

# Your Social Investment



Thank you for partnering with Future Generation Global.  
Investing in the lives and future of young Australians.



**Future  
Generation  
Global**

INVESTMENT & SOCIAL RETURNS

## Investing in prevention

In mid-2020, the Future Generation Global board embarked on a review of our social investment strategy. Conscious of the growing demand for support from young people and calls for major reform of the mental health sector, we felt compelled to optimise the impact of our donations.

This 18-month review confirmed that despite a steady increase in government expenditure on mental healthcare services over the past three decades, the rates of mental ill-health, self-harm and suicide among young people continues to rise. Indeed, the latest National Survey of Mental Health and Wellbeing<sup>1</sup> shows that an alarming 39.6 per cent of 16-24 year-olds had a 12-month mental disorder in 2020, up from 26.4 per cent in 2006.

Put simply, the current focus on mental healthcare alone is not working. We need to start tackling the root causes behind this increase in distress, mental health conditions and suicidal ideation.

In December 2021, the Future Generation Global Board decided to direct our social investment into prevention and wellbeing – an area that has been largely neglected in mental health policy. Combined, Australian governments spend only around 1 per cent of their mental health budgets on prevention<sup>2</sup>. This is despite strong evidence that mental health conditions are not inevitable and that prevention approaches can stop many mental health conditions from developing in the first place.

In February, we launched an Expression of Interest to identify a portfolio of prevention-focused partners that could help transform mental health and wellbeing with young people.



**Left to right:** Sharyn White, CEO Human Nature; Erin Faerhmann, CEO Youth Opportunities; Caroline Gurney, CEO Future Generation; Geoff Wilson AO, Founder and Acting Chair Future Generation Global; Bernie Shakeshaft, Founder and Director BackTrack; and Zoe Black, Co-Founder and CEO Happy Paws Happy Hearts Foundation.

Since Future Generation Global was established in 2015, we have donated

**\$32.6m**

to social impact partners focused on youth mental health, making us one of the largest private funders in the space.

Our guidelines were exacting. We were seeking small-to-medium-sized organisations, that did not yet receive much government funding. They needed to have a proven track record, but still enough “runway” to significantly deepen their impact. Combined, they needed to provide Future Generation with a national footprint, with at least 30 per cent to be based in regional areas. They needed to offer a range of approaches. And they needed to sit across the wellbeing and prevention spectrum, with some organisations targeting all young people, and others targeting particular high-risk groups or those showing early signs of mental ill-health.

After receiving a remarkable 175 applications, we have had the unenviable task over the past five months of whittling this list down to 14 social impact partners. We believe that they will all contribute significantly to improving young Australians’ mental health and wellbeing, and are delighted to introduce them to you in the following pages.

In tandem with our selection process, we have been working with social impact measurement specialists to build a framework that will allow us to track both our individual partners’ progress and our collective impact in wellbeing and prevention.

Our partners’ work is complex. Demonstrating and tracking their impact will not be easy. However, we believe that it is crucial that we are transparent and accountable to you, our shareholders. Moreover, we believe that their combined impact will demonstrate to others, particularly governments, the value of investing in wellbeing and prevention.

Australia has a strong track record of reducing the financial burden and human cost of many conditions – from skin cancer and heart disease to strokes and diabetes – by investing in prevention. We are certain that by beginning to focus our social investment in the prevention of mental ill-health, similar advances can be made in this space, for the benefit of our future generations.

