

The Family Action Centre and the BvLF

BvLF supported the FAC for 19 years, and were funders who promoted innovation, and effective dissemination.

BvLF recognized the imperative to work as a partner with the recipient organisation, assisting in capacity building of the organisation, providing opportunities for networking and learning from other projects on an international scale.

BvLF also provided project guidance and supervision by annual visits from the Hague based Desk Officers who were responsible for the administrative and mentoring of the project implementation. This relationship encouraged honest discussions around strategy and challenges, and accepted changes in future plans. The projects were focused on outcomes and this led to innovation when determining the pathway to success.

The nature of this relationship was one of respect for cultural nuances and the complexity of local issues. It is said that the BvLF allowed projects to “Ride on the back of Principle”, when reflecting on changes in strategy.

BvLF supported a dissemination phase of the Hunter Caravan Project as building on their already significant investment, and as a way to effect change on a national level for these disenfranchised families. This philanthropic funding provided the FAC with the ability to build their advocacy activities with all levels of government in order to effect positive change.

BvLF was seen internationally as a leading foundation in its model and its Executive Director chaired the International Consortium for Innovative Cooperation, whose members were European foundations.

Accountability was strict in terms of Annual and Final Reports and also financial accountability. These reports became useful documents to review progress and to influence future strategies.