Media Release



1 February 2023

Applications open for Communities Taking Steps grants

CCI Giving has today opened applications for Round 9 of the <u>Communities Taking Steps</u> grant program.

This program assists Catholic organisations and other groups carrying out Catholic mission anywhere in Australia. These small grants will help them respond to current and emerging needs in their local communities, with specific focus on the following areas:

- Young people experiencing educational disadvantage
- Refugees and people seeking asylum
- Families affected by mental illness
- Those affected by domestic violence

Recent changes to the program see an increase to the grant pool, plus the size of grants available, to relieve recipients of some inflationary pressures. Up to \$6,000 will be allocated for most projects, and \$11,000 for small capital works, with up to \$150,000 available in total.

Recipients from a previous round include Dismantle, a youth development program that uses bicycle mechanic activities and mentors to help young people develop social skills, build confidence and connect to education and vocational opportunities. Read more in our <u>news article</u>.

Potential applicants will need to email contact details to CCI Giving, or call (03) 9934 3197, to arrange a short, preliminary conversation. Some organisations will then be invited to provide a detailed funding application with supporting documentation.

Visit the CCI Giving <u>website</u> at <u>www.ccigiving.org.au</u> for full program details, including application information. Applications will close 29 March 2023.

END

Media enquiries

CCI Giving – Lauren Clair, Foundation Program Manager – (03) 9934 3197

About CCI Giving

CCI Giving is a foundation for the Australian Catholic community from Catholic Church Insurance Limited (CCI). CCI Giving is committed to supporting grassroots initiatives across Australia's Catholic community, and communities with a shared ethos, that empower the most vulnerable.

We seek out opportunities to address tangible, concrete needs through a mix of employee engagement activities and targeted philanthropic grants that fund into the gaps and invest in social enterprise to empower and scale local solutions.

CCI Giving builds on a longstanding history of 'giving back' to the community, and is inspired by the centuries-old Catholic tradition of compassion in action to support the most marginalised and underserved in our community.