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Thursday, 26 May 2022

A BOOST FOR REGIONAL NSW: OVER \$830,000 IN GRANT FUNDING AWARDED TO LOCAL CHARITIES

A grand total of \$834,000 has been granted to 11 regional charities and community groups by Newcastle Permanent Charitable Foundation today, for projects improving health and social wellbeing for those most in need, and initiatives supporting disadvantaged and at-risk young people.

Jennifer Leslie, Chair of Newcastle Permanent Charitable Foundation, said the not-for-profit groups receiving grants will deliver a broad range of projects that will improve the lives of disadvantaged, isolated and marginalised people across regional NSW.

"These grants will directly support thousands of people from the Central Coast to the Central West and Northern Rivers, across projects that range from the day-to-day practicality of providing meals through to cutting-edge medical programs," said Ms Leslie.

"Just as important is the help today's funded projects will provide directly and indirectly to families, friends and community members, with some 15,000 people anticipated to feel the positive effects of these grants."

The projects which will benefit local communities from this funding round are:

- Galambila Aboriginal Health Service Deadly Kids... Healthy Mob! \$140,000
- Northcott Fair Go AFOs \$120,000
- The Shepherd Centre TSC Hunter \$110,000
- OzHarvest Central Coast & Lake Macquarie Food Rescue Expansion \$90,000
- Autism Camp Australia Helping Hands Project \$87,000
- Happy Paws Happy Hearts Foundation "Explore" Youth Employment \$75,000
- Rainbow Club Bringing Rainbow Clubs to Northern NSW \$60,000
- Feel the Magic Grad Camp \$55,000
- <u>Toy Libraries Australia</u> Toy Library Newcastle Refurbishment \$40,000
- Youth Off The Streets Food for Thought \$30,000
- We Help Ourselves Day Program Fitout \$27,000

(For more information on each project, see the table on following pages.)

"From Galambila Aboriginal Health Service closing the gap for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children living on Gumbaynggirr country, through to OzHarvest supporting more than 6,000 local people with quality surplus food, to We Help Ourselves' new day rehabilitation service, we're honoured to support each of these incredible projects to deliver positive change for those that need it most," said Ms Leslie.

"Earlier this year I was fortunate enough to take a trip through regional and rural NSW to see first-hand the amazing work some of our partner organisations are doing each and every day.

"It was a truly humbling and inspiring experience, and served as a reminder of why the work of the Charitable Foundation is so important in ensuring people in need in our communities receive the support, opportunities and respect they deserve."

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The Charitable Foundation has two rounds of funding each year and has provided more than \$24 million in grants to over 530 projects since the first grant was provided in 2003.

All funding recipients will commence their projects this calendar year and all are scheduled to be completed by the end of 2024.

-Ends-

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