	<b>Measure of success</b>	
1.1. Fund and support the rollout of the Kids as Catalysts program in Primary schools across Bass Coast	Children who have participated in the program have developed skills and abilities that build resilience and increase their opportunity to continue participation in education, training and future employment.	Executive Officer and Kids as Catalyst Project group	<p>Successful completion of the pilot at NHPS</p> <p>Level of positive change recorded in post program feedback surveys.</p> <p>Successfully secure funding for NHPS</p> <p>Agreement of program Framework for Bass Coast</p> <p>Adherence to MOU with Kids Thrive and any other relevant partners.</p>	
1.2. Continue to fund the L2P program for young learner drivers	Participants become safe drivers who are able to access employment, training and education options.	Executive Officer	Number of participants who gain their driver's license.	
1.3. Continue to fund the Welfare program at Wonthaggi Secondary college. 1.4. And monitor the impact for students.	<p>Students who are facing financial barriers to participation in their education are supported.</p> <p>Rates of young people who are engaged in employment training and education increases.</p>	Executive officer Children and Youth Working Group	<p>No. of students supported.</p> <p>No. of students who are able to continue their secondary school studies.</p>	

## 2. Reduce the incidence of risk of homelessness and housing stress

<b>Action</b>	<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Lead role</b>	<b>Measure of success</b>	
2.1. Partner with relevant services to ensure access to information and support for those at risk of homelessness.	Build community resilience. Reduce homelessness and housing stress	Community development and Housing working group. Executive Officer	Housing information and support services in Bass Coast increase. Improved access to financial capability services in Bass Coast.	
2.2. Participate in planning for the reduction in youth homelessness.	Develop an understanding of the role BCCF could play in funding projects that focus on reducing youth homelessness.	Community Development and Housing Working Group	Youth homelessness prevention proposal developed for Board to consider. Funding provided to assist youth homelessness.	
2.3. Liaise with BCSC in development and implementation of Social Housing strategy	Role and responsibilities of each organisation identified. Coordinated approach to addressing housing stress.	Executive Officer	Meetings attended. Draft paper outlining role for BCCF presented to Board.	
2.4. Partner with relevant providers to pilot an outreach financial capability project	Improve access to financial capability programs for low socio-economic income households	Community development and Housing workgroup and Executive Officer	Trial sessions conducted and reviewed. Consultation with providers undertaken. Funding provided to agreed outreach model pilot project	

### 3. Increase opportunities for local women and girls

<i>Action</i>	<i>Outcome</i>	<i>Lead role</i>	<i>Measure of success</i>	
3.1. Annual Women for Change grants program promoted, delivered and evaluated.	Increased opportunities for women to connect and access services they need.	Women for Change working Group. Executive Officer	Number of new targeted programs initiated.  Number of participants in funded projects.  Number of participants reporting positive benefits.	
3.2. IWD fundraising and awareness raising event held annually.	Increase in funds available for grant program.	Women for Change Working Group	No. of attendees.  Net amount of funds raised.	
3.3. Facilitate conversations across the municipality to create a profile that identifies barriers women and girls experience that prevent their participation in education, employment and other community activities.	Increased awareness of issues facing women and girls.  Improved targeting of Women for Change Grant program	Women for Change Working Group. Executive officer	Number of conversations recorded.  Profile completed by December 2022. Grants allocated reflect community needs.	

#### **Monitoring and Review**

The implementation of this Strategic Action Plan will be monitored via progress reporting of critical milestones. The plan will be reviewed annually to ensure responsiveness to changes in community needs and/or organisational capacity.