

FREEMASONS

South Australia & The Northern Territory



Benevolence 2024

The Plan

Understanding the pathway for Freemasonry Charity and Benevolence from 2024

How to Guide

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The Follow Up



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The Brands

AFAM Incorporated

Grand Lodge was incorporated as AFAM Incorporated many years ago. As part of that process, we retained the Almoners Fund as a sub-committee of the Board of Management. This is to assist Freemasons internally.



Freemasons Foundation & Freemasons Charity Management

The Freemasons Foundation is one of the Freemasons oldest benevolence entities combined with the new Freemasons Charity Management and its suite of Deductible Gift Recipients (DGR) entities allows for scholarships, education grants, History and Literary Grants and health promotion activities.



Masonic Charities Trust

Newly created after the sale of Masonic Homes which is a registered Charity as a Public Ancillary Fund (PAF). This Charity donates to registered DGRs every year a percentage of its total corpus.



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Key Changes

Under the one roof

All benevolence has been centralised under one roof using Masonic Services. This allows for the best coordination of resources and ensures no double or in some cases triple handling takes place.

The creation of a new Advisory committee called the **“Freemasons Charitable Distributions Committee” (FCDC)** has allowed for all applications to be reviewed using a simplified templated tool with all the organisation's objectives taken into consideration.

Previously Charities would approach the organisation's acting as silos for approval and consideration of funds and in some cases either doubling up or not aligning with the general wishes of the membership.

Under the new approach the Funds are held under specific criteria with budgets that the lodges are able to support and put forward to the FCDC and Masonic Services for compliance check and review. They will then produce recommendations to the Boards for approval and final sign-off if successful.



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Everything Living under the Square and Compass Together

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Charitable arms of Freemasonry



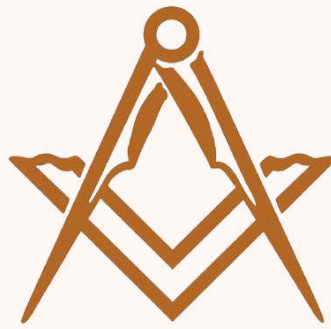
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The Process

All Applications to follow the same process

To ensure that benevolence areas are aligned to the membership and the funds the new process from 2024 is as follows:

- Considerable funds are available for benevolent distribution to worthy charities, organisations or individuals
- The current process has been simplified to four steps
- Paper based applications forms are no longer accepted
- There are currently 4 funds accepting applications
 - The Health Promotion Fund
 - The History & Literary Fund
 - The Freemasons Foundation
 - The Freemasons Foundation Scholarship Trust (individuals only)





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The Process

Step 1

A Lodge is approached by a charity, organisation or individual seeking assistance.

- Lodge members can nominate worthy groups within their communities or in any area of SA & NT
- The lodge does not need to be located in the same area as a charity, organisation or individual to offer support, just in SA & NT

Step 2

Discuss the request at the Lodge Executive Meeting.

- **Should the Lodge wish to support a cause**
 - Fill out the Lodge Letter of Support Form [Download Here](#)
 - One form for each charity, organisation or individual
 - Include full details of the request & the amount sought
 - Have the Master, Secretary or the Treasurer sign the Lodge Letter of Support (minimum of 2 to sign)
 - Continue to Step 3
- **Should the Lodge not wish to support a cause**
 - Notify the organisation via email or phone of this
 - Noting that there is no requirement to provide a reason
 - No further action required from the Lodge



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The Process

Step 3.

- **Forward the completed Lodge Letter of Support Form to the charity, organisation, or individual**
 - Ask them to add the details and complete the application online at: <https://freemasonsfoundation.com.au/applications/>
 - Should they encounter difficulties adding an application online advise them to contact admin@masonicservices.com.au or [1300 357 999](tel:1300357999), the team will offer all assistance from here on
 - The onus is on the charity, organisation or individual to lodge an application online **not the Lodges.**
 - Noting ANYONE can add an application online, as long as they have a signed Lodge Letter of Support, a lodge member may choose to add an application for an organisation, however forwarding to the organisation is recommended as they will know all the details required.
- Once a completed application is received
 - Admin staff will verify the application is complete or seek additional information if required
 - The FCDC (Freemasons Charitable Distribution Committee) meet in May and November to discuss applications
 - The FCDC recommendations are forwarded to the Freemasons Foundation Board for final approval





