



MEDIA RELEASE

20 February 2019

Ann Leahy's February 2019 Funding Update

Drought Community Support Initiative

Not-for-profit organisations The Salvation Army, St Vincent de Paul Society and Rotary Australia World Community Service are providing financial support to people in drought-affected areas through the Australian Government's \$30 million Drought Community Support Initiative. Eligible households will receive practical support of up to \$3000, including \$2000 to help pay bills and \$1000 in vouchers. To apply for assistance contact one of the following not-for-profit organisations directly. The Salvation Army - 24 hour assistance line: Ph 02 8757 8088 or 1300 551 030, or visit www.salvos.org.au/drought; St Vincent de Paul, Assistance Line: Ph 13 18 12 or visit: www.vinnies.org.au; or Rotary Australia World Community Service, visit: www.rawcs.org.au. If you do not have internet access please contact Ann Leahy's Electorate Office Ph 1800 625 430 or warrego@parliament.qld.gov.au for assistance.

The Rural Financial Counselling Service (RFCS)

Provides free financial counselling to farmers, fishers, forest growers and harvesters and small related businesses who are suffering financial hardship. It's a confidential, independent, mobile service available in all states and territories. The service offers personalised agri-business expertise to deal with hardship, help clients identify options and maximise the value of their assets. For more information call 1800 686 175 or visit www.agriculture.gov.au/rfcs. If you do not have internet access please contact Ann Leahy's Electorate Office Ph 1800 625 430 or warrego@parliament.qld.gov.au for assistance.

Farm Liaison Officers

Connects farmers and graziers, businesses and communities with available assistance. Tahna Jackson is based in Longreach and travels between the regions. Contact 0409 357 211 or email: tjackson@rfcnq.com.au. If you do not have internet access please contact Ann Leahy's Electorate Office Ph 1800 625 430 or warrego@parliament.qld.gov.au for assistance.

Australian Government Support and National Services

Individuals, families, farms, and rural and regional communities can access a range of services and support to help them manage during times of hardship, including drought, and prepare for future conditions.

It is important that those in need of support do not self-assess their eligibility for assistance and instead seek advice from an expert, like a rural financial counsellor. For more information on services available, please access the link (below).

<http://www.agriculture.gov.au/SiteCollectionDocuments/ag-food/drought/drought-assistance-information-pack.pdf>



Ann LEAHY MP

Member for Warrego



Gambling Community Benefit Fund (GCBF)

The Gambling Community Benefit Fund (GCBF) round 100 is now open and closes at 11:59pm on Thursday 28th February 2019. Grants from \$500 and up to \$35,000 are available to eligible not-for-profit community groups. For more information contact the Coordinator Ph 3247 4284 or 1800 633 619, email: cbf@justice.qld.gov.au; Ann Leahy's Electorate Office Ph 1800 625 430 or visit: <http://www.justice.qld.gov.au/corporate/sponsorships-and-grants/grants/community-benefit-funding-programs>

ANZ Tennis Hot Shots Community Grants

Nominate a tennis club, tennis centre, school, association or other tennis venue affiliated with Tennis Australia that delivers the ANZ Tennis Hot Shots program to have the chance to receive a grant of \$10,000 and other prizes. Applications close at 10.59pm AEST on Thursday 28th February 2019. For more information email: tennisgrants@anz.com; contact Ann Leahy's Electorate Office Ph 1800 625 430 or visit: <https://www.gamesavematch.anz.com>

FRRR - In a Good Place - Strengthening Mental Health in Rural Communities

This program will be highly competitive. FRRR strongly suggests applicants make contact to discuss the suitability of projects before applying. In a Good Place is a national grants program that provides support for community-driven initiatives that reduce social isolation, increase social participation and connectedness, and encourage people in rural, regional and remote communities who are at risk of, or are experiencing, mental health issues to seek help. There are three objectives for this program: 1. Reduce social isolation; 2. Increase social participation and connectedness; and 3. Increase help-seeking. Applications are invited from not-for-profit community-based organisations with an ABN or Incorporation Certificate and must be submitted via FRRR's Grants Gateway by 4pm on Thursday, 14 March 2019 with successful projects receiving funds in late July 2019. For more information contact FRRR Ph 1800 170 020, email: info@frrr.org.au; Ann Leahy's Electorate Office Ph 1800 625 430 or visit https://www.frrr.org.au/in_a_good_place.php.

FRRR - Strengthening Rural Communities (SRC) - Small & Vital

Small & Vital grants can be used for a wide range of purposes including: Delivering activities, programs and services; Purchasing or hiring equipment and materials; Community infrastructure projects; and Operational and administrative costs associated with a project will be considered. This could include wages, paying a skilled contractor, or paying for overhead costs incurred in the project's delivery. Applications must clearly demonstrate a focus on one activity from the following seven activity areas. 1. Building community resilience; 2. Developing organisational resilience and capacity; 3. Enhancing environmental sustainability; 4. Fostering cultural vibrancy; 5. Lifelong learning and education; 6. Economic strength; and 7. Improving community health and social wellbeing. Further detailed information of activities that will be considered for funding can be found on the website. www.frrr.org.au; Applications close on 26th March 2019, however SRC –Small & Vital is a rolling grants program with applications accepted at any time. The cut-off for submissions and outcome advisory dates of successful applicants are listed on the website. If you have any queries or wish to discuss your project please contact FRRR on 1800 170 020, email: info@frrr.org.au; Ann Leahy's Electorate Office Ph 1800 625 430 or visit: https://www.frrr.org.au/SRC_Small_Vital.php.



