



press release

Gosford, 4 September 2015

VINNIE'S WORKSHOP PUTS WASTE TO GOOD USE

The St Vincent De Paul Society's, St Joseph's Workshop, puts waste to good use creating furniture and wooden toys from recycled materials.

Over 100 volunteers come together weekly to make and repair furniture and toys, which are then donated to local families and indigenous groups or sold through Vinnies shops to raise funds for the many charitable programs run by the organisation.

Through the SUEZ Community Grants program, the St Joseph's Workshop has received a \$2,000 grant which will enable the Workshop to purchase urgently needed equipment and tools to help improve the quality of recycled products created.

Amongst other equipment, the grant will help purchase a specialist spray booth paint which will give a professional finish to the many high quality designs produced in the local Workshop.

Wade Hammond, Collections Manager - Central Coast & Hunter, presented the cheque to the St Vincent De Paul Society at the Workshop's Aboriginal Cultural Information Day in West Gosford this morning and said SUEZ was thrilled to support a local organisation that both encourages community involvement and inspires participation in sustainable activities.

"The St Vincent De Paul Society are an iconic organisation that work hard to assist people in need, especially here in the Central Coast," said Mr Hammond.

The Workshop's local President, Bob McGrath said that without the support of SUEZ, they wouldn't be able to continue to offer the program to over 100 local volunteers.

"Our Workshop volunteers were really excited to hear about the SUEZ grant. They work on a variety of furniture and toys such as children's tables and chairs, bookcases, bedside tables and educational blocks," said Bob.

"The new equipment will greatly improve the professional finish of all our recycled items, giving our volunteers a real sense of satisfaction," he added.

SUEZ launched the company's community grants program in 2013 and to date has provided more than \$250,000 in funding across Australia.

For more information on the SUEZ Community Grants program or to register to receive information about the next grant round in 2016 visit www.suezcommunitygrants.com.au/.

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Contact – SUEZ Media Office on 02 8775 5527

SUEZ finds smart and reliable resource management solutions to make the best use of water and waste for towns, cities, business and industry. We partner with organisations through the SUEZ Community Grants program to support local participation in social and environmental projects which help create a more sustainable future.