

PHILANTHROPY FOR LGBTIQ+ CAUSES

The **LGBTIQ+** community makes up a significant proportion of the Australian population.

11% of Australians are of diverse sexual orientation, sex or gender identity – that's **2.7 million** people.

While LGBTIQ+ Australians often live happy and successful lives, a long history of injustice has resulted in an LGBTIQ+ community with complex needs that must be addressed.

20%

of LGBTIQ+ people have experienced homelessness – compared to only 13.4% of heterosexual people. Family conflict and rejection due to sexual orientation or gender identity has been identified as a major cause of homelessness for LGBTIQ+ people.

44%

of LGBTIQ+ people hide their sexuality or gender identity in public (and 33.6% when accessing services) for fear of heterosexist violence or discrimination.

In the workplace, LGBTIQ+ employees who are 'out' to their colleagues are:

- **50% more likely** to innovate than workers who are not 'out'
- **35% more likely** to work highly effectively in their team
- **28% more likely** to provide excellent customer/client service.

80%

of homophobic bullying towards LGBTIQ+ youth occurs at school. Schools that have protective policies in place report that **75%** of their LGBTIQ+ students 'feel safe'. However, in schools that do NOT have protective policies, **only 45%** of LGBTIQ+ students report to 'feel safe'.

Many Australians are already on the side of equality...

61.6% of Australians voted 'YES' in the 2017 marriage equality postal vote

And the number of donations to LGBTIQ+ projects through GiveNow is increasing with every year...

But the Australian philanthropic community has a long way to go to improve funding outcomes for LGBTIQ+ projects. An estimated \$80 billion is granted to Australian community groups each year – yet only a very small portion of that funding is given to LGBTIQ+ projects. SmartyGrants reported these statistics on approved grant applications for the reporting period 2013-2018:

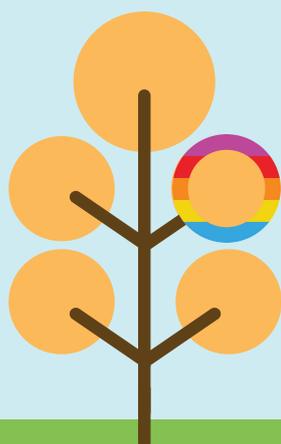
Fund type	Total grant applications approved	Total applications approved for LGBTIQ+ causes	Percentage of total funding
Local government	45,155	165	0.37%
State Government	23,188	24	0.10%
Federal Government	2,882	2	0.07%
Other Philanthropic Organisations *	8,338	18	0.22%

* Includes The Channel, and The Pride Foundation. In addition, The Aurora Group (which does not use SmartyGrants) made 37 grants to LGBTIQ+ causes in the same 5-year period, worth a total \$288,233.

SmartyGrants reported that only 0.7% of grant programs specifically sought applications for LGBTIQ+ projects; while only a further 1.2% mentioned LGBTIQ+ causes. In other words, **LGBTIQ+ projects are not well targeted by funding organisations**, which may discourage LGBTIQ+ groups and those running LGBTIQ+ projects from applying.



The Australian LGBTIQ+ community is not highly formalised. As at June 2019, there were **only 96 charities** registered with the Australian Charities and Not-For-Profits Commission, who were dedicated to serving the LGBTIQ+ community in Australia. 62% of these charities reported an annual income less than \$1 million in 2017-18, with an average annual income of \$230,792.



