

Media Release

Activity: Business Scholarship – Scholarship Awarded
Client: GCF
Job No. EGCF04
Version: 3
Date: 02.04.2024

Gippsland Community Foundation’s Inaugural Business Scholarship

Gippsland Community Foundation’s inaugural \$7,000 Business Scholarship, in partnership with Dyer’s Distribution, has been awarded to Gippsland student, Ruby Dillon.

Dyer’s Distribution is excited to provide a practical and positive contribution to regional economic development by partnering with the Gippsland Community Foundation to support a local student in their study costs, while facilitating paid workplace experience. The national company has consistently focused on developing the region by keeping their head-quarters based in Gippsland. David Dyer is motivated to assist in upskilling local, young Gippslanders and encouraging their return to the region by offering varied employment and providing opportunity for career growth. *‘[Dyer’s] has a strong focus on employing local people to assist in contributing to economic growth. We can assist young residents with their studies and, in turn, encourage them to remain to Gippsland’ (David Dyer, Director, Dyer’s Distribution)*

Ruby Dillon grew up in Gippsland and is keen to bring her tertiary qualifications and skills back to the area. Dyer’s Distribution has been a company she has highly regarded; *‘having spent my entire childhood in Sale, I understand how vital Dyer’s Distribution is to the community, serving as a primary reason to engage with such a reputable and family-based business.’* Currently in her second year of a Bachelor of Business majoring in Digital Communications and Marketing at Deakin University, Ruby is interested in gaining a broad understanding of all aspects of the company’s national operations; *‘I see this scholarship as an invaluable opportunity to expand my understanding of business operations, and I can think of no better place to embark on this journey than with Dyer’s.’* In her placement position, Ruby will be focusing on aspects of digital marketing, human resources, business development and business operations. *‘I knew [the placement] would perfectly align with my aspirations and allow me to develop my career and fulfil my desire to learn and can be pivotal for my professional development.’ (Ruby Dillon)*

A simple, supported and convenient scholarship application process run by the GCF made Ruby feel at ease and she praised the GCF and their ongoing support of ensuring the longevity of the

Gippsland community. *'Throughout my interactions with the Gippsland Community Foundation, I consistently felt their commitment to going above and beyond. Both organisations created a sense of comfortability and confidence within me, as the expectations [of the placement] became increasingly clear. I am truly appreciative of this being awarded this opportunity. Without the help of Dyer's Distribution and the Gippsland Community Foundation, I would not have the opportunity to advance my career in such a meaningful way.'* (Ruby Dillon)

The GCF's Business Scholarships program has been developed to increase the economic development of the Gippsland region by:

- Building capacity for East Gippsland's future workforce
- Funding qualifications + skill development of local residents
- Encouraging retention of skilled workers in local businesses

The GCF has also funded three rounds of Scholarships for East Gippsland tertiary students impacted by the Black Summer bushfires. Michelle Dowsett, Executive Officer of GCF explains the Foundation's expansion:

"As our foundation expands from an East Gippsland bushfire recovery focus to a wider Gippsland footprint, we are focussing on raising funds to support community driven projects and activities. Corporations or businesses interested in investing in Gippsland's future workforce through a business scholarship have the advantage of connecting with a local student studying in their field and engaging that student in paid work placement. It is an ideal way to build the future workforce locally." (Michelle Dowsett, Executive Officer, GCF).

**** Images for article [here](#) ****

For more information on the GCF Business Scholarships program, visit:

gippslandcf.org.au/business-scholarships/

To learn more about Dyer's Distribution visit: www.dyers.com.au

MEDIA BACKGROUNDER

About Gippsland Community Foundation

The Gippsland Community Foundation (GCF, previously East Gippsland Community Foundation) is a philanthropic community foundation established for the purpose of providing funding to support the East Gippsland community in its long-term recovery from the 2019–2020 Victorian bushfires.

Established by the community, for the community, the Foundation was seeded by donations to the Victorian Bushfire Appeal. As the trustee of charitable funds, the East Gippsland Community Foundation works in partnership with donors, local organisations and communities to benefit the region.

The Foundation is the trustee for the East Gippsland Community Bushfire Disaster Relief Fund, which received \$8.8 million from the Victorian Bushfire Appeal. Two rounds of funding have been dispersed to support community recovery priorities and fourteen students from fire-impacted areas have received scholarships to support their tertiary studies.

The Gippsland Community Foundation also operates a Public Ancillary Fund. This provides the legal framework that allows the foundation to operate in perpetuity, to conduct its own fundraising activities and to support activities in future that are not related to bushfire recovery.

Vision

For Gippsland communities to be empowered, resilient and working together for an inclusive and sustainable future.

Mission

To make a difference to the lives of people in Gippsland by inspiring and supporting local solutions to local problems in ways that promote equity, resilience and sustainability.

About Dyer's Distribution

Established in 1932, Dyer's Distribution is a fourth-generation family business with headquarters in Sale, Victoria. Dyers employs over 550 staff with opportunities for professional development, career progression and variation they are one of the leading organisations in Victoria.

With a strong focus on regional economic development, national expansion and maintaining a loyal, motivated and skilled employee cohort and culture, Dyer's are one of the leading examples of organisational success across all aspects of business and

community engagement in the region and nationally. The career paths that employees can explore at Dyer's are varied, with room to grow and progress. Everything from transport and logistics to accounting, finance and business management.

Vision

To be the first choice for logistics services in Australia based on Safety, Service, Efficiency and Reputation

Mission

To safely and legally transport, store and handle our customers goods in the most efficient way and deliver it on time and in the best possible condition EVERYTIME!

Core Values

Accountable
Positive
Honourable
Passionate
Uncompromising
Efficient
Leaders

Overriding Ethos

It's 'Our people' that make the difference

KEY INFORMATION

Gippsland Community Foundation

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Dyer's Transport

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