

WOMEN
DONORS *investing*
in women & girls

THE AUSTRALIAN WOMEN DONORS NETWORK

ANNUAL REPORT 2014



EVE MAHLAB AO
Chair and Co-Founder

INVESTING IN UNLOCKING THE
POTENTIAL OF WOMEN AND
GIRLS IS ONE OF THE SMARTEST
PHILANTHROPIC DECISIONS WE
CAN MAKE. THE WOMEN DONORS
NETWORK **UNDERSTANDS** THIS
PROFOUNDLY; WITH BALANCE,
NUANCE AND **STRATEGIC THINKING**
THAT DELIVERS. THEIR SUCCESS
WILL INDEED **CHANGE THE WORLD.**

JEREMY MELTZER (FOUNDER) IEQUALCHANGE

CHAIRWOMAN'S REPORT

This year has been another successful year for the Australian Women Donors Network. We have strengthened and expanded our influence in the sector and beyond.

We have:

1. Presented several well received events including:

- *The Community Impact of Investing in Women and Girls* an address by Dame Julia Cleverdon DCVO CBE (in partnership with the Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation).
- *International Giving Through a Gender Lens* session at the 2014 Philanthropy Australia Conference
- *The X-Factor: Putting Sex and Gender under the Microscope in Medical Research.* (with the support of Perpetual)
- *Funding Indigenous Women & Girls with Gender and Cultural Wisdom* (with the support of the Myer Family Company)

2. Catalysed

- The establishment of two new Giving Circles through our 2013 Australia-wide tour with Colleen Willoughby known in the USA as the Mother of Giving Circles:
 - Brisbane: Women for Change
 - Melbourne: Melbourne Womens Fund, specifically targeting women and families.
 - Perth: While 100 Women was already established, our efforts have strengthened their numbers.
- The decision by Our Community to integrate a gender lens into its SmartyGrants Online Application Forms which are widely used by Local Government authorities.

THE NETWORK BRINGS TO
THE TABLE THEIR **EXTENSIVE
KNOWLEDGE** AND EXPERIENCE
APPLYING THE **GENDER LENS** TO
STRATEGIC GIVING LOCALLY AND
GLOBALLY, ENSURING IT REMAINS
ON THE AGENDA TO **CREATE
SOCIAL CHANGE** IN COMMUNITIES
FOR A **BRIGHTER FUTURE.**

LOUISE BURTON, STATE MANAGER NSW & ACT,
PHILANTHROPY AUSTRALIA

3. Enabled through

- Provision of improved tools and resources on our website including:
 - the second edition of our Guide to Gender-wise Philanthropy,
 - 13 new Fast Fact Sheets by focus area.
- Introduction of new social media Spotlight promotion of projects
- Brokerage of two substantial donations to women's organizations.

4. Completed

- The first draft of our Gender-wise Toolkit and Workshop which will be rolled out during 2015.

Further details are outlined in the Annual Report of our respected CEO Julie Reilly who continued to question and advocate for women and girls at appropriate gatherings of our target audiences.

After invaluable service, two of our Board Members retired during the year. Jan Cochrane-Harry and founding member Kristi Mansfield and I thank them both for their generous support.

We are fortunate to have engaged the commitment of three new Board members Deanne Weir, Jane Martino and Tiz Pittui, all of whom are already making a significant contribution to our work.

We are proud to mark our fifth year of advancing women and girls through philanthropy.

We live in interesting times. Governments all around the world seem to be retreating from their role in providing services, expecting the private sector to take a larger role. At no time has there been a greater need for effective work in the social sector and for intelligent philanthropists to lead the way through their funding priorities. The way is greater investment in that half of the population, women, whose ability to contribute is under-utilized and whose disadvantage can be overcome when more of us are seen, heard and valued.

EVE MAHLAB AO

Chair and Co-Founder

December 2014

BELOW: Julie Reilly, Jill Richstien OAM, Eve Mahlab AO,
Dame Julia Cleverdon DCVO CBE, Catherine Brown





JULIE REILLY
CEO

CEO'S ANNUAL REPORT

I am very pleased to report that 2014 has been a successful one for the Australian Women Donors Network, with much of the groundwork of the previous 12 months bearing fruit, and significant progress being made on the development of our Gender-wise Toolkit and Training. We have also expanded our profile, influence and reach in a substantial way since our report at the end of 2013.

Over the past 12 months, we have made great in-roads in our ongoing mission to inform, inspire and enable greater investment in women and girls.

