



ClubGRANTS

**2024
Contribution
Report**





Introduction

I am delighted to present the 2024 ClubGRANTS Contribution Report, which highlights the ongoing dedication of clubs to supporting their local communities.

As one of Australia's largest grant programs, ClubGRANTS distributed over \$120 million to charities, sporting organisations and community groups over the past year.

In an impressive show of generosity, clubs contributed an additional \$47 million beyond the requirements of the program, underscoring their unwavering commitment to local causes. This support demonstrates the crucial role clubs play in promoting the wellbeing of their communities.

Over 8000 recipients — including the Top Blokes Foundation, Escabags, CareFlight and Boys to the Bush — were awarded funding through the program. ClubGRANTS funding supports various initiatives, including youth mental health programs, resources for those affected by domestic violence and essential aeromedical retrieval services.

In the past year alone, more than \$53 million was allocated to sporting initiatives, over \$10 million was invested in education and early learning and over \$35 million was directed to regional communities.

Notably, 16 clubs provided over \$450,000 in ClubGRANTS funding to RSL LifeCare, ensuring they can continue their work in supporting veterans and their families across Australia by providing integrated support, advocacy and wellbeing programs that are veteran-centric and recovery focused. The Morris Children's Fund also received \$180,000 in ClubGRANTS funding to support their work in improving the quality of life of children with severe physical disabilities.

Without ClubGRANTS funding, many of these organisations could not provide critical services and initiatives, especially in remote and regional communities.

The dedication of clubs throughout NSW is what makes all of this possible.

I look forward to seeing how the club industry will shape and strengthen communities in the coming year through the ClubGRANTS program.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'Rebecca Riant'. The signature is fluid and stylized, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Rebecca Riant
ClubsNSW CEO

What Is ClubGRANTS?

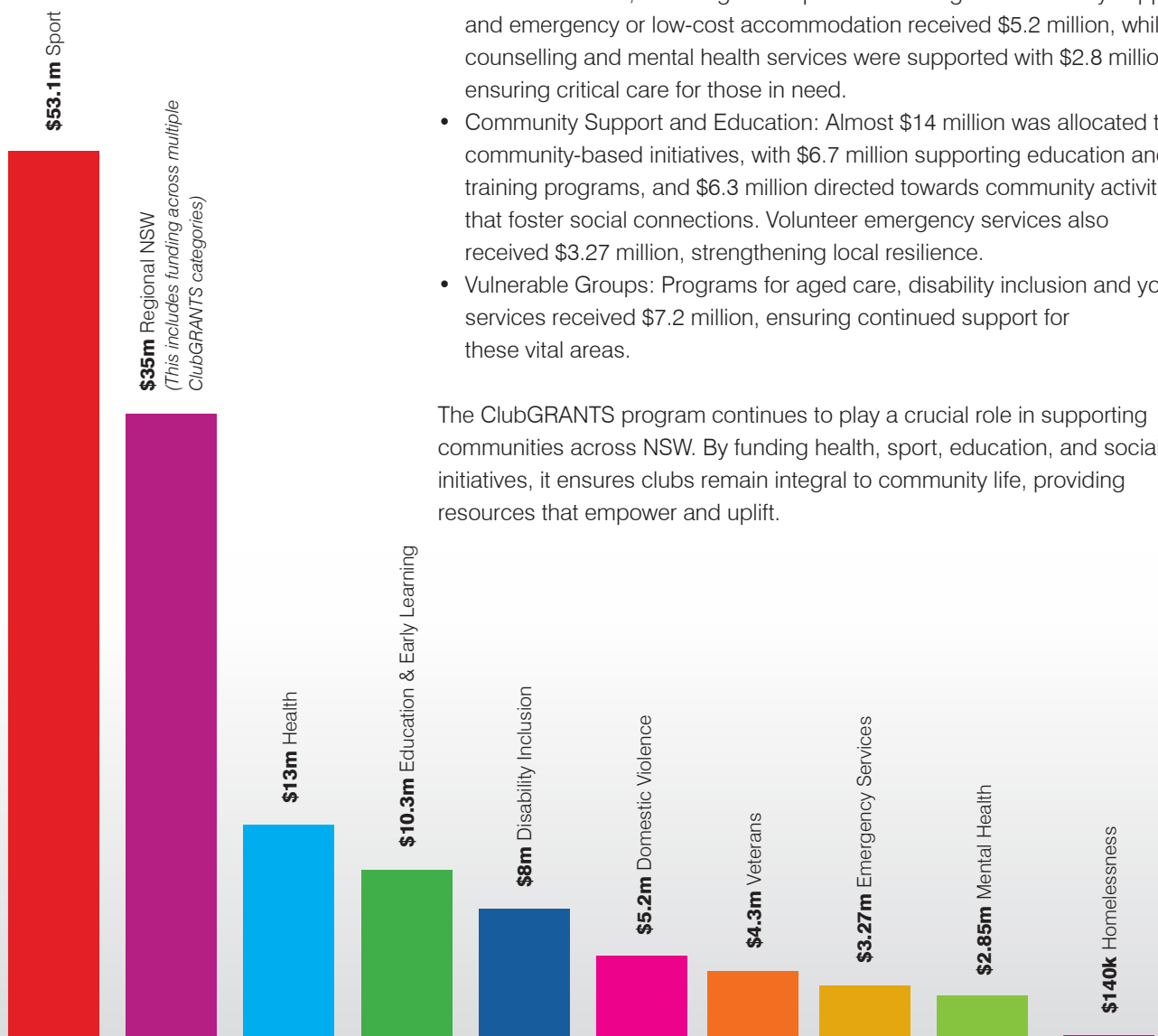
Since its inception in 1998, ClubGRANTS has provided over \$1.5 billion to a wide range of vital causes. The scheme is one of Australia's largest grants programs, with over \$120 million donated in 2023–24 to charities, sporting organisations and not-for-profit community groups to support their life-changing and life-saving work.