**We thank you for your support.**

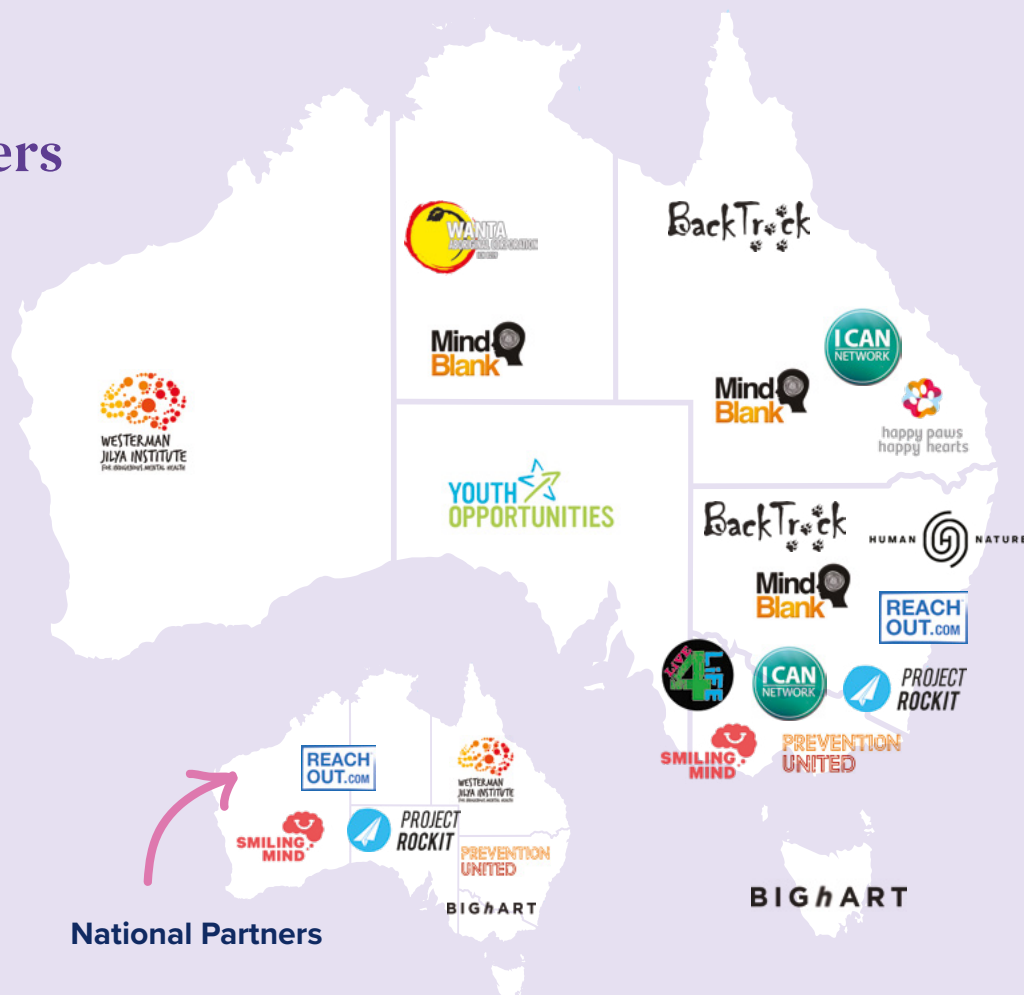
1. Australian Bureau of Statistics, National Study of Mental Health and Wellbeing 2020-2021, <https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/health/mental-health/national-study-mental-health-and-wellbeing/latest-release>.

