

Grantlines: For companies, organisations and their communities

Partnering People and Projects for Good

What is Grantlines?

Grantlines is a service provided by Turnstone Projects for companies and organisations to collaborate with the community where they operate, rely on, partner with or give to for locally developed projects. It is done through a guided process. Grantlines works across a range of industries and communities across Australia. It seeks to combine the best of each, as no single sector or industry, company, organisation, agency or community can have all the answers to the full range of complex challenges in the 21st century. Each has part of the answer and Grantlines helps bring these parts together.

Why do companies and organisations use the Grantlines services?

The engagement of companies and organisations with the community often extends beyond their business interests. Those with a long-term investment in the community already contribute. For some, it is through sponsorships, giving of expertise while others contribute to local projects that share their priorities. Often it is a blend of these approaches. Many companies want to make a positive contribution to the community where they operate. They also want and need to report on the impact that their contribution of resources or expertise is making.

The Grantlines service is designed for those organisations looking to form partnerships in the community and with others. It is most suited to helping with projects that are complex, require long-term commitment, involve a new approach or rely on others to help bring about change. These partnerships bring value to the company or organisation in their work. It brings additional energy, publicity, expertise, resources, profile and connections to the project. Together, this contributes to community viability and sustainability.

What does Grantlines provide?

Grantlines works with companies, organisations and communities. It is committed to developing knowledge and skills within the company and within the community to foster appropriate partnerships.

To encourage this collaboration, the Grantlines services include:

1. Assisting companies and organisations planning for, reviewing or extending their community engagement through partnerships;
2. Working with the community to help identify, scope and present projects;
3. Building and extending relationships and connections within and beyond the community;
4. Providing practical assistance to help develop and implement projects, give mentoring during the life of the project and in the review, evaluation or impact assessment of the project; and
5. Preparing practical resources including guides and workshops to enable companies, organisations and communities to develop appropriate partnerships.

Grantlines: practical support for companies, organisations and communities to realise local projects together for positive and sustained social benefit.



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www.turnstoneprojects.com

T 02 9559 5352

M 0417 816 303

E rebecca@turnstoneprojects.com

How Grantlines works:

Grantlines works in the following ways:

1. Identifying and engaging with locally based companies, organisations and other parties committed to working responsibly with their community;
2. Researching, networking and linking opportunities for organisations looking to engage with their local community;
3. Making connections across sectors, industries, agencies and communities to bring together new approaches;
4. Appreciating each individual business or organisation, its operating environment including connections, priorities and goals in its relationship with the community and grant making practices;
5. Understanding the community, its issues, history, aspirations and concerns;
6. Supporting organisations with their community engagement to realise positive social benefits in ways that can be measured and reported;
7. Helping with the development of projects for funding including possible structures that best serve the project partners and the community;
8. Developing agreed priorities for partnerships including project/proposal outputs, outcomes, timeframes and resources;
9. Maintaining a good working relationship between the parties over the life of the project; and
10. Undertaking and assisting with reviews and social impact assessments to record achievements, lessons learned, and next steps.

Benefits of the Grantlines service:

The benefits to companies, organisations, associations and councils include:

1. Identifying and developing greater opportunities for local collaboration to champion and contribute to projects that deliver shared local benefits;
2. Engaging a broad range of organisations and interested parties to address community initiated projects;
3. Encouraging community development and coordination of requests and projects;
4. Providing companies and organisations with well developed project proposals with outcomes clearly stated;
5. Having project advisory services available over the life of the project/grant for continuity, mentoring, evaluations and social impact assessment; and
6. Contributing to the philosophy and practice of social enterprise, community and business development and collective social impact for a more sustainable community.

About Turnstone Projects and Rebecca Iliffe (MA IntRel UNSW, BAppScAg Melb)

Turnstone Projects was established by Rebecca Iliffe in 2003 to work with companies, organisations and communities where shared interests exist. Turnstone Projects works in three related areas: Grantlines, partnering people and projects for good; asset-based regional investment attraction; and project development.

Rebecca's career has spanned all of the areas encompassed today in Turnstone Projects. Her earliest work was as a professional wool classer in shearing sheds across eastern Australia, followed by early stage processing and facilitating technical training for international users of Australia wool. She then spent over ten years working with government and industry in business and community in development and investment attraction roles.

Rebecca has a strong interest in and engagement with philanthropy both as a grant seeker and grant maker. With her husband James, and the involvement of their two young sons, their small family trust supports innovative education-related projects in metropolitan and rural areas across Australia.

Rebecca is based in Sydney, having lived, worked and travelled widely in Australia.