The program — a partnership between the NSW Government and the club industry — ensures that funding reaches communities right across the state. In 2023–24, over \$35 million was donated to worthy causes in regional NSW, while organisations in metropolitan NSW have received almost \$85 million to continue and enhance their important initiatives.

Funding has been allocated across key areas to address critical needs, including:

- **Sport and Facilities:** Clubs have allocated \$53.1 million to sport, supporting grassroots and professional programs across NSW. An additional \$8.3 million has been invested in upgrading club facilities, creating safe and inclusive spaces for communities to gather and connect.
- **Health and Wellbeing:** Over \$4.5 million has been directed to health-related initiatives, including health promotion. Programs for family support and emergency or low-cost accommodation received \$5.2 million, while counselling and mental health services were supported with \$2.8 million, ensuring critical care for those in need.
- **Community Support and Education:** Almost \$14 million was allocated to community-based initiatives, with \$6.7 million supporting education and training programs, and \$6.3 million directed towards community activities that foster social connections. Volunteer emergency services also received \$3.27 million, strengthening local resilience.
- **Vulnerable Groups:** Programs for aged care, disability inclusion and youth services received \$7.2 million, ensuring continued support for these vital areas.

The ClubGRANTS program continues to play a crucial role in supporting communities across NSW. By funding health, sport, education, and social initiatives, it ensures clubs remain integral to community life, providing resources that empower and uplift.



Above & Beyond

The ClubGRANTS scheme was established to ensure that larger registered clubs across NSW actively support essential services and deliver meaningful improvements for disadvantaged groups within their communities.

In 2023–24, clubs once again went above their mandated obligations, contributing \$47,265,387 beyond the “ClubGRANTS liability” set out under the *Gaming Machines Tax Act 2001*.

This ClubGRANTS Report showcases the profound impact of these contributions, with a substantial portion of the additional funding directed towards sports development, which has been a key beneficiary, reflecting the industry’s commitment to fostering both grassroots and professional sports while strengthening community connections.

ClubGRANTS have had a significant impact on Grassroots Rugby League, the Clontarf Foundation, and Wheelchair Rugby League by providing essential funding and support. For Grassroots Rugby League, ClubGRANTS have helped improve infrastructure, training facilities, and equipment, fostering the development of young players and the overall growth of the sport at the community level.

ClubGRANTS have enabled the Clontarf Foundation to expand its reach and make a positive impact on the lives of Indigenous young people through Rugby League and helped enhance the quality of life for individuals with disabilities, enabling them to participate in sports and promoting inclusivity within the Rugby League community.

