

ANNUAL REVIEW 2025–2026

GANDEL FOUNDATION

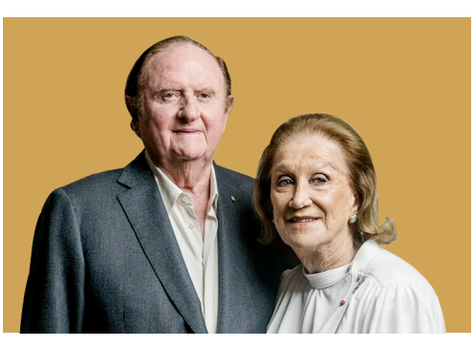
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GANDEL FOUNDATION

Gandel Foundation is one of Australia's largest independent private family philanthropic funds. It has been the vehicle for charitable giving by the extended Gandel family since its formation as the Gandel Charitable Foundation back in 1978.

John Gandel AC and Pauline Gandel AC are co-founders of Gandel Foundation.

They are actively engaged in their philanthropic initiatives and are universally recognised for their generosity, commitment and passion in supporting both Jewish and general causes. Through Gandel Foundation, over the years they have invested more than $250 million in the community, supporting various charitable organisations in Australia and overseas.



John Gandel AC and Pauline Gandel AC

VISION

Stronger, resilient, vibrant and inclusive communities.

PURPOSE

To create a positive and lasting difference by powering the delivery of programs and activities that improve quality of life in Australia and Israel.

Trustees

John Gandel AC,
Chairman

Pauline Gandel AC

Lisa Thurin

Steven Gandel

Graham Goldsmith AO,
Deputy Chairman

Barry Fradkin OAM

Team

Adam Ognall
Chief Executive

Nicole Brittain
Senior Program Manager,
Jewish and Israel

Drossos Haramantas
Finance Manager and
Company Secretary

Bridgette Hardy
Program Manager, Australia

Rhylla Mitchell
Grants Administration Officer

Gandel Foundation
Annual Review 2025-2026
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Gandel Foundation respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia and we recognise their continuing connection to land, waters, and communities. We pay our respects to them and their cultures, and to Elders past and present.

Warning: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples should be aware that this document may contain images or names of people who have since passed away.

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Cover image:

Cropped installation view, *Gilgar Gunditj Eel Basket: Sandra Aitken*, Koorie Heritage Trust, 23 Aug-23 Nov 2025. Collection of Koorie Heritage Trust, commissioned with funds generously provided by the Gandel Foundation. Photo by Christian Capurro, 2025.

See back cover for story.

CABRINI NEXT ERA



Cabrini's Next Era redevelopment is a transformational investment in the future of healthcare in Melbourne's south-east. As part of a 15-year master plan, the project combines major upgrades to the existing Cabrini Malvern campus with the construction of a new East Building.

Designed to meet growing community demand, the redevelopment will expand cancer, cardiac, orthopaedic and palliative care services, improve patient access and experience, and increase capacity to support more than 150,000 patients annually by 2036. The East Building will include new cardiac and orthopaedic wards, palliative care facilities, consulting spaces, a modern main entrance and enhanced hospital amenities.

Gandel Foundation is the lead philanthropic supporter of Cabrini Health's Next Era redevelopment, providing a flagship grant for the construction of the new East Building. Recognised through the naming of the building, this flagship investment builds on a partnership with Cabrini spanning more than three decades.

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YEAR OF IMPACT IN PICTURES

1.
October 2025

Gandel Rehabilitation Center

Hundreds of guests from around the world joined leaders of the State of Israel in Jerusalem to celebrate the inauguration of the Gandel Rehabilitation Center at Hadassah Hospital Mount Scopus. The region's most advanced facility of its kind, once finished, it will offer 150 inpatient beds and the capacity to treat over 10,000 patients annually.

Spanning eight floors, the Center is equipped with state-of-the-art medical technologies — including robotic systems, gait laboratories, hydrotherapy pools, and anti-gravity equipment. During the ceremony, Graham Goldsmith, our Deputy Chair remarked: "Pauline and John Gandel and the Gandel Foundation are in awe of the miracles that you achieve here every day, and we are thankful to have had the opportunity to support your efforts."