2. Prevention United.

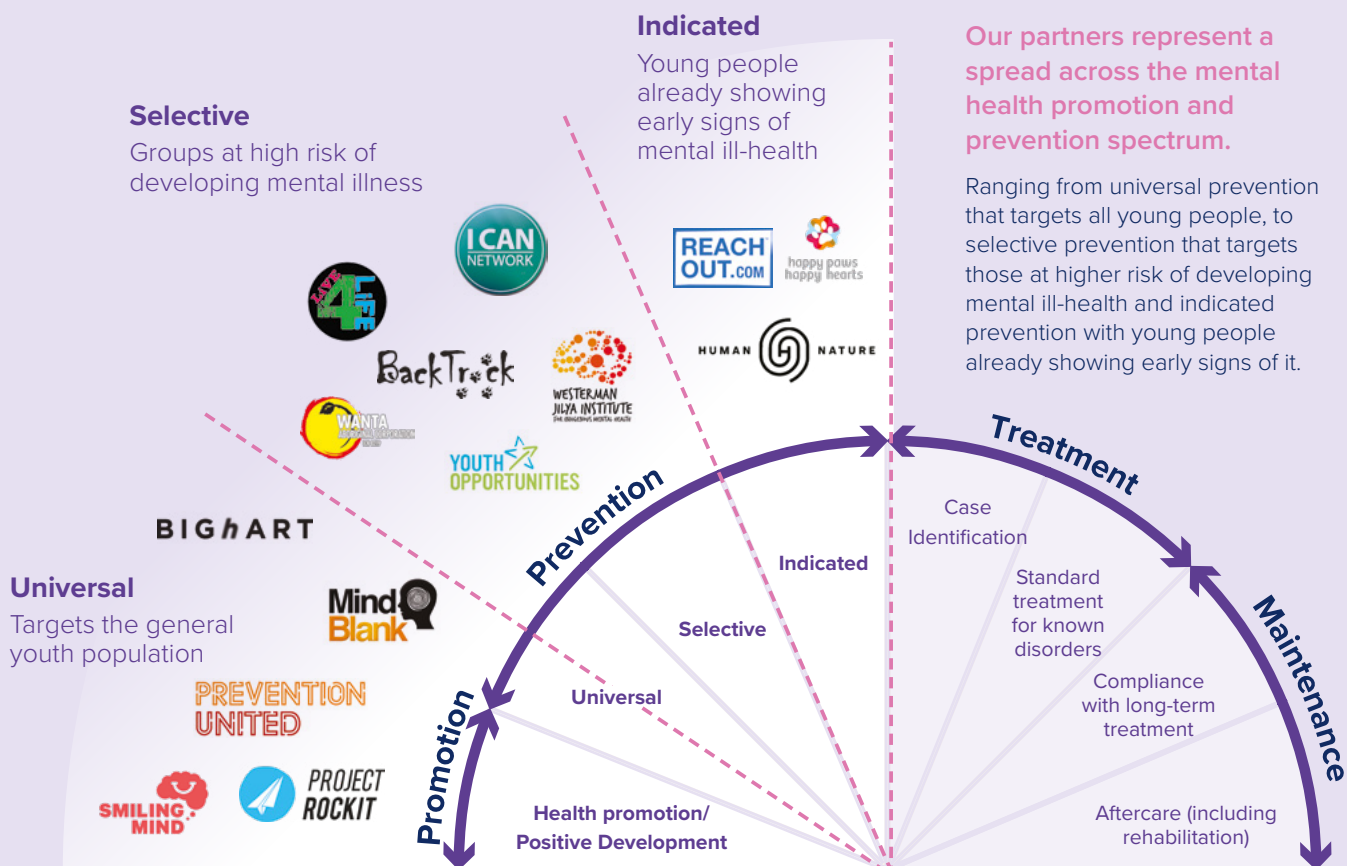
# Our 14 social impact partners

## Across the nation

Our partners work with young people across Australia, with 36% of partners based in regional areas.



## Across the prevention spectrum



## Our social impact partners



### Getting kids back on track

Founded in Armidale, NSW, in 2006, BackTrack does “whatever it takes, for as long as it takes” to keep vulnerable kids alive, out of jail and chasing their dreams.

BackTrack offers young people the holistic, flexible and long-term support they need to get their lives back on track, including education, training, diversionary activities, transitional employment, youth work and residential accommodation. BackTrack typically works with young people facing multiple and compounding risk factors meaning they are disproportionately vulnerable to contact with the criminal justice system, low educational participation, substance use, homelessness, unemployment, severe psychological distress and suicidality.

Despite having the odds stacked against them, over 80% of young people who participate in BackTrack transition to further education, training and employment. It will use Future Generation Global’s support to help roll out its proven methodology across regional Australia via its Tracker Network. This is a collective of like-minded organisations that want adopt BackTrack’s proven methodology in addressing the complex wellbeing needs of vulnerable young people.

