



Todd Foundation Funding Strategy 2014-17

Why we fund – our vision



What we fund – our goals



What we look for

We aim to fund organisations and initiatives which:

- 1. Focus on people and communities which are excluded or disadvantaged:** Although everyone has equal value, not everyone has equal opportunities. Our funding favours those who need it most. (Note that this does not apply to our tertiary scholarships, which target research excellence.)
- 2. Create relationships and environments where people help themselves and each other:** We understand that people with strong connections are safer and more successful, that approaches which build on existing strengths work well and that opportunities for reciprocity and contribution promote wellbeing. Our funding aims to support people to be independent – and interdependent.
- 3. Actively involve the people and communities served:** We like the concept of community-led development and the phrase “nothing about us without us”. Whichever community is served – for example, Māori, disabilities, youth - we prefer funding organisations where these voices are integral to decision making at all levels.
- 4. Build inclusiveness:** Addressing exclusion requires understanding, fostering empowerment and participation, building bridges between different communities and addressing attitudes and structures that stand in the way. Our funding aims to support everyone to participate fully and have their voice heard.
- 5. Have good leadership and strong teams:** The most effective organisations have credible people and good relationships throughout the organisation. We look for a balance of heart and mind, passion and pragmatism. We aim to build close and open relationships with the organisations we fund, so openness and the willingness to share and work together is also important to us.
- 6. Involve approaches that are likely to work deeply and effectively:** We understand that complex problems don't usually have simple solutions. We look for approaches that are plausible and preferably evidence-based, combined with ongoing review, reflection, and learning. We consider a range of models of working, including not only service provision but also advocacy and social enterprise, and we particularly like collaborative or collective responses.

How we fund:

We will be changing our funding processes in 2018 to enable us to support long-term social impact more effectively.

We want to support real change in communities, reduce compliance costs for organisations, and promote collaboration rather than competition. We've been talking to local funders and funding experts, looking at overseas models and working with our community partners to develop something new.

From now on, we will be working closely with communities to identify, fund and support co-ordinated community responses to achieve systemic change. Our last funding round closed on August 15, 2017. This means we no longer accept applications for funding. If you are receiving multi-year funding from us, there will be no changes to your current funding agreement.

Scholarships and awards

Our scholarship and awards funding will remain in place for 2018, when it will be reviewed.

How we work

At the Todd Foundation, we understand that how we give is important and we believe that people come first. Our commitments to community organisations include:

- We will respect and appreciate your commitment to making a difference
- We will listen and learn
- We will have regard to the principles of protection, partnership and participation embodied in the Treaty of Waitangi
- We will provide open and honest advice and feedback when requested
- We appreciate and value your feedback for how we can improve
- Our aim is to work together to change lives for the better