2.
October 2025

Jewish Arts Quarter

We hosted the launch of the Jewish Arts Quarter Community Partners Campaign in the Gandel Gallery. The event showcased the purpose and plans for JAQ in Elsternwick. Speakers included State and Federal politicians and the leadership of the Jewish Museum and Kadima. The evening included performances and talks by leading Jewish artists including Deborah Conway and Anita Lester.


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3.
January 2026

Gandel Holocaust Studies Program (GHSP)

GHSP continues to strengthen Holocaust education across Australia. Nineteen high school educators participated in an intensive seminar in Melbourne, led by three Yad Vashem educators and hosted by the Melbourne Holocaust Museum.

The program also expanded its reach through an Antisemitism Day attended by 90 participants and an alumni webinar series. Participants described GHSP as transformative, equipping them with deeper knowledge, confidence and practical tools to educate future generations.

4.
March 2026

Lisa Thurin Women's Health Centre

Lisa Thurin hosted the second annual 40Women4Women event for the Lisa Thurin Women's Health Centre at Cabrini, raising funds for the Access Fund to support women facing mental and financial crisis. The lunch heard from Professor Jayashri Kulkarni AM, Centre Director and Sharon Sherwood, Cabrini's Chief of Mental Health. Two of the Centre's clients also shared their personal experiences.

5.
April 2026

Little Food Festival

Australia's only food festival created especially for children, inspiring healthy eating and food literacy through fun, hands-on experiences. Held at Melbourne's Federation Square during the school holidays, the free event featured planting, cooking, bush food exploration, and performances, helping families discover where food comes from. Gandel Foundation's support for the Festival includes its expansion across Victoria.

6.
April 2026

C Care

Gandel Foundation joined the Opening Celebration for C Care's new, expanded facility that enables them to respond to growing demands. C Care addresses the absence of two basic human needs, food security and social inclusion in the Melbourne Jewish community. We provided a major grant to fit out the Gandel Foundation Pantry, which is a dedicated space for packing the 1,000 "Gandel boxes" that are distributed monthly.


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YEAR OF IMPACT IN NUMBERS

108
Grants made to **92** organisations

Average grant size:
$192k

Median grant size:
$50k

2%
of grants to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-controlled organisations

12 Flagship Grants	Average duration: **7** years	**91%** are multi-year
46 Major Grants	Average duration: **2** years	**51%** are multi-year
43 Community Grants	Average duration: **1** year	**18%** are multi-year
7 Open Grants	Average duration: **1** year	**0%** are multi-year

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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

For almost five decades, Pauline and I have been guided by a simple belief: that strong communities are built through partnership, opportunity and a commitment to the common good. This year, as we reflect on the work of Gandel Foundation, I am proud that those beliefs continue to shape not only what we fund, but how we engage with the communities we support.

Major Milestones

Gandel Foundation made a record level of grants in the past year, with several major projects reaching important milestones. We were delighted to take part in the symbolic turning of the sod event at Cabrini Malvern in June where our lead support for the Next Era transformation including the new east building was recognised. The development will help deliver world-leading comprehensive cancer, cardiac and orthopaedic care, allowing Cabrini to serve more than 150,000 patients every year. Our flagship grant builds on our 30-year relationship with Cabrini.

In October the inauguration of the Gandel Rehabilitation Center at Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem was celebrated by leaders of the State of Israel and guests from around the world. Since opening, 2,000+ patients from all communities have regained mobility, independence and hope. It was wonderful that some former patients were on stage joining the inauguration, exemplifying the vision of the Center as a place of holistic healing which combines cutting-edge technology with human compassion. This past year also enabled us to celebrate some of our long-term partnerships. Pauline and I were delighted to join The Jewish Museum of Australia to mark 30 years at its St Kilda home on Alma Road. Gandel Foundation also supported the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra's community programs as part of its 120th anniversary year celebrations.

