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HYDEN NEST EGG BEGINS TO BEAR FRUIT

More than \$5,500 in funding has helped strengthen local community initiatives, thanks to support from *Hyden Community Legacy* following its first grant round earlier this year. Five local initiatives received support from the community fund made possible through the income earned from donations made to the perpetual *Hyden Community Legacy* by members of the Hyden community and district.

Hyden Community Legacy has been established under the trusteeship of Western Australian Community Foundation to provide an opportunity for all people living and working in and around Hyden to invest in the future of their local community.

The passion of a few community members in 2004 led to the formation of a volunteer local advisory committee to build the *Hyden Community Legacy* donation fund. The basic philosophy of the community fund is to grow a lasting nest egg which earns a sustainable income to support people and projects that enhance the well being of the Hyden district.

The advisory committee members have the important role of growing the nest egg with community support. They also identify and respond to the current and anticipated needs of their community by working closely with the community and Western Australian Community Foundation to recommend initiatives for support. Current *Hyden Community Legacy* advisory committee members are Jonathan Lovering (Chairman), Brian Mayfield, Gavin Haslam, Heather Muir, Frieda Lovering and Terry Hales.

Western Australian Community Foundation also supports the local advisory committee and the Hyden community through access to education, networking, leadership and mentoring. As Trustee, the Foundation is the umbrella organisation where the Hyden community benefits through shared resources, reduced costs without the burden of administration and the opportunity to link with other regions and communities.

"*Hyden Community Legacy* is the perfect vehicle for local community members to give back to their community and to contribute to the vitality of our town and district; taking control of our destiny to ensure that the Hyden community has a secure future," said Jonathan Lovering, *Hyden Community Legacy* local advisory committee chairperson.

In their first grant round, *Hyden Community Legacy* funded five important community initiatives run by Hyden Occasional Child Care, Hyden Resource & Telecentre, St John Ambulance Hyden Sub-Centre, Hyden Progress Association and the Hyden Toy Library.

St John Ambulance officer Rebecca Gannaway said that since the training area has been enhanced, regular attendees have doubled and more first aid courses are being run for 'locals' as they can now attend locally run courses.

The Hyden Toy Library has also enjoyed seeing the replacement toys receiving a high level of use, several of which are constantly out on loan due to their popularity.

Funding from *Hyden Community Legacy* to install a bright new sign at the Hyden Occasional Child Care Centre has since raised the profile of the centre considerably, resulting in a number of new enrolments.

Also, the purchase of shelving in the Resource Centre has enabled uncluttered displays, allowing people to browse the range available in comfort. The centre has also seen the volume of sales increase with the additional income allowing the centre to provide more services to the community.

The Hyden Progress Association has now purchased furniture for the pastoral care unit in the newly-opened People Care Place facility. The furnishings will enable pastoral carers to stay overnight in town as and when required by clients.

“It is exciting to see the first grants being distributed to the Hyden community; the first of many opportunities where local residents and businesses can see first hand the difference being made from their contributions to the fund,” said Tonia Swetman, Chief Executive Officer, Western Australian Community Foundation.

To make an online credit card donation today and support the Hyden community, please visit <https://wacf.org.au/DonationGateway.asp> .

For more information on Hyden Community Legacy, or to speak with a local advisory committee member, contact Western Australian Community Foundation on (08) 9224 6000 for details.

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