Westfield
Local Heroes

2021 Social Impact Report

Creating meaningful human connections that are essential for building thriving and inclusive communities





## **Our commitment**

At Westfield, we believe that human connection is the key to helping communities thrive and build resilience.

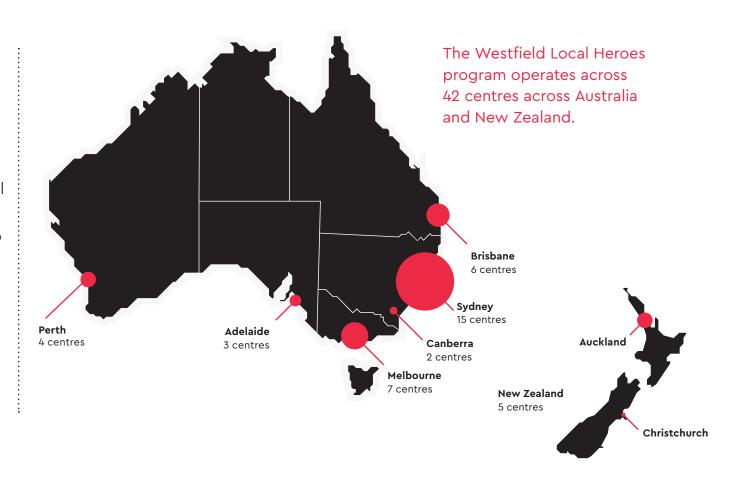
That is why community is at the heart of everything we do and why our teams are committed to creating meaningful connections between our customers, communities and our retail partners.

It is this commitment that sets our Westfield Living Centres apart as essential community hubs and delivers on our purpose of creating extraordinary places, connecting and enriching communities.

Westfield Local Heroes is one of our most important community engagement programs.

This report outlines the scale and reach of the program, and the positive impacts it drives for the communities we serve.

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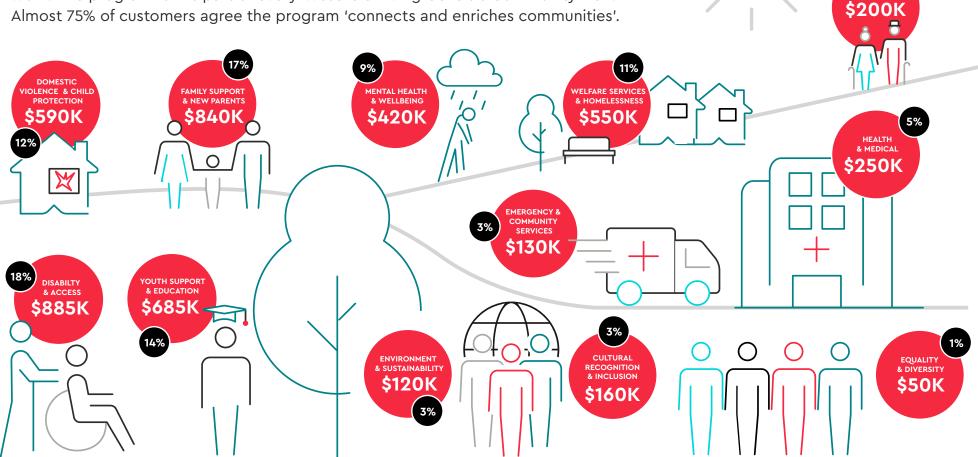
https://www.westfield.com.au/local-heroes www.westfield.co.nz/local-heroes



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## **Driving positive impact**

\$4,880,000 over 4 years Westfield Local Heroes shines the spotlight on people who positively impact their community or environment. Westfield has contributed \$4,880,000 over 4 years to 489 local heroes and their organisations to continue their work. The program forms part of every Westfield Living Centre's Community Plan.





## **2021** Program Highlights

In 2021, community and customer participation in the Westfield Local Heroes program continued to grow. Below are some of the highlights.

**Program** scale



\$1,260,000 in community grants



**Local Heroes** 



delivered in **42**Westfield Living Centres across Australia and New Zealand



Community engagement



More than nominations



More than 140,000 community votes



90% of 2021 participants said they would participate again

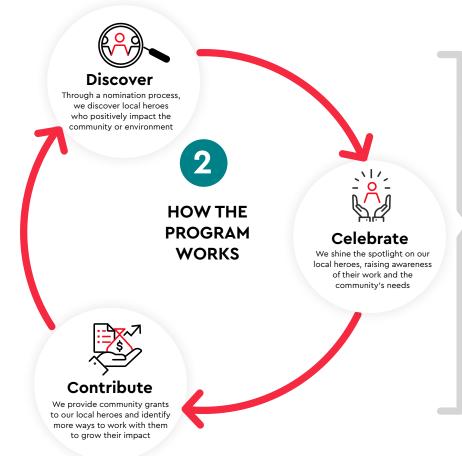


# The Westfield Local Heroes program



The Westfield Local Heroes program discovers, celebrates and contributes to people and organisations who give back to their communities and environment.







### **Profile**

The program raises the profile of our local heroes and their work



#### Goals

Through financial and in-kind support and recognition, the program supports our local heroes to achieve their goals



### **Opportunities**

Through ongoing partnerships, Westfield helps its local heroes deliver new solutions and opportunities in their fields





Increasing profile of our Local Heroes' and finalists' work

By increasing the profile of heroes' and finalists' work, the Westfield Local Heroes program helps to grow their stakeholder networks, raises awareness of community needs and opportunities and connects them with more people who need their services



72% of Westfield customers and 83% of program participants agree the program connects people with services and programs they may not have otherwise known about



174,800 website users viewed the finalist content during voting and announcement



142 media outlets promoted individual heroes, potentially reaching more than 9 million viewers

"It's been a great way to increase our recognition in the community and expand our volunteer base too."

Successful 2021 Westfield Local Hero







Increasing the capability of our heroes and finalists to achieve their goals

We aim to help our heroes and finalists reach their goals sooner through financial support, increased motivation and raising their profile among other supporters and investors



\$1.26 million was invested in Local Hero programs and work in 2021



75% of Westfield customers and 86% of program participants agree the program helps community organisations to grow



100% of successful heroes and 98% of finalists say they experienced positive outcomes from being a part of the program. Many say they were motivated to take on more challenges and volunteer more hours, while other said they achieved their goals faster

"The funding will help to build capacity of programs for first responders. The impact is less stress, less mental health issues and reduced suicide ideation."

Successful 2021 Westfield Local Hero

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Helping facilitate new solutions and opportunities

We continue to work with many of our heroes and finalists, leveraging our platforms, people and networks to find more ways to help them further connect with the local community



Every year, Westfield Centres provide in-kind space to community partners in December to allow them to fundraise in Christmas gift wrap activations. In 2021, **68** community partners participated, **58** of which were Local Hero alumni. In total, our community partners raised **\$315,169** for their causes



In 2021, our centre teams engaged with **265** Westfield Local Hero alumni through their community, safety, sustainability and inclusion initiatives



Local Hero alumni Chris Boyle has supported more than **700** victims of domestic and family violence since opening Magnolia Place's multi-service approach in Westfield Helensvale in October 2020

"It was an opportunity to connect with other individuals who are also doing wonderful things to support our community. The support received through the Westfield Local Heroes will go a long way in supporting my charity of choice also."

Successful 2021 Westfield Local Hero



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