

MEDIA RELEASE

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Call for Hastings Co-op grant applications

Hastings Co-op is inviting applications for their annual Community Chest grants program, which celebrates the great work of local, non for profit community groups.

Designed to help fund equipment, infrastructure and projects that leave a lasting legacy, grants ranging from \$500 to \$2,000 for each eligible project are on offer.

"This is a great opportunity for local groups to get a helping hand to get projects over the line. We want to help make their dreams become reality," chief executive office Allan Gordon said.

"What's great about the Community Chest grants program is the projects are helping to build a brighter future, and more importantly, recognising the hard-working community groups that make a real difference to the Hastings way of life, whether that's sports clubs, schools, volunteer organisations or disability and special interest groups.

"In the past, the grants have supported long-awaited projects such as tennis court nets, outdoor learning areas, a Girl Guide water tank, surf club boards, FAWNA training equipment and suicide prevention workshops across all corners of the Hastings and Camden Haven."

An estimated \$212,500 has been returned to the local community since the program's inception, and Hastings Co-op's IGA supermarket customers play a pivotal role in the program's success, with funds from specially-marked products pooled to provide the grants.

"Every time you purchase one of these specially-marked products you can feel good about giving back to the community too," Mr Gordon said.

Applications can be downloaded at <u>www.hastingscoop.com.au/communitychest</u> or collected from the Corporate Centre at Level 1, 9-13 High Street, and will close at 5pm on November 16. Successful recipients will be announced on December 14.

Media contact -Nicole Langdon, Executive Manager Sales and Marketing Phone: 02 6588 8999, Mobile: 0498 111 353 Email: <u>nicolel@hastingscoop.com.au</u>