

Community Grants make a difference

“This year, State Trustees’ Community Grants provided shoes for the homeless in the inner-city and booklets to help fathers cope with the death of children in Barwon Heads,” said State Trustees Managing Director, Tony Fitzgerald.

“Older people in aged care facilities in Werribee and Portarlington will enjoy the physical and emotional benefits that will come from new gardens being built with the help of our grants,” Tony said.

“And one grant will involve local schools and garden clubs in the development of the garden, which is a great way to link older people to others in their community.”

Each year, State Trustees seeks to support not-for-profit community groups with grants of up to \$5,000 to help establish or develop projects in the following categories:

- Creating social networks for older people and people with disabilities or mental illness, particularly those who are housebound, isolated, or living in residential care or supported accommodation.

- Providing accessible legal information and financial advice to older or disabled Victorians, people with a mental illness or people coping with bereavement.
- Helping people with a disability or mental illness achieve an improved lifestyle through activity or learning programs.
- Bridging programs for older or disabled Victorians, or people with a mental illness to integrate and contribute to the wider community.
- Helping people with bereavement come to terms with their loss and connect with their community.

“State Trustees looks after the financial affairs of many people who are unable to do so on their own. So I’m proud that we are able to give back to projects that help people with a disability, mental illness or bereavement.” Tony said.



North Yarra Community Health podiatrist Kristan Mehew with some of the good-quality shoes she’s been able to buy for her Homeless Footwear Project, thanks to a \$5,000 community grant from State Trustees.

This year’s successful grant recipients include:

- Brainlink Services, Blackburn
- Barwon Bereavement Services, Geelong
- Bellarine Community Health, Portarlington
- Carinya Society, Coburg
- Doncaster Community Care and Counselling Centre, Doncaster East
- North Yarra Community Health, Fitzroy
- Darebin Community Health, East Reservoir
- Central Access Ltd, Benalla
- GRIT Media, Melbourne
- Wyndham Lodge Community Aged Care, Werribee

“Thank you to State Trustees for your partnership in the printing of our booklet, ‘Men Grieve Too’. You are to be commended for your community spirit and involvement in grass roots bereavement support. We trust that this partnership may be mutually beneficial.”

Graham Morton, Executive Officer (Hon), Barwon Bereavement Services.

Applications for 2010 grants open towards the end of January 2010.