

<http://leaderlocalgrants.com.au/idea/the-gap-on-graham-girls-night>

THE GAP ON GRAHAM "GIRLS NIGHT"

Funded in Cycle 2 - October 2012

Every Wednesday the Gap on Graham youth centre we run a girls night from 6.30 - 8.30pm. We wish to expand the night and be able to offer a greater range of activities to the girls. The girls interest vary all the way from wood working to cooking to crafts. Giving these young girls the opportunity to participate and be part of the process in running the nights, raises the girls confidence, self esteem and simply the knowledge that they can achieve anything they put their minds to.

The total project cost is...\$1 000.00

The major costs associated with the project are...

Cooking supplies \$400

Woodworking tools \$300

Craft material \$200

Bike parts \$100

The \$1,000 grant will be used to purchase all the tools and supplies needed to ensure the girls have a varied range of activities to participate in every week....

Any further funding needed, I will be encouraging the girls to run sausage sizzles and possibly selling some of their crafts they make at local markets.



In the group section The Gap on Graham won the Community Organisation of the Year Award, while the Community Project of The Year went to the Disability in Sport Awareness Program run by the Catholic Regional College in Melton.

<http://melton.starcommunity.com.au/star/2013-01-29/our-winners/>

A not-for-profit organisation The Gap on Graham Youth Centre has accrued more than 400 members in its first year of operation.

The centre targets ‘at risk’ youth in Melton aged 10 to 24 years and has provided structured activities, exercise programs and promoted up-skilling and opportunities for vulnerable young residents.

The Disability in Sport Awareness program was developed in conjunction with the Victorian Certificate of Allied learning at Catholic Regional College.

It has achieved phenomenal results in teaching and engaging students with regard to disability and sports in the community.

City of Melton Mayor Kathy Majdlik said the influx of applicants was a reminder that the awards hold great value within the community.

“On behalf of Melton City Council I would like to extend my appreciation and gratitude to all nominees and winners who truly are outstanding citizens,” Cr Majdlik said.

<http://leader.newspaperdirect.com/epaper/viewer.aspx>

A MELTON youth hang-out is keeping kids off the street and teaching them valuable life skills.

Program is helping to fill The Gap in youngsters' lives

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On Wednesday evenings, The Gap holds a girls' night for children aged more than 10 years. Each week there is a different activity — from

restoring old push bikes to cooking classes and movie nights.
There is a similar boys' night on Thursday. But the program's come at a cost. That's why The Gap is applying for a \$1000 Leader Local Grant — available to

help fund community projects.
Volunteer Colleen Downie said \$1000 would go close to funding the girls' night for a year. "Every week there is something to do for the kids so they have fun, but most importantly we're teaching

them," she said. "They're learning that if you put hard work into something, you can achieve anything."
The mother-of-four said the programs helped mould the children. "It gives them

somewhere to be and someone to talk to," she said.
The Gap is at 5 Graham St, Melton. Membership is \$5 a year.

To volunteer, contact 0412 218 481. Applications are open to nominate community projects for \$1000 through the Leader Local Grants program. Applications close Friday, October 10. For full details go to leaderlocalgrants.com.au

PLEASE DONATE TO THE GAPS

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GOT a great idea for an inspiring community project but need a financial hand to get it off the ground?



Picture: KYLIE ELSE N48MT208 The GAP on Graham's Girls Night program was one of the projects to receive funding from Leader Local Grants.

This week we launch the third round of our \$100,000 Leader Local Grants program to help enterprising local groups or individuals develop small but significant projects that make a real difference in the community.

Grants of \$ 1000 will be available for innovative projects in 33 communities across Melbourne.

Last year two groups in Melton benefited from the program, including The GAP on Graham's Girls Night program.

Volunteer Colleen Downie said the grant had made a huge difference to the group.

“Membership has jumped from six to more than 20, volunteers, who have come forward, and local groups like Zonta are now supporting the girls,” Ms Downie said.

The final decision on where and how grants are spent is up to readers who can vote online for the projects they want to win the grant. Applications close June 14.