

In review

Introducing our 2022 Jemena Community Grants recipients



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At Jemena, we pride ourselves on being an active member of the communities where we operate, working responsibly and respectfully with local people to identify opportunities, address disadvantage, and leave a positive and lasting impact.

Each year our community grants seek to make a positive difference – at a grassroots level – for people living and working in our operating areas across Victoria and New South Wales.

In 2022 we're excited to award over \$170,000 in direct grants to 21 diverse groups set to deliver some wonderful projects within their (and our) local communities.

Read on to discover their inspiring stories, as well as see other ways we're working to help build stronger and more sustainable communities for all Australians.

2022 grants focus areas



Sustainability



Innovation



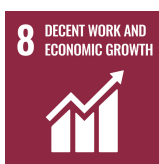
Social inclusion
& reconciliation



People in need

Building a better world

We're also proud that our activities are helping us contribute to UN Sustainable Development Goals 8 and 10



The Settlement Neighbourhood Centre, NSW



For over 130 years, The Settlement Neighbourhood Centre has been there for local families across the Darlington, Redfern, Waterloo and surrounding areas experiencing disadvantage and inequality; providing a safe meeting place and programs focused on positive development, social learning and inclusion.

Their Children's School Holiday Program provides inclusive and accessible childcare for families who aren't able to access mainstream programs due to various, complex social and economic barriers.

With our \$10,000 grant, Jemena is helping the Centre to continue delivering the program into 2023, ensuring kids who would otherwise miss out get to enjoy learning opportunities like creative arts, cultural explorations and excursions.

Russell Vale Public School, NSW



Located on Dharawal Country, Russell Vale Public School is a small family-oriented primary school in the northern suburbs of Wollongong.

As part of their reconciliation journey the school community were seeking to establish a new community yarning circle within their grounds; where students can also grow and learn from a native edible garden, and local Aboriginal students, Elders and broader community members can gather for shared storytelling and celebrations of Country and culture.

Through our \$3,000 grant, Jemena is delighted to help bring this initiative to life, as well as recognise and pay our respects to the Traditional Owners and custodians of the lands our communities gather and live on.

PlateitForward, NSW



PlateitForward empowers individuals from vulnerable, disadvantaged and at-risk Sydney communities to overcome barriers to social and economic participation by offering a range of programs that build social cohesion, food security, community participation, and employment opportunities.

Through their 26-week 'Ability Social' paid hospitality training program, students are equipped with the skills, knowledge and formal qualifications to work in a full-scale production kitchen, as well as life-skills like financial and nutritional literacy. Graduates are also offered full time employment.

Through our \$8,000 grant, Jemena is delighted to enable program students to take part in additional curriculum and learning excursions, supporting further skill-building, independence and better long-term wellbeing outcomes.

Hotel Etico, NSW



Based in the scenic Blue Mountains, Hotel Etico is the first social enterprise hotel in Australia, providing paid training and employment opportunities for young people with intellectual disability.

To help trainees enhance their physical, mental and emotional wellbeing – and ability to live independently – the team were seeking to launch a special six month Health and Wellbeing Program featuring fitness sessions, mental health and other educational workshops.

With our \$10,000 grant Jemena is delighted to help bring the program to life and also see hotel guests and local community members join in; enhancing social inclusion, belonging and awareness of the diverse abilities of all people.

Southlakes Incorporated, NSW



Established in 2013, Southlakes is an agency providing free food parcels, school breakfast programs, toy drives and more to some of the Newcastle region's most vulnerable, supporting 900,000+ people to date.

For five years, their Community Hair Project has provided free haircuts, cups of tea and conversations for people experiencing homelessness, violence and other life issues, from various community service sites.

Through our \$8,900 grant, Jemena is proud to help fit out new mobile van 'Dottie' with energy efficient solar panels; helping the team cut operational costs, take their services 'on the road' to reach more people, and provide clients with a greater sense of privacy, safety and dignity.

Zen Tea Lounge Foundation, NSW



Zen Tea Lounge Foundation is a grassroots charity dedicated to eliminating domestic violence in Australia through assisting marginalized individuals from disadvantaged communities with life transforming workshops, training and programs to re-imagine their future and create long term changes.

In 2022 the team were seeking support to establish a new multi-purpose safe space, supporting the delivery of extended services including training rooms for disability and family violence support services, food rescue and distribution, and much more.

Through our \$10,000 grant, Jemena is delighted to help the team make this happen and improve support for people in need across Western Sydney.

Men's Kitchen Association, NSW



Operated entirely by volunteers, The Men's Kitchen Association is a not-for-profit which aims to provide an environment for older men – who may be living alone, have a partner with ailing health, or just be seeking a way to connect with others – to learn basic cooking skills and make new mates in the process.

