



MEDIA RELEASE

Community Support and Activities

Port Augusta City Council and The Benevolent Society are delighted to announce funding support for Port Augusta City Council over the next three years, to deliver two family-based programs.

"It is going to be wonderful to see a Youth Engagement Strategy developed, a Youth Advisory Committee and activities and programs for children and families of all ages and cultures to enjoy for the next three years and beyond. We are keen to give families something to enjoy and smile about and feel connected to, in Port Augusta." Mayor Linley Shine stated.

"It will be pleasing to see a variety of family-based programs activated within our community. Both programs would not be possible without the funding commitment from The Benevolent Society and Westpac Group's Safer Children, Safer Communities program and the project management by Council" stated Chief Executive Officer Mr John Banks.

Program 1: Community Fun:

The first program is to work with community, youth, and agencies to provide activities for the enjoyment of the community. The activities will be provided free of charge to participants, and <u>may</u> include:

- Movie nights
- Picnics at the Foreshore and Parks
- Kayaking
- Roller Skating
- Disco's
- Free pool swim days
- Skate competitions
- VCR exploration programs
- Xbox/PS2 competitions

Additionally, the funding will be used to support the development of a:

- Youth Engagement Strategy and
- Development of a Youth Advisory Committee

Program 2: 'Lets Go' and 'Lets Discover' programs

Fun, interactive programs to support literacy amongst 0 to 5 years and 6-to-12-years. The programs will include art workshops, nature play, story time and dancing, and performing arts programs for children and all will be free of charge.

The Benevolent Society's Executive Director, Children Youth and Family, Linda Griffiths stated: "In total the grants provide an extra 1.3million over three years and we are keen to

ensure that the community will benefit from this support. We are looking forward to supporting Port Augusta City Council and most importantly benefitting the families and young people within the community".

"Council is excited to share more information about the programs with agencies and community groups at information sessions being held on 28th July at 9.30am and 11am. Invitations to these information sessions will be posted on Councils facebook page. Initial enquiries can be directed to <u>theressa.hines@portaugusta.sa.gov.au</u> or phone 8641 9100." Port Augusta City Council's Manager of Strategy People and Culture Theressa Hines stated.

For further information please contact Council's Media and Communications Officer on (08) 8641 9100

JOHN BANKS CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 17/07/2023