

# Newsletter

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## Riverina Youth represented at CED-Broken Hill

The Community Economic Development Conference coordinated by Industry & Investment NSW was this year hosted by Broken Hill. This years theme was "Communities in Transition" and echoed the changing economic, cultural and environmental factors effecting many communities today. RDA-Riverina in conjunction with Griffith City Council sponsored Maydina Penrith (Griffith), Jackson Goman (Leeton), Lauren Carr (West Wyalong) and Julia Davies (Wagga Wagga) as Youth/Indigenous Representatives from the Riverina region. All agreed that the knowledge they had gained from the Conference would assist in their roles as Aboriginal Education Worker, Community Services Officer, Youth and Community Development Officer and Regional Museum Officer. Maydina was invited to provide a presentation during the Designing Sustainable Lifestyles –the complete picture. All the representatives were fantastic ambassadors for the Riverina and certainly showcased the talented youth that the Riverina has.



Pictured Left are Maydina Penrith, Craig McIver and Jackson Gorman on the road to Broken Hill



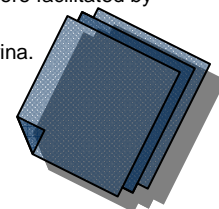
## RDA-Riverina-Regional Certifying Body

Assisting business to attract skilled workers. The RDA-Riverina as a Gazetted Regional Certifying Body (RCB) with authorisation from the Department of Immigration and Citizenship is able to provide certifications through the Employer Nomination Scheme.

The RDA-Riverina assists regional employers wishing to sponsor overseas skilled workers for skilled positions which cannot be filled using the local labour market. The visa involved is the Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme subclass 857 visas (RSMS-permanent visa). Also. Regional employer are encouraged to contact the RDA-Riverina to advise of emerging skill shortages so the occupation or skill can be recognized as in demand in the region and considered for inclusion on the Riverina-Skilled Occupation List. For further information on RSMS visit [www.rdariverina.org.au/regional-employer-sponsor-\(rsms\).html](http://www.rdariverina.org.au/regional-employer-sponsor-(rsms).html) or you are welcome to contact the RDA-Riverina Skilled Migration Officer by email at [migration@rdariverina.org.au](mailto:migration@rdariverina.org.au)

## The Regional Plan...2010

RDA-Riverina held a planning session for it's Committee members in Wagga Wagga with Kim Houghton on 24th June. This was followed by two Regional Planning forums during July. The forums were facilitated by Diana Gibbs in both Griffith and Wagga Wagga. The RDA-Riverina Regional Plan or Road Map will outline the issues and strategies for progressing the Riverina. The Draft Regional Plan will be available on the website in late August.



### Committee Activities

- RDA-Riverina EO Lani Houston will be presenting at the Rural and Regional Service Delivery Roadshow, Wagga Wagga September 1, 2010
- RDA-Riverina Meeting – Temora September 2, 2010.



An Australian Government Initiative



A NSW Government Initiative



Jim Diers –author of “Neighbor Power-Building Community the Seattle Way” with RDA-Riverina Chair-Tom Watson.

## Building Strong & Inclusive Communities Seminar

The RDA Riverina organised author of “*Neighbor Power: Building Community the Seattle Way*” - Jim Diers, to conduct a seminar in Wagga Wagga on Wednesday 26 May, 2010. Attended by 41 Government, Agency and Community representatives Jim, provided valuable information about how to engage Communities to achieve their goals. Using examples from his work with Communities in the city of Seattle, he was able to show what individuals can achieve when they work together as a community. For more information on Jim Diers visit his web site [www.neighborpower.org](http://www.neighborpower.org) RDA-Riverina is looking to get Jim back during early 2011.



## 2010-11 Positive Ageing Grants-Call for Applications

Ageing, Disability and Home Care, Department of Human Services NSW invites applications for funding under the 2010-11 Positive Ageing Grants program. Funding is available to local government and not-for-profit organizations under two categories:

### Small grants

Grants of \$5000 are available for positive ageing projects in local areas throughout NSW

### Statewide grants

One grant of \$30000 is available to organizations to implement a project across NSW that specifically targets the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community

One grant of \$30000 is available to organizations to implement a project across NSW that specifically targets the culturally & linguistically diverse community.