EVENTS

Dame Julia Cleverdon DCVO CBE Oration:
The Community Impact of Investing in Women and Girls

Our Annual Gender-wise event was delivered in Melbourne in April and was presented in partnership with the Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation to a large audience of individual donors, trusts and foundations. Dame Julia was enthusiastic in her endorsement of our work, in particular our Guide to Gender-wise Philanthropy and efforts to integrate the gender lens across the philanthropic sector.

Melbourne Women's Fund Launch

Following the success of our 2013 International Speakers Tour, with Colleen Willoughby promoting the establishment of Giving Circles, we have been delighted to see these sprouting around the country. In July, a new giving circle, the Melbourne Women's Fund was launched. This local initiative is designed to attract new players to philanthropy in support of women and families in

I WAS **DELIGHTED** TO SUPPORT THE AUSTRALIAN WOMEN DONORS NETWORK IN 2014 AND IN PARTICULAR BE A PART OF A **THOUGHT PROVOKING** SEMINAR ABOUT MEDICAL RESEARCH AND GENDER. I COMMEND THE GROUP ON PUTTING ISSUES MANY HAVE BEEN DISCUSSING FOR YEARS, BEHIND CLOSED DOORS, **INTO THE OPEN** AND ONTO THE AGENDA OF OUR NATION.

SUSAN ALBERTI AO, FOUNDER,
SUSAN ALBERTI FOUNDATION FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

WHEN IT COMES TO RELEVANCE,
IMPACT AND PROFESSIONALISM,
 THE AUSTRALIAN WOMEN DONORS
 NETWORK PUNCHES ABOVE ITS
 WEIGHT. WITH AWDN'S GUIDANCE
 WE HELD OUR **MOST SUCCESSFUL**
 G(IRLS)20 SUMMIT TO DATE.
 MOVING FORWARD WE WILL
 CONTINUE TO WORK WITH AWDN
 TO **BUILD ON THE WORK** WE HAVE
 BEGUN IN AUSTRALIA TOGETHER

FARAH MOHAMED, FOUNDER & PRESIDENT,
 G(IRLS)20 SUMMIT

Melbourne. Colleen has agreed to be the International Patron for this giving circle and locally, Susan Alberti AO provided a boost to the initial fundraising effort with a \$25k Lifetime Member donation. Inspired by the seeding of Impact100 in Australia, the Women Donors Network has lead the charge for collective giving by women and congratulates the Women For Change Giving Circle in Brisbane and the 100 Women Giving Circle in Perth.

Women Donors takes the stage at the G(irls)20 Summit

In what was a great honour for our Network, I was invited to MC the two day G(irls) 20 Summit at the Sydney Opera House in August. This impressive Canadian philanthropic initiative mirrors the architecture of the G20, bringing together young women delegates aged 18-22 from each of the G20 countries plus Afghanistan, Pakistan and the MENA region, to develop them as future leaders of change in their respective countries. It is designed to influence the G20 Agenda ensuring the views of young women are taken into account in the discussions and decisions around economic development. It was very



ABOVE TOP: Julie Reilly, Janet Hirst, Melissa Chen, Susan Alberti AO, Pat Bourke and Amy Coote at the Melbourne Women's Fund launch.
 BOTTOM: The G(irls)20 Summit at the Sydney Opera House.

pleasing to see that, for the first time, the G20 meeting held in Brisbane in November, included a focus on gender in its official dialogue.

Gender on the agenda at the inaugural Good Pitch² in Australia

In what was among the most exciting philanthropic initiatives of 2013, Good Pitch² launched in Australia with a hugely successful event at the Sydney Opera House on the 8th of October, where \$2m dollars was raised in support of 7 documentary films in 8 hours. Having been invited to represent our Network, and provide a gender perspective on discussions around each documentary film



ABOVE TOP: Good Pitch² at the Sydney Opera House. MIDDLE: Tim Costello AO, Sam Mostyn, Allan English, Audette Exel AO, Joe Skrzynski AO and Mark Cubitt at the Philanthropy Australia Conference 2014. BOTTOM: Amanda Miller, Julie Reilly, Jan Owen AO, Audette Exel AO and Jeremy Meltzer at the NEXUS Global Youth Summit

THE MELBOURNE WOMEN'S FUND
IS GRATEFUL TO WOMEN DONORS
FOR THEIR **WONDERFUL AND WISE**
SUPPORT DURING 2014. FROM
THE BEGINNING, THEY HAVE BEEN
BEHIND US AS WE **WORKED TO**
ESTABLISH OUR GIVING
CIRCLE FOR WOMEN.

