

*The Genesis Foundation is committed to helping Christian ministries in Australia and New Zealand present the good news of Jesus in word and deed and give people the chance to respond to Him.*

*We do that through providing seed capital and strategic support to Christian ministries for tactical projects that will deliver long term sustainable ministry growth.*

### **Chairman's letter**

*The Genesis Foundations supported 126 projects during 2019/20 and have approved 25 new grants this year.*

*Of the funds distributed in 2019/20, 26% were directed to youth work, 19% to Church Development (plants & growth), 14% to resource ministries and 8% to Christian media. 83% were for Australian and New Zealand projects (overseas included 6 with global impact).*

*In 2019, we partnered with the Gospel Future Fund for church plant and growth grants: we provide funds in bulk for the grants and participate on their committees. This has significantly reduced the number of grants we need to process, while the total amount given is similar. The Gospel Future Fund currently has 13 Church Plant grants and 13 Church growth grants (making 152 total projects supported).*

*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 Lisa Wong, our Administrator who has been a great help in the smooth operations of the Foundations.*

*David R Smith  
Chairman*

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## Genesis Vision 2030

The Board recently confirmed our Vision 2030 which is the legacy we think our Lord would like us to achieve by 2030. It is our hope that the funds will be fully distributed before 2030.

The Genesis vision 2030 for the foundations is:

**“To see God’s Kingdom grow”.**

In particular, we would like to see:

- men and women coming to a personal faith in Jesus and participating in a healthy local church, and
- a supportive framework for new and growing churches.

We are particularly interested in receiving Ministry Grant submissions for Bible-based projects in Australia and New Zealand that include sustainable growth projects focused on:

- Youth
- Evangelism
- Christian media
- Community based ministry, including sports ministry

The funds are directed towards the establishment of strategic ongoing growth projects that are likely to become self-funding after a reasonable time. Genesis does not support the regular funding of ongoing projects.

In addition, we have partnerships for specific ministry areas. If your area of interest is related to the following, then please direct your enquiry in the first instance to our relevant partner via their link:

- Church growth – [Gospel Future Fund](#)
- Church plant – [Gospel Future Fund](#)
- African bible college development – [Overseas Council Australia](#)
- Global ministry support – [Glolead](#)



### Examples of Christian ministries that Genesis currently supports

<b>Category</b>	<b>Some recipients in 2020/21</b>
Church Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gospel Future Fund (church planting &amp; growth)</li> <li>• Geneva Push – church innovations</li> <li>• Overseas Council for African initiatives</li> </ul>
Youth Ministry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School Scripture teaching in NSW &amp; QLD</li> <li>• Baptists NSW – GodSpace review</li> <li>• QuizWorx</li> <li>• Crusader Union (CRU) - leadership &amp; WA</li> <li>• Youth for Christ Australia (YFCA)</li> </ul>
Christian Media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Christian Media &amp; Arts Australia (CMAA)</li> <li>• Juice Media for Gold Coast citywide Easter program</li> <li>• Careline Connections</li> </ul>
Leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry Training Strategy (MTS))</li> <li>• Arrow Leadership</li> </ul>
Evangelism and Mission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• City Bible Forum</li> <li>• Billy Graham Association Aust – Tas mission</li> </ul>
Community and Sports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sports Chaplains Australia</li> <li>• Kairos Prison Ministry</li> <li>• Prison Fellowship Australia- extraordinary lives</li> </ul>
Global Ministries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GAFCON</li> <li>• Sports Chaplaincy International</li> <li>• Christian Surfers International</li> </ul>

### Grant process – once a year

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. Usually around 1/3 to ½ of the PEs are invited to submit a Grant Submission and around 80-90% of Grant Submissions are approved by our Board.

We consider PEs and Grant Submissions once a year. The majority of our enquiries and submissions have been with ministries with a calendar financial year which has resulted in most of the enquiries being at the end of a calendar year in preparation for their next few years planning.

We do not consider nor respond to enquiries from unknown sources outside Australia and New Zealand, which are outside our target area and mostly computer-generated spam.

## Churches in the community

Churches across Australia have been engaging with various specialized ministries that help the church members serve their community. Examples of such partnerships where Genesis has supported the initiative (ministry in bold) are:

The demand for Sports chaplains is increasing and **Sports Chaplains Australia** could fill 4,000 places now if they had the resources. Over 100 local churches have partnered to provide volunteer chaplains, trained by SCA, to serve in local clubs. The Critical Incident Response team had over 50 cases last year (pre COVID around 100pa) which is funded by the SCA ClubCare plan.

The churches of Illawarra engaged **Cinnamon Network** to audit the financial value of the free work of church volunteers to their community. The Mayor was delighted that their contribution was valued at over \$10mill a year!

Over 100 churches on the Gold Coast have partnered to develop a city-wide impact to reduce domestic violence. The initiative is supported by the Gold Coast Council and centered round the GC city Easter celebrations by thousands in the city stadiums (facilitated by **Juice FM** GC radio)

Personal support for school kids at risk provided by church volunteers trained by **Kids Hope** has expanded into Queensland aiming to get 30 church affiliations over the next 3 years. In NSW, Kids Hope is on target to reach 50 church affiliations.

Another 4 Jesus Clubs have been started by local churches for people with disabilities during COVID 2020, initially by zoom meetings. The clubs are run by church volunteers trained by **WeBelong Inc.**



## Other Christian work in the community

Christian media in Australia is now listened to/watched by nearly 30% of Australians over the age of 12. **CMAA** provides support to the 35 Christian radio stations. **ACC-TV** has had an almost doubling in demand during COVID 2020.

Prisoners and their families are supported by volunteers organized by **Prison Fellowship** with their expanding "Extraordinary Lives" program for young people. **Kairos** is currently expanding their inside and outside programs for inmates and their partners.

A preschool chaplain has been appointed as a pilot project by **Integricare**. They operate 7 Long Day care centres and 6 Preschools, particularly working with the needs of the vulnerable in families. Once the model is proven, other chaplains will be appointed.

### **Churches getting the message out**

The Will Graham tour of Tasmania, organised by the **Billy Graham Association of Australia**, has been deferred till 2022 due to COVID travel restrictions. The training conference for local evangelists in Tasmanian churches organized by the **Order of St Philip**, which was to be at the same time, has also been deferred.

Resources and training are now available to churches and individual evangelists from Third Space a new initiative of **City Bible Forum**.

### **Africa Update**

The strategy to strengthen the leaders of churches in Africa with our partner **Overseas Council Australia** is centred on 6 bible colleges on the continent - Capetown, Tanzania, Uganda, Nairobi, Nigeria and Alexandria. As these colleges have been growing, they are helping smaller colleges nearby, e.g. the new college in Rwanda has accelerated to a thriving bible college with hundreds of students and new facilities.

The recent annual vision meeting of the "big 6" identified 2 main challenges for the churches of Africa – growth of the prosperity gospel (now to accentuate teaching on giving) and the growth in Islam (now to explain its differences and provide care into Muslim communities).

The immediate need for small local church leaders gaining a better bible knowledge is available with the **Explore** course (based on the Moore college PTC). The Anglican church of Uganda has decided to have all their local church leaders study the course.

The accrediting body **AfCCA** is growing in membership as Christian churches and ministries see the benefits of running their organisations more professionally and building donor trust.

### **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)