Don Hammond
Leagues Clubs Australia CEO



Portfolio

SPORT

Total Contribution
(approximate)

\$53.1m

Across this ClubGRANTS category:

- Sport — funding under this category has been directed towards professional sport, junior/grassroots sport and other sporting initiatives.

Grant Recipient Case Study

WESTERN SUBURBS RUGBY LEAGUE FOOTBALL CLUB

\$200k



Since 1910 Western Suburbs Rugby League Football Club (West Rosellas) has been a cornerstone of the Newcastle sporting community. West Rosellas provides a grassroots rugby league experience to over 600 junior and senior players per year. The club is both an inclusive and accessible community hub and a pathway for young players to progress to the top levels of the game.

ClubGRANTS funding plays a crucial role in supporting four senior and 32 junior teams, by helping to cover the expense of registration, jerseys, referees, insurance, field maintenance and training equipment. The funding keeps costs to a manageable level for local families and ensures that the rising cost of living doesn't stop players from accessing the sport they love.

The ClubGRANTS program has been an amazing contributor to the ongoing success of the Western Suburbs Club. It is greatly appreciated and will hopefully continue the avenue for the club to provide opportunities for kids of all ages to enjoy the great game of rugby league.

David Wild — Club Secretary, Western Suburbs Rugby League Football Club

Portfolio

REGIONAL NSW

Total Contribution (approximate)

This includes funding across multiple ClubGRANTS categories.

\$35m

Grant Recipient Case Study

BOYS TO THE BUSH

\$194k



Boys to the Bush is a registered not-for-profit, community-based charity that focuses on preventative and early intervention strategies for vulnerable and 'disengaged' young males. Since 2017, the organisation has impacted more than 10,000 lives through:

- 1:1 MENToring Programs
- Camps
- School Programs
- Education Programs
- Indigenous Programs
- Alternative Care Arrangements
- Community Engagement Days.

Support via ClubGRANTS has allowed Boys to the Bush to deliver more programs to more young males in more towns across regional NSW and Victoria. The loss of that funding would mean fewer young men from at-risk backgrounds have the opportunity to reach their full potential and contribute positively to their community.

I've been with Boys to the Bush for one year. It makes me feel happy, involved with other boys and more proud of my culture.

James — Boys To The Bush participant

Portfolio

HEALTH

Total Contribution
(approximate)

Across these ClubGRANTS categories:

- Health
- Medical Research
- Health Promotion Initiatives
- Early Childhood Health/Child & Family Services
- Drug & Alcohol/Palliative Care/Women's Health/Indigenous Health/ Dental Services
- Child Protection/Child Care.

\$13m

Grant Recipient Case Study

THE SHEPHERD CENTRE FOR DEAF CHILDREN

\$375k



The Shepherd Centre has been transforming the lives of deaf children and their families for over 50 years. Specialising in early intervention, the organisation helps deaf children develop the crucial listening, speaking and social skills they need to connect with the hearing world through:

- Audiology
- Counselling
- Speech therapy

ClubGRANTS funding is vital to The Shepherd Centre's group education and community programs which build meaningful connections between the families of children with hearing loss, and empower parents to support their child's integration into the community. Without ClubGRANTS, these initiatives would be significantly reduced, directly impacting those children and their families, and indirectly affecting the entire community as these programs are helping to normalise deafness by bringing increased participation and exposure to diversity.

Being involved with the Shepherd Centre for Deaf Children's community group programs was incredibly valuable because we could connect with other families that can relate to what we are going through on the hearing loss journey.

Parent

Portfolio

EDUCATION & EARLY LEARNING

Total Contribution
(approximate)

\$10.3m

Across these ClubGRANTS categories:

- Education
- Community Education Programs
- Group Training Companies.

Grant Recipient Case Study

SHAPING OUTCOMES

\$110k



Shaping Outcomes is a dedicated early childhood intervention service that focuses on supporting children with disabilities and developmental delays. The family-centred approach uses development specialists to provide direct support in:

- The family home
- Childcare centres
- Preschools
- Community settings.

By providing specialised support and services during the critical early childhood period, Shaping Outcomes helps children develop the skills they need to participate meaningfully in family and community life and ensures they receive the best possible support to reach their full potential.

