



2009 NORTEC COMMUNITY GRANTS INITIATIVE

The \$25,000 Community Grants Initiative that NORTEC Launched in July this year has now been finalised.

NORTEC were flooded with applications in all our regions and it was a 'mammoth' task for the Community Grants panels in each region to choose the most worthy of applicants. From all of the applications assessed the final decision was with the community organisations that could utilise the funding to benefit the community the most.

The following community organisations across our regions received funding from the 2009 NORTEC Community Grants Initiative:

Coffs Harbour (Panel members – Leonie Kennedy Regional Industry Career Advisor NSW Business Chamber, Wayne Low Nambucca Shire Council, Paul Bennett NORTEC CEO and Jenni Davies NORTEC Area Manager)

- Coffs Harbour Women's Health Centre - \$3000 for a Domestic Violence Educational DVD aimed at helping new immigrants and indigenous women.
- Nambucca Valley Youth Services – \$2000 awarded for a 'Creative Design' project – Operating every Monday from Nambucca Youth Centre, for disadvantaged young persons (16-20yrs) career/creative skills and social/life support with links to Psychologists, GPs, Youth workers etc.

Clarence (Panel Members – Sue Hughes, Local Business Representative, John Warden, Editor Clarence Valley Review Newspaper, Paul Bennett and Shane Hogan NORTEC Area Manager)

- North Coast Computer Project - \$4,000 to regenerate the Ehub at Ngaru Village, Pippi Beach Yamba by installing up to date computers with VOIP capability to allow residents to access Internet and make telephone calls. The technology will also help the Birrigan Gargle Local Aboriginal Land Council to reduce their telephone bill freeing up these funds to use for activities within their community.
- Grafton Showgrounds Recreation and Reserve Trust - \$1,000 to help provide a facelift to the Grafton Showgrounds for ongoing community events.

Richmond (Panel Members - Jenny Dowell Lismore Mayor, Kieran O'Grady Local Business Representative, Richard Hughes NORTEC Board and Shane Hogan from NORTEC)

- Lismore Neighbourhood Centre - \$4,100 in endeavours with the distribution of food parcels to economically disadvantaged families.

- Windara Communities Ltd – \$900 for development of a garden maintenance service and engaging people with disabilities.

North Coast (Panel Members - Phil Silver Mayor of Ballina, Louise Owen President Lennox Heads Chamber of Commerce, Don Haines NORTEC Board and Steve Moore NORTEC Area Manager).

- Byron Bay Youth Services - \$3,000 towards the establishment of Friday Night YAC – entertainment and events for 12-17 year olds as part of introducing activities for young people in the area, keeping youth off the streets and out of trouble.
- St Andrews Ballina - \$1,000 towards a mural project run in conjunction with three local schools at their Aged Care facility. The school students will be painting the mural.
- Mullumbimby Community Garden - \$1,000 for a Cob Oven to be installed in the Community Garden for shared local community events.

Tweed (Panel Members – Maggie Anne Leybourne Secretary Tweed Chamber of Commerce, Leslie Buckley Cultural Officer Tweed Shire, Henk Owerling NORTEC Chair and Steve Moore).

- Tweed Palliative Support - \$1,000 to assist with Governance training required to strengthen the ability of the organisation to provide required care – Palliative Care voluntarily looks after members of community who have terminal illness.
- Interaction Adventure Based Counselling - \$1500 towards giving young people who have suffered trauma an opportunity to develop skills and develop a new outlook on life through group adventure based activities.
- Things2do – \$1,000 for the purchase of music equipment for the Banora Point Community Centre Youth Program, for youth events and activities on the Tweed.
- Friends of Wollumbin Landcare – \$1,000 To assist with the purchase of equipment for the land care on the Tweed River between Byangum and Uki.
- Hastings Point Dune Care- \$500 to assist with purchase of labels that will be made from logs to identify the local plants.

As you can see the \$25,000 was spread between diverse organisations and the community benefits will be ongoing in all the regions. NORTEC will be in close contact with all of the above organisations regarding their worthwhile projects.

NORTEC would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to all the Community Grants panel members for the time committed in assessment of the applicants.

Community organisations in our regional areas on the mid to north coast of NSW are hardworking, often unsung heroes and NORTEC are honoured to be able to assist through activities such as the NORTEC Community Grants Initiative.