**Application dates The program opens on Monday 26 July 2010 and closes on Friday 20 August 2010**

How to obtain an application form: The 2010-11 Positive Ageing Grants guidelines and application forms are available from the ADHC website [www.dadhc.nsw.gov.au](http://www.dadhc.nsw.gov.au) from Monday 26 July 2010..

## Australian Institute of Community Practice & Governance

The Australian Institute of Community Practice and Governance, the training arm of Our Community, is offering affordable and practical training to help community sector staff, volunteers and supporters keep abreast of their responsibilities. The training is delivered by experienced, engaging community sector practitioners, and has been road-tested in the field to guarantee its relevance and applicability at the coalface.

Some of the courses include “Advanced Grant Writing Seminar”, “Be an Effective Spokesperson”, “Certificate IV in Governance” and “Intensive Community Fundraising Seminar”. Courses will be run in Sydney.

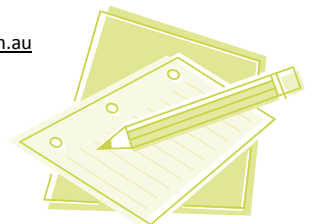
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## Community Economic Development Program

### Population under 2000

The Community Economic Development Program (Population Under 2000) is designed to help communities find new direction, utilizing their unique strengths. Not restricted to the retail sector the program is designed to improve general business climate and benefit the whole community.

The grant works to stimulate economic growth and create a positive environment for business in communities with a population of less than 2,000. Local council involvement is encouraged. Applications are invited from sponsoring organisations such as chambers of commerce or local councils, on behalf of their community.

Download the Your community - your future flyer for further information at [www.business.nsw.gov.au/community.Funding+Programs/tpv.htm](http://www.business.nsw.gov.au/community.Funding+Programs/tpv.htm) or more information in the Riverina/Murray please contact:

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## C Change at the Country & Regional Living Expo-Rosehill

The RDA-Riverina C Change project in conjunction with participating councils has once again for the third year in a row taken out the most successful stand at the Country & Regional Living Expo at Rosehill. Held over three days –6, 7 and 8 August, the expo attracted a record crowd of 8,765 participants compared to 8,500 in 2009.

The Expo, an initiative of the Foundation for Regional Development Limited, is a one-stop-shop for people considering a move out of the city to a country or regional area. The Expo highlights the employment vacancies, affordable real estate, lifestyle choices and business and investment opportunities available in communities all over NSW.

This year the C Change stand promoted the Riverina region as a whole with individual Councils having information under the headings of employment, industrial land, real estate & lifestyle. The stand looked fantastic. They also had oranges & little natives trees to give away as well.

Representatives from 6 of the participating Councils did a wonderful job of promoting the regions opportunities. Congratulations to Project Coordinator Tracey Valenzisi for her coordination, Robyn Ryan Hay Shire Council for producing the promotional banners and all the fabulous people who volunteered to man the stand over the weekend.



L to R: Lani Houston, Maryanne Mitchell (Carrathool), Peter Kennedy (Leeton), Chris Blake (Tumbarumba), Robyn Ryan (Hay) & Tracey Valenzisi (Project Coordinator)

Representing over 52 communities the exhibitors comprised of both smaller country towns and major regional cities. Visitors to the expo included the State Treasurer Eric Roozendaal and the Federal Minister for Sustainable Population Tony Burke.

The 11 Councils participating in the C Change project are:

Albury	Hay
Bland	Leeton
Carrathool	Narrandera
Cootamundra	Tumbarumba
Corowa	Wagga Wagga
Griffith	

56 genuine leads were recorded from people interested in moving to the region. Councils will now follow up on these leads. For further information go to [www.cchange.org.au](http://www.cchange.org.au)



## Small Grants for Small Rural Communities

The Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR) through its funding program is providing the **Small Grants for Small Rural Communities**. Priorities will be given to projects that support:

- \*Community Infrastructure
- \*Community Development involving Disadvantaged Children or Young People
- \*Resettlement of Immigrants in rural Australia
- \*Drought affected areas (Exceptional Circumstances Declared)

Grants will be made in amounts up to \$5,000. To be eligible projects must be for a charitable purpose (benefit the whole community). Organisations should have an ABN or Incorporation Certificate. Organisations demonstrating Community Partnerships will be preferred to multiple applications from one community.

