

Friday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> 2007

### NEW COMMUNITY CRIME FIGHTING GRANTS ANNOUNCED

Attorney-General Michael Atkinson has announced the first grant winners under the Government's new Crime Prevention and Community Safety Grant scheme.

The grants are being made available to community-based organisations, including local government authorities, to fund local projects.

"This new program replaces the old Regional Crime Prevention Program, which an evaluation showed did not deliver the outcomes the Government was hoping for," Mr Atkinson says.

"We therefore decided that the best way forward was to give incorporated organisations the opportunity to bid for one-off grants worth up to \$50,000.

"That way local communities have a real investment in seeing results and I congratulate those that have been successful during this grant round," he says.

The successful grants in this round went to:

- Legal Education and Awareness Project (L.E.A.P) – Legal Services Commission - \$47,883
- Safety initiatives in East End entertainment precinct – Adelaide City Council - \$50,000
- Women's Mentoring Program – Offenders Aid and Rehabilitation Services of S.A. - \$50,000
- Young People in Public Spaces Project – Youth Affairs Council of S.A. - \$43,520
- Your Choices Project – City of Salisbury - \$14,853.60
- Dare 2 Dream "Nunga Drumming Group" – Marra Murrangga Kumangka - \$33,235
- Youth Aerosol Art Project – City of Salisbury - \$17,038
- Creative Community Connections Project – Rural City of Murray Bridge - \$43,860
- Save-a-Mate – Mt Gambier Youth Advisory Committee - \$10,180
- Truancy and Substance Abuse Prevention – Vietnamese Community of Australia - \$50,000
- Tau Pathun – Baptist Community Services S.A. \$49,063
- Piecing it Together – City of Marion - \$20,900
- North on Target – Town of Gawler - \$40,000
- Project Y – City of Tea Tree Gully - \$50,000.

Applications for the grants were assessed by a panel that included representatives from the Crime Prevention Unit, the Local Government Association, SAPOL and the interim Commissioner for Victims Rights.

Mr Atkinson says the successful applicants had addressed one or more of the Government's priorities in their submission.

"Those priorities include youth crime, violent crime, property crime, vandalism and anti-social behaviour," he says.

"The submissions included ideas for tackling crime and for dealing with the causes of crime as well as addressing the damage crime can do to a local community.

"The range of potential community based projects is as broad as the range of potential crimes and through the Crime Prevention and Community Safety Grants we are giving local communities the power to deal with the issues that most concern them," Mr Atkinson says.

Examples from the successful grants include the ***Save-a-Mate*** project run through the City of Mount Gambier's Youth Advisory Committee. The project has been awarded \$10,180 to tackle youth substance abuse in the limestone coast region. The Committee will adopt the program, developed by Red Cross Adelaide, to educate and minimise harm with the use of drugs and alcohol by young people in the region.

Another is the ***Tau Pathan Project*** which is being co-ordinated by the Baptist Community Services of South Australia. The project has been awarded \$49,063 to target at risk Indigenous and Non-Indigenous youth through wilderness adventure camps, practical work programs, mentoring and cultural learning to prevent crime in the inner city and northern Adelaide.