



Across Victoria, many talented young women finish Year 12 with outstanding results and ambitious dreams for the future. Yet for some, financial disadvantage stands in the way of pursuing university study and realising their full potential.

Many young women applying to the Mary Jane Lewis Scholarship Foundation, are the first in their families to attend higher education.

High costs of tuition, living expenses, family responsibilities, and relocation often force these young women into unsustainable work just to financially survive.

Despite the proven impact of our scholarships, every year we are forced to turn away exceptional young women due to overwhelming demand, leaving talent untapped and cycles of disadvantage unbroken.

How we create change

The Mary Jane Lewis Scholarship Foundation (MJLSF) empowers determined, ambitious young women to realise their potential. We provide:

- Providing scholarships** to talented young women facing financial hardship to cover tuition, living expenses, and educational needs.
- Holistic support** including mentoring, practical advice, financial literacy, networking and personal development opportunities, and valuable industry exposure.
- Community & Industry Engagement** with universities and organisations to enhance access, exposure, and impact.

Stories of transformation

- Melissa Garwood:** "Twenty-six years after being born at Sunshine Hospital, I returned – this time not as a patient, but as a doctor. My life journey until that time was fraught with hurdles that I overcame to be the contributing member to society I am today."

- Anastasia Arestia:** "This scholarship changes lives. It changed mine."

Our impact

- Improved academic outcomes and higher completion rates** for financially disadvantaged young women, especially in underrepresented fields.
- Enhanced career opportunities, economic independence, and representation** of diverse voices.
- Creation of role models inspiring others to pursue higher education**, breaking cycles of disadvantage.

How you can make a lasting impact

- Sponsor an undergraduate scholarship.** A gift of \$35,000 can fund one young woman through three years of study, where you will be recognised as a named supporter.
- Sponsor a complete five-year educational journey.** With \$60,000, you can support both undergraduate and postgraduate study, transforming a life with naming rights.
- Endow a scholarship in perpetuity.** A gift of \$250,000 establishes a legacy that supports promising young women every year, forever.
- Donate or contribute** to our alumni network or leave a bequest.

Together, we can ensure no high-achieving young Victorian woman is turned away for lack of resources. Help us open doors, transform lives, and shape a future of equality, leadership, and opportunity.