

## **Our Vision**

We see a future where First Nations communities have equal opportunities in achieving success through education and employment.

## **Our Focus**

Opportunity creation for First Nations communities through supporting the development, education and welfare of children and youth:

- Creating opportunities through supporting the welfare and education of First Nations children and youth
- Creating pathways into STEM for First Nations communities.

## **Statistics**

There are over 300 million First Nations Peoples worldwide, in over 90 countries. Although they make up less than 5% of the global population, they account for about 15% of those in extreme poverty ([IWGIA 2020](#)).

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are underrepresented in STEM, particularly at the university level, where 0.5% of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population had a STEM qualification, compared to 5% of the non-Indigenous population ([Australia's STEM workforce 2020](#)).

Low socioeconomic status and exposure to adversity are linked to decreased educational success, which leads to lasting impacts on learning, behaviour, and health ([Committee on Psychosocial Aspects of Child and Family Health 2017](#)).

## **What we do**

We partner with charitable organisations and initiatives that focus on opportunity creation for First Nations communities through supporting the development, welfare and education of children and youth. We work with organisations that can attribute tangible outcomes from our funding and can demonstrate a positive impact on individuals and their communities.

## **How we see change happening**

First Nations communities are disproportionately underrepresented in school completion and employment rates. The right to education and employment is universal and should not allow for any exclusion or discrimination.

We see positive change happening by working with and supporting organisations that prioritise learning interventions at critical education milestones and those that foster meaningful employment for First Nations communities.

<b>Measurable Impact Goals</b>	<p>Increased engagement and completion rates across primary, secondary and tertiary education for First Nations communities.</p> <p>Increased representation of First Nations peoples in STEM roles.</p>	
<b>Program outcomes we look for</b>	<p>First Nations communities are given the tools and support necessary to successfully complete critical education milestones.</p>	<p>Meaningful placements into STEM careers for First Nations peoples</p>
<b>Examples of programs we look to fund</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scholarships</li> <li>• Early childhood literacy programs</li> <li>• Education support initiatives</li> <li>• Initiatives that support the basic needs of children and youth</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pathways into STEM</li> <li>• Apprenticeships</li> <li>• Culturally informed employee support initiatives</li> </ul>

### Principles we work to

Early Impact - Focus on early interventions to make meaningful lifelong change.

Informed - Partners are informed of the nuances that First Nations communities face and factor this into their initiatives.

Respect - “A hand up, not a hand out”, we look to create opportunities and positive change for individuals and communities through our partnerships.

### How we prioritise

1. Organisations that focus on First Nations communities.
2. Organisations that focus on children and youth.
3. Organisations that are owned by First Nation community members.
4. Organisations that create pathways into STEM through education or employment.
5. Organisations that do not have significant ongoing government funding.