Securing Funding Workshop

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Today’s topics

- Who is FRRR?
- What do we do?
- Funding, what is available?
- Tips for good grant writing
- Helpful tools and resources
- Grants in Action

FRRR’s vision is vibrant and adaptive rural, regional and remote communities.
Who is FRRR?

- Our mission is to champion the economic and social strength of Australia’s regional, rural and remote communities through partnerships with the private sector, philanthropy and government.

- Distributed more than $66 million in grants and provided substantial capacity building support to more than 7,500 groups.

- In 2014/15 we distributed $8.4m to 757 community projects.

- 2,445 organisations made applications, due to limited funds only awarded 31%

- Particular focus on small rural communities fewer than 10,000
What we do

FRRR has been connecting rural Australia & philanthropy, government & business since 2000

- We help to bring philanthropy to the bush
  1. Provide grants to not-for-profit community organisations and act as a clearing house / referral service
  2. Help communities fundraise, by ‘lending’ our DGR status to community organisations and hold funds on their behalf, via Donation Accounts
- Help to build local capacity to find local solutions to local problems
- We do this by partnering with business, philanthropy and governments.
Funding - what’s available

We collaborate with other philanthropic organisations, government departments, corporations and individuals to fund not-for-profit community organisations across a range of areas including:

- Aged care
- Arts, culture and community heritage
- Education
- Natural disaster recovery
- Tourism
- Infrastructure
- Economic development

... and just about everything else, from community hall repairs to community gardens.
Funding tailored to community demands

- **Small Grants for Rural Communities (SGRC)**
  - Contribute to social & community welfare, economic, environmental, health, education or cultural development.

- **Culture, Arts, Tourism and Community Heritage (CATCH)**
  - Support the rich and diverse history and culture of rural and regional Australia, and sustain arts and tourism activities.

- **Caring for Ageing in Rural Australia (CARA)**
  - Focus on wellbeing of older Australians through community based proactive and positive ageing programs, as well as practical support such as equipment for centres and community based residential facilities.
Funding tailored to community demands

- **Education:**
  - REAPing Rewards Program
  - ANZ Seeds of Renewal program
  - Back to School Program

- **Natural Disaster Recovery:**
  - Repair-Renew-Restore program

- **Place-based programs:**
  - Tackling Tough Times Together (TTTT) - QLD and NSW
  - Aussie Cotton Farmers Grow Communities - QLD and NSW
FRRR has a strong presence in QLD and NSW

- In 2014/15, grants ranged from $50 to $85,000.
- The average grant was $8,000, although the median was closer to $5,000 as we distributed a small number of higher value grants.
Donation Accounts

There are three types of donation accounts:

- **Project Donation Account** to raise funds for a specific project.
- **Regional Donation Account** - suitable for Community Foundations or community organisations without a tax deductible public ancillary fund, to raise funds for particular region.
- **Small Grants Program Donation Account** - to raise funds for small grants program.

At 30 June 2015, FRRR held funds on behalf of 39 organisations. Collectively, they raised more than $1.875m.

Is a donation account something that could benefit your organisation/community?
Three key steps to good grant writing

1. THINK - carefully. Why are you applying?
2. PLAN - the project and address six key questions:
   - What
   - Why
   - Who
   - How
   - When
   - How Much
3. WRITE - demonstrate strong community support and give a compelling case.

Helpful animated videos under Resources on www.frrr.org.au:
- Plan your project
- Prepare a budget
- Write an application
- Implementation
$19,569 CATCH grant enabled an experienced facilitator to work with local Indigenous people to collect, collate and upload historic and contemporary cultural data.

Photos and sound files will be stored on the Northern Territory Libraries’ Community Stories database.

The collection now consists of around 1,800 photos, plus sound files.

Stories to reflect the regional nature of the cultural materials and the strong connections between local families.
Repair-Restore-Renew: Cyclone Yasi 5 years on

- $10,600 funded the ‘Quad riders to the rescue’ FNQuadriders Inc project - allowing 10 riders to gain Certificate 1 and 2 training for assisting in future disaster events.

- FRRR awarded $16,800 to the CORES (Community Response to Eliminating Suicide) project, to enable Innisfail volunteers to be trained as CORES Team Leaders, who then trained and supported local volunteers.

- A $13,303 grant for the Ravenshoe ‘guerrilla gardening’ project focused on building volunteers skills, through participation and a series of workshops with an emphasis on permaculture, composting, soil preparation and garden maintenance.
Cardwell & District Historical Society: Museum Rescue Project

The Cardwell Museum was devastated from Cyclone Yasi. Funded through the Repair-Restore-Renew 2011 program, two Museum and Gallery officers were employed to develop a single response cyclone preparedness plan.

The officers worked with the volunteers to train them in best practice museum exhibition development.

New displays were developed in conjunction with the volunteers - allowing them to learn about exhibition theming, label writing, object display and mounting, preventative conservation and education curriculum linkage.

Outcomes

- Trained and confident volunteers to create exhibitions that engage visitors.
- Upgraded governance and management practices of volunteers and the organisation for now and into perpetuity.
SGRC Grant gives green light for driving school

A drivers licence, and safe driving skills, are critical in rural Australia.

- Clermont in central Queensland didn’t have a driver instruction training school.
- Progress Association received a $3,635 grant from the SGRC program.
- This helped to send three local community members to a two-week training and instruction course, completing their Certificate IV in Car Driving Instruction.
- Now Clermont boasts a pool of three driver trainers, who are able to give learner drivers lessons at the days and times that suit them.
- The driving school plans to extend its services to the surrounding towns of Capella, Tieri, Dysart and Middlemount, which don’t have local access to accredited, qualified driver education.
CARA funded pool hoist provides inclusion solution

- Magnetic Island elderly residents were unable to safely access the community pool and could not participate in water-based therapy.

- Magnetic Island Community Care (MICare) received a $9,990 CARA grant to purchase a new hoist for the pool.

- This has provided safe and dignified access for frail or mobility-impaired visitors, and those with a disability.

- With additional funds from the Rotary Club and support of Lifetec, the hoist was installed, volunteers trained as pool supervisors and MICare staff on the new equipment.

- Local patients are now enjoying gentle aqua-based exercises and the simple joy of a plunge in the pool.
Helpful tools and resources

**FRRR grant applications:**

**Tips from Probono Australia:**

**Our Community - website for non-profits:**

**Grant writing handbook:**
Four things to do when you leave today

1. Check that you are receiving the FRRR newsletter, if not, go online and subscribe today

2. Mark in your diary to check the FRRR grants calendar monthly for grant program opening and closing dates

3. Take time to look at FRRR’s tips for great applications

4. Register for free FRRR / Our Community webinars:
   Sponsorships 101 - 27 July; Crowdfunding - 10 August
Thank you for your time

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