

Guidelines for Organisations

The Zahra Foundation recognises that financial abuse and disadvantage are some of the biggest barriers to women leaving and remaining free of abusive relationships. One of the ways The Zahra Foundation aims to address this is through the provision of small grant opportunities that can directly support women and their children into education and employment. These pathways will promote the economic empowerment of women and their children and support them to break the cycle of abuse.

The Zahra Foundation has capacity to provide financial assistance to women and children who are accessing support from Domestic and Family Violence services. This pool of funding is made available to The Zahra Foundation through donations, events and other fundraising activities.

Clients seeking an Opportunity Knox small grant must fit the following criteria:

- Be a current client of The Zahra Foundation Member Organisation, or a like organisation, as approved by senior leadership team member.
- Be financially disadvantaged as a result of domestic or family violence.

The use of funding must demonstrate a clear pathway for women and/or their children into further education, training or employment.

Member Organisations can apply for up to \$500 per client over a 2-year period to help cover the costs of entering into education, training or employment.

Examples of costs that may be covered include:

- Uniforms (for work or children's school)
- Tuition fees (proof of enrolment must be provided)
- Materials required to support study such as books, computers, trade tools (applications for children's computers or tablets must include confirmation from the school that item is required as part of the school's Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) policy)
- Other costs that support women to become financially independent and create pathways into study or employment (evidence of enrolment or potential employment opportunities must be provided)

Applying for small grants

To access this funding, Member Organisations must complete a needs assessment based on individual client needs and exhaust all other potential opportunities for funding such as school card, job network providers, Wyatt Trust, or other opportunities provided by Centrelink.

Following that initial assessment, the Member Organisation (the worker) can provide the completed 'Opportunity Knox Application Form' with the relevant details (inclusive of proof of income) to The Zahra Foundation via admin@zahrafoundation.org.au. An assessment will be undertaken within 7 working days and the Member Organisation will be contacted with the outcome. Payment of funds will be made directly to the service provider only, on receipt of an invoice. **Please note that we are STRICTLY unable to provide cash or vouchers as payment.**

For any queries relating to this process please contact The Zahra Foundation on (08) 8352 1889 or email admin@zahrafoundation.org.au.