## BIG hART

### Skating towards a brighter future

Big hART uses arts and culture to involve young people and their communities in creating positive social change.

Their collaborations have illuminated young people’s experiences of issues such as homelessness, addiction, domestic violence and the intergenerational inequality faced by Indigenous Australians – and are presented to mainstream audiences to raise awareness and build public and political support for change. Through its partnership with Future Generation Global, Big hART will deliver a highly innovative, youth-driven project called Skate of Mind, aimed at preventing mental illness among young people.

Prevention needs youth culture drivers and national media platform reach to legitimise help-seeking. Combining skateboarding, percussion and projection, this touring event will become a honey-pot attracting young people to peer-to-peer help-seeking and delivering scalable mental health first aid. Messaging before, during and after the event, both online and in-person reinforces habits of help-seeking and connects young people with local and online support services.







## Breaking isolation through animal connection

**Happy Paws Happy Hearts connects isolated Australians with rescue animals. Participants learn how to care for pets and native wildlife and prepare them for adoption or release back into the wild.**

Last year, they provided more than 10,000 hours of training, socialisation and engagement for over 20,000 rescue animals in shelters and wildlife sanctuaries. Young people starting at Happy Paws typically struggle to leave the house, have high anxiety about meeting new people and believe that education or employment is unattainable for them. Their participation gives them a sense of pride and purpose, and their recovery process often mirrors that of the animals they help.

After time with Happy Paws, the vast majority go on to further education, volunteering and or employment in their fields of interest. Happy Paws plans to use its partnership with Future Generation Global to double the number of shelters it partners with to 12 and to increase its participant reach by 300 per cent, so that it is supporting 1,400 young people to improve their skills, psychosocial wellbeing and social networks.



## Turning to nature for healing and growth

**Founded in 2015 in the Northern Rivers region of NSW, Human Nature started as an expedition-focused program for young people with behavioural, social and mental health issues who were falling through the cracks of conventional services.**

It has since expanded its support model to allow deeper and longer-term engagement with its young participants, while remaining non-clinical and nature based. Today, Human Nature works with 14–20 year olds who are experiencing life challenges, are in need of assistance to change their trajectory, and who may not otherwise engage in office-based psychological support.

Describing itself as “bridging the massive gap between youth work and crisis mental health interventions”, Human Nature’s multi-disciplinary team provides mentoring and therapy, skill building, volunteering and physical adventure activities that focus on overcoming trauma, building resilience and lifelong wellbeing skills. Future Generation Global’s support will allow Human Nature to prepare its model for replication so that it can reach more young people, particularly those in regional areas where there are few support services.





## Building positive autistic identity

**I CAN Network is Australia's largest autistic-led organisation and one of Australia's biggest youth mentoring organisations.**

It runs school and online mentoring programs for more than 2,000 Autistic people aged 8-22 years old. Tragically, young Autistic people are nine times more likely to attempt self-injury than their non-Autistic peers. Through I CAN's mentoring programs, participants connect with peers in a safe environment, take part in activities to improve their self-confidence and self-acceptance, and build life skills, such as communication and organisation skills. The programs are run by more than 100 staff who are either Autistic or who know an Autistic person.

I CAN's partnership with Future Generation Global will allow it to expand its mentoring programs across Australia and to employ more Autistic people, particularly those with high support needs. This employment gives Autistic people financial independence and self-esteem, both important contributors to positive mental health and wellbeing.



## Starting conversations that save lives

**Mind Blank uses interactive theatre to build understanding about mental wellbeing and have conversations that save lives.**

Workshop participants, typically primary and secondary school students, are shown a short play about another young person's real experience of a mental health issue, such as mental ill-health, negative self-talk, conflict or peer pressure. The program facilitator then works with the audience to highlight and replay key decision points in the protagonist's life that are actually help-seeking opportunities. Audience members suggest alternative words or actions and role play how that could have improved the protagonist's situation.

