



Zahra
Foundation
Australia

Hope Opportunity Partnerships & Empowerment

Partnership

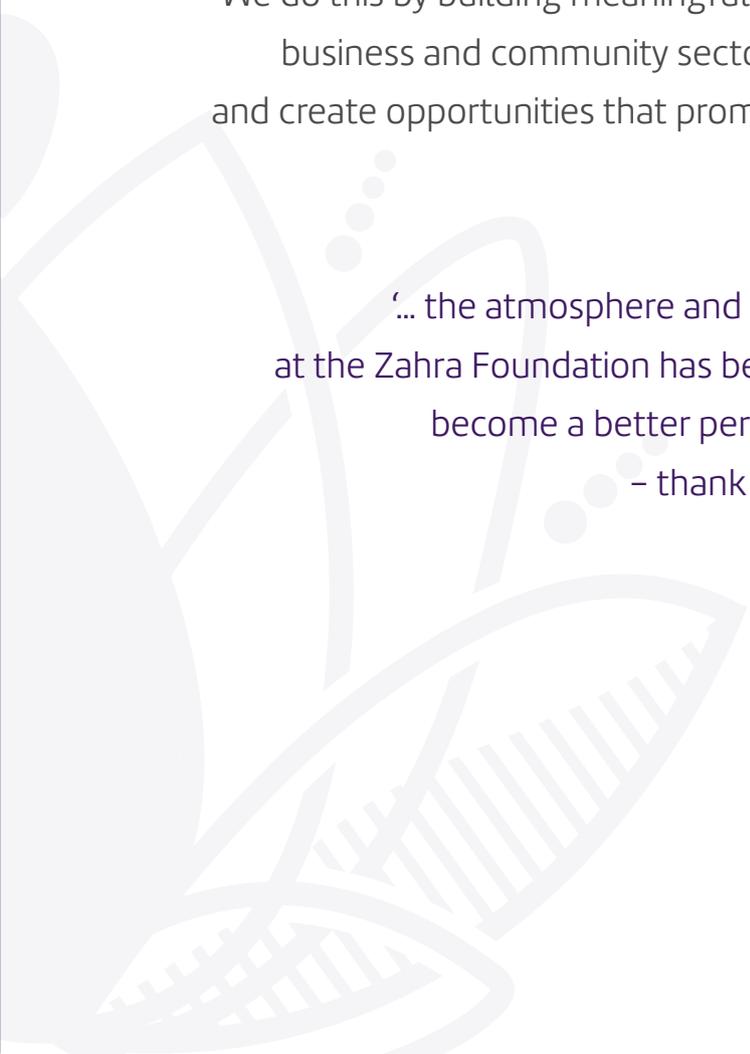
OPPORTUNITIES



**Join us in empowering South Australian women
and children affected by family and domestic violence with
pathways to economic independence.**

The vision of Zahra Foundation Australia is to instil **Hope** and optimism in the lives of women and their children by providing them with a range of financial and educational **Opportunities**.

We do this by building meaningful relationships and **Partnerships** with the business and community sector. This allows us to deliver programs and create opportunities that promote women's economic **Empowerment**.



'... the atmosphere and support provided by the staff at the Zahra Foundation has been very valuable and has helped me become a better person and support my family
- thank you so much.'



Zahra's story

The Zahra Foundation was established by Atena, Arman and Anita Abrahamzadeh in 2015 to honour their mother Zahra who was killed by her estranged husband at the Adelaide Convention Centre on March 22, 2010.

The family had endured 24 years of domestic violence before Zahra managed to leave her abusive husband, taking her children and just the bags on their backs. They experienced financial stress, homelessness and fear as they began to rebuild their lives. Before Zahra was tragically murdered she had found work, was talking about studying and had been on her way to establishing the financial security that women need when starting again after escaping abuse.

Zahra's death had a significant impact on South Australia. It changed the state's political, judicial and policing systems and placed much needed attention on the family and domestic violence sector. This resulted in bi-partisan support for major changes, better responses and increased community awareness – all working towards 'zero tolerance' of family and domestic violence in our community.

The Zahra Foundation Australia is built on a philosophy of hope and positivity and recognises that women come from varied experiences of trauma. Our role is to help them rebuild their lives and look to the future.

Over the past 5 years the Zahra Foundation has:

- supported women from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds, a growing number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and those who identify as LGBTIQ+
- developed the Pathways to Empowerment program and supported more than 200 women to graduate
- helped around 80% of Pathways to Empowerment program graduates enter further educational programs and / or gain employment
- provided one-on-one financial counselling to more than 200 women
- awarded over \$40,000 in small grants to more than 130 women for school uniforms, books, TAFE fees and laptops

Our Programs

Pathways to Empowerment

A 9-week Adult Community Education program that supports women to build their confidence and capacity to enter further education, training or employment.

