

MEDIA RELEASE

Residents at Heywood Rural Health Aged Care are now experiencing the joy and therapeutic benefits of music, thanks to a generous donation from the Lewis Court Fund United Way Glenelg.

DATE

Monday 15 April 2024

Life-Enhancing Musical Equipment to Heywood Rural Health Aged Care Residents

Residents at Heywood Rural Health Aged Care are now experiencing the joy and therapeutic benefits of music, thanks to a generous donation from the Lewis Court Fund United Way Glenelg.

The initiative, which includes the provision of audio equipment such as headphones, notebooks, a headset microphone, and a speaker, aims to enhance the quality of life for residents through the power of music.

Alistair Martin, a resident at Heywood Rural Health Aged Care and a lifelong music enthusiast, exemplifies the positive impact of this equipment.

Having played in a band and been an avid fan of classic bands like The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, and Simon & Garfunkel, Alistair's love for music is undiminished by age. However, since transitioning to aged care, enjoying his music without disturbing others has become a challenge. The new audio equipment has enabled him to reconnect with his beloved bands personally and profoundly.

Nicole Carr, Executive Officer of United Way Glenelg, expressed her enthusiasm for the project, highlighting the multifaceted benefits of music for the elderly.

"Music is not just entertainment; it's a vital tool for emotional, cognitive, and social well-being," said Carr.

"For individuals like Alistair, these musical tools are not just about listening quietly; they're about re-engaging with the passion of their youth, sparking memories, and improving mental health."

The donation from the United Way Glenelg Lewis Court Fund is part of a broader commitment to support innovative solutions that enhance the social well-being of older people. This initiative aligns perfectly with community efforts to provide meaningful, life-enhancing experiences to seniors in the Glenelg Shire community.

"Thanks to the Fund, we can provide these wonderful experiences that affirm the value and joy our seniors deserve. We see how music brings smiles, taps into precious memories, and even gets some of the staff and residents dancing!" Carr added.

In October 2024 United Way Glenelg will celebrate 10 years of operating the Lewis Court Fund.

United Way Glenelg Lewis Court Fund grants open on 1 August 2024 and close on 31 August 2024.

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