Community Recovery News for the Redesdale Area Fires

Number 47 – July 19th 2010

Community Recovery Committee will meet on Wednesday 11th August at Mia Mia Hall.

Dates for next working groups:
- Community Well-Being group – Thursday 29th July at 1pm at Barfold Hall
- Land Management Group - Wednesday 21st July at 7pm Barfold Hall
- Communications [Bridge Connection & web-site development] call 54 255 501

Land management Working Group:
- Completed and submitted recycling for recovery grant application
- Hope to organise a bus trip to the Chilton State forest to be inspired by other bio-link projects
- Post Bushfire tube stock project completed

The Well Being Working Group:
- Trying to arrange more "Women Gathering After Fires” workshops within the local area
- Organising a men’s getaway event
- The Rob Gordon event was successfully attended

Parenting After the Bushfires: Castlemaine District Community Health, in collaboration with Cobaw Community Health, is facilitating a program in Kyneton for parents with children and teenagers affected by the bush fires. The program, featured recently on the 7.30 report, is a venue for parents to learn practical strategies and approaches in helping their children cope with stress. The group also aims to work with any parents whose children might be experiencing difficulties such as stress at school, anxiety or self-esteem issues. The free, six-session program will run Monday evening 6.30pm to 8.30pm commencing 9th August. Childcare is available. Enquiries and bookings to Rob Gill on 0488 026 446.

Free bus trip to other fire affected areas: Some residents have expressed an interest in a trip to other bushfire affected areas. The Well Being Working Group can organise a trip mid week and/or on a Saturday if enough people were interested. To express you interested please contact Kate Mutsaers on 5471 1821

Funding Available for community projects: The Community Recovery Committee (CRC) is pleased to advise that funding of $82,000 has been made available through the Department of Planning and Community Development for community projects in Bushfire affected areas. A letter and application is attached and for more information please contact Kate Mutsaers on 5471 1821
Youth Program:

**Mentoring program for young adults aged 16 to 26 years.**

If you want guidance towards a career, or assistance to define your goals and reach them, then mentoring is for you! Come along to the Redesdale Hall to meet the program coordinator on Tuesday 20th July at 5.30 to 7pm. Pizza and drinks provided Mike Hall and find out more.

**Parent representatives wanted for the youth project steering group.**

The project is in full swing now, and we are keen to have 2 local parents involved to advise on appropriate ways to develop opportunities for young people in your community. The committee meets at 3pm on a Tuesday, once per month at the Barfold Hall. Please contact Mike Hall at CHIRP 5479 1000 or 0457 524490 / email: mhall@cdch.com.au

**The Blokes To Get Away:** Pajero 4WD Club of Victoria is offering a relaxing weekend of good food, good surrounds and some activities which involve instruction in Four Wheel Driving in the Blackwood area. Must be over 18 years of age. This is a free event supported by VBRRA and Well Being Committee. The expected date for the getaway is Saturday 11th & Sunday 12th September. For more information call Vivienne Bourke on 0429 708 707

**A picture tells a story:** Fire affected residents are invited to be part of a project using photography to tell stories. The workshops aim to be interesting, fun and rewarding, by providing an opportunity for residents to connect, learn new skills or just have a yarn. **Dates for workshops are:** July 24th, August 7th, 14th and 21st, September 4th and 11th

For further information and bookings contact Deanna on 5475 1092 / 0428 751 090 or email deanna@focusoncommunity.org

**Funding for grief and loss counsellors** in bushfire affected areas will be extended past the current funding commitment of August 2010. Anyone interested in receiving more information please contact Nerida Melsmith on 0415 060 565.

**Post hole driver** for fencing recovery: contact Pip on 03 5423 7263 or p.j.elston@bigpond.com

If your contact details have changed or you no longer wish to receive the newsletter please contact Kate Mutsaers (contact details below)

**Contact Details:** Kate 5471 1821 / 0417 147 058; k.mutsaers@mountalexander.vic.gov.au
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