



Family Planning Tasmania

sexuality education & clinical services



## **FAMILY PLANNING WINS INAUGURAL IMPACT100 GRANT**

November 2017

Family Planning Tasmania has been selected for the first Impact100 Grant in Tasmania.

Impact100 Chairman Charles Badenach said voting was extremely close between the three finalists – Common Ground Tasmania, Family Planning Tasmania and the Geeveston Community Centre.

“It was very pleasing donors collectively voted for a transformational project in an area that has often been neglected by the broader community,” Mr Badenach said.

“The development and rollout of Family Planning’s new app will empower young people to exercise choice in the timing and spacing of their children. The project will lead to increased education and training, increased workforce participation and a reduction in young mothers and their children living in poverty.”

Family Planning Tasmania’s project LARC4U was chosen out of a total of 39 applications, through a comprehensive selection process.

Family Planning Tasmania CEO Cedric Manen said Impact100’s funding will enable partial development of the application and co-ordinated education approaches with youth, community and health professionals on the North West Coast of Tasmania to reduce unplanned teenage pregnancy by increasing access to Long Acting Reversible Contraception (LARC).

Mr Manen said Family Planning Tasmania has a 45-year service history to the Tasmanian community.

“The social, psychological, physical, educational and economic impacts of unplanned pregnancy can be significant,” Mr Manen said.

“Unintended pregnancy in adolescence can impact engagement in education and training but if we give young people the ability to control their fertility we can increase education attainment, participation in the workforce and all the benefits that follow.”

Mr Manen said a key to reducing unintended pregnancy is to use more effective, less user-dependent methods of contraception, such as the long-acting reversible contraceptive (LARC) methods (implant/IUDs).

“Australian women have been slow to adopt use of LARC and use of the less effective contraceptive pill remains most common. LARC4U’ embraces technology to increase personal and community knowledge about contraceptive choices.



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“LARC4U will develop a downloadable contraceptive app to empower young people with the right information when and how they need it.

“This information will be supported with education and health promotion activities targeting young people, parents and education and community sector workers. LARC4U will also increase the number of medical practitioners providing LARC to young women, through clinical education and training.”

Impact100 members each contribute \$1000 and collectively decide where there funds are to be distributed. Impact100 Tasmania’s members are from all ages and backgrounds with the shared goal of creating a more giving Tasmania and changing the lives of fellow Tasmanians. The Impact100 model is simple: members donate \$1000 per annum to create a single grant of \$100,000.

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