Alongside these long-term and major commitments Gandel Foundation continues to respond to community need, supporting dozens of organisations improving lives across our communities. One example is the work of Anglicare supporting young people as they come through out-of-home care. We thank these charities, for their commitment to creating a positive and lasting difference.

Tragedy and Resolve

The backdrop to our work this year is the challenge and tragedy of the terrorist attack at the Chanukah event at Bondi on December 14, 2025, resulting in the tragic loss of 15 lives. Our thoughts are with the victims' families. Like many, we responded by providing immediate support to these families and those injured and affected by the attack. It also deepened our resolve to ensure that Jewish Australians do not live in fear and (see page 11) we are proud to support the organisations protecting the Jewish community and at the forefront of the fight against antisemitism.

Through the Gandel Holocaust Studies Program – now in its 16th year – and our support for museums and education organisations, we continue to invest in Holocaust commemoration and education.

We also remain committed to celebrating and investing in Jewish life in Australia, addressing education and welfare needs for now and into the future, and supporting many positive expressions of Jewish culture.

My thanks

My wife Pauline continues to share my commitment and passion to giving back. This commitment is also shared by the other generations of our family. Our daughter Lisa Thurin has built her own reputation as a leader in philanthropy. Our grandson, Steven Gandel is an increasingly active and thoughtful Foundation Director.

I wish to thank Graham Goldsmith AO, our Deputy Chair whose dedication and counsel continue to shape the Foundation's work and its leadership in the community. Thank you also to Barry Fradkin OAM for his valued ongoing involvement over many years.

I also appreciate the efforts and commitment of our small team, Adam Ognall, Nicole Brittain, Drossos Haramantas, Bridgette Hardy and Rhylla Mitchell.



John Gandel AC
Chairman and Co-Founder

> "For almost five decades, Pauline and I have been guided by a simple belief: that strong communities are built through partnership, opportunity and a commitment to the common good."

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ISSUE AREA

Celebrating Arts & Culture

Our arts & culture grantmaking is anchored around long-term partnerships with leading Melbourne-based institutions including NGV and Museums Victoria together with a series of community grants to promote access and ensure the benefit of the arts reach many.



Melbourne Symphony Orchestra

Gandel Foundation's support of the MSO+ Community Program reflects our commitment to ensuring that arts and culture are accessible to all members of the community.

MSO+ is a musician-led community engagement initiative to bring the power and wonder of orchestral music out of the concert hall and into the community. It was launched during the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra's 120 Anniversary celebrations. The program is designed to broaden participation in the arts by creating opportunities for people who may face barriers to attending or engaging with traditional performances. Through tailored programs, community partnerships and inclusive approaches to music-making, MSO+ helps ensure more Victorians can experience the benefits of world-class orchestral music.

The partnership demonstrates Gandel Foundation's belief that cultural institutions have an important role to play in building stronger and more connected communities. By supporting initiatives that extend beyond the concert hall, the Foundation helps ensure the arts remain a source of inspiration, learning and belonging for people from diverse backgrounds.

"We are grateful to the Gandel Foundation for joining us as foundation partners of this new community initiative. As a result of this support, we have moved into the exciting phase of project delivery, building deeper connections with communities, and reaching audiences across Australia through impactful and inclusive live music experiences."

– Monica Curro MSO Assistant Principal Second Violin and Creative Director, MSO+

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ISSUE AREA

Promoting Health

FY26 saw a new focus in our health and medical portfolio with the flagship grant to Cabrini Health (see p3) and a series of major commitments to world-leading organisations to support equipment purchase, training and research fellowships.



University of Melbourne

Australia faces an increasing range of natural and human-made disasters, from bushfires, floods and cyclones to infectious disease outbreaks and acts of terrorism. These events place significant pressure on health systems and highlight the need for a highly skilled emergency response workforce.

For the past five years, the University of Melbourne has delivered its Specialist Certificate in Disaster and Terror Medicine, equipping doctors, nurses, general practitioners, paramedics and public health professionals with the skills needed to prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters and major emergencies. Combining flexible online learning with immersive practical workshops, the program strengthens healthcare capability while fostering interdisciplinary collaboration.

