

Genesis helps growing churches and Christian Organisations with strategic planning and seed capital in order to multiply their work and implement projects that become self-funding. The project needs to be strategic and have a multiplier effect. We review the development plan, strategies, budgets and management requirements. The grant is usually a reducing commitment over 3 years as the organisation steps to a new level of sustainability.

### **Chairman's letter**

The Genesis Foundations supported 165 projects during 2018/19 to date (149 in 2017/18), including 34 (48) that were approved this year.

Of the funds distributed in 2017/18, 32% were directed to youth work, 14% to Christian media, 17% to Church Development (including church plants), and 18% to resource ministries. 83% were for Australian projects (overseas projects included 5 with global impact, 5 in NZ, 10 in Africa, 2 in UK).

Our heavenly Father is reaching out to people all over the world: individuals are responding through Jesus to His message of love, forgiveness and holiness. We understand His role for us is to fund growth initiatives for churches and ministries that help individuals know Him and personally grow in their living relationship with Him.

We sincerely thank those donors who have continued to support Genesis.

I thank our Board and Committee members who volunteer their time. A special thank you to Tara Carr, our Manager Grants and Lisa Wong, our Administrator who have been a great help in the smooth operations of the Foundations.

David R Smith  
Chairman

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Some groups that Genesis currently supports:

Category	Some recipients in 2018/19
Church Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Various church plants in Australia and New Zealand</li> <li>• Geneva Push</li> <li>• Overseas Council</li> </ul>
Youth Ministry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School Chaplaincy providers</li> <li>• School Scripture teaching</li> <li>• Crusader Union (CRU)</li> <li>• Youth for Christ Australia (YFCA)</li> <li>• Christian Community Churches in Victoria and Tasmania (CCVaT)</li> <li>• Various Children's and Youth Ministry workers</li> <li>• Inter-Church Commission on Religious Education in Schools (ICCOREIS)</li> </ul>
Christian Media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Christian Media &amp; Arts Australia</li> <li>• Juice Media for Gold Coast citywide Easter program</li> <li>• Emu Music</li> </ul>
Leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry Training Strategy (MTS)</li> <li>• Sydney Missionary Bible College (SMBC)</li> <li>• Arrow Leadership</li> <li>• Christian Ministry Advancement (CMA)</li> </ul>
Evangelism and Mission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• City Bible Forum</li> <li>• Alpha Australia</li> <li>• Focus Military Ministry</li> </ul>
Community and Sports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sports Chaplains Australia</li> <li>• PeaceWise</li> <li>• Freedom for Faith</li> </ul>
Global Ministries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GAFCON</li> <li>• Sports Chaplaincy International</li> <li>• Arrow International</li> </ul>



## Grant Process Report

Our grant application process involves 2 stages – first a brief online “Preliminary Enquiry” (PE), which we ask to be brief to minimise the speculative work by ministries. If we sense it is possible that the proposal will meet our criteria, then the enquirer is invited to make a more substantial “Grant Submission” for consideration by our Board. This year we received 113 PEs (excluding unknown overseas sources), of those 38 (33% of PEs) were invited to submit a Grant Submission and 34 grants (89% of Grant Submissions) were approved by our Board.

Our Church Plant Committee considers Church plant submissions – in November 2018, out of 29 PEs, 24 were invited to make a Grant Submission and the Board approved 14.

## Grant Categories

We have target ranges for giving which we monitor retrospectively:

Category	Target Range	Actual in 2017/18
Church Development	10-15%	17%
Youth Work	10-30%	32%
Evangelism	5-15%	4%
Christian Media	15-30%	14%
Resources	0-15%	18%
Social Work	0-10%	1%
Leader Centred Ministry	0-5%	6%
Other Ministries	0-15%	9%

Geographic Spread:

Sydney	20-40%	13%
Australia (outside Sydney)	30-50%	70%
Global	15-30%	17%

## ClubCare Access

Genesis has been supporting Sports Chaplaincy Australia as they roll out ClubCare Access, a critical incident response service for sporting communities. When an incident occurs of a traumatic or critical nature, which impacts at least 6 members of a club, SCA provide specially trained sports chaplains and other support services including initial care support by phone, then debriefs in person, follows-up with stakeholders, consultancy with club leadership, and referrals to medical professionals.