PATRICIA BURKE AND GILLIAN HUND, CO-FOUNDERS

at the initial workshop with Shark Island Productions at Kangaroo Valley in late May, I was very honoured to announce two separate donations of \$50k to two films with a particularly strong focus on issues affecting women.

Philanthropy Australia Conference 2014

In another first for our Network, we were invited to partner with Philanthropy Australia (PA) to present a special session at this year's conference addressing *International Giving through a Gender Lens*. Working in partnership with PA's Louise Burton, we curated two high level sessions on the power of investing in women and girls and the different models for international giving. Our all star line up of presenters and panellists included: Tim Costello AO, Rachel Griffiths, Kate Kennedy, Joe Skrzynski AO, Allan English, Audette Exel AO, Mark Cubitt and Sam Mostyn. We received overwhelmingly positive feedback from all who took part.

NEXUS Global Youth Summit

Having presented at the inaugural Nexus Global Youth Summit held in Sydney in 2013 alongside Farah Mohamed, Founder & President of G(irls) 20, it was an absolute pleasure to attend the 2014 Summit in Melbourne. In what is a first in the sector, the Organising Committee ensured that a gender lens was applied to every session of the 2-day Summit. The Women Donors Network congratulates all involved who readily embraced this focus and provided outstanding leadership in Gender-Wise Philanthropy and Social Innovation.

Private Wealth Network -

Family Office Congress - Melbourne

Having presented at the Family Office Congress in Sydney last year alongside Deanne Weir, it was great to have Deanne back on stage in Melbourne in October, this time

IT IS **GREAT TO SEE** THE
AUSTRALIAN WOMEN DONORS
NETWORK TAKING A **LEADERSHIP**
ROLE IN THIS STILL PROBLEMATIC
PHILANTHROPIC AREA

JANET MICHELMORE AO, DIRECTOR, JEAN HAILES.

as a Board Director of both the Women Donors Network and the International Women's Development Agency. Deanne exemplifies the ethos of investing in women and girls in both her business and philanthropic initiatives. She shared her passion and purpose with a new audience of high net wealth families and investment advisors. It was also pleasing to have our *Guide to Gender-wise Philanthropy* highly commended in a paper entitled *The Value of Women* by Steve MacDonald of Infinitas, as part of a presentation on Gender-Economics at the Congress.

Changing Lives Over Lunch

Continuing our tradition of bringing donors together to inform, inspire and enable gender-wise giving around different philanthropic focus areas, we presented two lunchtime workshops to examine the key issues in philanthropy for:

- **Indigenous Women & Girls - Funding with Gender & Cultural Wisdom - October.**

In our second event, specifically designed to support donors to better understand and navigate the sometimes delicate area of funding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations and projects, more than 20 donors, trusts and foundations came together for an intimate conversation. Presenters included the then head of Reconciliation Australia, Leah Armstrong, Co-Campaign Director for Recognise, Tanya Hosch, Co-Founder and Deputy Chair of Women Donors and long-time funder of indigenous projects, Jill Reichstein, as well as researcher and co-author of the ground-breaking report funded



ABOVE TOP: Indigenous Women & Girls - Funding with Gender & Cultural Wisdom. BOTTOM: Medical Research - The X-Factor - Putting Sex and Gender under the Microscope in Medical Research

by the AMP Foundation; *The Best of Every Woman*, Louise Doyle. Representatives of Woor-Dungin also presented at this event.

- **Medical Research - The X-Factor - Putting Sex and Gender under the Microscope in Medical Research - November.**

In what was a ground-breaking discussion in Medical Research philanthropy, Women Donors presented a thought-provoking session for donors and other interested parties on why sex and gender matter in all aspects of medical research funding. Our outstanding line-up of speakers included Sue Matthews, CEO of the Royal Women's Hospital, Dr Zoe Wainer, Deputy Director Medical Services Peter McCallum Cancer Centre, Professor Doug Hilton, CEO of the Walter & Eliza Hall Institute, Dr Saraid Billiards, Director of Research Grants at the NHMRC, and celebrated medical research fundraiser and philanthropist Susan Alberti AO.



ABOVE TOP: Launch of MECCA's partnership with The Hunger Project.
BELOW: Julie Reilly speaking at the G(irls)20 Summit at the Sydney Opera House.