More than 200 healthcare professionals have completed the course, enhancing preparedness. However, despite their critical role as first responders during the vital "golden hour" of emergency care, paramedics have had limited access to dedicated scholarship support.

In partnership with the Australasian College of Paramedicine, Gandel Foundation is addressing this gap by funding places for 20 paramedics to undertake the Specialist Certificate. This investment will strengthen frontline emergency response capability and help build a more resilient health system for future disasters and emergencies.

"We live in an era of growing complexity, shaped by climate-related disasters, emerging infectious diseases, geopolitical instability, and the rise of extremist ideologies. Healthcare professionals must be prepared not only to respond effectively to these emergencies, but also to understand the broader context in which they occur. Our Specialist Certificate in Disaster and Terror Medicine provides the knowledge, skills, and leadership foundations needed to prepare the next generation of disaster medicine leaders."

– Professor George Braitberg AM, Course Convenor





These photographs capture participants taking part in the Specialist Certificate's simulation exercise. While based on real-world scenarios, the events depicted are simulated and do not portray actual incidents.

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ISSUE AREA

Strengthening Jewish Life

Gandel Foundation has a broad portfolio of partners in the Jewish community, reflecting our deep commitment to the community's current and future needs. Priorities this year included major investments in educational and communal infrastructure, support for key cultural organisations and events, and responding to welfare needs."







Emmy Monash

For decades, the Gandel family and Gandel Foundation have shared a deep and enduring partnership with Emmy Monash, helping to ensure older members of Melbourne's Jewish community can age with dignity, connection and purpose. This relationship reflects a shared commitment to strengthening Jewish life and supporting institutions that are central to community wellbeing.

One of the most significant milestones in this partnership was the creation of Gandel House, a transformative redevelopment that set a new benchmark for residential aged care. Designed around the principles of positive ageing, Gandel House reimagined what aged care could be by combining high-quality clinical care with welcoming spaces, meaningful social connection and opportunities for residents to remain engaged with family and community.

The Foundation's support has continued well beyond bricks and mortar. Through ongoing engagement with Emmy Monash leadership and sustained philanthropic investment, Gandel Foundation has helped the organisation adapt to emerging needs while maintaining its focus on excellence in care and Jewish community connection.

Today, Emmy Monash remains a cornerstone institution serving older Australians, and Gandel Foundation is proud to support its vision of enabling every resident to live life to the fullest, surrounded by care, community and belonging.

"The construction of Gandel House on Hawthorn Road marked [a] pivotal moment – extending capacity, modernising care environments and positioning the organisation for the future."

– Alan Synman OAM, Emmy Monash Board Member

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COMBATTING ANTISEMITISM

Responding to the Bondi Beach terror attack mass shooting on December 14, 2025, that killed 15 people and injured 40 others at a Chanukkah celebration, Gandel Foundation joined with others in supporting the Bondi Relief Appeal, providing support for victims, survivors, and families affected by the attack. With the subsequent announcement of the Royal Commission, Gandel Foundation also made a significant grant to the "Communal Response Fund" to ensure the Jewish community is adequately resourced to engage meaningfully with the Royal Commission, promote coordination and crucially reduce the fundraising pressure on frontline organisations at a moment of significant strain.

This necessary response to the events of the past year supplemented our significant investment in long-term work that combats antisemitism and promotes social cohesion through education, collaboration, awareness and community resilience. Some of the examples of the work we support includes:

Community Resilience

Gandel Foundation is partnering with leading community organisations at the forefront of the fight against antisemitism. This includes Executive Council of Australian Jewry (ECAJ), the peak body of the Australian Jewish community which represents and advocates for the community to government, and in the wider community; the Jewish Community Council of Victoria (JCCV), the recognised roof body and voice of Victorian Jewry.

We are also working with the Office of Australia's Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism, Jillian Segal AO, as it addresses the acute challenges on Australian university campuses and schools through a National Dialogue to Combat Antisemitism.

