



## Media – Grant announcement

### Over \$1.2 million in further grants announced to bushfire impacted communities across East Gippsland - 3 May 2022

The Board of the East Gippsland Community Foundation is pleased to announce that its second round of community grants have been awarded.

Barry Henwood, Chair of the East Gippsland Community Foundation Chair said *“Through a community-led approach the Foundation has focused on distributing funds to communities impacted by the 2019/2020 bushfires. This includes projects linked with Community Recovery Committee recovery plans and with strong evidence of priorities driven by meaningful community engagement. Local people know what they need and want for their communities. Our goal and the EGCF funds will help bushfire affected communities bring these projects to life”*.

Grant recipients are:

- Friends of the Mitta - \$5,041 (Emergency bushfire UHF repeater for Bundara Valley, final stage).
- Centre for Rural Communities Inc - \$10,000 (Stories of Influence: Memories and Memorabilia of the legendary game, Lake Tyers).
- Bruthen Arts & Events Council - \$10,065 (Bruthen Medieval Winter Fire Festival).
- East Gippsland Learn Locals (Buchan & Paynesville & Neighbourhood House, Orbost Education Centre) - \$14,400 (Local learning for local people into local jobs with local industry: tourism and hospitality).
- Mallacoota Sea Eagles Dragon Boat Club - \$15,000 (Part funded - equipment upgrade).
- Goongerah Public Hall & Recreation Reserve Inc - \$25,583 (Co-Working Space at Goongerah).
- Genoa Public Hall - \$26,164 (Securing and sustaining access to essential services at the Genoa Hall for community).
- Nowa Nowa Community Development Group - \$26,712 (Nowa Nowa - Wairewa Bushfire Resilience Project).
- Bemm River Progress & Improvement Ass Inc - \$34,834 (Fire Prevention and Town Safety).
- Club Terrace Community Reserve Committee Inc - \$34,834 (Club Terrace Recreation Reserve Temporary Meeting Place).
- Farmers Voice East Gippsland - \$36,713 (Farmers Voice Get Together/s).
- East Gippsland Timber Milling Project - \$40,000 (Transport to facilitate community engagement related to the East Gippsland mobile timber milling project).
- Orbost & District Community Recovery & Transition Committee (Project Partner Orbost Chamber of Commerce) - \$41,000 (Conditional grant, Plan and Prepare in the Orbost District Area).

- Tamboon Inlet Community Ass Inc - \$45,000 (TICA Emergency Shed & Equipment, Tamboon South)
- Far East Victoria Landcare Inc - \$56,818 (Eco-Anxiety: From Fear to Hope).
- Mallacoota & District Recovery Ass Inc - \$50,000 (Conditional grant, Fuel Management Scoping Study)
- Mallacoota & Genoa Broadcasting Ass (3MB Wilderness Radio) - \$50,000 (Part funded - Radio for recovery - Community capability and connectivity in Far East Gippsland).
- Orbost & District Community Recovery & Transition Committee (Project Partner Orbost Regional Health) - \$60,000 (ODCRTC People and Wellbeing Program Partnership).
- Wairewa Public Hall & Recreation Reserve Inc - \$65,174 (Wairewa & District Community Capacity Building & Disaster Resilience Project)
- Community Centre Swifts Creek Inc - \$68,009 (Community Centre Swifts Creek - Centre Refurbishment).
- Cann Valley District Representative Group Inc - \$69,031 (Conditional grant, Community Led Capacity Building - Restoration of the Cann River Old Noorinbee Winery Building Restoration).
- Benambra Neighbourhood House Inc - \$71,800 (Information Technology & Connected Community).
- Johnsonville Hall - \$75,000 (Johnsonville Hall Upgrade).
- Engage & Grow Community Inc - \$74,300 (Emergency Management Reform Project for children with special needs)
- East Gippsland Rail Trail Committee of Management - \$75,000 (East Gippsland Rail Trail vegetation control and enhancement).
- Clifton Creek Town Hall Committee Ass - \$75,000 (Clifton Creek Community Stage @ the Recreation Reserve).
- Buchan Football Netball Club - \$75,000 (Conditional grant - Buchan Rec Reserve Court Lights).

The East Gippsland Community Foundation is a philanthropic community foundation formed in April 2021 with a purpose of providing funding to support the East Gippsland communities in their long-term recovery from the 2019-2020 Victorian bushfires. Established by the community, for the community, the Foundation was seeded by donations from the Victorian Bushfire Appeal and is a partnership between the Victorian Government and the charitable arm of Bendigo Bank, the Community Enterprise Foundation.

Grant Funds will be disbursed from the East Gippsland Bushfire Disaster Relief Fund, of which the East Gippsland Community Foundation acts as the trustee. Awarded activities and projects are due to be completed and achieve the predetermined community benefit within a twelve-month period.

Two additional grants made from the late 2021 Community Bushfire Recovery Grant round have recently been awarded that were conditional at the time:

- Envite Environment – \$75,000 (Conservation traineeships for youth capacity and bushfire recovery).

- Omeo Region Business & Tourism Association in partnership with Omeo District Health Service - \$65,448 (Omeo District Health Preparedness Project).

An East Gippsland Community Foundation youth-focused community grant program will open in September 2022 to continue to assist East Gippsland communities' recovery from the 2019/2020 bushfires.

The foundation continues to work with the Community Enterprise Foundation and can take individuals and business tax deductible donations through the East Gippsland Community Foundation at East Gippsland Community Foundation Appeal at <https://www.communityenterprisefoundation.com.au/disaster-appeals/east-gippsland-community-foundation-appeal>. To donate please contact Executive Officer, Michelle Dowsett on 0499 241 917 or email [info@givetoeastgippsland.org.au](mailto:info@givetoeastgippsland.org.au).