



Mibilla Foundation Annual Report 30 June 2025

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1. About the Mibilla Foundation

The Mibilla Foundation was established to strengthen regional communities through practical pathways to financial security, housing access, and business growth. Our work connects individuals and families with opportunities to build capability, independence, and long-term economic participation.

The Foundation's funding programs and partnerships are guided by the following pillars: Economic Empowerment, Education, Housing and Community Health.

2. Founder's Report

We are starting to grow momentum, our first full year in operation, we can see where we are headed and what opportunities are ahead, but we are still building strong foundations to sustainably support our organisation's future.

We are driving sustainability through:

1. Our admin costs remain low.
2. Our meetings are short and sharp.
3. Our people understand the foundations of empowerment, critical thinking, inquisitiveness and trust.
4. Our board is aligned.
5. Our team drives progress through action, reflection, and ongoing improvement.

These are achieved via robust conversations, critical problem solving, inquisitiveness, delegation and trust.

Thankyou to Nicci, Melanie and Colin for their continued trust, input and energy.

Michael Hatton
Founder/Director

3. General Manager's Report

The 2024 - 2025 financial year marked the establishment and first full year of operations for the Mibilla Foundation. During this period, the Foundation focused on building strong governance and operational frameworks while commencing its first community funding activities.

Over the year, the Foundation delivered its inaugural grant round, awarding community grants totalling \$35,000, and began the design and development of our Rent-to-Buy housing initiative. These early projects have provided valuable insights into community needs, effective delivery models, and internal systems.

As a new organisation, the principal challenge was balancing early project delivery with the ongoing establishment of robust governance, financial, and operational systems. Despite this, substantial progress was made. The Foundation enters the 2025 - 2026 year with solid governance structures in place and a growing pipeline of projects and partnerships.

I would like to thank the Board of Directors and our supporters for their dedication throughout this foundational year. I look forward to building on this strong platform to achieve meaningful outcomes for the communities we serve.

Nicole O'Brien
General Manager

4. Key Projects and Outcomes

4.1. Grant Program

Activities during 2024 - 25

During its first full year of operation, the Foundation awarded two inaugural grants through its General Grant Program. These grants supported projects delivering both cultural and practical outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

Beyond the direct funding outcomes, this first grant round enabled the Foundation to establish its assessment, contracting, monitoring, and acquittal processes, building a strong operational framework for future community funding.

Since June 2025:

Feedback is being reviewed with early grant recipients to refine assessment processes and inform future funding rounds.

4.2. Rent-to-Buy Project

Activities during 2024 - 25

The Foundation commenced development of the Rent-to-Buy project, designed to create structured and supported pathways into home ownership for individuals and families. During the year, the Foundation researched multiple national and regional models and designed a framework incorporating:

- Budgeting and financial capability support
- A transitional housing phase prior to purchase
- Long-term affordability and sustainability safeguards

Since June 2025

Work on the transitional housing component has continued. Mibilla Pty Ltd, as the separate operating entity, is progressing acquisition of a suitable pilot property. The Foundation's role remains the program oversight, policy design, and participant support framework. Further project details will be confirmed during 2025 - 2026.

5. Governance and Board

5.1. Board of Directors (as at 30 June 2025)

Name	Position	Term	Notes
Melanie Gepp	Director/Secretary/Member	Appointed - 17 May 2024	*Continuing Director (reappointed at 2025 AGM)
Colin Caton	Director/Member	Appointed - 17 May 2024	*Continuing Director (reappointed at 2025 AGM)
Michael Hatton	Founder/Director	Appointed - 17 May 2024	Continuous - Not subject to re-election under Constitution

Governance Structure Note

The Foundation operates under a rotating Chair model, with Directors sharing the Chair role on a monthly rotation. This supports shared leadership and collective governance accountability.

5.2. Meetings and Attendance

The Board met on four (4) occasions during the 2024 - 2025 financial year. Strong attendance and active participation was recorded across all meetings.

5.3. Governance Developments

During the 2024 - 2025 financial year, the Foundation adopted a full suite of governance and administrative policies, including those covering Board conduct, conflicts of interest, financial management, and grant administration.

Minor operational refinements were made throughout the year to improve the usability and clarity of procedures as the organisation matured.

No material governance breaches, conflicts of interest, or compliance issues were identified during the reporting period.

6. Financial Summary

The 2024–2025 financial year marked the Foundation’s first full year of operations. During this period, the Foundation was supported by Total Surveying Solutions (TSS), which provided funding and administrative assistance to help establish our programs.

Through this support, the Foundation awarded its inaugural community grants, totalling \$35,000, and covered all operational expenses. These initial investments laid the groundwork for future projects and provided valuable experience in delivering community impact.

The Foundation now holds its own bank account and will report independently in future financial years, reflecting our growing capacity and ongoing commitment to transparency.

7. Looking Ahead – 2025/2026 Priorities

Following the close of the financial year, the Board identified the following priorities:

- Business Growth Fund

Development of a structured grant program to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses. Initial design commenced August 2025, first round planned for later in 2025.

- Scholarship Program

Continued development of a scholarship initiative to support education and professional development opportunities. Framework design and consultation will occur during 2026.

- Rent-to-Buy Pilot Implementation

Finalisation of property and partnership arrangements with Mibilla Pty Ltd and confirmation of participant eligibility by March 2026.

- Governance Review

Introduction of a proportionate internal review to ensure governance systems remain fit for purpose as activity expands

8. Acknowledgements

The Mibilla Foundation thanks its Directors, staff, partners, and community supporters for their continued commitment to creating opportunities that deliver lasting and practical impact.

Appendices

Appendix A - 2025 AIS Review

Appendix B - Mibilla Foundation Grants November 2024 - June 2025

Date of grant	28/05/2025
Grantee	The Ilan Style Fellowship
Amount Granted	\$10,000
Project Information Development, publication and printing of Meriam language children's books to support Torres Strait language revitalisation. The project funded publishing, printing, and compensation for Elders, artists, and editors, supporting cultural preservation and early childhood literacy. <i>Meriam Mir Learning Books</i>	
Date of grant	29/05/2025
Grantee	Ngaruki Gulgul Central School
Amount Granted	\$25,000
Project Information Purchase of an automatic minibus to improve student transport access and participation in education programs.	