‘... I had never considered vocational or tertiary study as an option prior to attending the Pathways to Empowerment program ... I felt more confident to enrol and study.’

Specialist Financial Counselling Service

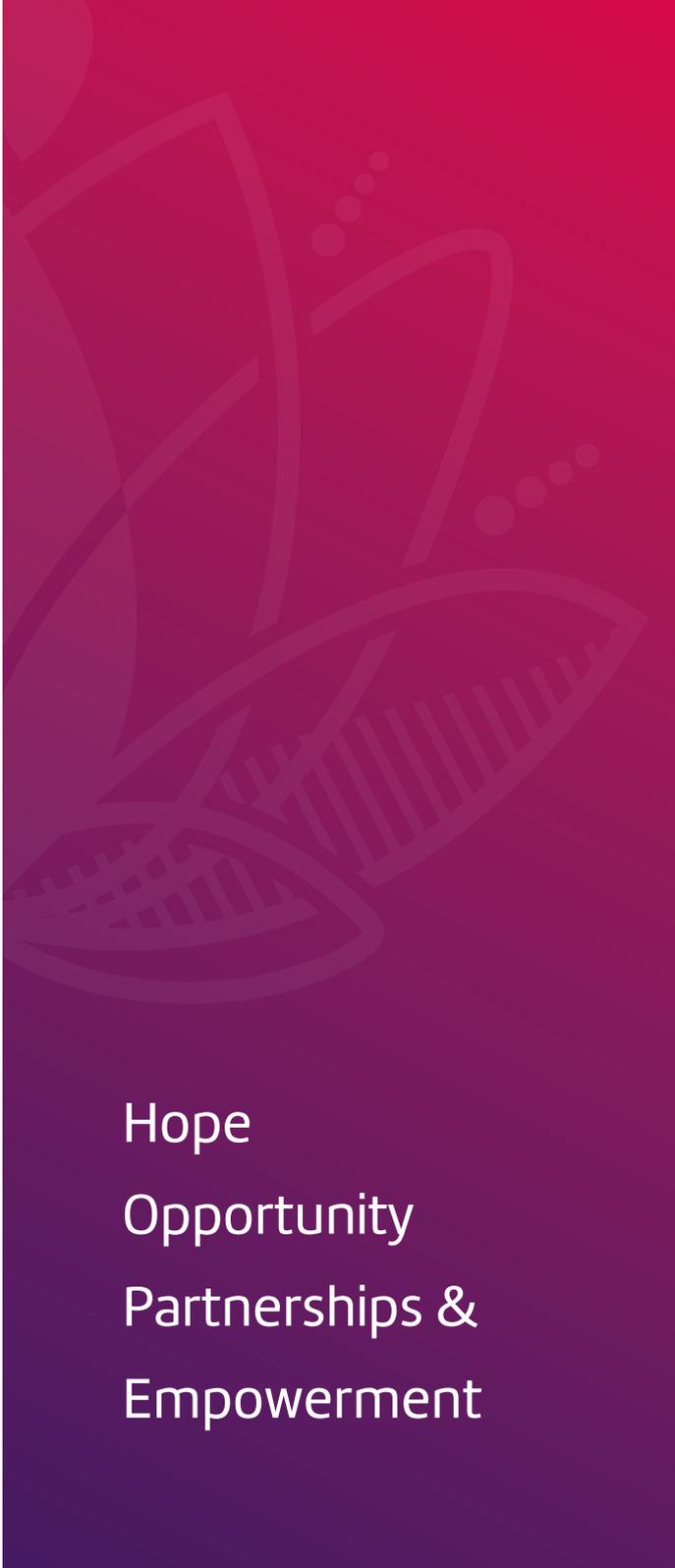
One-on-one financial counselling for women experiencing hardship as a result of family and domestic violence.

‘... the gambling debt that my husband ‘left me’ has now been able to be resolved and I can get on with my life now!’

Opportunity Knox Grants

Small grants available to women and children who are connected to a specialist family and domestic violence service. These grants can support with the costs of education such as school uniforms, school fees and laptops, and accessing or sustaining employment.

‘... I am so happy that I can now have my own new uniforms like the other kids ... and Mum doesn’t have to search for second-hand ones ... my Mum is so happy.’



Hope
Opportunity
Partnerships &
Empowerment

Meet Sarah

....a story of empowerment

Sarah and her three children – Lisa, aged 8, James, 7, and Matthew, 6 – found themselves suddenly homeless one day after school. After 12 years of emotional and financial abuse, Sarah left her husband and stayed in the family home while he moved in with a mate.

Then, one day while she was out shopping and picking the children up from school, he got the locks changed and withdrew all the money from their shared bank accounts. In an instant, Sarah and her children were left without money or a home.

In the past, her husband had threatened her with violence, but he never hit her. Sarah feared what he would do next so she went to her parents' house for safety. The next day at Centrelink Sarah was told she wasn't entitled to any benefits because she was still listed as a partner in a business and was the owner of her own home.

