

# GV Health foundation

## Case for support



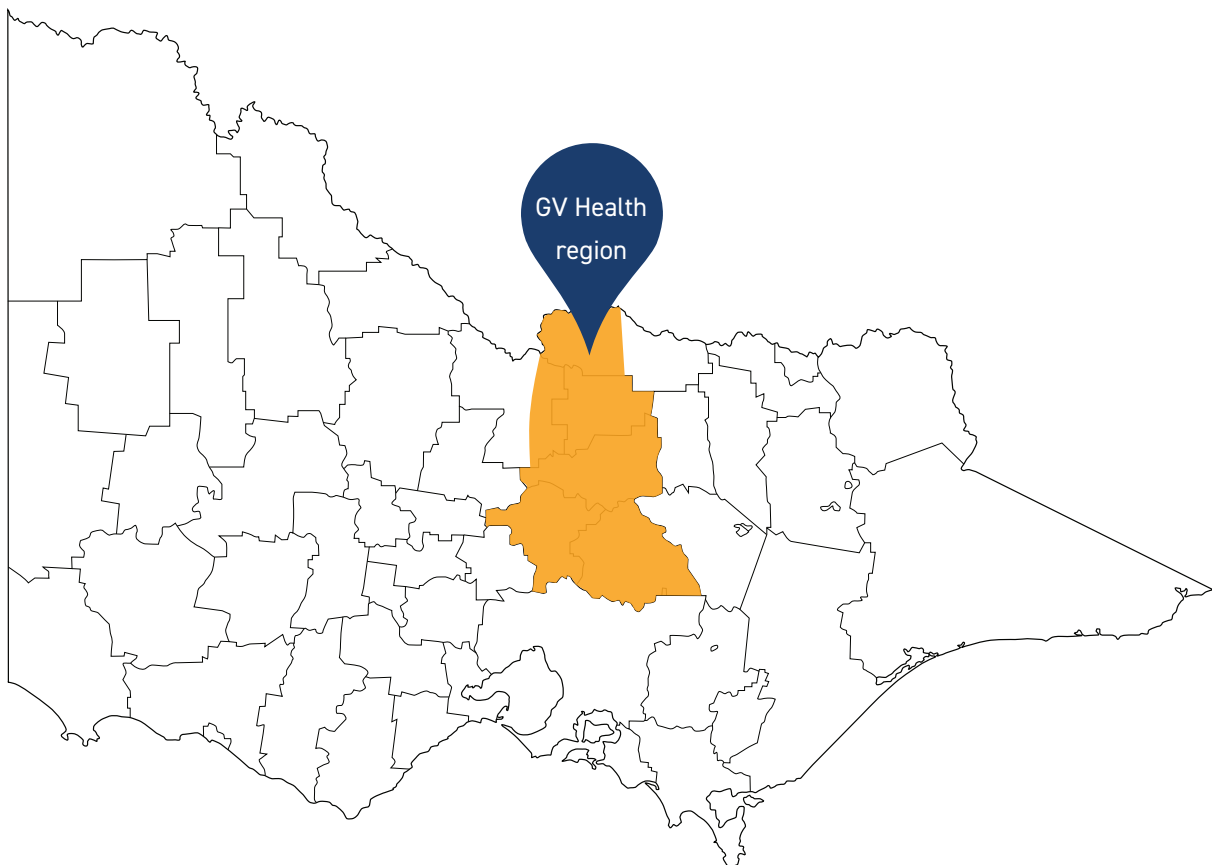


## GV Health Foundation - Improving Health and Wellbeing in the Goulburn Valley Community

The GV Health Foundation is committed to improving the health and wellbeing of people across the Goulburn Valley region. By fundraising for GV Health, we support a range of healthcare services that promote individual, family, and community health and wellbeing. Our efforts connect people and organisations, support the local economy, and provide comfort and safety to create a sustainable, cohesive, and liveable community for all.

Supported by community groups, service clubs, philanthropic organisations, trusts, volunteers, and individual community members, the goal of the GV Health Foundation is to foster a flourishing Goulburn Valley community with optimal health and wellbeing. Our vision is to provide equitable access to high-quality healthcare that is culturally safe, approachable and accessible. Our community-driven and person-centred approach integrates primary health care with hospitals, aged care, disability care and social care systems.

