



2009 COMMEMORATIVE
GRANTS PROGRAM

Media release 4 December 2008

\$100,000 Myer Family Philanthropy boost to CASE for Refugees

CASE for Refugees will receive \$100,000 from Myer Family Philanthropy in an unprecedented philanthropic gesture to help alleviate poverty and disadvantage and strengthen the nonprofit sector in our community.

The unsolicited grant will be awarded to 37 Australian non-profit organisations to celebrate 75 years of the Sidney Myer Fund and 50 years of The Myer Foundation.

Celebrating Our Partners: Philanthropic investment for strong community organisations is a key project of Myer Family Philanthropy's \$36 million 2009 Commemorative Grants Program, which marks these significant milestones.

The grant recognises the invaluable work of CASE for Refugees and imposes few constraints on how the funds are to be used.

"We are very grateful for the generosity of the Myer Family and proud to have had our work recognised through the Commemorative Grants Program. We look forward to using these funds to strengthen and expand our future work and our contribution to the community in a sustainable way" commented Shayla Strapps and Amanda Goodier, Joint Principal Solicitors of CASE for Refugees.

Sid Myer, Convenor of the 2009 Commemorative Grants Taskforce, said the grants celebrate the long and close relationship between Myer Philanthropy and many community organisations.

"CASE for Refugees has served its community extremely well, and this grant allows us to recognise that service in a tangible way," said Mr Myer.

"This project celebrates the trust and mutual vision shared by grant makers and grant seekers. CASE for Refugees will use the grant to review its organisational strength and build long-term viability," said Mr Myer.

"This isn't names-on-the-wall philanthropy. This is heartland philanthropy – helping small community organisations with their core mission," said Mr Myer.

The selected organisations will participate in a forum with experts on capacity building and take part in a research program conducted by Queensland University of Technology's Australian Centre for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Studies. The research findings will be reported to the Australian non-profit sector and grant maker network, and to the organisations themselves, with the hope to encourage future grants for capacity building.

The selected organisations were chosen according to a set of criteria established by the 2009 Commemorative Grants Taskforce: the organisation must work within the field of poverty and disadvantage or community; have a budget of less than \$2 million; and have received two or more grants from The Myer Foundation or Sidney Myer Fund, most recently within the last ten years.

"A philanthropic grant is only as good as the organisation that receives it," said Mr Myer.

centre for advocacy, support and education for refugees

“Throughout our association with these outstanding organisations, each has demonstrated a positive and enduring impact on Australian communities.”

2009 Commemorative Grants Program

Thirteen diverse projects focussing on social disadvantage, the environment, the arts, Australia’s place in the region and scientific research will receive one-off grants as part of the 2009 Commemorative Grants Program to celebrate 75 years of the Sidney Myer Fund and 50 years of The Myer Foundation.

The program will allocate \$28 million from the Sidney Myer Fund and The Myer Foundation over five years to 13 major projects and support 48 organisations, including non-profits, community groups and universities. Individual Myer Family members have contributed a further \$8 million, bringing the total commitment from Myer Philanthropy to the 2009 Commemorative Grants Program to \$36 million.

The 2009 Commemorative Grants Program is over and above the yearly grant making commitments of both The Myer Foundation and the Sidney Myer Fund, a commitment to philanthropy from the Myer Family that began with Sidney Myer in 1934 and has since been enthusiastically supported by each generation.

Celebrating Our Partners: Selected organisations

Organisation	State
Action for Community Living	VIC
Aged and Community Services Australia	VIC
Arts Access Society	VIC
Arts Project Australia	VIC
Asylum Seeker Resource Centre	VIC
Australian Council of Social Services	VIC
Australians for Native Title & Reconciliation	VIC
CASE for Refugees	WA
Collingwood Children’s Farm	VIC
Compassionate Friends Victoria	VIC
Cottage by the Sea Queenscliff	VIC
DEAL Communication Centre	VIC
DepressioNet	VIC
Federation of Ethnic Communities Councils of Australia	ACT
Fitzroy Learning Network	VIC
Foundation for Australian Agricultural Women	VIC
Hotham Mission	VIC
Housing for the Aged Action Group	VIC
Indigenous Enterprise Partnerships	QLD
International Social Service	VIC
Lort Smith Animal Hospital	VIC
Mumbulla Foundation	NSW
National Sorry Day Committee	ACT
Otis Foundation	VIC
Public Interest Advocacy Centre	NSW
Refugee & Immigration Legal Centre Inc	VIC
Reinforce	VIC
Riding for the Disabled Association of Australia	VIC
Ross House Association	VIC
Springvale Indo-Chinese Mutual Assistance Association	VIC
Tasmanian Community Foundation	TAS
Travellers Aid Society of Victoria	VIC
Urban Seed	VIC
Welfare Rights Unit	VIC
Wingecarribee Community Foundation	NSW
Yothu Yindi Foundation	NT
Youth Enterprise Trust	QLD

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