



United Way Glenelg

## ***MEDIA RELEASE***

Wednesday 25 August 2020

### **Pacific Hydro Communities Fund continues to support little readers**

United Way Glenelg is thrilled to be the recipient of a grant from Pacific Hydro to further fund books for children living in the Glenelg Shire community.

Funding will support local children to receive books to their mailbox each month through United Way Glenelg's Dolly Parton Imagination Library.

Due to its immense popularity, the early literacy initiative is oversubscribed, meaning children are placed on a waiting list until funding is available.

United Way Glenelg's Executive Officer Nicole Carr welcomed the grant saying it will encourage parents and caregivers to read to their children with guaranteed access to books.

"The best way to ensure a healthy future is to raise well-educated children, and the best way to ensure children are educated is to promote literacy from a young age,"

"We are grateful to Pacific Hydro for supporting our work and funding the Imagination Library," concluded Ms Carr.

Pacific Hydro's Senior Project Leader Community Investment and Communications, Bernadette Holland, said "Pacific Hydro is thrilled to be able to support United Way Glenelg and the Dolly Parton Imagination Library. Improving literacy skills will provide lasting benefits for the children and wider community for years to come."

'Providing books to children in their home will increase the opportunities for caregivers to read aloud, thereby improving literacy skills and school readiness. Partnering with United Way Glenelg will give children in the Glenelg Shire community every possible opportunity to grow and develop,' said Ms Holland.

Parents of children involved in the program have also expressed their gratitude to Pacific Hydro for their further funding of the project.

"I just want to take a moment to send this email to thank United Way Glenelg and Pacific Hydro for their sponsorship and paying for all the other expenses that I'm sure comes with it. Getting a book once a month means so much to our family. I'm not sure who's more excited to get the new books my daughter, my wife or myself. Thank you for helping provide the special moments when we will sit down and read our new books together," wrote one parent.

If you would like to contribute to the Dolly Parton Imagination Library please contact Nicole Carr on 0410513305 or [mail@unitedwayglenelg.com.au](mailto:mail@unitedwayglenelg.com.au)

*Photo: Wren Heeley-Spry, aged 3 months and his mother Shae Spry will be one of the families to receive books in the mail courtesy of Pacific Hydro funding.*

*Photographer: Marc Heeley.*

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