The communities GV Health serves come from a large part of northern and central Victoria.



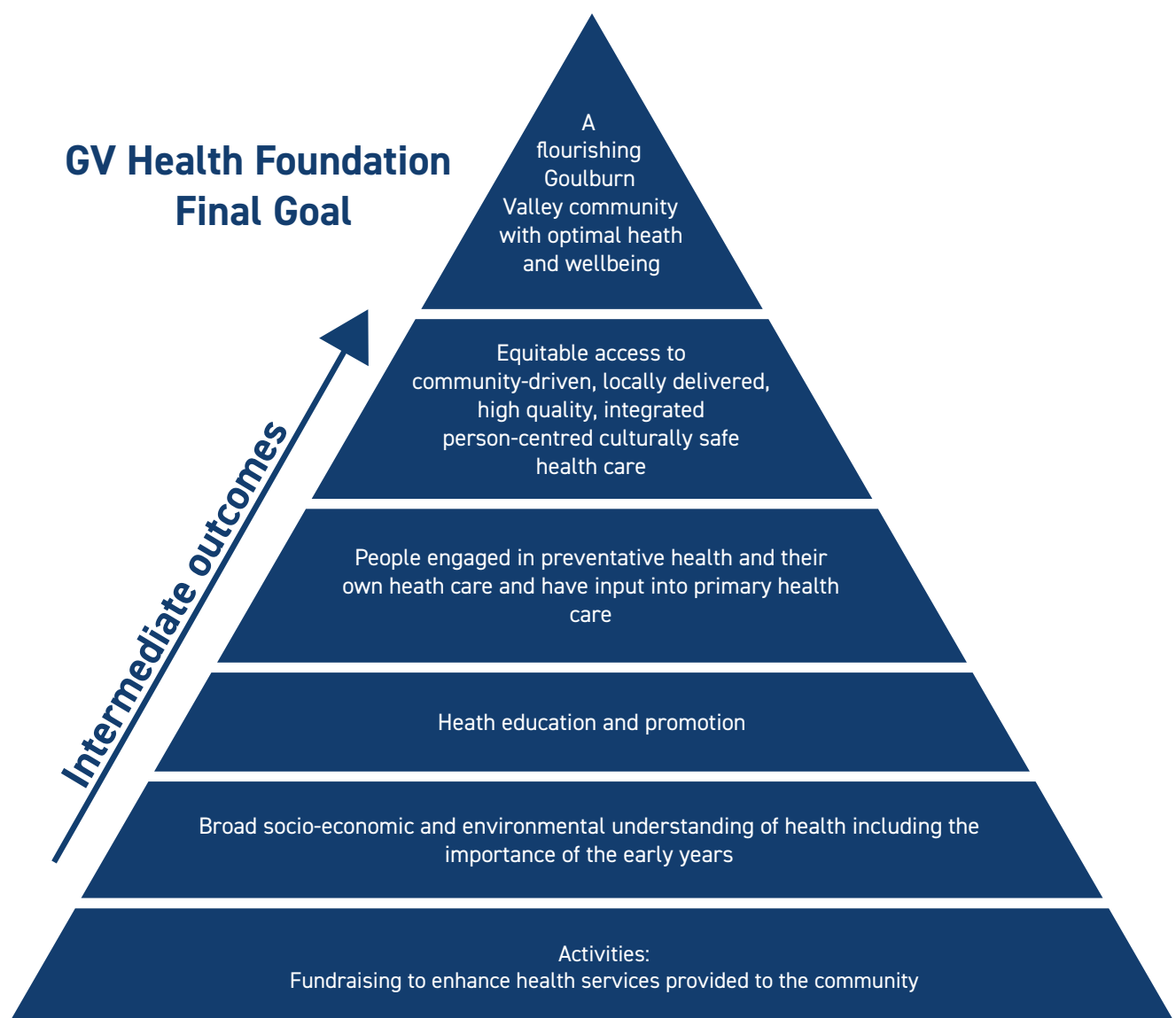
The GV Health region experiences high rates of chronic illness such as respiratory disease, cancers, cardiovascular disease and diabetes and mental illness which are increasing in frequency and complexity. Socio-economic disadvantage in our community contributes to a range of interrelated and complex health issues. These factors play a significant role in the way GV Health designs and delivers health and wellbeing services.



