



## Media - Inaugural grant announcement

### Close to \$1 million granted for East Gippsland bushfire recovery - 16 December 2021

The Board of the East Gippsland Community Foundation is pleased to announce that its inaugural round of grants has been awarded.

Barry Henwood, Chair of the East Gippsland Community Foundation Chair said *"Through a community-led approach the Foundation has focused on distributing funds to communities impacted by the 2019/2020 bushfires. This includes projects linked with Community Recovery Committee (CRC) recovery plans and with strong evidence of priorities driven by meaningful community engagement. Local people know what they need and want for their communities. Our goal and the EGCF funds will help bushfire affected communities bring these projects to life"*.

Grant recipients are:

- Sarsfield Community Association Inc (Sarsfield Recreation Reserve Amenities Block Upgrade) \$75,000
- Sarsfield Community Association Inc (Sarsfield Active, Connected and Well) \$75,000
- Wilderness Workspace Mallacoota & project partner Australian Centre for Regional Entrepreneurship (Wilderness Workspace) \$74,652
- Tamboon Peachtree Association Inc (Commissioning the Tamboon Community Bushfire Defence and Response Facility) \$69,193
- Buchan Football Netball Club (Netball/Tennis Court Resurface) \$70,974
- Mallacoota & District Historical Society Inc (Mallacoota WWII Bunker Museum power supply project) \$67,633
- Mallacoota Halls and Recreation Reserve Grounds Committee of Management Inc. (Emergency Power Generation) \$67,000
- Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand (LaunchMe Loans for Bushfire Recovery East Gippsland) \$50,000
- Deddick Valley Isolated Community Group (Building Healthy and Resilient Communities through Service Equity) \$50,000
- Ensay Memorial Hall (Activating Ensay) \$39,790
- Mossiface Public Hall Reserve Committee of Management (Mossiface Hall upgrades) \$32,676
- Buchan Gelantipy and Districts Renewal Association (Buchan Districts Fuel Resilience Project) \$28,090
- Noorinbee Public Purposes Reserve Committee Incorporated (Fostering Community Independence and Opportunity) \$27,868

- Friends of the Mitta (Anglers Rest Loop Trail System Concept Brief. Co-funding between Friends of the Mitta; East Gippsland Shire Council; North East Catchment Management Authority; and Parks Victoria) \$20,000
- Omeo Region Business & Tourism Association Inc (Bundarra Community Centre) \$19,865
- Gippsland Farmer Relief Inc. (East Gippsland Bushfire Farmer Relief) \$10,000
- Mallacoota Community Health Infrastructure and Resilience Fund Inc (Ashes to Music, Mallacoota Creative Recovery 2022) \$10,000
- Wairewa Public Hall & Recreation Reserve (Wairewa Public Hall Storage Shed) \$9,670

The East Gippsland Community Foundation is a philanthropic community foundation formed in April 2021 with a purpose of providing funding to support the East Gippsland communities in their long-term recovery from the 2019-2020 Victorian bushfires. Established by the community, for the community, the Foundation was seeded by donations from the Victorian Bushfire Appeal and is a partnership between the Victorian Government and the charitable arm of Bendigo Bank, Community Enterprise Foundation.

Grant Funds will be disbursed from the East Gippsland Bushfire Disaster Relief Fund, of which the East Gippsland Community Foundation acts as the trustee. Awarded activities and projects are due to be completed and achieve the predetermined community benefit in the 2022 calendar year.

Several further community grant programs will open in 2022 to continue to assist East Gippsland communities' recovery from the 2019/2020 bushfires.

Individuals and businesses are reminded that tax deductible donations can still be made into the trust up until 02 January 2022. To donate please contact Executive Officer, Michelle Dowsett on 0499 241 917 or email [info@givetoeastgippsland.org.au](mailto:info@givetoeastgippsland.org.au).