Role play offers a safe environment for building resilience, raising awareness about mental ill-health and how to seek help. By partnering with Future Generation Global, Mind Blank is hoping to expand its operational reach and particularly to work with community organisations and health services to train them to deliver Mind Blank programs locally.







## PREVENTION UNITED

### Building momentum for prevention

Unlike other mental health organisations in Australia, Prevention United has an exclusive focus on promoting mental wellbeing and preventing mental health conditions – across the entire spectrum of conditions.

It aims to prevent 1 million mental health conditions by 2050 by equipping individuals, families, organisations, communities and governments with the tools they need to modify the risk and protective factors that influence mental health.

As its name suggests, Prevention United, founded in 2018 by a General Practitioner and a psychologist, aims to bring together a sector that traditionally has been fragmented to effect change more quickly. It will use Future Generation Global's support to expand, and to better involve young people in, its key activities. These include raising awareness about the benefits of mental ill-health prevention and advocating for governments to invest more in wellbeing initiatives; offering programs that enable people to look after their mental health; and supporting other organisations to increase their focus on wellbeing and prevention.



### Mobilising school students against bullying

**PROJECT ROCKIT (ROCKIT)** is a movement uniting and mobilising Australian school students against bullying.

It aims to build kind, inclusive and respectful school communities by equipping young people with the tools to challenge bullying, foster empathy, build healthy relationships and grow wellbeing and resilience. Through its online and in-school workshops – which involve role play, experiments and interactive discussion – ROCKIT has reached 500,000 students from Year 3 to Year 9 in more than 2,500 schools across Australia.

It has a unique “by young people for young people” approach; not only are its programs designed by young people, but they are delivered by highly trained young presenters who co-design strategies with students to build resilience, foster peer connection and increase capacity to tackle bullying in all its forms. The vast majority of young people are striving for inclusive communities, positive digital participation, and mental health, but they need our help.



Future Generation Global's support will enable ROCKIT to accelerate its delivery of these youth-led programs into new communities.



## Reaching young people when and where they need

**With 2 million users a day, ReachOut is the most accessed online mental health service for young Australians and their families.**

Anonymous, free and 100% online, ReachOut's peer workers and online forums provide a safe place where young people can express themselves, explore what's happening in their lives, connect with people who understand their situation, and find the resources to help them manage their challenges. Future Generation Global and ReachOut have enjoyed a fruitful partnership over the past six years, and the ongoing social investment will enable them to drive a research and advocacy agenda demonstrating the effectiveness of putting young people's voice, needs and preferences at the centre of digital mental health service design.

By better understanding the intersection of young peoples' experiences of mental ill-health and the digital world, ReachOut believes it can influence policies, systems and services to bring greater focus to prevention and early-intervention.

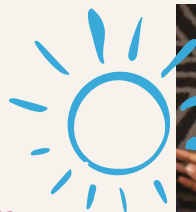


## Equipping kids with tools to thrive

**Founded in 2012, Smiling Mind's goal is to shift our national approach to mental health from reactive to proactive.**

It aims create generational change in the mental health of Australians by providing evidence-based tools that deliver the mental fitness skills needed to underpin good mental health and resilience from an early age. Smiling Mind's web and app-based programs are developed by psychologists and educators, using technology to be highly accessible to young Australians, and equipping them with the skills needed to nurture their mental health and navigate challenges. It has already reached more than 6 million young people.

The partnership with Future Generation Global will enable Smiling Mind to build awareness and mobilise action for prevention and reach more young people, their families and schools with essential mental health and psychological tools.







## Creating opportunities for children in remote communities

WANTA Aboriginal Corporation works within some of the most remote communities in the Northern Territory, providing holistic support and creating opportunities for local young people.

It delivers culturally appropriate programs covering sport, recreation, alternative education, cooking and nutrition, life-skills, mental health, culture and language, and job readiness. It aims to modify the risk and protective factors that influence the mental wellbeing of young people in remote Indigenous communities, including, but not limited to, school engagement.

