



Guidelines Community Grants 2020

Mornington Peninsula, Casey and Cardinia

Our food system supports and impacts every living system on earth. Without a healthy environment and healthy communities we cannot produce enough food. Without food there is no life.

The time to act is now.

About Ripe for Change

Ripe for Change is a place-based program offering community grants of up to \$10,000, to improve our local food system and deliver health and sustainability outcomes for the population and environment.

The Grants Program is currently focused in the Casey, Cardinia and Mornington Peninsula regions of Victoria, which represents a significant portion of Victoria's food bowl.

Ripe for Change is administered by [Sustainable Table](#), a not-for-profit organisation campaigning for a food system that's fair, healthy, humane and good for the environment. Funding has been generously provided by the philanthropic community through a collaborative approach, with 2020 marking the third time this Grants Program has been delivered.

The pilot was launched in 2017-18, after an in-depth review of local food system challenges revealed that taking a place-based approach to philanthropic support would be the best way to empower community-led solutions. This research was undertaken in partnership with the [Australian Environmental Grantmakers Network](#).



Applications open

Monday 23rd March 2020

Applications close

**Friday 24 April 2020,
12pm (midday)**

*Late applications will not
be accepted*

Successful applicants will be notified, and grants dispersed by

June 30 2020

Acquittal reports due

Friday 29 May 2021

Impact Areas

At the conclusion of the 2019 Ripe for Change Community Grants round, we engaged 30 key local stakeholders to further reflect food system needs within our Impact Areas. These Impact Areas guide project selection and continue to support philanthropic collaboration.

These Impact Areas are being used to ensure that a cross-section of groups who drive food system improvements are represented in the granting process.

Ripe for Change acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the country across the Casey, Cardinia and Mornington Peninsula regions, the Bunurong / Boon Wurrung and Wurundjeri people and recognises their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. Ripe for Change also recognises that there is a lot to be learned from indigenous land management practices and we encourage applicants to incorporate this as part of their learning or to seek out culturally sensitive approaches to their project delivery.

It is a requirement that your Project falls under one or more of these four Impact Areas:

Impact Area 1 Farming for Regeneration & Resilience

Nature is integral to food production; with soil, water, bees, insects and other flora and fauna all providing essential ecosystem services. With increasing threats such as urbanisation, environmental degradation, pollution and the added challenge of climate change, there is urgent work to be done to build the security of our future food supply whilst protecting biodiversity and regenerating the land.

Project examples

- *Regional on-farm biodiversity planting to encourage and protect food pollinators and beneficial organisms facing increasing environmental threats.*
- *A program that supports local farmers to transition to regenerative farming by building soil health and adopting climate sensitive practices that encourage biodiversity and help to sequester carbon.*

Impact Area 2 Innovative Enterprises

Many groups striving to improve the local food system are exploring or expanding innovative business models that ensure healthy and sustainable food is available and accessible to all. Farmers are leading the charge to transform our food system, yet they face many barriers including; access to land, water, customers and the training to maintain a viable business. We understand that innovation, testing new business models and accessing enterprise training may not be achievable without increased capacity and funding to do so.

Project examples

- *Establishing new models of land ownership/trust/lease to encourage a new generation of farmers who have not inherited land.*
 - *Exploring improved ways to support new/existing local food distribution and access i.e. food delivery, hubs, markets.*
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Impact Area 3 **Nutritious & Local Food for All**

The food system should provide everyone with access to healthy, nutritious and culturally appropriate food, grown in an ecologically sound way; however, Australians experiencing disadvantage face greater barriers of affordability and access. We believe that increasing food literacy, equipping people with the skills to embrace a healthier way of eating and helping people to experience stronger connections to each other through food, improves community wellbeing, health and food security.

Project examples

- *Engaging community members in workshops and programs to increase food skills, food growing capacity and knowledge.*
- *New food access models that address the possible stigma associated with food relief, so that everyone is given the opportunity to shop and eat with dignity.*

Impact Area 4 **Mobilised Communities**

Social movements and people power are the catalyst for systems change. Engaging with the broader community, educating people and inspiring action-based solutions is an integral part of galvanising communities and improving our food system. We seek to support projects undertaking this important work at a grassroots level.

Project examples

- *A regional program or event that encourages participation in activities relating to climate change impacts, food bowl threats or food systems change.*
- *Advocating for change of local policies and planning to increase community access to local, healthy and nutritious foods.*
- *Community education programs that inspire local food engagement and support e.g. pollinator education program, behaviour-change campaign, community food production.*



Eligibility criteria

- Funding applications of no more than \$10,000 will be accepted, unless prior approval has been sought by the Grants Team. This grant is primarily for grassroots projects that need a little helping hand, however, if you have a big bold idea that you'd like to discuss we'd still love you to get in touch.
- If you can illustrate collaboration between groups to achieve a bigger impact, then it is possible that a larger funding request, split between the collaborating parties, would be considered. Contact our Grants Team to discuss.
- Projects **must** be based in, or work with communities based predominately in the Mornington Peninsula, Casey or Cardinia municipalities.
- The primary focus of your project must fall under one or more of the Ripe for Change Impact Areas.

Applications are invited from

- Not-for-profits, charities, schools or community groups (DRG status not mandatory).
- If you are a business or individual and would like to apply, you must be able to illustrate a clear environmental benefit or social purpose. If you are unsure whether you or your business qualifies, please contact our Grants Team before preparing your application.

The following projects are not eligible for funding

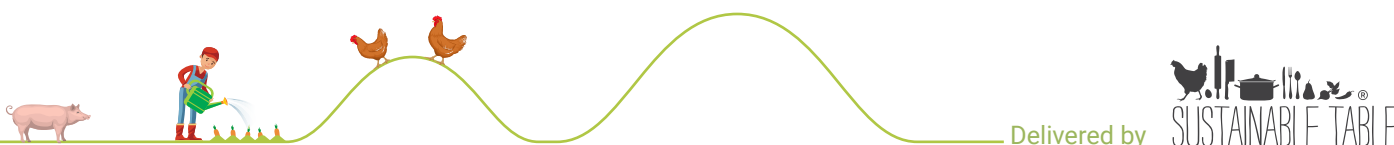
- Projects for private benefit
- Projects that are party political in nature
- Endowment funds
- Projects that are not located in or predominately working with communities in the region covered by the Mornington Peninsula Shire, Cardinia Shire or City of Casey.

Developing an application

- Prior to submitting an application, you are encouraged to make contact with our Grants Manager, Jodi Clarke, to discuss your project.
- Applicants are welcome to provide supporting documentation such as a short PowerPoint or video if they feel this would strengthen their application. If doing so, please attach when prompted to do so via our Online Application Form.
- The Online Application Form can be accessed via ripeforchange.org.au. Submissions must be lodged and received by **12pm (midday) on Friday 24 April 2020**.

Conditions of funding

- Projects must commence within 3 months of the allocation of funds.
- Funds must be acquitted on the project as described in the application, within 11 months of receipt of funds.
- Acquittal reports are due on Friday 29th May 2021, unless prior arrangements have been made with Ripe for Change.



Contact

Jodi Clarke
Grants Program Manager
Available Tuesday, Thursday and Friday (Friday morning only)
e hello@ripeforchange.org.au
m 0402 826 479

Note Jodi will be the primary point of contact for all applicants, however, should something urgent arise outside of her work days then please don't hesitate to contact Cassie Duncan, Program Administrator at Sustainable Table – cassie@sustainabletable.org.au or 03 8644 4050.

For more information and application details visit ripeforchange.org.au