Each year about 15% of sports clubs across all sports, at all levels, across Australia experience a critical incidence such as severe injury, relationship breakdown, suicide and traumatic loss. There are seven sports signed up for ClubCare Access, including AFL, Rugby Australia, League, Soccer, swimming, basketball. Last year ClubCare Access attended to over 100 critical incidents at ClubCare clubs. Each club pays \$2 per player per annum for the service. Genesis is underwriting the growth of the service, which is expected to be self-funding around 2022/3.

## Focus on Africa

Genesis has now adopted its Africa Strategy. The population across Africa is growing rapidly, including the Christian population – the UN projects that the population on the continent of Africa will quadruple by 2100. This rapid growth in the church will need to be rooted in strong Biblical theology. Grants for work in Africa focus on four key areas; strengthening grassroots theological training, building strong theological colleges, strengthening Christian organisations to operate with integrity and strengthening local Christian media.

In partnership with Overseas Council Aust, Six key Bible colleges across the continent are receiving assistance to strengthen their faculties and pedagogy. These colleges then are able to build the capacity of smaller Bible colleges by providing training and support to them. The six colleges have also benefitted from a Genesis funded conference to gather them together once a year to pray for the church in Africa, discuss challenges and opportunities they are facing and to work together to develop strategies to improve theological training across the continent.

“Our time at the conference was very inspiring. It was a great opportunity to meet together with representatives from other seminaries. Through the presentations we were able to plan ahead and think strategically about our seminaries. It was also a great chance for prayer and reflection.” – Conference Delegate

*Note:* Genesis only gives grants for work in Africa to organisations which have a strong historical relationship with the foundation and are accredited with AfCAA.

## Scripture taught in Schools

Special Religious Education (SRE) is the time set aside in Public Schools where parents can choose to have their children educated in the faith of their family and cultural background. In our multicultural society, it is important that our children can explore their family culture in a safe place. It is hoped this will provide children with *Better Balanced Futures*.

There are about 11,500 authorised SRE teachers (including 10,400 Christian SRE) in NSW. There are 2,152 NSW Government schools with 780,600 students of which about 477,100 are Primary. There is a total of about 1,194,200 students in NSW of which about 65% attend Government schools.

Through Christian SRE over 380,000 young people in NSW Government schools have the opportunity to ask the big questions of life and faith; explore truth through the Bible, faith, tradition and lived experience of faith; and to have the opportunity to discover faith for themselves.

Genesis has been assisting ICCORIES develop the structure, processes and materials that are currently in place with endorsement by the NSW Government (both major parties) and Department of Education.

Genesis is also assisting the Christian RI movement in Queensland to develop a similar structure with the QLD Government and Department of Education. Last December 16 heads of religions signed an MOU to develop the “Multi faith” model – a first in the history of QLD. The churches providing Christian RI have also renewed their joint structure.

*Better Balanced Futures* has been established as a national brand and framework for Religious Education compliance and procedures, which it is hoped will ultimately be adopted by each State and Territory.



## Genesis Foundations Structures

The Genesis Charitable Foundation is a foundation to which donations are tax deductible. Accordingly, the Australian Taxation Office requires that distributions from this foundation must only be to organisations that are also “Deductible Gift Recipients – item 1”. Genesis Charitable Foundation mainly supports youth and Christian media projects.

Genesis Life Foundation is a foundation to which donations are not tax deductible. The distributions from this foundation must be for organisations that are income tax exempt charities.

The trustee of both Foundations is the company Genesis Charitable Foundation.

**Thank You – your support is achieving great things!**

[www.genesisfoundation.org.au](http://www.genesisfoundation.org.au)