

2011 Granting Organisations

The following organisations received grants in the 2011 round:



Red Cross – Victoria \$40,000

The floods across the western half of Victoria earlier this year affected more than 7,500 people, 3,300 properties and 97 towns. Red Cross was one of the first organisations to respond to the crisis. It also understands the need to support communities in long term recovery. Red Cross provided door-to-door personal support for two years to people affected by the 2009 Victorian bushfires. This successful recovery strategy has been adopted by Red Cross for its Victorian Rural Recovery Team to assist people affected by the 2011 floods.

Floods have significant long term impacts. Many people may be affected in a number of ways - their health, their networks and their ability to earn an income.

Aussie Farmers Foundation has contributed funding towards the Red Cross' Recovery Team whose activities aim to facilitate resilience within individuals, families and communities to recover more effectively from the impact of the floods and to help them deal with such events in the future. The funding is assisting with their personal support outreach and needs assessment which will continue for the short term (up to 9 months) and with a long term program (up to 2 years) being developed with communities.



Volunteers for Isolated Students Education (VISE) – QLD \$19,500

Kids who live on remote properties do their school via the School of Distance Education or the School of the Air where students work on assignments sent to them for completion under the supervision of the home tutor. This home tutor is often the mother who has no formal educational training and who is under other pressures to also perform the domestic duties, care for younger children and help run the property.

The Volunteers for Isolated Students Education (VISE) program places qualified volunteer teachers with relevant experience, knowledge and skills with an isolated / remote family for a minimum of 6 weeks to provide face-to-face tutoring for students in their own homes. The VISE tutor can assess the progress of the student and take over the teaching process for the placement period, giving the parent respite while providing a friendly, supportive role to enhance the education of their children.

Aussie Farmers Foundation is contributing funding for VISE's Queensland program and a nominated area is the Longreach area. Longreach School of Distance Education services 165 isolated farming students across 500,000 km's and the grant will assist with ensuring that all families in this area have access to VISE's services, especially those who are experiencing financial hardships and having a hard battle with all the responsibilities they have to cope with.



CareFlight Rescue - NSW/QLD \$21,150

CareFlight is a community rescue helicopter service which covers an area of more than 1.73 million kilometres throughout southern Queensland and northern NSW. For many residents of rural and remote areas, CareFlight is one of only a few lifelines available in the case of emergency or

illness. A critical care doctor and QAS paramedic are on board for every mission and the service is provided at no direct cost to patients.

Because of the rugged and difficult out-of hospital environments their crews work in, CareFlight's medical equipment takes a real beating and is currently outmoded in many respects. CareFlight's rescue helicopters need to upgrade medical equipment in line with facilities carried on board other medical rescue helicopters to provide consistency in patient care. Aussie Farmers Foundation is providing a grant for CareFlight to upgrade three Syringe Drivers. This equipment is used to infuse drugs intravenously - to support blood pressure or a failing heart in a critically ill patient, or to keep a patient anaesthetized.



Inspire Foundation – National \$40,000

In 1996 Jack Heath started the Inspire Foundation in order to tackle Australia's rising rates of youth suicide. Currently one in four young Australians live with mental illness. In particular, young men across Australia are at a higher risk of suffering from poor mental health than young women and in rural regions the incidence rates are higher than in urban areas. Inspire's mission is to make it easier for young people to lead happier lives and they do so by undertaking research that reveals what mental health support young people need, and what will help them. Inspire then utilises those insights to develop mental health services. Inspire also works with teachers to help them promote wellbeing and in particular resilience in schools, and with health professionals to improve young people's experiences with other health services.

Aussie Farmers Foundation is providing funding to help Inspire create a new mental health service for young men with the working title of 'The Mental Fitness Program'. This service will be promoted and delivered online via websites that young people already like to visit. The program will provide young men with the means to set themselves goals, access tips and advice for how to reach them, and track their progress.



Warrnambool Base Hospital – Victoria \$10,200

South West Healthcare's Warrnambool Base Hospital cares for the health needs of the 110,000 residents of Victoria's South West Region (the Local Government Areas of Warrnambool City and the Shires of Moyne, Corangamite, Southern Grampians and Glenelg). In 2010-11, its Emergency Department treated 25,593 patients.

Already connected by broadband to Melbourne's Alfred, Royal Melbourne and Royal Children's Hospitals, the timely interaction between this regional Emergency Department's Resuscitation Room and these urban trauma centres will now be further enhanced via Aussie Farmers Foundation's grant which is financing desperately-needed video conferencing technology.

While waiting for air or road ambulance transfers, Emergency Department staff will be able to consult 'face-to-face' with trauma specialists 350 kilometres away. Having the video link will allow specialists to look at equipment (for example, cardiac monitors) and the patient. This picture, plus discussion will give a far clearer story than just words alone.



Diabetes Counselling Online – National \$45,240

Diabetes Counselling Online is the only online counselling service for people living with diabetes in Australia. Their service enables people with diabetes to connect with each other and access quality professional counselling and support from people who understand how isolating it can be to have diabetes.

Aussie Farmers Foundation is funding Diabetes Counselling Online to focus on farming families and build a specific area on their website titled "The Farmhouse" which will include information and links specific to farming families living with diabetes. Other information available will be for services and supports in areas and how to access them. Diabetes Counselling Online will also be able to expand their counselling service online - via email, phone and Skype to connect farmers and families with diabetes.



Amaranth Foundation - VIC/NSW \$50,000

Limited out of hour's service provision for clinical and community based services, end of life, living with a life limiting illness and mental health care have been identified as areas with significant gaps in rural Australia. Amaranth Foundation was founded in 2009 to help bridge these gaps and work collaboratively with rural support workers and rural mental health workers to meet the psychological and supportive needs of farming families.

Aussie Farmers Foundation is assisting in funding Amaranth's work in rural communities across the Riverina, Murrumbidgee and Murray regions. Their specialist social workers offer a service that is unique in Australia where they work with rural support and health care workers, partnering up and visiting families to deliver psychological support and counselling for families who are dealing with issues where there is little to no support in rural areas. These include working with farming families to address their financial, social emotional and psychological needs, working on issues including care giver issues, succession planning, living with a life limiting illness and advanced care planning end of life care, all areas where there are significant gaps in these communities.