



The real impact of the campaign is, of course, the opportunities and help given through our grants to those experiencing homelessness.

Our volunteer Grants Committee members, who work in the homeless and NFP sector, have made your donations stretch a long way. Communities that have raised money have seen their efforts rewarded with grants to their local communities and beyond. The smaller organisations we support through this process rarely receive extra funding and the mix of projects is varied and innovative. What they can do with so little funding is staggering. Your dollars get a very good workout!

StreetSmart NSW Grants 2006 Campaign

Organisation	Suburb/Region	Project	Grant Value \$
The Women & Girls Emergency Centre	Surry Hills	Computer resources	2,960.00
Community Restorative Centre	Broadway	Rec-gym program	3,120.00
The Gender Centre	Petersham	Furnishings for refuge	4,900.00
Sydney Street Choir	Paddington	Director wages/running costs	4,000.00
CANA Communities	Strawberry Hills	Cultural camp —wellbeing	4,200.00
ROAM Communities	Woolloomooloo	Homelessness art gallery	4,500.00
Wayside Chapel	Potts Point	Pilot — public holiday openings	3,000.00
HopeStreet	Darlinghurst/Surry Hills	Street soccer	1,000.00
St Canise's Kitchen	Elizabeth Bay	Kitchen and meals	1,370.00
The Family Action Centre	Newcastle	Caravan park demountable	2,200.00
		Total	31,250.00

The Women & Girls Emergency Centre

The Centre provides a day drop in to homeless women, their children and transgender women, providing meals, washing facilities, showers, day beds, clothing and material assistance as well as case management services. We provide services for approximately 15-20 women per day.

Many of the women have had transient lifestyles, impacted by issues such as domestic violence, history of sexual assault, mental health, and drug and alcohol use, and come from diverse backgrounds including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, and non English speaking backgrounds.

Through a client consultation last year the women identified they would like to learn computer and internet skills to increase their options of employment and return to education.

The StreetSmart grant will provide access for clients to use computers, and learn computer skills at the centre.

Community Restorative Centre — Gym Program

Community Restorative Centre (CRC) is the largest specialist community organisation in NSW which provides a range of services to people affected by the Criminal Justice System.

CRC plays an important part in addressing social justice issues, operating in the belief that a key factor in crime reduction is addressing factors of social isolation and disadvantage that lead to offending and re-offending. CRC receives funding to provide a specialist homelessness accommodation and support program for ex prisoners which aims to provide support and prevent re-offending.

The StreetSmart grant will provide membership of a local community gym and assist our clients' social reintegration and help promote a healthy lifestyle. It will motivate our clients to be more active in the local community, improve mental wellbeing and assist those who are socially isolated. Gym membership is a valuable addition to our current programs and will assist our support staff in case management goals with their clients.

The Gender Centre

The Gender Centre is the only accommodation service in NSW with a transgender client group. The goals of the Centre are to provide medium-term accommodation, in a safe and supportive environment, to all people with gender issues who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, distressed or otherwise in need of such accommodation.

The StreetSmart grant will be used to furnish a new refuge house. Currently the Centre is able to offer an extra three beds to this community, but is unable to accommodate the client group due to no available funds for a refit. The grant will enable accommodation to be offered to three new clients for up to 12 months with intensive case management, counselling and residential support. The ultimate goal of the programme is for the clients to move from the Gender Centre Residential programme into stable, independent accommodation.

Sydney Street Choir

The members of the Sydney Street Choir are homeless or disadvantaged men and women who have become a combined voice for those who are marginalised. The choir aims to provide inspiration, empowerment and initiative to other people living or working in homeless and disadvantaged situations. They have found 'something to sing about' which gives hope and inspiration to all who hear them sing.

The Sydney Street Choir lifts people out of depression, breaks isolation, and creates opportunities for artistic expression and joy. The choir provides members with structure in their lives, a commitment to something worthwhile, the drive to perform at their best and a sense of belonging as well as being fun!

The StreetSmart grant will be used to fund extra sessions and rehearsals during the year in the buildup to the choir's first CD launch and public performances later in the year. The members of the choir feel that their current once a week rehearsal schedule is not frequent enough for them to remember the songs and be ready for this exciting launch period. The extra rehearsals will be used to build skills in song writing, harmony singing and theatrical presentation, as well as building confidence and general musical skills for what will be a large public launch.

CANA Communities — Community Enrichment Program

CANA Community focus is on people who are most in need, who are suffering from loneliness, mental illness, addictions, homelessness and other factors which alienate them within society. Those with least options and who are most alienated are our special care.

The StreetSmart grant will be used to provide a cultural experience in a holiday context for ten marginalised people (members or residents of CANA Communities), providing an opportunity for creative expression and personal enrichment.

ROAM Communities — Homelessness Art Gallery

ROAM Communities is a small, award-winning health promotion charity providing supported accommodation, education and counselling for people with mental disorders at risk of homelessness in the inner city of Sydney.

