

East Gippsland Community Foundation Limited

ABN: 23 649 303 186

PO Box 1403, Bairnsdale VIC 3875

E: info@givetoeastgippsland.org.au

M: 0499 241 917

9 May 2023

Media

Further funding flows to Black Summer Fire impacted communities across East Gippsland

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

Grant Funds will be disbursed from the East Gippsland Community 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 to achieve the predetermined community benefit, within a twelve-month period.

Chair Barry Henwood stated that "The Foundation continues to build relationships and partnerships with local organizations and intends to be here for the long haul to help realise community aspirations.

Congratulations to all those local people who are working so hard to continue the rebuild, plan and improve resilience and grow community capacity.

We will try to keep it as simple as possible for those weary volunteers.

Today we announce the support of 23 worthy projects and wish every success in delivering great services and facilities for East Gippsland Communities."

Grant recipients in the East Gippsland Community Bushfire Recovery Grants are:

- Bairnsdale & District Woodcraft Group Incorporated (Equipment for community development) \$4,000
- Bruthen Mechanics Institute and Recreation Reserve Committee Incorporated (Bruthen Mechanics Hall renovation project) \$40,000
- Buchan Valley Golf Club auspiced by the Buchan Gelantipy District Renewal Group (Water Tank Resilience Upgrade) \$7,150
- Cann River Community Centre Inc (Cann River Community Centre kitchen upgrades) \$40,000
- Clifton Creek Community Hall and Recreation Reserve, Association (Community Stage @the Recreation Reserve, all abilities access & equipment for multi-purpose courts) \$40,000
- Community Centre Swifts Creek Inc. (Childcare Essentials) \$22,105
- East Gippsland Landcare Network Inc (Banking on the Future East Gippsland Community Seedbank project) \$40,000
- East Gippsland Rail Trail Committee of Management Inc (Trail vegetation control and enhancement, Stage 2) \$40,000
- Ensay Mechanics Institute Reserve Inc (Ensay Hall Community Cafe/Social connectedness/disaster resilience: All abilities accessibility project) \$31,000
- Glenaladale Recreation Reserve Committee of Management (Restoration and expansion of the Glenaladale Community Hall) \$27,900



- Johnsonville Public Hall Committee Incorporated (Johnsonville Hall Kitchen Upgrades) \$27,885
- Lake Tyers Aboriginal Trust (LTAT Fire Resilience Project) \$37,742
- Lucknow Memorial Hall (Lucknow Memorial Hall Entry flooring and bathroom upgrades) \$40,000
- Mallacoota Halls and Recreational Reserve Grounds Committee of Management (Planning for Nature-based Adventure Playground in Mallacoota) \$39,600
- Marlo Fire Brigade (Marlo Resilience Project) \$8,000
- Mossiface Public Hall Reserve (Mossiface Hall Upgrade windows & access ramps) \$40,000
- Nowa Nowa Community Development Group (Nowa Nowa Hall upgrade) \$38,000
- Omeo Recreation Reserve Committee of Management (The Perfect Finish) \$30,000
- Orbost Exhibition Centre (heART of our recovery and transition) \$40,000
- Sarsfield Community Association Inc. (Sarsfield Hall and surrounds: Lighting & Maintenance Upgrades)
 \$7,918
- Tambo Valley Bowling Club Inc (Kitchen upgrade) \$18,890
- The Bemm River Community Recreation Centre Inc (Health & Wellbeing Kitchen upgrade for social connectedness) \$40,000
- VIC SES Bruthen Unit (Vic SES Lakes Entrance Satellite Unit) \$30,000

Separate from the formal grant round, the Foundation is working directly with the ten Community Recovery Committees (CRCs) across East Gippsland. These were set up by Bushfire (Emergency) Recovery Victoria following the Black Summer Fires. Project Partnerships between the CRC's and the East Gippsland Community Foundation are being scoped with community representatives to advance their priority projects outside a formal competitive grant round. Up to \$50,000 per CRC will be made available.

Executive Officer, Michelle Dowsett acknowledged that, "The East Gippsland Community Foundation's partnership approach has been very well received by communities. People are grant weary and volunteer fatigue has well and truly set in. To be able to offer fire impacted communities funds to advance their community-led priorities without the need to apply in a formal competitive grant is one way we can assist to ensure community-led projects and activities continue, and at the same time we protect the health and wellbeing of these hard-working individuals and groups".

The Foundation continues to work with the Community Enterprise Foundation and can take individual and business tax deductible donations through the East Gippsland Community Foundation at their Appeal:

https://www.communityenterprisefoundation.com.au/disaster-appeals/east-gippsland-community-foundation-appeal. To donate please contact Executive Officer, Michelle Dowsett on 0499 241 917 or email info@givetoeastaippsland.org.au.

- End -