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The Process

Examples

- Below are some examples:
 - Lodge Support example - [Download Here](#)
 - Application example - [Download Here](#)

Step 4

- **Outcome and Decisions**
 - Once a decision has been made by the boards, the charity, organisation or individual along with the supporting Lodge are notified of the outcome.
 - Lodges needing assistance with the process or any additional questions are encouraged to contact us via email at admin@masonicservices.com.au or call 1300 357 999.
 - There are two intakes each year as follows:
 - Applications to be in for round 1
 - 1st November to 20th April each year
 - Applications to be in for round 2
 - 1st May to October 20th each year



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Lodge Support Example



Letter Of Support

Att: Administration/General Manager

Freemasons Charitable Distribution Committee care of Masonic Services.
254 North Terrace, Adelaide 5000 SA - 1300 357 999

Dated: 29.02.24

Dear Director, Mr Tom Upton - Wooden Toy Museum Woodcity

Re: Letter of support from Greentree Lodge no. 525

On behalf of the lodge, please accept this letter of support to your organisation with your application for display cases, increased security, by installing cameras & shelving units.

<p>Lodge to complete* - Why has the lodge chosen to offer support for the organisation? Provide a paragraph description and include the best lodge contact for this supporting letter.</p> <p>Greentree lodge supports an application from the Wooden Toy Museum at Woodcity as the facility currently is using fruit boxes to store its artifacts, making them difficult to see. Also, they have several dozen boxes they are unable to unpack in a shed as they have nowhere to place items. Plus a recent break in resulted in water damage. Security cameras would help to identify culprits.</p>
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<p>Lodge to complete* - What was the motion as recorded in the minutes?</p> <p>Motion: At the Regular Meeting dated 28.2.24 The Greentree lodge members supported the proposed recommendation that \$28,600 be made available to purchase display cases and shelving. Moved - W. Bro. Woody Plains, seconded W. Bro. Phil Shedley.</p>

<p>Lodge to complete* - Additional information or comments from the lodge.</p> <p>Greentree Lodge no. 525 appreciates the cooperation and generosity of Masonic Services in supporting the funding for this charity.</p>

The above application has been raised and approved as a motion through open lodge where every member has been afforded the right to speak for and or against the application and support provided to the organisation and passed in accordance with the Lodge's By-laws. Must be signed by a minimum of two of the officers below.

Dated:	Master/Secretary/Treasurer Name:	Signed by Master/Secretary/Treasurer Name:
29.02.24	Thomas Boxwell - Secretary	<i>T Boxwell</i>
29.02.24	Carter B Rusty - Master	<i>Carter B Rusty</i>

Application Examples



[History & Literary Example Download Here](#)



[Foundation Example Download Here](#)

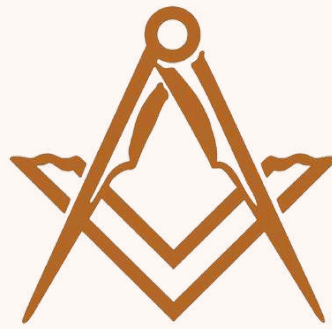


[Scholarship Example Download Here](#)



[Health Example Download Here](#)





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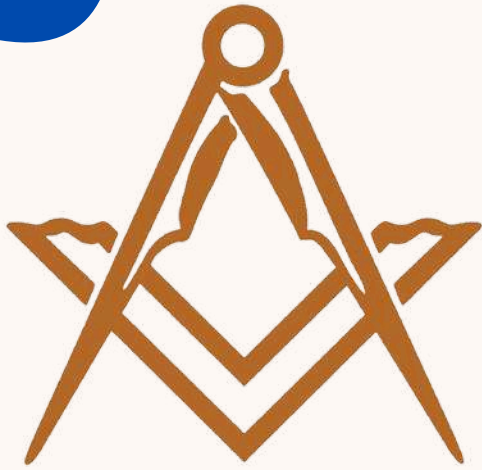
Contact Us

If in any doubt just contact us ...

- Email admin@masonicservices.com.au
- Call 1300 357 999



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Benevolence & Charity

Under The One Roof



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