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| **Gladstone Foundation**  **Grant Round8 – September 2023**  **Information for organisations wishing to apply for funding** |

1. **Background**

The Gladstone Foundation was established as a l trust in February 2011. The purpose of the Gladstone Foundation, as set out in the Trust Deed, is to provide a structured approach to allocate funding that contributes to addressing the social infrastructure needs of the people of the Gladstone region.

The Gladstone Foundation will work with people and organisations in Gladstone to fulfil this responsibility. All projects funded by the Gladstone Foundation will possess a common thread of improved social infrastructure and/or tackling social disadvantage as realistically as circumstances dictate.

The final grant round will require applicants to submit an expression of interest in which projects can be canvassed and short-listed and second, where shortlisted projects must provide more detailed information on their project, its finances and its implementation. Organisations should ensure they review the Gladstone Foundation’s funding criteria before submitting an expression of interest (EOI). The EOI Form is available from the Gladstone Foundation website at <http://gladstonefoundation.org.au>

**2. 2023 Priorities and Criteria**

The Foundation has been established for specific purposes which are for the benefit of the Gladstone Region and all grants must solely be for:

* The relief of poverty.
* The relief of needs of the aged.
* The relief of sickness or distress.
* The advancement of religion.
* The advancement of education.
* The provision of childcare services on a not-for-profit basis.
* Other charitable purposes for the benefit of the Gladstone Region.

Because the Foundation is a charity, expressions of interest are encouraged from:

1. registered charities; and
2. from those who are not registered charities, however the Foundation asks that particular attention be applied to ensuring that any expression of interest will conform (solely) with the charitable purposes of the Trust.

**In order to be eligible for consideration, the initial expression of interest and subsequent applications must be:**

* + **from a registered charity, or**
  + **for a project that is for charitable purposes**
  + **grants available of up to $5,000**

**Assessment:**

Applications will be evaluated by the Board of Advice on the following criteria:

* The extent to which the project will deliver the priority outcomes for the Gladstone community.
* The extent to which funds will be applied to provide a direct benefit for the Gladstone Region (and not directed to organisation capability and resources such as salaries).
* Demonstration on how, to the greatest extent practicable, the funds will be spent in the Gladstone region.
* The extent to which the applicant has demonstrated the organisations ability to deliver on projects of similar size and / or scope through its resources and previous experience.
* The extent to which the applicant has demonstrated the financial viability and sustainability of the project and / or the organisation.
* The availability of funding available from alternative sources, and the level of funding already committed to the project from the organisation or alternate sources.
* Any other factors that the Board of Advice considers materially relevant to the application.

**Prior to receipt of funding, organisations will be required to commit to a funding agreement.**

**This agreement will stipulate the reporting and acquittal requirements for the funding.**

All grants submitted will require final approval by the Public Trust as Trustee of the Gladstone Foundation.

Final Public Trustee approval is subject to the execution of a Funding Agreement by the recipient entity.

The Funding Agreement requires the recipient entity to address compliance and governance aspects of the proposed project. The Funding Agreement address matters such as (but not limited to):

* scope of the project, ensuring project viability and sustainability;
* where appropriate, the necessary approvals and consent to undertake alteration, modification, construction or improvements to land under a lease agreement;
* provision of work plans and budgets clearly detailing expenditure of grant funds;
* provision of statements of financial performance, position and, cash flow, certified by the relevant authorised person of the recipient entity;
* and provision of accounts payable and relevant correspondence, providing project updates.

1. **Applications**

Interested applicants are requested to complete and submit the *Expression of Interest Form 2023* by **5pm on Friday 20th October 2023.**Applications must be submitted via email on the Gladstone Foundation website. Any queries relating to the application process should be addressed in the first instance via the contact information on the Gladstone Foundation website.