



Gareth Ward

Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services

Bronnie Taylor

Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth & Women

MEDIA RELEASE

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CASH INJECTION FOR YOUTH PROJECTS

Projects promoting life skills, positive mental health initiatives and employment outcomes are among successful recipients of the NSW Government's \$1.5 million Youth Opportunities program.

Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services Gareth Ward said 36 innovative projects driven by young people would receive up to \$50,000 each.

"We're committed to engaging young people by providing positive opportunities that help them improve their wellbeing and thrive into adulthood," Mr Ward said.

"These grants are the perfect platform to promote valuable and innovative ideas and I'm pleased to see so many outstanding projects receive Youth Opportunities funding."

The 36 organisations funded under the program cover all corners of NSW, with projects encompassing areas of education, arts, culture and health.

Among them is a short film festival to highlight the voices of young people in Gympie and a statewide campaign to raise awareness about hearing health and deafness.

Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women Bronnie Taylor said more than half of the successful projects stem from regional and rural NSW.

"Youth are the lifeblood of regional communities across our state and we want to give them every opportunity to showcase what they've got to offer," Ms Taylor said.

"These grants will see some exciting initiatives come to fruition and provide vital funds for others that have proven successful."

Since the NSW Government established the Youth Opportunities program in 2012, almost \$12 million has been invested in more than 280 projects.

For information about successful projects, visit www.youth.nsw.gov.au/youth-opportunities

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