



## TFN Live Events | Impact Report

Thank you for completing this Impact report so we can share with our network the outcomes of the project/program that you pitched at a TFN event. Please answer as accurately/comprehensively as possible, although we appreciate that you may not have exact answers to everything. If you raised funds after the event because of your pitch, we are keen to know about your success as we track this information. To save and resume your report later, click the SAVE button at the bottom right of the page. When complete hit SUBMIT. Thank you.

**1. Organisation name**

Alithia

**2. Your name and position**

Talula hughes, Director

**3. Email address**

info@alithialearning.org.au

**4. Date of the TFN event at which you presented**

16/02/2021

**5. Please outline the project/program and funding you pitched for at the TFN event.**

We pitched to raise funds to cover costs to keep Alithia and it's programs running.

*e.g. We pitched to employ a Volunteer Coordinator for 2 days per week...*

**Impact of Funding**

**6. Please describe how the funding was used and the implementation of the project/program.**

During the first 6 months of the year Alithia ran many successful programs which were fully booked out and families facing financial hardship were given scholarships. These were detailed in the 6 month report. We were able to cover another 12 months of insurance to cover all programs and meetings. Once the Covid lockdown began mid-year and uncertainty was gaining in regards to upcoming laws and obligations, we purchased a sealed storage container to preserve all the resources and prevent them from going mouldy in our humid climate. This way we did not need to continue paying hall hire fees. The Junior Programs only closed for 3 weeks and were able to continuing running (and are currently running three days per week across two locations), however the large main learning hub extended it's closure for the rest of the year due to an inability to access the location with a change in pandemic rules (and pandemic unrest with teachers and families). Alithia offered covid-safe social gatherings and online support to families needing assistance through these times.

Alithia's volunteers have asked for a 12 month respite as some have family members (or are themselves) suffering long covid or stress-induced exhaustion from volunteering through unprecedented times while working and raising families. The current director has been interviewing school principles to hand-over the primary-aged learning hub to, and step back to an advisory role due to health complications. With such disruptions in the community, the committee feel it is not a good time to advertise and form a new long-term committed community-run committee and so the main hub is still on hold. During the second-half of the year and to date, Alithia has been working with council and has been awarded land for building an Alithia learning hub. This has been a lengthy process which is still underway. The TFN funding has allowed us to reach out for assistance when necessary and keep this ball rolling.

*e.g. We employed our Volunteer Coordinator in month and he/she did...*

#### **7. Please describe the impact that the TFN funding has had on your organisation.**

With the funding from TFN, we have been able to support many families through a tough year. Our Junior Programs removed a large amount of stress from parents working from home and gave the children tools for resilience and emotional release. The first 6 months of primary programs assisted children and families and allowed Alithia to create specialised assistance and expand in-depth programs. The funding has meant that Alithia's precious resources are safely stored and programs can be continued in the future. We have been able to access assistance when required to keep the charity run. Without the TFN funding, Alithia would have closed at the beginning of 2021, unable to serve the community or offer any of these programs that are running, and the resources would have been lost. This funding was a life-line so that Alithia will continue on into the future.

*e.g. Having a dedicated Volunteer Coordinator has enabled us to increase the number of volunteers who support our program and to develop a more in-depth training program to support more young people...*

#### **8. How many people have been supported by programs or activities that were funded by the TFN donations?**

40 children and their families have been supported by the programs and activities over the last 12 months, and due to the saving of the resources and the assistance to keep Alithia Inc running, many more children will benefit.

*e.g. 45 young people participated this year, which is 25% more than last year, thanks to the new Volunteer Coordinator resourcing.*

*Also, consider and tell us about any indirect beneficiaries if you can.*

#### **9. Please tell us a short story about someone who has benefited from this funding.**

Kaylee was unable to speak in learning environments, she would be mute. At the pitch I told the story of how we got her talking while she attended Alithia. By mid 2021, after attending Alithia's intensive programs that were offered with TFN funding, working closely with an Arts Therapist and a MusicTherapist, Kaylee found her voice and confidence and was ready to transition to school. The transition was successful and her mother reported seeing Kaylee draw on the tools learnt at Alithia. She is now thriving. We have a letter detailing this story from her mother and are happy to share.

*e.g. Jacob is one of young boys who has been helped through our program... Please change any real names or identifying details.*

### **Use of Funds and Evaluation**

#### **10. How much funding did you receive through the TFN event for your project/program?**

\$52,000.00

#### **11. Please provide a budget breakdown on how the funds raised at the TFN were used. If not all of the funding has been used, please explain why. We will follow up with you if the budget shows more than 10% has not been spent.**

Insurances - \$5000, Programs (hall hire, mentors, resources, therapists) - \$24,000, Storage Container - \$8000, Assistance from contractors when volunteers were unavailable and fees for online services to take pressure off volunteers (registration of students and accounting) - \$3000.