"I AM INCREDIBLY GRATEFUL TO WOMEN DONORS NETWORK FOR **THEIR SUPPORT** OF PROJECTS LIKE THE STELLA PRIZE ESPECIALLY IN THE EARLY PHASE OF ESTABLISHING A NEW **INITIATIVE FOR WOMEN** WHEN ONE INEVITABLY ENCOUNTERS DOUBT AND DIFFICULTY IN THE WIDER COMMUNITY. WDN PROVIDED ME WITH **INVALUABLE ENCOURAGEMENT**, PERSPECTIVES AND EXPERTISE TO STRENGTHEN AND REFINE MY RESOLVE. LONG MAY THEY CONTINUE THIS IMPORTANT ROLE. **IT MADE A HUGE DIFFERENCE.**"

ELLEN KOSHLAND - FOUNDER STELLA PRIZE

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

The Women Donors Network was honoured to be invited to share our message at a variety of speaking engagements throughout the year including:

- Asia- Pacific Centre for Social Investment and Philanthropy at Swinburne University of Technology: Leadership and Social Impact – The Role of Gender.
- Philanthropy Australia's New Gen – Introductory session on the gender lens
- Rotary – Box Hill Branch
- MS Angels – Giving Circle Meeting
- Mecca Cosmetics – Lunch & Learn Session
- Melbourne Women's Fund – Launch and Morning Tea

DONOR CONNECTION

As part of our mission to enable greater giving to women and girls, we continue to provide donor connection and introductions wherever possible. Among the success stories we are most proud of in 2014 are:

- **Women's Property Initiatives:** The Australian Women Donors Network is pleased to have played a role in facilitating a significant donation from the Estate of the Late Edward Wilson Trust for an affordable housing project in Coburg.
- **The Hunger Project & MECCA:** In a relationship we helped to foster, this year for the first time, MECCA Cosmetics launched a special Christmas gift pack to raise funds for The Hunger Project – Australia.
- **The Stella Prize:** In an attempt to support the development of a sustainable model for this wonderful initiative, we have been proud to make some key introductions and provide a mentoring role for those on the Committee new to the philanthropic space.

WE HAVE FOUND THE WOMEN DONORS NETWORK **INCREDIBLY SUPPORTIVE** BOTH FORMALLY AND INFORMALLY THROUGH INTRODUCTIONS AND WORK-SHOPPING IDEAS AND POTENTIAL PROJECTS WE ARE CONSIDERING. **ENORMOUS VALUE** TO WPI. THANKS TO YOU ALL FOR THE INITIATIVE OF WDN AND THE **WONDERFUL ORGANISATION** THAT IT IS.

JEANETTE LARGE, CEO, WOMEN'S PROPERTY INITIATIVES

INFORMATION RESOURCES

We have continued to build our information resources throughout this year both on our website, through the inclusion of Fast Facts in more than a dozen focus areas, and through our social media activity. We regularly share articles, events, facts and statistics on women and girls via Facebook and twitter to our expanding community of over two thousand.

NEW BOARD DIRECTORS

We have been delighted to welcome three new Board Directors this year; Venture capitalist and philanthropist Deanne Weir, social entrepreneur Jane Martino, and marketing and research specialist Tiziana Pittui. All three are active philanthropists with a deep commitment to advancing women and girls.

NEW PARTNERSHIPS

We are proud to have welcomed two additional sponsors this year with multi-year funding agreements signed with The Myer Foundation and Highpoint Property Group. We were also delighted to end 2014 with the wonderful news that the Phyllis Connor Memorial Trust will join our list of generous philanthropic supporters.



ABOVE TOP: Tiziana Pittui, Jane Martino and Deanne Weir
BELOW: Good Pitch² - Sydney Opera House

APPLAUSE

Local:

- The Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation has lead the way in 2014 in applying a gender lens to their philanthropic practice. We both applaud their leadership in this area and thank them for their support for our mission.
- I would also like to make particular mention of the great work of IMPACT100 Melbourne. As part of their education process they have identified that an investment in women equals an investment in their children and families and therefore has a greater community impact or multiplier effect. We congratulate McAuley Community Services for Women for being selected by the group's membership to receive this year's investment of \$100k.

CONGRATULATIONS ON A VERY
WELL ORGANISED, WELL RUN AND
WELL PRESENTED SEMINAR. LOTS
OF "LEARNINGS" TO COME OUT OF IT.

DANIEL RECHTMAN, CHAIRMAN,
THE CASS FOUNDATION.

Global:

While there are many admirable individuals and impressive global initiatives that advance and empower women and girls, I'd like to particularly applaud three standouts from 2014:

- Farah Mohamed for bringing G(irls)20 to Australia. The Summit played a key role in ensuring gender was on the G20 agenda in Brisbane in November.
- UN Women's Goodwill Ambassador Emma Watson for her passionate speech earlier this year at the launch of the He for She global campaign.
- The Global Fund for Women for the establishment of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Fund.

