



MEDIA RELEASE

Monday 23 September 2024

TasNetworks Community Grants Recipients Announced

Sixteen not-for-profit community organisations have been awarded funding through the TasNetworks Community Grants Program for 2024.

With a focus on alleviating cost-of-living pressures and enhancing community resilience, these grants are supporting initiatives that make a tangible difference in the lives of many Tasmanians.

Among the successful applicants is Variety – the Children’s Charity Tasmania, which secured \$10,000 to expand its existing school breakfast club program to Rosebery High School and Zeehan Primary School on the state’s west coast, ensuring the children can start their day with a nutritious meal.

"Many children come to school hungry due to financial constraints, lack of access to nutritious food, or having to travel long distances to and from school, which can affect their concentration, energy levels, and academic performance," said Variety Tasmania CEO Mohammad Aldergham.

"The Variety School Breakfast Club enables the schools to provide a nutritious breakfast five days a week to all students, increasing daily school attendance, improving health and well-being, and we see positive changes in behavioural and social indicators too. We also aim to foster a sense of community by encouraging schools to invite parents for a cuppa and a chat."

TasNetworks Chief Executive Officer, Seán McGoldrick, highlighted the importance of the grants in building strong community partnerships.

"TasNetworks received 188 applications for funding under our Community Grants Program this year, all focused on supporting local communities through cost-of-living relief and strengthening community resilience," he said.

"We’re proud of our successful applicants and the meaningful projects they are delivering. We look forward to witnessing the positive impacts of initiatives like Variety’s School Breakfast Program expansion."

The TasNetworks Community Grants Program offers grants of up to \$10,000 each, awarded annually.

- **GroWaverley**
Providing free meals to community and residents at a disability service. Providing 100 free meals per fortnight, fostering stronger community ties.
- **Zeehan RSL**
A new oven for the kitchen, allowing the RSL to continue to provide free meals to veterans and affordable options for the west coast community.
- **Eastcoast Regional Development Organisation**
Sponsoring workshops on Tasmania's east coast, empowering locals with skills for the new economy.
- **Panchajanya Community Garden**
Expanding their Cygnet community garden and new rainwater tanks allows them to grow more free produce for the community.
- **Centacare Evolve Housing**
Providing driving lessons to young apprentices from disadvantaged backgrounds in southern Tasmania.
- **Kingborough Community Missions**
A new commercial freezer, enhancing food relief efforts across southern Tasmania, reducing waste and increasing support to those in need.
- **Huon Valley PCYC**
Providing nutritious school lunches for children who turn up to school without.
- **Swanwick Community Association**
Breaking ground on a new community garden on the east coast, fostering community engagement and growth.
- **Glenorchy Community Care**
Funding new energy-efficient freezers to boost food relief in Hobart's northern suburbs, replacing their well-outdated equipment.
- **Cremorne Community Group**
Installing a community firefighting water tank, helping to solve a fire safety risk in an area without access to town water.
- **Variety Tasmania**
Expanding their successful breakfast club model to Rosebery High and Zeehan Primary, ensuring kids on the west coast start the day right.
- **Royal Life Saving Tasmania**
Training community volunteers in lifeguarding, allowing Mole Creek's community pool to reopen after two years of closures.
- **Marine Rescue Ulverstone**
Upgrades to vital VHF radio equipment to ensure the safety of mariners and volunteers along Tasmania's north-west coast.
- **Youth, Family and Community Connections**

The ARVOs Program in Devonport and Burnie is providing young people a space where they can build their confidence, social skills, resilience and connection.

- **Parklands High School**

Creating a new community garden in Burnie, to be open to all, and strengthening community ties with the school.

- **Gunns Plains Community Centre**

Delivering essential upgrades to the community centre.

For media inquiries, please contact

Corey Speers - 0409 824 649 / media@tasnetworks.com.au