



United Way Glenelg

MEDIA RELEASE

United Way Glenelg Funds OPENING for 2017

Groups working to improve the health, education and income of Glenelg Shire residents are invited to apply to United Way Glenelg (UWG) as it opens its two funds for projects beginning in 2017.

The UWG Community Fund will contribute \$27,000 to groups working across the three areas of education, income and health in increments up to a maximum of \$5,000.

The UWG Lewis Court Fund will also be opened for applications, now in its third year.

Over the last 12 months UWG has invested the money from Lewis Court safely and responsibly with the advice of Ryan & Allwood Financial Advisors to see the fund allocate approx. \$28,000.

UWG Executive Officer, Nicole Angelino encouraged community groups to consider applying for a grant from the fund most appropriate to their area of work.

“We are fortunate in the Glenelg Shire to have many wonderful community groups who work tirelessly to benefit us all and UWG is delighted to be able to support their vital work,” Ms Angelino said.

“This is made possible by the generous residents who donate via Workplace Giving to UWG and the Lewis family whose legacy lives on through the fund bearing their name. We thank them all for their generosity.

“We see plenty of scope for intergenerational projects. Younger and older people are the two groups most affected by ageist attitudes and often marginalised. Intergenerational approaches can positively contribute to an active community.”

For one organisation, receiving funds from United Way Glenelg meant they were able to build a safe, calm & interactive play space in which children could celebrate diversity.

Kalbarri Kindergarten saw potential in vacant space currently not utilized at the kindergarten and undertook a major redevelopment that engaged over 45 volunteers from kinder parents, children and siblings, Aboriginal Development Officer, Gunditjmirring Aboriginal Coop members, South West Tafe and Glenelg Shire Council Early Childhood Programs Coordinator.

Olivia Coates, project coordinator, was thrilled with the outcome of the sensory garden.

“This project had the potential to take 5 years or more to fundraise for. Being able to implement this now with the support of United Way Glenelg means a significantly greater number of participants will be positively impacted by the benefits of the project,” she said.

“A parent of a child who has Autism Spectrum Disorder has found the new sensory garden is creating positive change in his play. The ship structure reflects what he sees in the community and he is now exploring that through play.

“He now has more opportunity to feed his sensory diet allowing him to stay focused and organized throughout the kinder session.”

With funding received from United Way Glenelg Kalbarri Kindergarten were able to complete 5 essential stages including “a cultural meeting place”, a ship, ball race and underground phone, a digging patch, a cultural hut, a welcome to country entry sign and mass indigenous plantings to complement the current garden.

It was important for Kalbarri Kindergarten to ensure the space also reflected the inherent values of the local Indigenous community.

“The painting of the Aboriginal story poles and the hut weaving sessions were two aspects we really wanted the kindergarten children to participate in. We received support from Gunditjmarra Aboriginal Community and Daniel Joseph- the local artist/kinder dad who volunteered his time and expertise to paint the story poles in partnership with children” concluded Mrs Coates.

For more information on the UWG Community Fund or Lewis Court Fund, including how to apply or to discuss a possible application please contact Nicole Angelino on 0410 51 3305 or via email mail@unitedwayglenelg.com.au

Applications & Guidelines available from unitedwayglenelg.com.au

The UWG funds are open from Monday 1 August 2016, closing Wednesday 31 August 2016.

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Media enquiries to Nicole Angelino on 0410 513 305.