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\$1.50 (inc.GST)

New fund set to benefit Myrtleford community



ENTREPRENEURIAL TEEN ON THE JOB

MYRTLEFORD teenager Declan Tanner has picked the right time of year to spring into action. The 13 year old has fixed a discarded lawn mover and has started his own little enterprise to help start raising money to fund a passion for cars and bikes.

Full story page 11. PHOTO: Kellie Sheppard

With 'starter' donation in hand, advisory committee now sought

By KELLIE SHEPPARD

INTO Our Hands Community Foundation (IOHCF) has received generous 'starter' funds from a local family to establish a sub-fund specifically to benefit the Myrtleford community.

Place based funds grow community capacity and support resident empowerment meaning that the IOHCF can better support communities after natural disasters and bushfires, giving them more control and access to funds for charity and community projects.

Now seeking to appoint an advisory committee, IOHCF is seeking expressions of interest from local organisations and their leaders eager to participate in a collaborative effort to grow giving, funding and leadership for Myrtleford.

"This committee will decide how the funds can support the community and how we can grow a community fund for the current and long term needs of the Myrtleford area," IOHCF executive officer Sarah Thompson said.

"We are seeking expressions of interest from people across key community organisations and more generally in the community to assist in the formation of the initial Myrtleford sub fund advisory committee.

"In 2019 we began a similar fund in Wangaratta which has been very successful and we are looking to replicate that model for Myrtleford, but every community has different needs

and aspirations so it's important that we establish the right consultation process and advisory group that can develop a fund just for Myrtleford that local people can support and connect with."

Community foundations are dedicated to raising and spending money on local projects in order to promote community connectedness and cohesion.

"Our vision for this fund is to build local capacity and self-sufficiency, enabling the Myrtleford community to create the future it wants," Ms Thompson said.

All legal and accounting governance requirements for the sub-fund will be managed by the Into Our Hands Community Foundation.

"An active community foundation enables projects to attract leverage funding from other government and philanthropic sources," Ms Thompson said.

"It enables people to donate locally, where they can see the benefits of their generosity.

"The aim of the sub-fund is to work across the whole community and complement existing fund raising activities.

"We are also being kindly supported by the Alpine Shire to activate the broader Alpine community and grow philanthropy across the LGA."

Parties interested in learning more about roles on the advisory committee are encouraged to email sarah_thompson@intoourhands.com.au or phone 0466 252 866.

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