Arrow Energy Brighter Futures Program – Round 1 2019

Closes on 1st March 2019 Preference is given to applications that address an identified area of need in the community, build skills or capacity in the local community and provide opportunities for community involvement. Projects and initiatives which encourage sustainability and community empowerment are also prioritised. Applicants need to demonstrate in their submission, how their project or initiative aligns with at least one of the three focus areas - health and safety, education or environment. Priority is given to applications from communities within Arrow Energy's areas of operation. For more information Ph 1800 038 856, email: brighterfutures@arrowenergy.com.au; contact Ann Leahy's Electorate Office Ph 1800 625 430 or visit: <https://www.arrowenergy.com.au/community/brighter-futures>

Outback Events Program - Round 1

Applications will be accepted until 1 April 2019 for new events or to extend existing events, which contribute to enhancing the profile of Outback Queensland and attract new or increase the number of visitors. Event and festival promoters, local governments, community organisations and local businesses are invited to apply and help grow tourism in their local communities. Funding from \$1000 to \$100,000 (exclusive of GST) is available per event, and may provide up to 50% of overall event costs. Events must be delivered on or before 31 December 2020. For further information Ph: (07) 3003 9200, email: outbackevents@premiers.qld.gov.au; contact Ann Leahy's Electorate Office Ph 1800 625 430 or visit: www.qld.gov.au/outback

Get Started Vouchers - Round 13

Voucher applications opened on 6 February 2019 and provide up to \$150 to those who can least afford to join a sport or recreation club. The predominate eligibility criteria for the program is for the child/young person, or the parent, guardian or carer, to hold a valid Centrelink Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card with the child/young person's name on it. If there are significant issues that prevent the parent/carer/guardian from applying, a referral agent may apply on their behalf. Voucher applications will close on if not fully allocated as expected prior. For more information visit: <https://www.qld.gov.au/recreation/sports/funding/getinthegame/getstarted/clubs-terms/#application> or contact Ann Leahy's Electorate Office Ph 1800 625 430 or if acting as a referral agent, visit <https://www.qld.gov.au/recreation/sports/funding/getinthegame/getstarted/refer/>

Interest Free Loans and Grants for Solar Systems and Battery Storage

Interest Free loans and grants are available for eligible applicants who meet the qualification requirements – as follows:

Solar Battery Only Rebate

Assistance is available with grants of \$3,000 and interest-free loans (subject to approval) of up to \$6,000 repayable within 10 years. If you already have a solar system installed on your residential property but want the benefits of 24 hour solar and the safety of a backup supply in blackouts, you can apply for either a grant of up to \$3,000, or an interest-free loan of up to \$6,000, or combine the two. Eligibility criteria: Residential properties only, Must have a solar system already installed on the property, Not receiving the 44 cent feed-in tariff under the Solar Bonus Scheme, Installation must be through a Clean Energy Council (CEC) approved solar retailer. For details on how to apply and proof of income requirements, please visit: <https://www.qld.gov.au/community/cost-of-living-support/concessions/energy-concessions/solar->



[battery-rebate](#) and for application enquiries Ph (07) 3032 0595 freecall 1800 623 946 or Ann Leahy's Electorate Office Ph 1800 625 430.

Solar and Battery Rebate

Queensland homeowners, who do not have a solar system could be eligible to apply for the loan and grant for the combined solar and battery solution. You can apply for a grant of up to \$3,000, or an interest-free loan of up to \$10,000, or combine the two and apply for both. Eligibility criteria: Residential properties only, Must NOT have a solar system already installed on the property, Must not be financing through a solar power purchase agreement or solar lease; Installation must be through a Clean Energy Council (CEC) approved solar retailer. For details on how to apply and proof of income requirements, please visit: <https://www.qld.gov.au/community/cost-of-living-support/concessions/energy-concessions/solar-battery-rebate> and for application enquiries Ph (07) 3032 0595 freecall 1800 623 946 or Ann Leahy's Electorate Office Ph 1800 625 430.

Commercial Rebate

Small businesses, body corporates and trusts can apply for grants up to \$3,000. For details on how to apply, please visit: <https://www.qld.gov.au/community/cost-of-living-support/concessions/energy-concessions/solar-battery-rebate> and for application enquiries Ph (07) 3032 0595 freecall 1800 623 946 or Ann Leahy's Electorate Office Ph 1800 625 430.

Farm Management Grants - Succession Planning Rebates

Access to rebates of up to \$2500 are now available to help tackle family business and succession planning costs. Professional advice in relation to succession planning, or a family member wanting to acquire an interest in the family business, can apply for a rebate of up to 50% of fees paid for the advice, with a maximum of \$2500 per applicant, per financial year. Advice must come from a suitably qualified professional adviser such as an accountant, financial planner or solicitor. For further information on how eligible applicants in receipt of professional advice can apply for a rebate on fees paid for the service, visit: <http://www.qrida.qld.gov.au/> freecall 1800 623 946 or Ann Leahy's Electorate Office Ph 1800 625 430.

If you do not have internet access please contact Ann Leahy's Electorate Office Ph 1800 625 430 or warrego@parliament.qld.gov.au for further information regarding any of these grant programs.