

DV SUPPORT FOR NOOSA

The SunnyKids Cooroy Family Support Centre has been awarded this year's Noosa Community Alliance Grant.

The not-for-profit organisation provides domestic and family violence counselling support to members of the Noosa Shire in need. The funding will go towards improving security features at the Centre, along with additional resources needed at the Centre to maintain a safe and welcoming space.

Ros Freemantle, the Operations Manager of the Centre was excited about the grant, already planning on how to distribute the much needed funds.

According to Ms. Freemantle, money is usually tight and there are many budget holes to fill.

"The Centre runs on a shoestring budget, and this grant will enable us to maintain the building and improve security features as well as continue to run additional services from the Centre to support our clients," added Ms. Freemantle.

SunnyKids provides thousands of nights of emergency accommodation, domestic violence and referral counselling, and we also partner with health, education and child protection agencies to keep kids safe.



SunnyKids team member Jess at their Cooroy Family Support Centre location

FUNDING BOOST FOR ENVIRONMENT PROJECTS

Council has allocated additional cash to meet a groundswell of applications in the latest grant round

Council has approved an additional \$93,551 from surplus Environment Levy Funds to meet the high volume of funding applications for the latest round of Environment Grants.

Council awarded seven Environment Project Grants and 10 Environment Organisation Alliance Grants worth a combined \$211,751.

Wildcare's Rachel Lyons welcomed a \$6400 Council grant.

"The grant will help support the operations of our Noosa Koala Rescue Team and other aspects of our work, including caring for critically-injured wildlife," she said.

Other projects to receive funding include Mary River Catchment

Coordinating Committee's Find a Frog February initiative, a weed removal program.

Council also awarded three Climate Change Grants, including a \$7250 boost for the Noosa Youth Climate Summit.

Dalia Mikhail, Managing Director of Noosa Environment Education Hub, which oversees the event,

welcomed the funding.

"With thanks to grant funding the Noosa Youth Advocacy Group can now hold their 2023 Youth Climate Summit following the success of their 2021 peer-to-peer delivered event," she said. Council will also provide an additional \$254,000 in 2022/23 through the Multi-Year Environmental Collaborative Grants program.

ADMIRE ART, STAY HYDRATED



Noosaville locals Ty and Lola try out the new fountain

If you are a regular visitor to Gympie Terrace, Noosaville you may have already admired the beautiful new O Fountain.

The striking blue artwork on the newly installed water refill station, painted by local indigenous artist Lyndon Davis, represents the shell middens along the foreshore of Noosa River.

"Middens were formed from

the discarded shells from the seafood eaten by the Kabi Kabi and were common along the banks of the Noosa River and Weyba, Doonella, Cooroibah and Cootharaba Lakes," Mr Davis said.

"This artwork represents these large accumulations of shell material found in this area."

Council has proudly joined

Unitywater and Tourism Noosa to encourage locals and visitors to ditch single-use plastic bottles and fill up reusable water bottles with tap water.

Deputy Mayor Frank Wilkie said the fountain combined the Noosa community's respect for its environment and indigenous history.

"In our recent Liveability Survey, residents valued the environment most highly and this O Fountain helps reduce the use of plastics that can end up in our waterways and honours the indigenous people's historical links to the Noosa River," he said.

Tourism Noosa Head of Tourism Sustainability and Program Juanita Terry-Bloomfield said it was a wonderful addition at the popular Lions Park.

"This one is beautiful and we're proud that it represents some of the cultural heritage of this area. This is also an exciting opportunity to support our endeavours through our Plastic Free Noosa Program which aims to eliminate single-use plastics in Noosa." It's the second O Fountain in Noosa, with one installed in Hastings Street in 2018.

IN BRIEF

Businesses valued

Supporting local business ranked highly in our Liveability Survey.

In response to the public submission Budget process, an allocation of \$125,000 in additional funding will accelerate the delivery of critical economic development projects.

In partnership with the Noosa Chamber of Commerce and business precincts, a pilot Adopt-a-worker program will be trialled to help secure workers and address the affordable housing accommodation issue for workers.

Other projects funded include an Industry and Employment Activation Plan and to start work on a Noosa Investment Attraction Strategy.

CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS IN COOROY

Council budget continues to support community groups

Christmas in Cooroy is one of many projects or events to be funded in our latest round of the Community Grants program of 2022/23.

The Christmas celebration will take place on Friday, 9 December, bringing back such favourites as the Great Santa Race, Lighting of the Tree, Decorated Bike Competition, and the ever so popular Christmas Lights Competition.

Food stalls and late night shopping will be aplenty with many of the stores staying open throughout the festive evening.

President Chris Bell welcomed the much needed funds which helps Cooroy Chamber of Commerce to host the popular event for free without having to rely on donations or sponsorships from businesses or other organisations.

According to Mr. Bell, "Now with council's grant we can focus on supporting the local retail businesses, particularly those who continue to experience the pandemic hangover".

"Most importantly it allows us to bring the community together to celebrate Christmas in Cooroy without the added pressure of

shaking the tin," added Mr. Bell.

Council has allocated \$1 million to support community groups this year.



KEEP THE KIDS BUSY NEXT WEEK

School holidays are here and we have a great schedule of activities to keep them occupied and avoid the dreaded – I'm bored!

For bigger kids, we have basketball, teen gym and web development clinics. For the little ones, there are Lego activities, 3D printing, learn to swim and a music program. Stop by the Noosa Regional Gallery for IMAGINATE, an interactive art exhibition and festival. Entry is FREE and it is open until 10 July.

And don't forget The J has productions on 8th & 9th July of Disney's The Little Mermaid.

For details, search 'school holidays' on our website.