



Uniting Church Foundation Grants Committee Report

1. Introduction

The mission of the Uniting Church SA Foundation (the Foundation) is *'to gather, manage and grow its assets and to distribute funds for purposes which will significantly increase the mission effectiveness of the Uniting Church in SA'*. The Resources Board makes an annual allocation of funds from the Uniting Church SA Foundation Corpus fund to the Uniting Church SA Foundation Grants Committee (the Committee), which is tasked with managing the grant process and distributing the grant funding in accordance with its objects, 'allocating funds for creative and innovative projects which are in accordance with the Strategic Plan and other mission purposes which contribute to the church achieving its mission and vision.'

Congregations and members of the Church are encouraged to contribute to the work of the Foundation, with donations and bequests continuing to add to the capacity of the Foundation to allocate funding for innovative projects. The Foundation also receives a proportion of property sales proceeds. Management of the grants process continues under the oversight the Committee, with operational management by the Grants Manager, Malcolm Wilson. The challenge of COVID-19 continued to severely impact congregations, with the effect on Synod finances being greater in 2021. This resulted in a reduced funding allocation for grants in 2021.

2. 2021 Grant Round

In April 2021 the Committee was allocated \$340,000.00 for the 2021 grant round, with direction from the Synod Standing Committee that at least at least 50% be directed to support leadership development projects. Standing Committee also directed that \$12,500.00 be set aside to assist with NCLS costs. A full list of the successful grants was published at

<https://sa.uca.org.au/filestore/unitingfoundation/UF%20Approved%20Grants-2021.pdf>

3. Ongoing Projects

The Committee continues the monitoring and management of all projects currently receiving funding. As at 1st March 2022 there were 23 approved or active grants from prior funding rounds, with a total remaining committed balance of approximately \$475,000 as follows:

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| 2015 | Mission Resourcing Regional Events | \$ 17,712 |
| 2017 | NS Dinka Speaking Faith Community Leadership Development | \$ 40,545 |
| 2019 | Athelstone Uniting Church, Spirited Sunday at the Rezz | \$ 4,280 |
| | Malvern Uniting Church, Youth Leader | \$ 16,666 |
| | Mission Resourcing, Stillpoint | \$ 10,000 |
| | Noarlunga Uniting Church, Music Director | \$ 10,382 |
| | The Corner Uniting Church, Community Project Team Leader | \$ 22,830 |
| | Walkerville Uniting Church, Building Stronger Communities | \$ 6,525 |

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| 2020 | Broadview UC, Broadview Community Café | \$ 10,830 |
| | Eudunda UC, Connections Community Worker | \$ 22,000 |
| | Grange UC, Community Pastor | \$ 5,000 |
| | Dulwich Rose Park United Parish, Online resources | \$ 2,370 |
| 2021 | Centre for Music, Liturgy and the Arts | \$ 25,000 |
| | Encounter Church, (FC) Generations Pastor | \$ 55,000 |
| | Freedom UC, Freedom UC replanting of congregation | \$ 3,720 |
| | Mitcham Hills Church, (FC) Youth Outreach Worker | \$ 40,000 |
| | Mt Barker UC, Intergenerational Worker | \$ 30,000 |
| | Trinity Alberton UC, Becoming missionally effective | \$ 27,680 |
| | Westbourne Park UC, Youth Discipleship Pastor | \$ 32,500 |
| | UAICC, Formation and Training Co-ordinator | \$ 23,500 |
| | UAICC, Raukkan Congress Youth Ministry | \$ 36,000 |
| | Placements, Y.P. Restructuring Intentional Interim Ministry | \$ 19,440 |
| | Synod Standing Committee, NCLS | \$ 12,500 |

4. Forward Thinking

Resources Board has recently advised UCFGC of the funds available for distribution in 2022. The 2022 Round is expected to open early in June and have a closing date of 31st July 2022. Congregations, Faith Communities, individuals and Ministry Centres are invited to apply for innovative projects which have the capacity to further the missional effectiveness in their community and beyond.

5. The Committee

The move to the new presbytery structure led to a change in the membership structure of the Committee, to include equal representation from all three presbyteries. The Committee now consists of:

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| Rev David Hoffman (Chairperson) | <i>(appointed by Standing Committee)</i> |
| Rev Felicity Amery (General Secretary) | <i>(ex officio)</i> |
| Rev Mark Schultz (Team Leader MR) | <i>(ex officio)</i> |
| Malcolm Wilson (Grants Manager) | <i>(ex-officio)</i> |
| Brian Hern (Wimala Presbytery) | <i>(elected by Presbytery)</i> |
| Peter Gunn (Wimala Presbytery) | <i>(elected by Presbytery)</i> |
| Ian Dow (Presbytery of Southern SA) | <i>(elected by Presbytery)</i> |
| Aafke Boomsma (Presbytery of Southern SA) | <i>(elected by Presbytery)</i> |
| Kay Bailey (Generate Presbytery) | <i>(elected by Presbytery)</i> |
| Mark Telford (Generate Presbytery) | <i>(elected by Presbytery)</i> |

I would like to thank the Committee members for their diligence and impartiality, taking a Kingdom of God perspective in discerning the allocation of funding to each project on its merits. Finally, my thanks to Malcolm

Wilson for his wonderful work managing the processes and ensuring that congregations have ready access to their allocated funds.

This will be my final report, as I stand down after serving as Chairperson of this committee for the past eight years. It has been a joy to serve such a wide range of congregations (small and large, city and country) as they sought to increase their witness to the glory of God in Jesus Christ in their local community and beyond.

Grace and peace

Rev David Hoffman

*Uniting Church SA Foundation Grants Committee – Chairperson
May 2022*