The team were seeking support to establish and run a new kitchen and monthly cooking classes for new members, in Ku-Ring-Gai Council area.

With our \$5,400 grant, Jemena is excited to help launch and sustain the new kitchen for 12 months, helping people from across the local area to explore their culinary prowess and make long-lasting friendships.

2023 Newcastle Show, NSW



Since 1902, the Newcastle Show has provided an annual community platform for 40,000 Novocastrians and 250+ local businesses to engage, educate, innovate and celebrate all aspects of the Newcastle and Hunter region.

With many renewable energy projects happening in the local area, the 2023 Newcastle Show will feature related skills, training and education exhibits, including a School Excursion day for local students to explore STEM skills and activities.

Jemena's \$5,000 grant will support a special workshop offering kids the chance to trial 3D 'SPLAT' drawing tools – helping to develop spatial awareness skills and foster interest in potential career pathways like engineering and technology (essential skills in many energy related roles).

Marine Rescue Central Coast, NSW



Marine Rescue NSW's purpose is to "Save Lives on the Water", and each year their Central Coast Unit's 120 volunteers help educate, protect and support boaters and recreational water users, including through marine radio monitoring, 24/7 search and rescue as well as boat and marine radio licensing.

As part of their drive to make their base more sustainable, the team were seeking to install a solar system – reducing energy bills and allowing for cost savings to be redirected into other community support areas (such as funding more rescue vessels, training equipment and consumables).

With our \$10,000 grant, Jemena is delighted to support the team to purchase the new system and their sustainable energy journey.

Friends of Freshwater, NSW



Friends of Freshwater Inc is a not for profit group of 600+ locals who share an interest in community wellbeing, history and events, and seek to make a positive difference through running activities like a community garden, bush regeneration projects, litter collection and art and heritage protection.

As part of their regular tree planting, weed removal and litter collection at the Freshwater beach reserve, the group required some extra tools, first aid training and equipment to support volunteer safety (at this sloping site).

With our \$6,240 grant, Jemena is delighted to help the group do just that, and continue caring for our local environment and communities, safely.

Eat Up Australia, NSW



Eat Up is the only national charity in Australia providing free lunches to disadvantaged schoolkids – with their volunteers helping to make and deliver more than 1.8 million free lunches to over 700 schools since 2014.

With 1 in 8 Aussie schoolkids going to school hungry, the team were seeking support to fill even more rumbling tummies across NSW – helping to improve both kids' immediate physical and mental wellbeing and longer-term engagement in learning, employment opportunities, and prosperity.

Through our \$10,000 grant, Jemena is proud to assist Eat Up to deliver essential food to over 127 NSW schools to feed 3,800 children who would otherwise go hungry.

ProjectKindness, NSW



ProjectKindness seeks to reduce the vulnerability and improve the day-to-day life of community members often living with disabilities or mental illness by supporting social connections and providing essential goods and services that change their lives for the better.

With cost of living pressures climbing, the team were seeking support to deliver 'kindness hampers' to people in dire need across South Eastern Sydney – made up of non-perishable groceries and household essentials such as bedding, crockery, cutlery, pots and pans, blankets and more.

Through our \$10,000 grant, Jemena is delighted to support the team in providing 50 hampers to help people going through tough times.

Little Wings, NSW



Little Wings is a non-profit providing free, professional and safe flight and ground transport services for seriously ill children in rural and regional NSW, connecting them with specialised medical services and treatments only available in major cities or towns.

To help strengthen medical expertise and care in regional areas, the team were seeking help to deliver specialist clinics in 7 rural locations; providing free, close to home care for families as well as specialist led face-to-face training to upskill local healthcare workers and networks.

With our \$10,000 grant, Jemena is delighted to help make this happen and ensure equitable access to vital healthcare, regardless of a child's postcode.

Guide Dogs NSW/ACT, NSW



Guide Dogs NSW/ACT is a leading provider of Guide Dogs and Orientation and Mobility services that enable people with low vision or blindness to get around their communities safely and independently.

In response to a growing community need and lack of local services, the team was seeking help to establish a new satellite clinic in the Campbelltown area, offering regular vision assessments, referral services and equipment trials for local clients.

Through our \$6,455 grant, Jemena is proud to help make this happen and ensure distance is no longer an obstacle to accessing better health outcomes.

Aboriginal Literacy Foundation, VIC



Founded in 2003, the Aboriginal Literacy Foundation provides literacy, tutorial and mentoring services to more than 2,000 young indigenous Australians in the form of after school homework groups, tutorial groups in remote areas and literacy and heritage camps. The ALF is also the largest non-government provider of books to schools in northern Australia, and researches into the literacy needs of indigenous Australians.