The Dor Foundation, now in its second year of operation, has proved to be effective in building the evidence base, insights and coordinated action needed to understand antisemitism, particularly in digital spaces. We also supported the Jewish Centre for Law and Justice (JCLJ), a new national independent legal organisation. JCLJ is dedicated to tackling antisemitism through their community legal service, providing legal advice and representation for those in need, and their work to ensure that the law protects human rights, dignity, and safety.

Gandel Foundation has also deepened its long-term commitment to the Community Security Group (CSG) in Victoria, as it both protects the Jewish community and promote a community culture of safety and security by providing leadership, skills and tools, based on decades of experience, which is sadly needed more now than ever.

Education and Awareness

The Monash Initiative for Rapid Research into Antisemitism (MIRAA) goes from strength to strength through its research including in the Arts and Creative sectors, and its cultural awareness training program delivered in universities, workplaces and beyond.

Gandel Foundation's decades long investment in Holocaust education is widely recognised as an important contribution to the role of education in combatting antisemitism and other forms of hate. Gandel Holocaust Studies Program for Australian Educators was held in Melbourne in January. This long-term professional development program for teachers is building a cadre of expert Holocaust educators who are active throughout Australia. The Program included a day on contemporary antisemitism open to program alumni, government officials and community leaders.

We have also continued our support of Melbourne Holocaust Museum and are delighted to be an early funder of the planned Canberra Holocaust Museum. Gandel Foundation's contribution to national education initiatives is increasingly more broadly sought.

In parallel, we have extended our work on social cohesion. This includes deepening our support for Courage to Care as their dedicated volunteers deliver the Upstander Programs to over 135,000 students online and face to face. Following a successful pilot program, we have extended our partnership with the Victorian Department of Education for their schools' visits program where pupils from low SES public schools have the opportunity to visit two of the following museums at no cost to the school to strengthen their anti-racism education; the Immigration Museum, Islamic Museum of Australia, Melbourne Holocaust Museum and the Jewish Museum of Australia. We were also delighted this year to back Menzies Leadership Foundation's national initiative to strengthen civility in Australia.

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ISSUE AREA

Empowering People

We partner with community organisations to address challenges affecting Australians on a daily basis including food insecurity and decent housing, while also supporting access to training, education and employment pathways for people experiencing disadvantage.









Clockwise from left:
Students learn about fish traps, ochre, petroglyphs and bush soaps.

DeadlyScience is Australia's leading Indigenous STEM charity. It is on a mission to ignite a passion for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) and create a future where all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander learners can thrive.

Gandel Foundation is supporting DeadlyScience to expand its culturally responsive STEM in Schools for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander learners in Victoria, particularly in regional and high Indigenous enrolment areas. The sessions are hands-on, inquiry-based and tailored to K-10 year levels and local contexts. Learners explore real-world STEM concepts through culture-connected topics such as fish traps, petroglyphs, ochre, and bush soaps, developing skills in prediction, testing, reflection, and problem-solving. The sessions are aligned with the Australian Curriculum and are delivered by DeadlyScience's educators who facilitate structured STEM learning. By blending First Nations knowledge into school-based STEM, the sessions are strengthening student engagement, confidence and identity.

Delivery focuses on upper primary and lower secondary cohorts, where STEM disengagement accelerates. Repeat visits deepen learning and enable teachers to embed content, building student confidence and educator capability. Emphasising confidence during formative years helps students see STEM as culturally relevant and future oriented. Teachers participate alongside facilitators, gaining strategies to integrate Indigenous knowledge into their curriculum.

"This was a great opportunity to learn more about my culture and how science is connected to my culture and how it is actually involved in many ways I didn't even know it could."

–Year 9 Learner

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ISSUE AREA

Fostering Community

Alongside work on Holocaust education and social cohesion (see page 11) Gandel Foundation is supporting organisations working to create long-term solutions for some of the most marginalised and vulnerable groups in society.

Infoxchange

As technology becomes increasingly central to service delivery, the not-for-profit sector faces growing challenges in areas such as cybersecurity, digital capability and the adoption of emerging technologies such as AI. Many organisations lack the resources and expertise needed to respond effectively.

Gandel Foundation is providing a significant multi-year grant to support Infoxchange's Digital Futures initiative, a sector-wide effort designed to strengthen the digital capability and resilience of Australian not-for-profits.

