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MEDIA RELEASE

Waterloo Wind Farm Community Grants Program now open

Community groups seeking much needed funds for local projects can now apply to the 2018 Waterloo Wind Farm Community Grants Program.

Operations Manager, Hannah Willson, said 2018 was the fourth year the wind farm had offered grant funding to the community.

To date, Waterloo Wind Farm has donated nearly \$100,000 to over 27 local organisations based locally within the Mid North Region.

This year, \$30,000 in funding is available.

"Our annual funding program has been very successful at helping local groups bring people together and deliver creative projects that go on to generate noticeable benefits for the community," Ms Willson said.

"Funding is specifically targeted to initiatives that inspire community pride, enhance the region's environment or contribute towards the local economy.

"The terrific thing about Waterloo Wind Farm's Fund is that it is community-designed and community-led.

"This ensures grants are given out to groups or projects that best reflect the interests and values of the region," she said.

Funding applications are assessed by a group of community members from the wind farm's Community Liaison Group.

Funding from past rounds of the grant has helped groups like the Gilbert Valley Lions Club, the Farrell Flat Management Committee and Saddleworth Op Shop and have helped support projects like the redevelopment of Richardson Park Playscape and the Manoora Primary student-run vegetable garden and chicken coop.

"Announcing the recipients of our grants and seeing the incredible work they do with this funding we provide has got to be one of the most satisfying parts of my role," Ms Willson said.

Applications are open until 23rd March 2018.

For further information and an application form, please visit <u>www.waterloowindfarm.com.au</u> Queries can also be made by calling Hannah Willson on 0408 547 869.

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For media enquiries please call Sarah Stent on 0418 142 173.