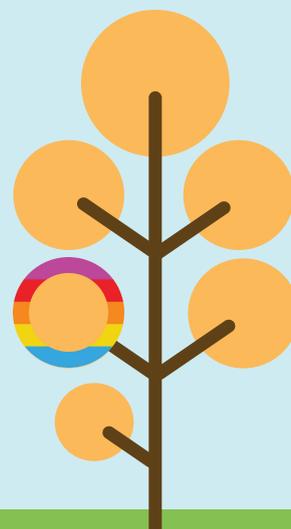
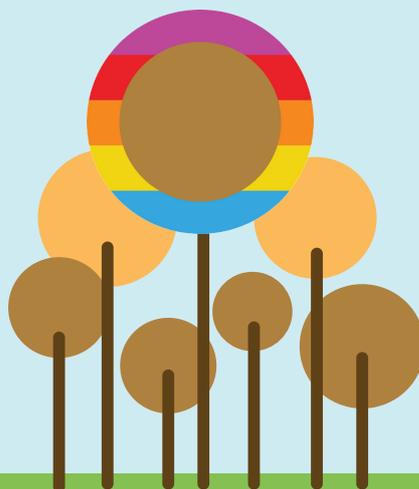
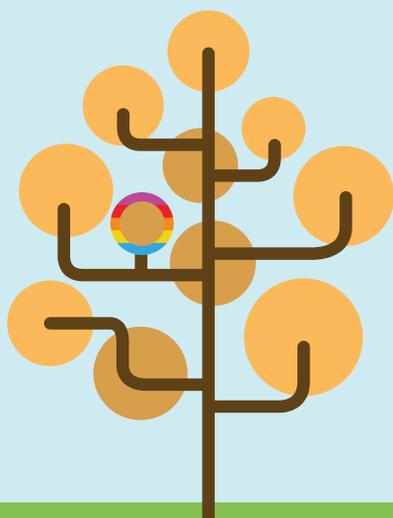
Attracting and sustaining core funding is a constant challenge for LGBTIQ+ organisations. Most philanthropic organisations can only fund registered charities with 'Deductible Gift Recipient 1' status – which means that funding is going to only a very small number of LGBTIQ+ charities, or to charities that run LGBTIQ+ projects but are not community-led.

While there are signs of progress everywhere, **some governments have little to no strategy for LGBTIQ+ advancement** – philanthropic or otherwise. Victoria's implementation of a Commissioner for Gender and Sexuality is a significant step in progressing the rights of the LGBTIQ+ community. There is an identifiable need for all state governments to follow suit.



Some state and local governments are very supportive of LGBTIQ+ organisations and provide significant funding to community-based programs; however, there are numerous states and councils that provide no funding at all. **All state and local governments need to provide funding for the LGBTIQ+ community.**

Priority areas of concern across the LGBTIQ+ community are the issues of **homelessness**, access to **gender transition care**, inclusive and competent **healthcare**, and the rights of LGBTIQ+ **parents and families**.



The Channel is Australia's first and fastest growing giving circle, focused on increasing funding to the LGBTIQ+ community, and advancing rainbow causes. Since our inception in late 2016, our members have funded LGBTIQ+ community projects across five separate grant rounds, with grants between \$2,500 and \$20,000. What's more, The Channel can account for **45%** of all SmartyGrant applications approved by philanthropic organisations for LGBTIQ+ causes between 2013 & 2018.

giveOUTday AU was our most recent venture - a national day of giving to LGBTIQ+ communities. Donations made to participating projects and community groups were matched dollar for dollar, meaning **we were able to grant over \$85,000** in funds to a wide range of well-deserving LGBTIQ+ programs and projects.

Our aims for Australia's first giveOUTday were to:

- **Build the capacity** of LGBTIQ+ communities to resource their own important social change work by providing infrastructure, guidance and exposure
- **Increase awareness** of the health / well-being / social issues impacting Australian LGBTIQ+ communities
- **Build visibility** of grassroots LGBTIQ+ organisations and people in rural and regional LGBTIQ+ communities
- Showcase **LGBTIQ+ arts and culture**
- Bolster giveOUTday as **an LGBTIQ+ day of significance in Australia**, bringing together LGBTIQ+ communities and allies to support community projects and programs



The Channel is working hard to increase funding to the LGBTIQ+ community, but you can also TAKE ACTION:

- Become a Member of The Channel and join the cause
- Share the facts about the lack of funding to LGBTIQ+ communities
- Direct your donations to rainbow causes

Contact The Channel to find out more



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