The initiative brings together philanthropy, government, technology partners and community organisations to build practical solutions that benefit the sector as a whole.

Many not-for-profit organisations are being asked to keep up with rapid digital change without the breathing space or resources to first strengthen the basics. Cybersecurity is one of these essential foundations and Gandel Foundation is investing in helping establish and expand cybersecurity support, particularly for smaller charities, that may be most vulnerable to cyber threats.

Early implementation has demonstrated strong sector demand, with significant interest from organisations seeking guidance, tools and capability-building support.

The program aims to support dozens of organisations over the coming year while creating a scalable model that can ultimately benefit many more.

By strengthening digital capability across the not-for-profit sector, Digital Futures will enable organisations to operate more securely, efficiently and effectively, ultimately increasing their capacity to create positive outcomes for the communities they serve.



David Spriggs, CEO of Infoxchange presenting Digital Futures at a workshop.

"When digital capability is embedded across the sector, organisations can operate more safely and efficiently, reduce administrative burden and focus more of their time and resources on supporting communities."

– David Spriggs, Infoxchange CEO

YOUNG PEOPLE'S POSITIVE FUTURES

Gandel Foundation's FY26 Open Grants round in the **Empowering People** and **Fostering Community** issue areas provided funding for eight organisations supporting young adults aged 16-24 who are experiencing multiple forms of disadvantage, as they transition through a key developmental stage.

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CEO'S REPORT

The past year has been a significant and rewarding one for Gandel Foundation. We reached a record level of grantmaking, launched our new strategic plan and continued to strengthen the relationships that are at the heart of our work. Beyond these important milestones, what stands out most is the impact being achieved by our grant partners. Across a diverse range of communities and causes, we have seen inspiring examples of leadership, innovation and positive change. It is a privilege to support organisations that are making a meaningful difference in people's lives.

New Strategy

In late 2025, we launched our 2026-2029 Strategy, a framework deeply inspired by John and Pauline Gandel's enduring vision and philanthropic legacy. The strategy celebrates the Foundation's track record of impact and the values that have guided our work for almost five decades.

While it builds on the Foundation's established approach, the strategy provides renewed focus for the years ahead. It refreshes our vision and purpose, refines our five issue areas and articulates the principles that guide our grantmaking decisions. Most importantly, it positions us to respond effectively to emerging challenges while remaining true to the values that have shaped the Foundation since its inception.

Granting Approach

As highlighted throughout this Annual Review, our grant partners continue to achieve significant outcomes. Whether through long-term flagship partnerships or the recent open grant round, we are seeing important progress across a broad range of priorities.

When I joined Gandel Foundation, I was struck by its reputation for thoughtful and responsive philanthropy. The Foundation has long sought to understand the needs of its partners and to support approaches that are innovative, practical and capable of creating lasting impact. This philosophy remains central to our work today.

Our Involvement

The Foundation's directors and team value the deep relationships we share with our grant partners. These connections enrich our understanding, strengthen our decision-making and ensure our grantmaking remains informed by lived experience and practical need.

Throughout the year, I have had the opportunity to meet many extraordinary leaders and community advocates. Through our hosting of events, site visits, and ongoing engagement, our partners provide us with valuable insights and inspiration.

This is particularly evident through the Gandel Holocaust Studies Program, which is increasingly recognised as a key educational initiative.

Organisational Development

We welcomed Bridgette Hardy as Australian Program Manager in December. Bridgette has made an immediate contribution and quickly become a valued member of the team.

Over the past year, we have also invested in strengthening our organisational capabilities. This has included enhancing our evaluation and learning practices, improving financial management and governance processes, and upgrading our systems and database. These initiatives are already delivering benefits, including a more streamlined and accessible experience for grant partners.

Appreciation and Looking Forward

I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to work alongside John and Pauline Gandel and to learn from their wisdom, generosity and commitment to community. I would also like to thank Graham Goldsmith AO and our Directors for their guidance, encouragement and unwavering support. Their care for our team and grant partners is evident in everything they do.

