

Media Release

from the fundraising sector

More than 1,000 FIA members enrol for new Code Course

Sydney, 10 April 2018: More than 1000 people have enrolled for Fundraising Institute Australia's (FIA) new online course teaching members how to comply with an important new code of practice for the sector.

FIA CEO Rob Edwards said this level of interest in the Code Course demonstrated its importance to the sector.

"We all know that if we don't get our house in order, others will do it for us. FIA's new Code, monitored by a Code Authority, aims to enhance donor confidence in the sector to ensure its long-term sustainability and continued self-regulation," Mr Edwards said.

"The new FIA Code replaces the old 160-page document with four pages of high level principles supplemented by detailed practice notes on issues such as dealing with people in vulnerable circumstances, workplace giving, fundraising supplier agreements, Code training requirements and others," Mr Edwards said.

FIA members agree to adhere to the Code that commits them to ethical, truthful, accurate, open and transparent conduct towards donors, beneficiaries and suppliers. Other Code requirements include that:

- FIA members must adhere to an accountability principle, whereby a Board member or CEO signs off their adherence to the Code
- FIA members must agree to have their adherence to the Code monitored by the Code Authority. The Code Authority has powers ranging from sanctioning members to terminating FIA membership if in serious breach of the Code.
- FIA members must adhere to training requirements, whereby all new fundraising staff undertake Code training within six months of their appointment
- FIA members must follow a 'Stewardship principle'. For example: If asked, members must assist donors stop receiving solicitations
- FIA members must not accept donations if they have a reasonable belief a donor may be in vulnerable circumstances
- FIA members must adhere to a supply chain principle, whereby they are accountable for Code breaches by their suppliers
- FIA members must adhere to a proportionality principle, whereby supplier costs are proportionate to funds raised and represent fair market value

About Fundraising Institute Australia (FIA)

With over 1500 members, Fundraising Institute Australia (FIA) is the largest representative body for the \$12.5 billion fundraising sector which is supported by some 14.9 million Australians. FIA members include charities and other fundraising not-for-profits operating domestically and internationally, as well as the organisations and professionals that provide services to them. FIA advocates for the interests of the sector, administers a self-regulatory Code, educates fundraising practitioners, promotes research, and creates forums for the exchange of knowledge and ideas.

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