The remaining funds are being held in the Alithia bank account for when programs can be offered for primary-aged student (hopefully mid 2022). The Junior branches are currently running self-sufficiently, thanks to Alithia having insurance paid for with TFN funding.

*e.g. Training - \$1500, New equipment - \$3000 etc*

#### **12. Describe if, and why, any of the funding was used differently from what you described in your original pitch/budget.**

Storage container was purchased to store resources due to lockdown closures. Due to the pandemic, our volunteers no longer had sufficient time available to cover tasks to keep Alithia running and a little paid assistance was required.

*e.g. Due to Covid, it took about 6 months to employ the Volunteer Coordinator so some of the funding was redirected to....*

#### **13. What measures did you use to assess the impact?**

We spoke with families to understand the impact of the programs and received letters detailing the impact from those who received a scholarship. We had debrief meetings with the mentors across all programs to further assess the impact.

*e.g. We asked volunteers to complete a survey after they had been volunteering with us for 6 months etc..*

#### **14. Describe three ways that your organisation has changed in the past 12 months since the event. (You can also describe here how Covid-19 restrictions have impacted on and changed the way you work).**

The Alithia reputation grew and so the community supported the handing-over of council community land to Alithia for a Learning and Well-being Hub. We have received offers from families to assist Alithia in the future when the stress of the pandemic are not impacting families so significantly. Our programs became more in-depth and the services improved. We managed to finish working with the children that still required our assistance and transition them to school. We expanded on our locations which meant we were accessible to more families.

*e.g. We have grown in size, maintained funding levels, improved services, reduced staff, relocated, secured corporate sponsorship etc...*

**Please upload photos of the work supported with TFN funding.**

*These will be published on our website and sent to donors.*

### Videos

*If you have any videos, please provide link for downloading or sharing here (e.g. YouTube, Dropbox, Vimeo, WeTransfer)*

### Post Event- Additional Benefits

**15. Over the past 12 months, how important was your affiliation with TFN to your organisation?**

Critical - We wouldn't be where we are now without it

*We do not make any claim on additional funding you've received. We simply want to keep track of the leverage effect of introductions made through TFN.*

**16. Do you feel that association with TFN has helped to increase your credibility with donors and the philanthropic sector?**

Yes

**17. Over the past 12 months, did you receive any goods in-kind and/or pro-bono services from anyone you met through TFN?**

No

We are keen to know about your successes. We track this information as part of our own TFN impact.

**18. Has the TFN pitch coaching and mentoring helped you successfully secure funding from other sources after the TFN event?**

No

***Has the TFN pitch coaching and mentoring helped you successfully secure funding from other sources after the TFN event***

**Please provide more details**

Due to covid entering our area and the rules constantly changing, we did not have time to source or secure additional funding.

TFN uses this information to track the impact of our pitch coaching. All information will be treated in the strictest confidence.

**19. What were some of the other benefits of participating in TFN? (tick all that apply)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> Pitch Coaching                        | <input type="radio"/> Increased visibility      |
| <input type="radio"/> Access to a new network and supporter base       | <input type="radio"/> Greater self confidence   |
| <input type="radio"/> A greater ability to articulate your proposition | <input type="radio"/> Meeting other non-profits |
| <input type="radio"/> Being introduced to the TFN Alumni Program       | <input type="radio"/> Other                     |

**Being a part of the Alumni Network**

As part of the TFN Alumni Network we aim to offer you continuing support to build your capacity through offering connections, opportunities and professional development experiences. We are interested to know how effective this has been in the last 12 months.

**20. Have you participated in any alumni activities (please tick all that apply)**

- Kilfinan Australia Mentoring
- TFN Workshops or events
- TFN Bulletins/Newsletters
- Pro bono legal or accounting advice via TFN
- Other

**21. Have you been sent any relative opportunities that have helped you? Eg. Baker McKenzie Legal advice, McKinsey & Company Executive Professional Development Training, BDO Scholarship, Aus Post Mental Health Grants etc.**

no

**22. Have you connected or collaborated with any other TFN Alumni? If yes, has this resulted in anything beneficial?**

We connected with a donor who's work will help to create more opportunities for children's well-being

**Further Support**

**23. Please let us know two current pro-bono or in kind asks you have?**

Connecting with a partner that would lead to ongoing financial support.

\*We will communicate these to our donor network but can not guarantee that it will be achieved.

**24. Do you have any other comments or feedback on the TFN experience or funding process?**

No, it was great.