WANTA is a community-led organisation whose board consists of local Indigenous leaders from the communities in which it operates. Future Generation Global's support offers WANTA the essential resources and flexibility it needs to deliver tailored programs that respond to the mental health and wellbeing needs of young people in remote communities.



## Pioneering culturally and clinically-informed approaches to prevention

The Jilya Institute was established in response to the unacceptable rates of Indigenous child suicide, which in WA are the world's highest.

Jilya's vision is to reduce Indigenous suicides, build resilience and strengthen wellbeing in Indigenous Australians. It is working to develop culturally and clinically-informed mental health and suicide prevention responses and to increase the number of Indigenous Psychologists working in Australia, particularly in our highest risk regional and remote communities.

The Dr Westerman Indigenous Psychology Scholarship Program currently supports 26 Indigenous psychology students, financially and through mentorship and study/work placement opportunities. Future Generation Global will support Jilya's crucial research into how, why, and where we are falling short in our approach to mental health in Indigenous Australians, in particular young people and how we can turn that around.





## Communities rising to the mental health challenge

Youth Live4Life brings together rural and regional communities to improve youth mental health and wellbeing.

Started by the Macedon Ranges Shire Council after a spate of youth suicides, Youth Live4Life (YLFL) is the only mental health education and youth suicide prevention model designed specifically for young people in rural and regional areas. Adopting a whole-of-community approach it involves all schools and relevant service agencies such as health providers and police in a Local Government Area. It delivers accredited teen and youth mental health first aid training; facilitates conversations about mental health that reduce stigma; and promotes young leaders as Mental Health Ambassadors.

Its aim is to equip young people and their communities to recognise the signs and symptoms of emerging mental health issues – and to seek, or offer, help – so communities can better look after and support their young people. Future Generation Global's support will allow YLFL to continue to build its evidence base, develop a long-term evaluation and research framework, and ultimately reach more rural and regional communities.



## Hardwiring resilience for life

For almost 25 years, Youth Opportunities has supported the personal development of more than 15,000 young people in South Australia, most often in partnership with schools.

Its evidence-based programs equip young people with the skills they need to develop long-term mental wellbeing; set and achieve study, career and life goals; increase motivation; develop positive communication; enhance confidence; and improve relationships. Participants in Youth Opportunities programs are given the skills, habits, and confidence to not only cope, but thrive and show improved wellbeing and reduced risk of developing a mental health disorder as a result.

Future Generation Global's support will allow Youth Opportunities to increase its reach across Australia in communities of greatest need, by building partnerships with allies across the country; developing a robust framework for quality control; and further wraparound services to strengthen long term outcomes.



## About Future Generation

The Future Generation companies, Future Generation Australia (ASX: FGX) and Future Generation Global (ASX: FGG), are Australia's first listed investment companies to provide both investment and social returns.

Future Generation provides shareholders with exposure to leading Australian and global fund managers who deliver a stream of fully franked dividends and capital growth to investors. This group of leading fund managers manages \$1.3 billion in assets on a pro-bono basis, waiving their performance and management fees. Their generosity allows the Future Generation companies to invest 1% of net tangible assets each year in not-for-profit organisations. Shareholders are able to decide which not-for-profits will receive the donation, whether it's supporting children and youth at risk (FGX) or investing in the prevention of ill mental health (FGG). By 2030, Future Generation aims to have donated over \$100 million, and we are on track, having donated \$65.2 million since inception. Our carefully selected impact partners ensure your contribution is used in the best possible way.

### What Future Generation provides



**Shareholders** with exposure to the leading Australian (FGX) and global (FGG) fund managers without paying management or performance fees who deliver a stream of fully franked dividends and capital growth.



**Social Impact Partners** primarily focused on children and youth at risk (FGX) and youth mental health (FGG) with a stream of annual investments.



**Fund Managers** with a unique opportunity to make a positive difference to Australia's future generations.





# Future Generation Global

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