



United Way Glenelg

MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday 2 February 2015

United Way Glenelg announces community grants for 2015

United Way Glenelg will award 11 health and human care organisations in the Glenelg Shire nearly \$40,000 in grants to help address priorities in health, education and income initiatives.

Grants were awarded through a competitive request for funding, a process that takes over four months to complete. A total of 15 agencies submitted 15 proposals requesting a total of \$70,000 in funding. Those proposals were vetted by four volunteers from across the community.

Funding for the programs and projects is made possible through the Workplace Giving Program (Payroll) with individuals pledging to make a regular donation from their wage.

"The value of our community donating to United Way Glenelg is our history of investing in programs and services that are proven to make a difference in high-priority areas," said Nicole Angelino, Executive Officer, United Way Glenelg.

"Our donors entrust us with their donation, they are partners with us in achieving meaningful outcomes for people in our community who face significant challenges in health, education and income," she said.

"We awarded \$12,000 for two projects from The Lewis Court Fund and that frees up the remainder of the allocations for education and health lifestyle programs, nutrition and breast-feeding programs through to emergency and rehabilitation equipment" Ms Angelino said.

"Our donations were slightly down last year and this impacts on our ability to support all programs and projects. This year we will launch the Community Ambassador Program, providing opportunity for community members to make a regular donation to the Community Fund" Ms Angelino concluded.

While many of United Way Glenelg's regular Community Partners received funds for programs, several organisations were funded for the first time.

South West Alternative Medium Program (SWAMP) Inc signed on as a Community Partner in 2014 and received funding for their project.

SWAMP specialises in the design, development, implementation and assessment of innovative programs to improve the skills, well-being and disposition of people who are disengaged from the community, often supporting those with mild mental health issues, drug and alcohol problems and those who are socially and economically marginalised.

Funding of nearly \$10,000 will allow SWAMP to deliver a dual layered engagement project called SEW and GROW over a period of 26 weeks.

SWAMP Project Manager, Deborah Saunders sees this program as an opportunity for participants to gain transferable life skills and information about preventative health in a supportive learning environment

"Participants will learn to SEW using machine and hand sewing techniques and GROW by inviting a range of guest speakers to discuss primary health information and services for disengaged women and men" Mrs Saunders said.

“The Sewing classes will be held each Tuesday with the assistance of qualified tutors. Each month we will highlight a certain textile technique as well as complete a range of community sewing projects; cushions for Kindergartens and patchwork rugs for elders” Mrs Saunders concluded.

SEW and GROW is open to men and women, indigenous and non-indigenous community members and will be held at SWAMP, 45 Oswald Street. Enquiries can be made to Mrs Saunders on 5523 3218

The full list of funding recipients for 2015 is;

HEALTH

Portland SES - Automatic external defibrillator

The Automatic external defibrillator will be located at Portland SES base and available for its members but transportable to priority 1 call outs.

Portland Surf Life Saving Club - Expand CPR training

Purchase three resuscitation manikins to expand resuscitation training to children from age 10 and their parents creating a base of nearly 100 community members trained to deliver CPR

Portland YMCA - Narrawong Pilates Group

Improve social isolation and encourage healthy lifestyles of Narrawong residents by providing access to a larger venue

Portland District Health - Pulmonary Rehabilitation Equipment

Purchase mobile spirometry equipment for specialists to complete pre and post measures for all chronic illness programs.

EDUCATION

Casterton Secondary College – SWIPE Program

To highlight the risks, consequences and implications associated with road safety to students at Casterton & Heywood & District Secondary Colleges.

Jaycee Kindergarten - Installation of outdoor blinds

Create additional weather proof play space for children, particularly for those with special needs

Australian Breast Feeding Association - Breast Feeding Education Program

To promote the group's Breastfeeding Education Classes (BEC) to pregnant women and to provide them with current information and support on breastfeeding. (Glenelg Shire, along with the Barwon South West Region has one of the poorest rates of breast feeding).

Portland Primary School – Kidz in the Kitchen

To refurbish the existing canteen into a kitchen to educate students on how to grow, prepare and cook healthy meals.

INCOME

Portland Scout Group - Portland Scout Jamboree Contingent

Subsidise and support the fundraising efforts of young people to attend the 2016 Jamboree. Building and fostering independence, leadership and life skills.

SWAMP Inc- SEW and GROW

A dual layered project; engaging participants to learn to SEW classes and Primary Health education to GROW in a safe learning environment.

Glenelg Transition Action Network - Industry Breakfast

Encourage local employers to consider employing young people with a disability.

United Way Glenelg would like to thank the following businesses for supporting the work of United Way Glenelg; Noske Logistics, Servion Australia , Brewster Walsh and Portland Aluminium.

To learn more about the Workplace Giving Program and how you can be part of improving the lives of local people please contact Nicole Angelino on 0410 51 3305 or email mail@unitedwayglenelg.com.au

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Media enquiries to Nicole Angelino on 0410 513 305.