



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

Creating Chances

2. Your name and position

Assmaah Helal, Operational Growth

3. Email address

assmaah@creatingchances.org

4. Date of the TFN event at which you presented

5/03/2020

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

We pitched for funding to contribute to expanding across four Intensive English Centres/High Schools in South West Sydney to promote community cohesion and employability outcomes. Each program was to include weekly sessions of social and emotional learning and leadership through sport activities, providing skills and qualifications for youth leaders to then deliver weekly after-school sport sessions to children in the community.

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

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

We were able to maintain and/or recreate the following activities:

1. Online resources: During the early stages of COVID-19 we adapted our Youth Development Pathway Programs to be delivered online, including live workshops, pre-recorded video content, self-direct learning, and a diverse series of personal development programming on social media AND we launched a podcast called The Positive Feedback. Some resources were directed to fund these activities targeting hundreds of young people who were able to access social media and online zoom sessions.

2. Program Delivery Site 1: Holroyd IEC/HS Program was initially an online program in Term 2, then changed over to face to face by the end of term 2 through to term 4.

Approximately 2 cohorts of 60 students (30 in each) completed a combination of face to face and virtual sessions focusing on a series of social and emotional learning workshops (i.e., the Champions program) throughout the year. Towards the end of the year, in term 4, there was a special focus on Future Pathways sessions that were embedded into the program to support young people with their job seeking endeavours. Students developed skills in interviewing, writing CVs and identifying their strengths and gaps.

Approximately 35 sessions were completed.

3. Program Delivery Site 2: Fairfield Intensive English Centre - 20 sessions were completed with 30 students across term 1 and term 3. This was a coach program and although participation dwindled due to the COVID Restrictions, "students were enthusiastic and worked exceptionally well in different groups fortnightly and understood the need for changing teams to develop their cooperation, teamwork, communication, problem solving and leadership skill" (Eve Wilcox, Head Facilitator Report 2020). Students were not able to coach the local primary school or organise events, instead they designed new activities and games to maintain engagement.

4. Special event: Although special events were part of the plan to be directly organised by the youth coaches this was not possible due to the restrictions however, as part of an end of year celebration the TFN funding contributed to hosting a "World Traditional Games event" at The Crest Sporting Complex in Bass Hill for 80 diverse young people, some from refugee backgrounds from Miller Intensive English Centre.

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.

Organisation-wide:

- contributed to building the capacity of our organisation to develop programs and engaging activities online.
- Provided employment opportunities to 5 youth facilitators to deliver the programs
- Enabled stronger relationships with school and community partners as we were considered reliable, innovative and impactful
- Provided more opportunities to deliver training to external groups (such as the Australian Refugee Volunteers) to support them in designing effective virtual activities for young people during COVID
- Quarterly Youth Forum: e-legends connect - Creating Chances hosted its first quarterly youth forum via zoom in April 2020. Participants included 18 youth leaders, volunteers and staff. In the fora, participants were mentored to prepare an annual workplan, share experiences, find solutions for workplace challenges, and develop/review youth engagement games. The focus of the forum was to consider how Creating Chances sessions could best be delivered online as programs transitioned to the virtual environment

Participant impact: Students reported statistically significant improvements across four areas:

- resilience
- hope
- self-efficacy
- optimism

School impact: contributed to supporting schools in building and maintaining morale of the students during COVID. This was supported by feedback from the Holroyd HS principal who stated, "It's great that you are able to support their social and emotional wellbeing at a time when it is needed the most".

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?

Approximately 200 young people were impacted as direct recipients of programs at Holroyd and Fairfield intensive English centres/high schools and 18 facilitators. It is undetermined how many young people were impacted by the live social media sessions delivered.

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.

One student was identified from the Holroyd Intensive English Centre program for his significant positive change throughout the program as weeks progressed. Here are some post-program reflections from the student:

- "This program has made me become a leader. I used to do the wrong thing in class, but now I like to take the lead and help when I can. :
- This program made me a better leader because in the activities I do my best"
- "You have helped me be a better person. I know more about life skills. I want to be a leader like you. "
- With the life skills I learnt, I can use them as a leader in my other classes and when I go to my new school. This program is important because it teaches me life skills and helped me for the future.

(Student from Holroyd Intensive English Centre, Champions program in Term 4)

According to feedback from the Creating Chances Head Facilitator, this student was chosen because of his behavioural change throughout the program as he transformed into one of the leaders. "His demeanour changed from being the class clown to helping me where I needed assistance. He would help carry the bags and instruct others to do the right thing and act as a translator for others to understand content or get back on track. "

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

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

\$54,198.00

11. Please provide a budget breakdown on how the funds raised at the TFN were used.

Income - The Funding Network \$54,198

Expenditure

Project Management (including online) \$19,803

Casual Coaching \$28,543

Training \$701

Equipment and Uniforms \$1,570

Transport \$796

Consumables \$78

Insurance \$297

Facility hire \$57

Admin and on-costs \$2,361

Total Expenditure \$54,207

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.

The main change was that two of the programs were not delivered as intended and instead, virtual sessions and activities were designed. Additionally, more programs were delivered at the same two schools (Fairfield and Holroyd) to different cohorts to allow for greater depth in impact across the community.

Facilitators were provided specific training on how to create virtual activities that promote positive youth engagement.

We were not able to organise a youth-led children's event however we did organise one for the young people as a way to celebrate the end of the year and look ahead.

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?

Due to disruption of programs in Q1, formal monitoring and evaluation of programs was not able to be completed. Our research partner at the University of New South Wales has revised M & E processes to adapt to the new largely virtual delivery of programs; an ethics application was submitted at the end of May 2020 to conduct a study evaluating the psychosocial outcomes of the new online programs so we will be able to report more specifically about the behavioral changes of participants.

An online Impact measurement survey was developed by the University of NSW to identify to measure specific outcomes on resilience, hope, optimism.

To monitor attendance, we used google spreadsheets. Student demographics were collected using paper-based consent forms.

Head facilitator reports were completed post-program.

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).

1. a strategy was developed to design a learning management system that will support the capacity building of facilitators to improve the quality of program delivery and design. This is 80% complete.

2. we launched a podcast that will help promote our brand and raise awareness on issues that impact young people and highlight strategies to address this. This continues till this day!

3. we are testing out a hybrid program delivery model in regional NSW (Sunraysia and Armidale) based on our learnings from delivering virtual sessions during COVID

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.

Holroyd Zoom meeting.png

TFN CC 1.jpg

TFN CC 2.jpg

TFN CC 3.jpg

TFN CC 4.jpg

TFN CC 5.jpg

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)

15. Over the past 12 months, did you receive any additional financial support from anyone you met through TFN?

No

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

No

17. How important was TFN funding in helping you achieve your objectives this year?

We would have found it difficult to achieve our objectives without TFN funding

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

Yes

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{if
(_17HasTheTFNPitchCoachingAndMentoringHelpedYouSuccessfullySecureFundingFromOtherSourcesAfterTheTFNEvent = "Yes")}
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Please provide more details

{PleaseProvideMoreDetails}

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

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{ end if }
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19. What were some of the other benefits of participating in TFN?

Pitch coaching was an essential part of the process and a certain highlight which absolutely resulted in greater confidence. The resources have also helped in building the capacity of the team to pitch our stories and impact! as mentioned above.

e.g. pitch coaching, access to a new supporter base, greater self confidence, a greater ability to articulate your proposition etc.

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

It was a privilege being part of this process. We really enjoyed the atmosphere, and truly appreciated the generosity of people in the room.