

Friday, December 3rd 2010

VicForests supports local charity

The Berry Street charity in Alexandra is one of fourteen community groups in the Central Highlands to receive a grant as part of VicForests' Community Support Program.

Liz Langford, VicForests' Community Relationship Manager, Central Highlands, said there was a terrific response from the community to the program with grants provided totalling more than \$18 000.

"VicForests received more than 80 applications from a wide range of local groups including schools, sporting groups, local charities and events," Ms Langford said.

"Of these applications, 14 were successful in receiving grants of between \$500 and \$2000.

"Berry Street will use the grant from the Community Support Program to assist needy families over the Christmas period.

"This support will include providing families with help make ends meet at what is always an expensive time of year.

"Berry Street is a highly regarded organisation within the region, not least of all as a result of their important work to support the community after the Black Saturday bushfires.

"The Community Support Program allows VicForests to continue to build on the strong ties between our timber industry and the local community," she said.

Ms Langford said VicForests' Community Support Program offered not-for-profit organisations the chance to access grants of up to \$2000 to undertake activities which enhance the community's quality of life in the Central Highlands.

"All applications were assessed by a selection panel against set criteria," she said.

"These criteria included how the project would benefit the community, how it would assist VicForests to educate the community and how well the project fits in with VicForests' aims and corporate objectives.

"The native timber industry remains an important contributor to regional communities in Victoria, in particular those in the Central Highlands region.

"VicForests looks forward to keeping the community updated throughout the year regarding the progress of initiatives which have been assisted by the Community Support Program," Ms Langford said.

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