

**MEDIA RELEASE**

Thursday 27 September, 2018

**CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes receives \$25,000 Social Investment Grant from Community Sector Banking to support women experiencing domestic abuse**

CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes has secured a \$25,000 Social Investment Grant from Community Sector Banking to support women experiencing domestic abuse.

The funds will support Nadoo Gathering, a program that brings together women who have experienced domestic violence and have sought shelter and support while experiencing homelessness.

Anne-Marie Mioche, chief executive officer of CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes, said Nadoo Gathering would create a safe environment for women to share their stories and provide input to improving services, and awareness of and access to help.

“Through their involvement in the Nadoo Gathering, women will become advocates for other women, voices for the victims of domestic and family violence and change agents within their community.”

Andrew Cairns, chief executive officer of Community Sector Banking, Australia’s specialist not-for-profit banking service, said he was delighted to support CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes as a recipient of Community Sector Banking’s 2018 Social Investment Grants.

“CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes’ work to build and strengthen community support speaks to our values for the need for long-term sustainable solutions,” Mr Cairns said.

Bruce Argyle, chair of the independent Social Investment Grants Committee, said he was honoured to support CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes’s program.

“We were especially impressed by the level of innovation and the fact that CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes’s program is about bringing survivors together and improving networks and services,” said Mr Argyle.

Mr Argyle said Community Sector Banking’s annual Social Investment Grants, which began in 2014, were designed to strengthen Australian not-for-profits, and in turn communities.

“Programs that address the root cause of social issues are key to helping strengthen our communities, and this innovative program does just that,” said Mr Argyle.

**-ENDS-**

**For further information and interviews please contact Carolyn Boyd on 0425 201 096 or [carolyn@fiftyacres.com](mailto:carolyn@fiftyacres.com).**

**Interviews are available with:**

- Bruce Argyle, chair of the Independent Social Investment Grants Committee
- Anne-Marie Mioche, chief executive officer of CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes

### **About the Social Investment Grant Program**

Community Sector Banking's annual Social Investment Grants Program shows the power for good that everyday banking can have in the community. The grants program is funded by Community Sector Banking contributing 50% net profit earned on all Social Investment Deposit Accounts. Account holders can also choose to contribute 50% or 100% of the interest earned on their account. It is administered in conjunction with the Community Enterprise Foundation.

Community Sector Banking selects the grants' theme each year through assessing need and determining the areas in which grants will generate the most impact.

Find out more about the Social Investment Grants Program at:

[communitysectorbanking.com.au/grants](http://communitysectorbanking.com.au/grants)

### **About CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes**

[CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes](#) offers a diverse range of programs and services to individuals, families and communities across Western NSW. Programs include support for parents and children, counselling and relationship support and assistance with financial management.

### **About Community Sector Banking**

Community Sector Banking is the not-for-profit banking specialist for more than 13,000 organisations; it's a joint venture between Bendigo Bank and the Community 21 consortium of not-for-profit organisations.