In response to literacy challenges exacerbated by the Pandemic - which left many families unable to access distance or online education - the team were seeking support to launch a 'Post Covid Literacy Catch Up' tutoring program for students across northern Melbourne, from Term 4 2022.

With our \$10,000 grant, Jemena is delighted to help bring this program to life, and empower each student to take charge of their learning.

Australian Chaldean Family Welfare Association, VIC



The ACFWA aims to meet the settlement needs of the Chaldean community in Victoria by delivering a range of services such as settlement, immigration advice, women's leadership, youth and family support and education and training, focused on supporting people's settlement and socialisation needs.

With Pandemic restrictions limiting young people's access to activities that foster good wellbeing and social inclusion, the group were seeking help to deliver a program re-engaging around 2,000 people in teen friendly activities and connecting them with various local cultural support services.

With our \$10,000 grant, Jemena is delighted to help make this happen, as well as program culmination at a 2023 Refugee Week community event.

Hume Men's Shed Craigueburn, VIC



HMSC's key purpose is to provide a place where men of all ages and backgrounds can meet on a regular basis in a safe, open location and discuss life's issues, as well as engaging members through a range of projects that adds value to society and the local community in general.

With current woodworking machinery getting quite old, the group were seeking help to purchase new equipment which would also allow them to use recycled materials to create a variety of free or low cost community projects – such as public benches or shelving for local charity shops.

Through our \$10,000 grant, Jemena is proud to help the Shed purchase this and continue delivering meaningful projects for our local communities.

The Humour Foundation, VIC



The Humour Foundation is a national charity dedicated to improving the health and wellbeing of vulnerable Australians by using the physiological and psychological benefits of humour therapy to relieve fear, pain and the ill-effects of social isolation.

In response to client needs, the team were seeking support to deliver a special 'Laughter Care' therapy program for elderly residents of local not-for-profit aged care services who are extremely vulnerable due to a background in homelessness, mental illness, or with no close family to visit.

With our \$10,000 grant Jemena is delighted to help bring some joy, laughter and positivity into the lives of over 200 elderly residents over 12 months.

J Beekeeping Club, VIC



J Beekeeping Club is a not-for-profit local club which meets every month to teach people across Melbourne's north west about correct beekeeping techniques and bio-security matters.

With 54 members and interest growing, they were seeking help to educate even more people about the art of beekeeping and importance of bees to environmental sustainability and food security through pollination of crops.

With our \$1,850 grant, Jemena is delighted to help the Club purchase new supplies (including AV and protective equipment) to make their workshops and sustainability messaging even more accessible to more people.

Flemington People's Pantry, VIC



Run by and for members of the Flemington, Kensington and Ascot Vale public housing estate communities, each week Flemington People's Pantry Project provides around 1,500kg of rescued food to more than 80 local households going through times of crisis or struggling with ongoing need.

With cost of living pressures continuing to grow, the team were seeking support to purchase additional food items and keep their delivery van on the road for another 12 months.

Through our \$10,000 grant, Jemena is proud to help make this happen and support the collection of rescued food and distribution of essential and nutritious meals for hundreds of local families.

Orygen, VIC



Orygen believes that all young people deserve to grow into adulthood with optimal mental health, and works directly with young people, their families and friends to pioneer new, positive approaches to the prevention and treatment of mental disorders including cutting-edge research, policy development, clinical services, and evidence-based training and education.

To help reduce stress and life pressures for clients and their families, the team were seeking support to launch 'Orygen Assist'; a new program run by volunteers and offering free food, clothing and other essential items.

Through our \$5,000 grant Jemena is delighted to support the program and Orygen's goal of seeing young people with mental ill-health get and stay well.

Supporting strong communities

At Jemena, we help bring energy to life for over 1.8 million homes and businesses every day. With a footprint spanning across Australia's east and north we're also a proud member of hundreds of diverse local communities.

Here are some ways we're helping to build strong and sustainable communities.



Partnering for good

To us, being a good neighbour means helping to improve community wellbeing. Each year we partner with, sponsor, and donate to a range of groups and organisations that support people living in the communities where we operate.

[View some of our key partnerships and projects](#)



Enhancing Sustainability

Energy underpins our lives; it heats our homes, powers our economy, and charges our phones. As a leading Australian energy infrastructure company, we're committed to providing reliable, affordable and sustainable energy.

[View our 2021 Sustainability Report](#)



Supporting Reconciliation

We're committed to being an active member in Australia's reconciliation journey, and wish to acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the Traditional Owners and custodians of the lands we operate on. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging, and their continuing connection to Country.

[View our Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan](#)



Opposing Modern Slavery

At Jemena we're opposed to all forms of modern slavery and forced labour in our industry, business operations, and in the operations of our suppliers.

[View our Modern Slavery Statement](#)

