



press release

Minchinbury, 20 October 2015

GREEN THUMBS UP TO AFFORD'S NEW DISABILITY PROGRAM

Australian Foundation for Disability (AFFORD)'s Green Thumbs Program has officially established its first community garden and maintenance Program for participant's.

Through the SUEZ Community Grants program, AFFORD received a \$4,800 grant for the purchase of equipment, seedlings, plants and other garden care products for use by participants of the Green Thumbs Program.

The community garden will grow vegetables, herbs and fruits which will then be used as part of the AFFORD Healthy Lifestyles Cooking Program for participant's. The Green Thumbs Program will encourage people with disability to take responsibility for the maintenance of the grounds, lawns and gardens whilst also learning about the garden.

Geoff Gerard, SUEZ NSW Infrastructure Sales Manager, presented the cheque to the AFFORD at a tree planting ceremony to launch the new program. He said SUEZ was delighted to support a local organisation that both develops environmental awareness and inspires participation in sustainable activities through education.

"AFFORD provides a safe supportive space for those with a disability to learn about environmental sustainability along with basic life skills in the outdoors," said Mr Gerard.

Steven Herald, CEO of AFFORD, says that the Green Thumbs Program is an innovative way that AFFORD provides new experiences and opportunities for people with disability.

"The Green Thumbs Program enables AFFORD to provide participant's with the opportunity to take responsibility for caring for the community garden and learn about sustainability," Mr Herald explains.

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.