



THE LEONIE JACKSON MEMORIAL FUND INFORMATION KIT





[Click here for the Auslan translation of this Information Kit.](#)

LEONIE'S LEGACY



In January 2021, we learnt of the passing of our colleague, friend and community champion, Leonie Jackson.

Since that time, we have seen an outpouring of love and compassion from those who knew Leonie or knew of her place in the community and her legacy.

Equality in education for deaf children was a passion for Leonie. Leonie was a pioneer of bilingual deaf education in Australia and throughout her teaching, corporate and not-for-profit career, she championed the rights of deaf children.

Throughout this Information Kit, you will find Auslan illustrations of Leonie's legacy.

[Click here to watch Leonie's Legacy video.](#)



ADVOCATE



LEADER



HERO

ABOUT LEONIE JACKSON



LEONIE



MOTHER



FRIEND



Leonie will always be remembered as a tireless and dedicated **advocate**. Her lifetime commitment to bilingual education continues to inspire.

She was a **friend** to many across the globe, leaving everlasting impacts on those she crossed paths with.

She was a selfless **hero** who dedicated her life to fighting for equality for deaf children and advancing the Deaf community.

Leonie was a **leader** who inspired many with her rich contributions to the Deaf community, the education sector and at Ai-Media.

Aside from her work, her greatest passion was her family. She was a devoted **mother** to Tobian and Byron.

Leonie was a passionate **teacher**; her wisdom was priceless and her passion, inspiring.

Leonie was a **trailblazer** and **pioneer** in many ways. She played a pivotal role in establishing the Roberta Reid Preschool Bilingual Program and went on to become the Assistant Principal of the Thomas Pattison School, a bilingual school for deaf children. In 2015, Leonie became the first Deaf female CEO in Australia.

Her life's work and legacy will continue to inspire future generations of deaf children for years to come.



ABOUT THE FUND

In honour of her passion, and in memory of Leonie, Deaf Connect launched The Leonie Jackson Memorial Fund for Bilingual Deaf Education early in 2021.

The fund is Deaf Connect's commitment to projects that will ensure access to quality bilingual education for all deaf children, regardless of their language preferences. It was established to provide funding support for projects which reflect Leonie's ideals and build on her legacy.

The Leonie Jackson Memorial Fund (LJMF) will provide one-off funding with a minimum of \$5,000 to support projects that promote bilingual Deaf education for children.

'It takes a village to raise a child'

WHAT IS BILINGUAL EDUCATION?

Sign bilingual education is an approach to the education of deaf children which involves the use of two languages, Auslan and English. Underpinning the pedagogy of a sign bilingual approach is that sign language is a fully accessible language for deaf children on which to build a strong language foundation for them to learn a second language (English), supporting continued rich language growth. It incorporates curriculum access and bicultural education, including historical and cultural education which fosters self-esteem and identity.



TEACHER

WHAT TYPE OF PROJECTS ARE ACCEPTED?

We want projects that are innovative, creative and impactful.

Deaf Connect believes that all deaf children should have access to bilingual early intervention and ongoing bilingual education. We recognise the gaps within, and outside, the education system for deaf children. We want to receive applications that closely align with Leonie's passion and aim to fill these gaps.

Some examples include:

- Research about best practice of bilingual education in early years settings
- Funding to pilot a parent-child bilingual immersion program
- Development of an interactive bilingual software for parent and child to use together
- Training for educators about bilingual education best practice
- Development of resources to build the family's capacity to support their child's bilingual development and learning
- Webinar series to raise the community and professionals' awareness about bilingual education.





FUNDING CRITERIA

- The project clearly impacts and supports Deaf bilingual education for children within Australia
- The project has a demonstrates a wide reach, or demonstrates the potential
- The project is unique and there are no known duplications or similar projects currently happening
- The project is scalable and can be replicated sustainably to maximise impact
- The project promotes a bilingual approach, Auslan and English, at all stages
- The project has not received any previous funding from Deaf Connect
- The project is not eligible to be funded through existing services and programs - e.g. Federal, State/Territory governments, NDIS, Education Departments etc.
- The project length is a minimum 6 months and maximum 2 years
- Only applications with a minimum of \$5,000 will be considered.



TRAILBLAZER



PIONEER

APPLICATION PROCESS

Who can apply?

Individuals, community groups and not-for-profit organisations within Australia can apply.

We will consider all applications on a case-by-case basis.

How to apply

Do you have an idea for a project that is innovative, creative and impactful and are ready to apply?

You can apply in one of two ways - either through our online form, or downloadable PDF which can be found on our website:

www.deafconnect.org.au/LJMF

Applications will need to clearly outline the project and how it closely aligns with Leonie's values and the funding criteria.

Need help or have a question?

If you have any questions regarding the Leonie Jackson Memorial Fund for Bilingual Deaf Education or if you would like support in developing your application, you can contact us through:

Email: LJMF@deafconnect.org.au

Video message: www.videomail.io





**deaf
connect**

Serving our community.
Sharing our culture.

 www.deafconnect.org.au/LJMF

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