Shaping Outcomes has been in operation for nearly 40 years and ClubGRANTS funding has been crucial in enabling the organisation to bridge the gaps between health, education and disability services in the Early Childhood Intervention space. Without ClubGRANTS, Shaping Outcomes would struggle to provide the essential early development support that benefits up to 80 children annually through the First Steps program. Localised ClubGRANTS funding is essential for supporting real needs in the community and ensuring that children with developmental delays and disabilities receive the best possible start in life.

Prior to starting with Shaping Outcomes Jack was a shy child who struggled with speech, communicating and eye contact. He was able to follow routines, gain confidence, make friends and improve his speech and fine motor skills. I am so grateful for all the help and support that Jack and myself received through Shaping Outcomes.

Holly — Parent

Portfolio

DISABILITY INCLUSION

Total Contribution
(approximate)

\$8m

Across these ClubGRANTS categories:

- Home, Community Care & Disability Services
- Aged, Disability or Youth Services.

Grant Recipient Case Study

MORRIS CHILDREN'S FUND

\$181k



The Morris Children's Fund (MCF) is a small, not-for-profit charity which was established in 2005 to enhance the quality of lives of children with severe physical and multiple disabilities, illness or special needs, and their families. MCF's purpose is underpinned by the values of:

- Inclusiveness
- Integrity
- Care
- Support
- Dignity.

Through its history, MCF has distributed more than \$2.6 million for services, programs and equipment. The organisation relies on volunteers and grants, and without the support received via ClubGRANTS, MCF's work in special needs schools would not be sustainable. The support received via ClubGRANTS in 2024 provided over 300 individual music therapy sessions.

The therapy made an immense difference to Ryan, helping him to build strength and learn to use his body in ways that we weren't learning previously. We would never have been able to do that without help from the Morris Children's Fund.

Nadine — Parent

Portfolio

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Total Contribution
(approximate)

\$5.2m

Across these ClubGRANTS categories:

- Family Support/Emergency or Low-cost Accommodation.

Grant Recipient Case Study

ESCABAGS

\$197k



Escabags provides free 'Escape Bags' to families and individuals fleeing domestic and family abuse across Australia. The bags are filled with essential items needed in the initial days after leaving a dangerous situation and seeking further support.

Demand for Escabags has increased dramatically and disturbingly, and since being founded in 2020:

- 13,000 bags have been distributed via 1800 stockists, including many NSW clubs as well as hospitals, police stations, schools, refuges, shelters, charities and businesses.

In 2024, ClubGRANTS funding allowed for the provision of 4500 bags to stockists nationally, including 250 new stockists. Without ClubGRANTS funding, the organisation would not be able to continue its vital operations. Escabags does not receive any government funding, and with the troubling increase in domestic and family abuse in our communities, the loss of this service would ensure less Australians live free from violence and abuse.

Escabags is a vital resource to pass onto our clients who are experiencing domestic and family abuse. We are grateful!

Donna Higgins — Gawura Aboriginal Corporation

Portfolio

VETERANS

Total Contribution
(approximate)

\$4.3m

Across this ClubGRANTS category:

- Veteran Welfare Services.

Grant Recipient Case Study

RSL LIFECARE

\$459k



RSL LifeCare is a charitable organisation dedicated to caring for over 13,700 residents, clients and veterans and their families. It operates:

- 27 retirement villages
- 29 residential care homes
- 16 home-care offices covering 22 service locations
- Five veteran and family hubs across NSW and the ACT.

Since 1911, RSL LifeCare has been committed to serving the community. In recent years, ClubGRANTS funding has been critical in enabling the successful rollout of the Veteran Wellbeing Support Project in various communities.

On Sydney's Northern Beaches, Dee Why RSL's commitment of over one million dollars via ClubGRANTS has introduced RSL LifeCare's services to thousands of additional veterans and their families — including assistance with lodging DVA claims; providing financial, employment and housing support; and advocating for veterans and their wellbeing.

Northern Beaches Veteran Wellbeing Centre (NBVWC) supported me through the claims process from start to finish and made it easy. I have attended events run by the NBVWC and I often drop into the NBVWC for a chat with the staff along with my service dog.

Linda

Portfolio

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Total Contribution
(approximate)

\$3.27m

Across this ClubGRANTS category:

- Volunteer Emergency Services.

Grant Recipient Case Study

CAREFLIGHT

\$89k

CareFlight



CareFlight's critical care doctors, paramedics and nurses are trained in emergency and trauma, pre-hospital and remote medicine, enabling them to treat patients wherever they are, using:

- Helicopters
- Jet aircraft
- Turbo-prop planes
- Road vehicles.

