

Duncan Saville



Committee Secretary
House of Representatives Standing Committee on Indigenous Affairs
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2800

Dear Committee Secretary

We have been proud financial supporters of Food Ladder for a number of years owing to the win / win social operating model that Food Ladder has developed. Our Foundation's focus is on Education and entrepreneurial job skills creation. Current global education models are not providing sufficient job creation skills for the real world. Food Ladder is an innovative program that has a relatively low capital cost, depending on the Food Ladder system size, location, climate control requirements, labour availability and individual specifications. In addition running costs per food production unit are relatively modest too. This is important to us to check their operating model is viable and cost effective.

However, the real value of the Food Ladder Social enterprise model is that it empowers communities to learn about & deliver nutrition, education and employment locally. By creating partnerships at grassroots levels ensures meaningful & longstanding outcomes for local communities. The results to date have been impressive, and I have heard first hand from participants on the various benefits created from the program. These obviously include job creation and a sense of purpose but more importantly there is a level of engagement that resonates with the working participant and importantly a level of empowerment.

In addition, Food Ladder has ancillary programs to supplement their operating model and ensures that Food Ladder is a compelling initiative for Foundations like ours to support.

Kind regards Duncan Saville Founder