## How we create change

To achieve our goal, we believe that people must be actively engaged in their own health and preventative care, as well as have input into the health system to ensure it meets the community's needs. GV Health recognises that in order to be inclusive and reach our diverse audience, a comprehensive health education and promotion program must be delivered across a range of channels and in multiple languages.

The diagram below demonstrates how GV Health Foundation's activities will produce results and positively impact on our region.







Our efforts are underpinned by a cross-disciplinary, socio-economic and environmental understanding of health. This takes into account:

- 11% of Greater Shepparton's population are people born in non-English speaking countries (twice the rate of rural Victoria).
- 3.8% of Greater Shepparton's population are First Nations people making it the largest regional population of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Victoria (also twice the rate of rural Victoria)."

The GV Health Foundation invests in local solutions that improve the health of individuals and populations, reduce reliance on and expenditure in secondary and tertiary care, and promote social justice and equity, leading to improved social and economic prosperity.

To enable all this to happen, the GV Health Foundation acts as an interface between the community and GV Health and its health service to ensure that health care priorities meet immediate and long-term population health needs, particularly for vulnerable and disadvantaged communities. Our focus is on equity, access, enhancing individual and community control over health and wellbeing, community self-determination, and intersectoral collaboration.





## Our recent Achievements:

We are proud of our recent achievements which include:

- Funds raised to build a new children's ward at GV Health
- Conducted a \$1.3 million public appeal for the Peter Copulos Cancer Centre and oncology unit at GV Health
- Supported the refurbishment and reequipping of the special care nursery
- Purchased a Trans Perineal Biopsy machine together with the Male Bag Foundation, Freemasons Foundation Victoria and Biggest Ever Blokes Luncheon. This means men across the Goulburn and Murray valleys no longer have to travel to Melbourne to receive the best possible prostate cancer treatment
- In conjunction with the Greater Shepparton Lighthouse Project, the Foundation supported 75 families in the Family Haven program which provides a safe space where young families can meet, share a meal and connect with others. The aim is to build parental capability through service referral especially in the areas of school entry vulnerability, family violence and socioeconomic disadvantage. The GV Health Foundation supports programs such as The Haven as it is committed to supporting preventive programs aimed at capacity building in achieving better health outcomes
- Raised funds for GV Health's:
  - Early Parenting Centre
  - Mental health services
  - Mary Corum Unit to assist patients with rehabilitation
- Attracted funding for specialised medical equipment, assisted with ward and clinical unit refurbishments
- Contributed to the provision of educational scholarships and training for GV Health employees
- Assisted in promoting important health messaging to the community e.g., via the annual Teal Ribbon Day breakfast which contributes to the awareness of ovarian disease and treatment
- Contributed to post graduate training for paediatric physiotherapists
- Supported the clinical expertise of the overall delivery of clinical and community services



The GV Health Foundation has a proud and proven history in securing partnerships with organisations, businesses and individuals to ensure delivery needs are made a reality.



## With your support

The GV Health Foundation has been enhancing the health services for people in the Goulburn Valley catchment since 1988. However, there is still much more to do.

Since 2016, GV Health, with support from the Victorian and Commonwealth Governments has renovated or rebuilt parts of Shepparton Hospital. However, around half of the site still needs to be redeveloped to meet the rapidly growing healthcare needs of the community.

A masterplan to complete the redevelopment of the main campus at Graham Street Shepparton has been approved by the GV Health Board and endorsed by the Department of Health. This plan includes a number of urgent capital works projects. Completing the redevelopment will increase the GV Health's Hospital capacity, support the delivery of enhanced care, provide a positive healing environment for our patients and support 400 permanent new job opportunities for healthcare workers.