The organisation also facilitates training and free education, and delivers expertise throughout the community. Funding received through ClubGRANTS has been instrumental in ensuring the continued delivery of vital workshops and making training accessible to communities that need it most.

CareFlight deeply values the ongoing commitment of ClubsNSW in supporting community initiatives, and we strongly advocate for the continuation of this essential funding stream to help strengthen and protect NSW communities.

Lara Miller, Head of Operations — Education and Training, CareFlight

Portfolio

MENTAL HEALTH

Total Contribution
(approximate)

\$2.85m

Across these ClubGRANTS categories:

- Counselling Services
- Community Nursing/Therapy/Mental Health Services.

Grant Recipient Case Study

THE TOP BLOKES FOUNDATION

\$228k



The Top Blokes Foundation fosters the mental health, emotional resilience and community engagement of young males aged 10 to 24 through peer-led mentoring and community leadership programs.

The organisation's goal is to develop the critical-thinking and decision-making skills of young males, and cultivate a healthier definition of masculinity to help young males with the:

- Development of positive decision-making skills
- Improvement of their mental health
- Decrease in risk-taking and anti-social behaviours
- Development of integrity and self-respect.

ClubGRANTS funding has helped the Top Blokes Foundation expand, delivering more programs and engaging more young males. The consistent nature of ClubGRANTS helps the organisation to deliver programs, even when other grant opportunities are unavailable.

They helped me be a better man, make better decisions, be smarter with my life, treat women and people with respect, and to be safe sexually.

Participant — St Luke's Marsden Park

Portfolio

HOMELESSNESS

Total Contribution
(approximate)

This includes funding across multiple ClubGRANTS categories.

\$140k

**Grant Recipient
Case Study**

COMMUNITY CAFÉ

\$110k



The Community Café is dedicated to addressing food insecurity and promoting community wellness in south-western Sydney. The charity provides nutritious meals and essentials to individuals and families facing challenges or barriers — with no questions asked — restoring dignity and offering a sense of connection.

Every morning, over 150 people line up outside the café in Sadleir, whilst a dedicated team of volunteers prepares over 700 fresh meals each week. Since August 2022, they have provided 67,400 meals.

Support via ClubGRANTS has been vital for the Community Café. Thanks to this funding, a second premises is set to open soon, to help address increased demand through the ongoing cost-of-living crisis.

I was in a really bad place. My life had fallen apart. I was in a downward spiral and couldn't even scrape together 20 cents for milk and bread. The support and generosity I received from Kirsty and Community Café made such a huge difference.

Sue — Customer and volunteer

Conclusion

Registered clubs in NSW are making major financial and social contributions to their communities annually, including over \$120 million through the ClubGRANTS program in 2023–24. Clubs support organisations across sport, education, health and emergency services, and have a meaningful impact throughout NSW.

This report highlights just a handful of ClubGRANTS stories, but clubs make thousands of positive impacts through ClubGRANTS.

For more information about how clubs support their local communities, please contact ClubsNSW.

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clubgrants.com.au

Bowls clubs are the beating heart of many towns and communities across the State of New South Wales.

The ClubGRANTS scheme driven by our good friends at ClubsNSW is an incredible extension of these clubs, allowing them to reach even further into the social fabric of the community in which they operate. At a time when the need for social inclusion, connectivity and wellbeing is at an all-time high, we see time and time again, the strong benefits of this program impacting the lives of our members, their families and our extended communities.

Tim Rowe
Bowls New South Wales CEO



ClubGRANTS foster a sense of unity, compassion and progress, creating stronger, more vibrant communities. The commitment of clubs to this initiative is unparalleled, showcasing their dedication to the welfare of the people they serve. Without a doubt, ClubGRANTS are indispensable in shaping a better future for our communities.

For RSL & Services Clubs specifically, ClubGRANTS ensures there is grass roots support for veteran and family services.

So often, other grants go to large organisations. ClubGRANTS allows innovation and creativity to solve often complex issues and opportunities. Many of these programs are developed by veterans, for veterans – and have a real impact on veterans and their families' wellbeing and education. These are difference-making grants!

Margot Smith
RSL & Services Clubs Association CEO



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