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS

I would also like to offer my sincere thanks to The Honourable Quentin Bryce AD CVO, who has generously agreed to continue as our Patron, our Chair Eve Mahlab AO who continues enthusiastically to seek new and effective ways to bring women into focus, our Board Directors new and retiring, our sponsors, supporters and volunteers. To the team at the Reichstein Foundation and our friends at the National Foundation for Australian

Women, we thank you for your ongoing support and encouragement. In particular I would like to thank the newest member of our team, Georgia Mathews, for her commitment, wisdom and the exceptional energy she has invested in the Network over the past nine months.

Finally I would like to thank the philanthropic community for its ongoing willingness to examine its own practices and policies through a gender lens. We look forward to introducing our newly developed Gender-wise Toolkit and Training Workshops to the sector in 2015 to continue the momentum in support of women and girls and the key role they play in strengthening society for the benefit of all.

JULIE REILLY

CEO Australian Women Donors Network
November 2013



ABOVE: Eve Mahlab AO, Tim Costello AO, Julie Reilly, Rachel Griffiths and Kate Kennedy.



Postscript: In what was a wonderful boost at the end of the year, I was very proud to be included in Pro Bono Australia's inaugural Impact 25 for 2014.

OUR SUPPORTERS

THANK YOU FOR HELPING US PROMOTE GENDER-WISE PHILANTHROPY AND INCREASED INVESTMENT IN WOMEN AND GIRLS.

We are most grateful to all those who have provided us with support throughout 2014 including:

PATRON IN CHIEF

Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce AC CVO
former Governor General of the Commonwealth
of Australia

"AUSTRALIAN WOMEN DONORS
NETWORK IS A BEACON IN
THE PHILANTHROPIC SECTOR
IN HIGHLIGHTING THE
IMPORTANCE OF GENDER
FOCUSED PHILANTHROPY AND
THE IMPACT THAT IT CAN HAVE.
I AM CONTINUALLY IMPRESSED
BY THEIR TIRELESS ADVOCACY,
CONNECTION MAKING AND
ENGAGEMENT – ALL PURSUED
WITH PROFESSIONALISM, A CLEAR
SENSE OF PURPOSE AND THE
ENTHUSIASM THAT COMES WITH
DOING MEANINGFUL WORK THAT IS
ACHIEVING POSITIVE OUTCOMES
FOR THE BENEFIT OF WOMEN
AND GIRLS."

STEVE MACDONALD - INFINITAS

PHILANTHROPIC SUPPORTERS

Hugh Williamson Foundation



trawalla foundation
art • ideas • innovation • scholarship

PHILANTHROPY PARTNER

National Foundation for Australian Women (NFAW)

SPONSORS

MECCA
COSMETICA



THANK YOU AGAIN FOR CURATING
SUCH AN **INFORMATIVE** AND
WELL-ORGANISED EVENT.

JORDAN TREW, OPERATIONS MANAGER,
PHILANTHROPY, EQUITY TRUSTEES

OUR SUPPORTERS

CORPORATE SUPPORTERS

Arnold Bloch Liebler
GMK Partners Pty Ltd
ANRIC
50 Kaliber
Digital Image
Waterfield

COMMUNITY SUPPORTERS

Philanthropy Australia
Pro Bono Australia
Australian Communities Foundation
Sydney Community Foundation
Sydney Women's Fund
Victorian Women's Trust
International Women's Development Agency
Australian Jewish Funders Network
Our Community
Women Moving Millions - US
Women's Funding Network - US
Embassy of the United States of America
Australian Centre for Philanthropy and Non-Profit
Studies, Queensland University of Technology
Asia-Pacific Centre for Social Investment and
Philanthropy, Swinburne University of Technology
The Alliance of Girls Schools (Australasia)
G(irls) 20 – Canada
Kilfinan Australia



BELOW: The inaugural Good Pitch² Australia event at the Sydney Opera House

SUPPORTERS, VOLUNTEERS & SPEAKERS

Dr Wendy Scaife	Leah Armstrong
Andrew Jackson	Tanya Hosch
Carol Weston	Christa Momot
Madeleine Field	Chantelle Thompson
Brigid Reid	Susan Alberti AO
Allan English	Professor Doug Hilton
Dame Julia Cleverdon	Sue Matthews
DCVO CBE	Dr Zoe Wainer
Tim Costello AO	Dr Saraïd Billards
Rachel Griffiths	Kevin Nuttal
Kate Kennedy	Maureen Ngan
Joe Skrzyzynski AO	Lindsay Field
Audette Exel AO	Barbara McCarthy
Sam Mostyn	Jim Morrison
Mark Cubit	