To support this masterplan, GV Health Foundation has the following fundraising priorities:

### Current priorities

1. Integrated Cancer Centre
2. The GV Rural Clinical School
3. Programs in the Early Parenting Centre
4. Staff accommodation

## Integrated Cancer Centre

With your support we can develop a new Integrated Cancer Centre with 18-20 spaces for chemotherapy, haematology and onsite radiotherapy. The centre will also provide 8-10 consulting rooms, expand wellness services and establish a contemporary multidisciplinary team treatment and care planning facility as well as space for research and clinical trials which are a major component of best practice cancer care.

Currently many of these critical cancer services are not available onsite or are spread across 12 points of care representing a major gap in cancer service provision in the region.







## GV Rural Clinical School

With your support we can work towards attracting the required funding for the development of the GV Rural Clinical School - a partnership between La Trobe University, GOTAFE and GV Health designed to increase the number of nurses, midwives and allied health professionals in the region. The GV Rural Clinical School will be a purpose-built centre of excellence with flexible nursing, midwifery, and allied health programs offered at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels. This will dramatically expand vocational, pre and post-registration nursing and allied health programs providing health pathways for local secondary school students to a clinical career.

Supporting the rural health workforce pipeline through educational opportunities and 'growing our own' health workforce is an important contribution to a long-term solution to chronic and projected health and social service workforce needs at GV Health and across northern Victoria.

Creating contemporary learning environments such as this will increase GV Health's reputation as an employer of choice for early career clinicians. A 'magnet' effect from increasing opportunities for professional development, and models of practice that encourage a culture of learning will enhance the recruitment, and importantly the retention of these clinicians, making GV Health an attractive career option for experienced and senior professionals.





## Programs in the Early Parenting Centre

With your support the GV Health Foundation will develop community-led programs that will run in the new Early Parenting Centre due for completion in Shepparton in 2025. Early Parenting Centres (EPCs) are a free primary health service that provide specialist support for Victorian families with children from birth to four years of age. They deliver flexible, targeted services that aim to enhance the parent-child relationship and support parents with strategies to achieve their parenting goals.

The Shepparton centre will include 10 beds, a shared kitchen and dining area, a playroom, a multi-purpose room. The centre will also feature various secure outdoor spaces with dedicated play areas as well as calm corners for relaxing and native landscaping.

The GV Health Foundation will undertake a program of community feedback and consultation to identify and implement the most needed programs that the community wants to be run in the new EPC. For example, this could include assistance with sleep and settling, support with feeding and assistance for babies and toddlers with additional needs.

It is a strong acknowledgment of the Foundation that this type of preventive work is crucial to better outcomes for our region. This program will align with the core beginnings and mission of the GV Health Foundation.

## GV Health Staff Accommodation

With your support we can better meet the demands that we have for short to medium-term staff accommodation. Currently we have an unmet and growing demand for 50 rooms for locum doctors, staff relocating to the area for longer term employment, and registrars and senior doctors who are on call or working rotating shifts. Fit-for-purpose properties within close proximity to the Shepparton Hospital are increasingly difficult to find and increasingly expensive, and it is proposed to partially alleviate this accommodation shortage by investigating the building of on-site townhouse style accommodation.

All of the funding priorities are crucial to maximising the capacity of the service we can provide to the GV region.

Together, we can make dramatic improvements in the health and wellbeing of Goulburn Valley residents.







# GV Health foundation

**The GV Health Foundation team would appreciate the opportunity to share our exciting plans with you and to discuss funding opportunities. Please contact Claire Ewart-Kennedy - Director GV Health Foundation & Engagement**

## Contact Details

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From left to right -Stephen Merrylees (chair), Ross McPherson, Ella Cannon, John Evans, Alice Tallis, Graham Hofmeyer, Claire Ewart-Kennedy (director) (Absent Suzanna Sheed & Bec Lovell)

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Charity Status: GV Health Foundation is a registered charity on ACNC register and The Trustee for GV Health FOUNDATION is endorsed as a Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR)





# GV HEALTH FOUNDATION

WORKING WITH THE GV COMMUNITY,  
FOR THE GV COMMUNITY.

