

RECEIVED 12/1/09

Inspire
inspiring young people

8 January 2009

Manager
Philanthropy & Exemptions Unit
Personal & Retirement Income Division
The Treasury
Langton Crescent
PARKES ACT 2600

Dear Sir/Madam,

I write in strong support of the submission put to you by the Balnaves Foundation.

The longstanding relationship between Inspire Foundation and Balnaves Foundation provides a ready example of a PPF investing in innovation over a sustained period of time to deliver significant community benefits that, without the investment, would not have been realised to the same degree.

Inspire Foundation (www.inspire.org.au) is a national mental health organization with a mission to help millions of young people lead happier lives. Our point of difference is that we only use technology (web platforms, online gaming and mobile phones) to reach young people and equip them with information, tools and resources that improve their mental health and wellbeing.

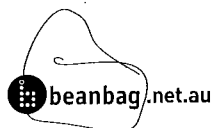
When we started 10 years ago, Inspire's work was considered highly innovative but separate to the mental health system. We were unable to attract Government or other more traditional funding. The Balnaves family and (later) Foundation saw the impact of our work and the potential for scale and provided Inspire with significant multi-year funding that allowed us to grow our programs and demonstrate our impact through research and evaluation.

In the last 2 years (maximum) the role of technology in the delivery of health services has been recognised by governments and others. As a result Inspire is increasingly seen as a leader in the field in the provision of e-health services. New opportunities for growth and funding are opening up for us. As a result we have set an ambitious but achievable growth target of reaching and impacting upon 1 million young Australians in the year 2012.

None of this would have been possible without the long term support of the Balnaves family and Foundation.

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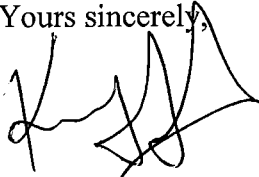
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I am greatly concerned that the proposed 15% distribution rate will severely reduce the capacity and willingness of PPFs to support worthy causes over long periods of time, and that stories like this one will not happen in the future.

I urge the Government to reconsider the proposed distribution rate and create a regulatory environment that fosters a culture of multi-generational philanthropy and long-term social investment.

Yours sincerely,



Kerry Graham
Inspire Foundation
Chief Executive Officer