Clearly in despair, one of Centrelink's social workers took Sarah aside and spoke to her about the Zahra Foundation Australia. For Sarah, coming to the Zahra Foundation was a real challenge as domestic violence was not something she had ever thought would happen to her, yet here she was facing homelessness and escaping a violent and controlling husband.

Sarah's first interaction with the Zahra Foundation was through our specialist financial counselling program where she was able to build a plan for not only financial security but a way to save for the legal battle she was about to undertake.

The next step was reclaiming herself and finding a new pathway in life. Through the Pathways to Empowerment Program Sarah was able to work out who she was and what she wanted to do going forward.

"Once a week I had somewhere to go where we didn't talk about any trauma or dramas with exes, we just focused on ourselves. It was all forward planning, thinking about who I want to be and where I want to be," said Sarah. "After the Pathways to Empowerment Program I reconnected with myself. I am so grateful to have been introduced to the Zahra Foundation."

After Pathways to Empowerment Sarah enrolled in and completed the University of South Australia's foundation course and is about to start a law degree.

"I feel very proud of myself for getting out of that toxic situation and giving myself a career. I'm a happier person which means happier children. I have given them hope too."

Join us

Financially empowering women who have left family and domestic violence relationships ensures they have the tools and strategies they need to deal with their unique circumstance every day. It allows them to plan for a safe and secure future for themselves and their children. It gives them hope, opportunity, partnerships and empowerment.

Our Pathways to Empowerment Program has had over 200 enrolments across northern, southern and central locations. About a third of our clients are from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse backgrounds. We also support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and are seeing an increase in clients identifying as LGBTIQ+.

We have watched these women grow in confidence and enrol in other courses to continue to increase their personal and professional development. These have included parenting programs, mental health support groups and domestic violence support groups.

Several women have been able to gain employment and / or enrol in vocational courses at TAFE SA or university foundation courses and degrees.



Our Financial Counselling Service continues to grow with an average of 120 women attending about 400 appointments each year. Women who attend the service gain financial literacy skills and learn how to plan and manage their budget.

Our Opportunity Knox Grants Program provides a mechanism for the provision of small grants to women who need assistance for school uniforms, school books, school fees and laptops. These small grants have also helped several women gain employment and / or enrol in vocational and tertiary courses.

By supporting the Zahra Foundation you too can create positive change for hundreds of South Australian women and their children. Your support will allow us to continue to deliver programs and services to more women, creating opportunities to rebuild their lives after family and domestic violence.

Partnership Levels

Our partners are integral to the success and sustainability of our programs. To ensure long term sustainability the Zahra Foundation encourages multi-year partnerships. These enable us to plan for the future and build projections into our program designs.

We welcome the opportunity to work with companies who support our mission and vision. We invite you to have individual discussions to tailor packages specifically to your business needs and strategic objectives.

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|--------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Empowerment | \$50,000 or more per annum |
| Partnership | \$20,000 – \$49,999 per annum |
| Opportunity | \$10,000 – \$19,999 per annum |
| Hope | \$2,500 – \$9,999 per annum |

Benefits

The benefits of your support to the women and children we work with are clear and tangible.

The following is an array of benefits available to you dependent upon the level of investment, area of support and your business needs:

- logo acknowledgements on our website and supporter communications
- opportunity to promote the partnership on your website and in your internal and external communications
- staff engagement opportunities
- staff volunteering opportunities
- invitation to annual networking/thank you events
- social media posts promoting your business and any promotional offers
- signage at events
- signage at the Zahra Foundation Office
- provision of Zahra Foundation banner for your business
- representative from the Zahra Foundation to speak to your staff/client events
- logo on merchandise at events
- marquee promoting your business and support of the Zahra Foundation at events
- parking of company branded vehicle at events

**Zahra Foundation
needs your support**

Donate now

zahrafoundation.org.au





ABN 27 606 985 639

MISSION

To assist South Australian women and children affected by domestic violence, empowering them and providing pathways towards economic independence.

VISION

To instil **HOPE** and optimism in the lives of women and children

To provide women and their children with a range of financial and educational **OPPORTUNITIES**

To build meaningful relationships and **PARTNERSHIPS** with the business and community sector

To deliver programs and create opportunities that promote women's economic **EMPOWERMENT**



How can you help?

With more than one woman being killed each week at the hands of a partner or former partner we anticipate demand for the need for our services will only increase. You can help by providing a financial donation through our website or EFT to:

Zahra Foundation Australia

BSB 325185

ACC 03602976

Another great way to help is to provide a voucher that we can provide to a woman in need. Major supermarket and Department store vouchers can be sent to:

PO Box 3082,
Hilton Plaza SA 5033

Follow us on social media

 fb.com/zahrafoundationaustralia

 instagram.com/zahra_foundation

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www.zahrafoundation.org.au