Media Release

13 January 2021

Funding opportunities open for Council's Community Investment Program

A range of exciting funding opportunities are now open via Gladstone Regional Council's highly successful Community Investment Program.

Whether your event is big or small, your organisation or community group can make a real difference in the region thanks to the Community Investment Program, which aims to support community education, events, connection, inclusion and regional enhancement.

Funding streams open to applications until 31 January 2021 include the Community Celebration Fund – Ignite Event, Community Celebration Fund – Impact Event, Community Celebration Fund – Destination Event and Connected Communities Fund – Performing Arts.

Gladstone Region Councillor Darryl Branthwaite is encouraging eligible community groups and organisations looking to take their event to the next level to apply for funding.

"Ignite, Impact and Destination Events help in promoting community pride, provide a positive boost to the local economy and assist in attracting visitors from outside our region," Councillor Branthwaite said.

"Connected Communities Fund – Performing Arts assists community organisations that coordinate events that enhance and showcase the local performing arts sector.

"All four of these funding streams are available for events due to be held later in the year, with further details available on Council's website."

Cr Branthwaite said additional funding opportunities are available for application all year round.

"These funding opportunities include Jumpstart City Heart, Plant & Equipment, Development Fee Reimbursement and Community Hall Subsidy," he said.

"Council is committed to fostering engaged, involved and proud communities, and events such as these help in achieving that goal."

Community Investment Program details

Community Celebration Fund – Ignite Event

- Ignite Event funding supports events that contribute to community pride and regional economy that attract up to 2500 participants
- Applicants can apply up to a maximum of \$10,000 (ex GST)
- Apply now for funding toward events held in August to November 2021.

<MORE>



For further information contact Council's Brand and Communications Team on 4970 0700 or media@gladstone.qld.gov.au

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Community Celebration Fund – Impact Event

- Impact Event funding supports events that demonstrate tourism and regional economy benefits and attract 2500 to 5000 participants, with 10 per cent out-of-region visitors
- Applicants can apply up to a maximum of \$25,000 (ex GST)
- Apply now for funding toward events held in August to November 2021.

Community Celebration Fund – Destination Event

- Destination Event funding supports events that are well established, well designed, and clearly demonstrate return on investment building community pride, return visitation, regional profile, economic stimulus and attract over 5000 participants, with 15 per cent out-of-region visitors
- Applicants can apply up to a maximum of \$50,000 (ex GST)
- Apply now for events scheduled to be held from August 2021 to January 2022.

Connected Communities Fund – Performing Arts

- Performing Arts funding is to provide funding assistance to community organisations that coordinate events that enhance and showcase the local performing arts sector
- Apply now for funding toward events held from June to November 2021.

Funding opportunities available all year

Jumpstart City Heart

- Supports initiatives of community organisations, CBD businesses, and individuals that contribute to encouraging visitation, overall aesthetics of the CBD, stimulate the economy, and engage community and visitors
- Applicants can apply up to a maximum of \$2000 (ex GST).

Plant and Equipment

- Assists community organisations with costs of procuring specified plant and equipment by wet hire of Council machinery (i.e. Council staff operated)
- Applicants can apply up to a maximum of \$1000 (ex GST).

Development Fee Reimbursement

• The fund provides fee relief for eligible organisations from Council development application fees.

Community Hall Subsidy

- Community Hall Subsidy funding assists with the ongoing maintenance of community halls in the Gladstone Regional Council area.
- Applicants can apply up to a maximum of \$1500 (ex GST).

Please visit <u>www.gladstone.qld.gov.au</u> for more information regarding Council's Community Investment Program.



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