My thanks also go to my colleagues Drossos Haramantas, Nicole Brittain and Rhylla Mitchell for their dedication, expertise and contribution throughout the year.

Looking ahead, we move forward with confidence and purpose. Our new strategy encourages us to build on our established approach by bringing an even stronger portfolio perspective to our grantmaking, aligning investments to achieving meaningful outcomes.

As we approach Gandel Foundation's 50th anniversary, we look forward to continuing to create lasting and positive change.



Adam Ognall
Chief Executive

"The Foundation's directors and team value the deep relationships we share with our grant partners. These connections enrich our understanding, strengthen our decision-making and ensure our grantmaking remains informed by lived experience and practical need."

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GANDEL FOUNDATION

STRATEGY 2026-29

Vision & Purpose

Vision

Stronger, resilient, vibrant, and inclusive communities

Purpose

To create a positive and lasting difference by powering the delivery of programs and activities that improve quality of life in Australia and Israel

Gandel Foundation's Approach

Gandel Foundation is a proud family-based organisation with the founders, John Gandel AC and Pauline Gandel AC along with members of the next two generations of their family, actively involved.

Our approach to philanthropy

We support initiatives that:

1. empower people to improve their wellbeing and future prospects
2. promote community values and foster community spirit
3. have a long-term transformative impact

We prioritise support for the most vulnerable and marginalised groups.

Five Issue Areas

Celebrating Arts & Culture

A vibrant and creative arts sector is essential for a thriving society. The Gandel family has a proud history of supporting the arts through championing Melbourne and Australia's world class institutions, nurturing Jewish arts and cultural heritage, and recognising the role of arts in building strong communities.

Promoting Health

Philanthropic grantmaking in the health and medical field is crucial for advancing knowledge, developing new treatments, and improving public health, both mental and physical. Gandel Foundation partners with leading hospitals, institutions, and health organisations to advance health outcomes.

Strengthening Jewish Life

Gandel Foundation aspires to elevate Jewish life in Melbourne and beyond through investing in initiatives that promote Jewish identity, nurture leadership, and strengthen the resilience and vibrancy of the community.

Empowering People

Gandel Foundation is committed to helping individuals and cohorts access opportunities to improve their lives and those of others around them, especially from the most disadvantaged sectors of society.

Fostering Community

Gandel Foundation invests in initiatives that promote tolerance and understanding, combat the root causes of hate, and foster connections. We are proud of our long-standing dedication to educating on the lessons of the Holocaust, combatting modern antisemitism and hate, and building cohesion in Australia.

Grant Levels

Gandel Foundation has three levels of grant giving that apply to all our issue areas:

Flagship Grants

Leadership-type grants that support ambitious efforts to deliver transformative impact. Gandel Foundation makes a limited number of Flagship Grants through proactively identifying the projects and partners who can help make lasting change in priority areas. Flagship Grants are typically funded over extended periods.

Major Grants

Grants that reflect Gandel Foundation's wish to provide substantial and meaningful support to our not-for-profit partners. These grants can be allocated as a single, one-off contribution or through multi-year support. Major Grants are made proactively and our decisions are evidence-based to ensure we support initiatives that deliver defined outcomes and lasting benefits.

Community Grants

Grants that enable Gandel Foundation to support a range of partners across our five issue areas. Community Grants are typically allocated up to a maximum amount of $40,000 and envisaged as one-off grants aimed at providing support for a defined program or smaller community organisations. Community Grants are implemented through proactive granting and targeted open grants rounds.

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Sandra Aitken weaving *Gilgar Gunditj Eel Basket*. Photo by Tim Stone, 2025.

ISSUE AREA

Celebrating Arts & Culture

Koorie Heritage Trust

As part of its 40th anniversary celebrations, Koorie Heritage Trust (KHT) held a major solo retrospective exhibition of the master weaver, Aunty Connie Hart.

Gandel Foundation supported the celebrations by funding the commission of the pictured *Gilgar Gunditj Eel Basket* by Aunty Connie's niece Sandra Aitken. The work is now part of KHT's permanent collection.

Gandel Foundation is proud of its long involvement with KHT.