One month ago one of ROAM's client's (Gary) approached the ROAM Board with a proposal for funding in order to set up an Art Stall at the Potts Point Markets on Sunday morning. The board felt this proposal was directly in line with its promotion of client centered planning and recovery principals. The board subsequently approved an interest free loan to Gary of \$500 in order to assist him in pursuing his dream. Gary has run his stall in the market for the past four weeks.

The StreetSmart Grant will be used to facilitate Sydney's first ever Homelessness Art Gallery, 'Street Dreams'.

- This gallery will be available to people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness to exhibit their art free of charge.
- The gallery will be located in the heart of inner city homelessness at 72-74 Cathedral Street, Woolloomooloo. ROAM Communities will provide the rent of the gallery under a six-month lease.
- All monies contributed towards the project by StreetSmart will assist homeless clients to produce and exhibit their art at the gallery.

Wayside Chapel — Public Holiday Opening

The Wayside Chapel, an Australian icon, was founded by Reverend Ted Noffs in 1964. It has been a place of many firsts: the first Aboriginal Affairs Foundation (1962), Lifeline (co-founded 1963), Sydney's first 24-hour Crisis Centre (1968), the first Drug Referral Centre (1967), Life Education (1979), and first for namings and inter-denominational marriages. Exodus, NAPCAN and the Ted Noffs Foundation (started 1992) were all born out of our place in Kings Cross. The Wayside was Ted's life for 25 years, until the day he could work no more.

The Wayside Chapel remains a place of unconditional love for the lonely, homeless, abused and dispossessed, serving the needs of the 2000 young, elderly, frightened and displaced people who contact us each week.

Currently Wayside is able to offer services every day apart from public holidays when Wayside closes. Sundays are also poorly staffed, with services often run by volunteers alone. The Wayside made a commitment some time ago to try to acquire funding to support staffing on public holidays and Sundays but this has been difficult to secure.

The StreetSmart grant will be used to help the Wayside open during five of the public holidays in 2007, allowing continued services to the most vulnerable. This will be a pilot program to measure the impact for the visitors to the Wayside and the proposal to open on public holidays on an ongoing basis.

HopeStreet: Homeless Soccer Project

HopeStreet works alongside the most marginalised people in Sydney, through programs aimed at empowering people toward the fullness of life. HopeStreet seeks to build projects which are holistic and empowering.

In 2005 a team of homeless soccer players based in Melbourne toured in Europe to attend the Homeless World Cup. The project was an overwhelming success for the participants. In 2006 HopeStreet ran a small scale soccer program which began to gather and train a team in Sydney.

The StreetSmart grant will be used to re-engage with the homeless in Sydney to train and form a team to tour NSW. This will be seed funding to provide basic materials for training, a coach and to release staff to co-ordinate the initiative.

Several inner city services will make the opportunity open to their clients including: CANA Communities, Mission Australia (who will also provide transport to training), Edward Egar Lodge and Matthew Talbot Hostel.

St Canice's Kitchen

The Kitchen has been operating since 1989. Originally open only on Saturdays, slowly other parishes around the eastern suburbs came on board and helped to open on Sundays.

Currently St Canice's Kitchen is open seven days with free meals daily. Approximately 100 people per day are served, increasing to 200 on weekends. The kitchen is a vital service for the homeless in the local area. It is their place; it provides them with a place to socialise and enjoy some nourishing food, take a shower and just to be.

The parish is totally supported and run by volunteers; this includes the kitchen, so overheads are minimal. The service survives totally on donations from parishioners, volunteers and other benefactors. Fr. Stephen Sinn SJ is the Parish Priest and in charge of the overall management and running of the Kitchen.

The work targets the homeless from the area who have no place to gather. While the meals and shower facilities offered are important, equally important is the hospitality.

The StreetSmart grant will be used to purchase food, power and cleaning products to run and maintain the kitchen.

The Family Action Centre — Newcastle

The Caravan Project at the Family Action Centre, University of Newcastle, supports permanent residents of caravan parks by providing playgroups, after-school activities, adult social groups and home visiting, as well as undertaking community education, advocacy and research.

The StreetSmart grant will be used to trial the use of a demountable building in a caravan park for a period of six months. The park provides accommodation to residents who generally have few or no other options. Residents are generally very marginalised and face significant social disadvantage. The housing is often inadequate, but at least it is a roof over their heads. The park has around 70 residents and there can be up to 20 or more children living in the park.

The caravan park has virtually no facilities besides a shower/laundry block and a picnic table. Each week The Family Action Centre runs a playgroup, after-school program and an adult social group (with child minding) on the park. They also run a homework club at a local school each week. All groups are held in the open in a grassed area.

The demountable building will enable the Action Centre to run the playgroup, homework club and other activities in bad weather. It will provide a space for community activities and a private space for the child and family nurse and Centrelink outreach team to come to the park on a regular basis.