

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Introducing the community organisations pitching in this year's SharkPitch event.

---

### **DATE**

Monday 12 August 2024

## **Meet the Pitchers for SharkPitch 2024**

Three local community organisations are poised to make a significant impact as they seek vital funding to drive initiatives that will enrich and strengthen our community.

These projects are designed to address needs and enhance community engagement, fostering a more inclusive and supportive environment for all.

United Way Glenelg's SharkPitch event, now in its fifth year, continues to provide a unique platform for grassroots community organisations to showcase their projects to a virtual audience. Over the years, the event has secured more than \$270,000 in donations from generous supporters, empowering small organisations to make a real difference.

AWA Alliance Bank now part of Beyond Bank Australia and through the community program will once again lead the charge in supporting Shark Pitch, generously offering matched donations for the event. For every dollar donated, AWA Alliance Bank will contribute an equal amount, effectively doubling the impact of each contribution up to \$6,000 per organisation. This initiative encourages donors to maximise their giving, amplifying the positive outcomes for the community.

Gavin Heathcote, former CEO of AWA Alliance Bank and the new General Manager Business Banking at Beyond Bank, highlighted the importance of the event "The annual SharkPitch event has become a standout for our business, something we eagerly anticipate each year. Supporting our local communities is at the core of what we do, and it's a privilege to contribute to such fantastic organisations."

"The impact on the wider community has been outstanding, and we can't wait to see what this year's pitch brings."

Powerhouse Productions will capture the essence of each organisation in a one-minute video and present it in a concise and engaging manner to inspire donors to support their cause.

Nicole Carr, Executive Officer of United Way Glenelg, underscored the value of SharkPitch in connecting donors with community organisations.

"This event creates meaningful connections between individuals who want to give back and the organisations that need their support. Whether through financial contributions, volunteer work, or in-kind donations, SharkPitch serves as a bridge linking generosity with need," Carr said.

"Beyond fundraising, SharkPitch also helps community groups enhance their public presentation, pitching, and marketing skills. This not only boosts their ability to secure support but also empowers them to raise awareness and recognition for their important work within the community," Ms Carr added.

---

SharkPitch 2024 is an opportunity to support these incredible organisations and the work they do to uplift their communities. By contributing, you're not just donating funds; you're helping to create a stronger, more connected community. Let's come together to make a lasting impact.

### **Meet the 2024 Pitchers**

#### *Heywood Men's Shed*

Heywood Men's Shed is seeking support to extend its meeting and multi-purpose room, adding safe storage and maximising the room's potential. This project will enhance the Shed's focus on mental health, providing a welcoming environment for face-to-face support and community connection.

#### *Merino Digby Lions Club*

The Merino Digby Lions Club aims to conduct vision screenings for all primary school children in the area. With nearly 20% of kids facing vision issues, early detection is crucial for improving their educational outcomes and social well-being. Your support can help transform young lives through clearer sight and brighter futures.

#### *Salvation Army*

The Salvation Army Portland Corps is pitching for funds to continue its vital community programs, which provide support to individuals and families in need. These programs are designed to address immediate needs while also offering long-term solutions to help people regain stability and hope.

The virtual event will be held on Tuesday 3 September 2024, starting at 7.00 pm.

The event will be held on Crowdcast, the same platform as previous years.

<https://www.crowdcast.io/c/2024sharkpitch>

You can join from any mobile device or computer. Android users can join events directly through the link, and those with an iOS device like iPad or iPhone can attend from a browser or download the Crowdcast app.

Nicole Carr, United Way Glenelg Executive Officer

Phone: 0410 513 305 Email: [mail@unitedwayglenelg.com.au](mailto:mail@unitedwayglenelg.com.au)

[End of Media Release]

---