**To apply:** Download a copy of the application form from [www.frrr.org.au/programsDetail.asp?ProgramID=4](http://www.frrr.org.au/programsDetail.asp?ProgramID=4)

Send the completed application form by mail with a copy of the most recent financial statement, project budget and all quotes to:

**FRRR, PO Box 41, Bendigo VIC 3552**

**Assistance Free call 1800 170 020 or email [info@frrr.org.au](mailto:info@frrr.org.au)**

**Closing Date: 30th September 2010**



## Small Business September 3rd-30th, 2010

Industry and Investment NSW will again be promoting Small Business September. Some of the events being held in the Riverina include:

- "Small Business; Is it for you?" - RSL Room, Hay Library Wednesday 8th September
- "A Guide for Business" - Riverina BEC, Tuesday 14th September, Wagga Wagga
- "Regional Event Workshop" - Griffith Ex Services Club Tuesday 28th September

Further information about Small Business September events can be found at the website [www.smallbusinessmonth.nsw.gov.au](http://www.smallbusinessmonth.nsw.gov.au) or by contact Industry and Investment NSW at the Wagga Wagga Office on 69216422.

**Start Local, Go Global-**

**Women in Local  
Government Forum**

14th September

CSU Wagga Wagga

# Riverina First Community Fund –Round 8 Successful Applicants

The RDA-Riverina –Riverina First Community Fund (RFCF) is a philanthropic fund used for improving social, cultural, community services and facilities in Riverina communities. The RFCF recently held its 8th round of funding since its establishment in 2003. The 8th round saw a total of 48 applications for funding received. There were two categories for funding –Up to \$2,000 for individual projects by community group or non-profit organisation and –Up to \$5,000 for larger projects involving multiple community groups or LGA's. A total of 15 projects amounting to approximately \$46,000 were successful. The successful applicants are:

## Up to \$2000

- \*Narrandera Christian Revival Crusade Inc.
- \*Brocklesby Community Inc
- \*Leeton Youth Committee
- \*Brindabella Bush Fire Brigade (Tumut Shire Council)
- \*Wagga Wagga Community Access Support Service
- \*Temora & District Community Radio Inc
- \*Batlow Development League
- \*Junee Historical Society
- \*Urana Arts & Historical Society

## Up to \$5,000

- \*Shear Outback
- \*Mulwala Progress Association
- \*Cootamundra Arts Centre
- \*Western Riverina Libraries
- \*Holbrook Submarine Museum



Congratulations to all the successful applicants.

RDA-Riverina will be looking at Grant Writing workshops in the future. Could communities/groups interested in participating in these workshops please contact Lani Houston by email at [lhouston@rdariverina.org.au](mailto:lhouston@rdariverina.org.au)

## Riverina Development Officers Meetings

Connecting communities, business, and government to projects, programs, services, funding and other people is part of RDA-Riverina's role and the Riverina Development Officers Meeting brings together community and economic development officers, State & Commonwealth Department agencies, arts, tourism and education representatives. The meeting has a number of aims; to network, provide information about various government programs, services & funding, share project ideas and enable the building of relationships across the region. The RDA-Riverina coordinated the second Development Officers meeting in Wagga on 25th May. With 32 attendees the meeting listened to presentations from Murrumbidgee Catchment Management Authority, Industry & Investment NSW, Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations, Indigenous Coordination Centre, Rural Climate Change-Centrelink and about Partnership Brokers and Youth Connections, Evocities, C Change, Skilled Migration and Riverina Food Group.

Mayor Kerry Pascoe provided an overview about key projects and events within the City Shire. The next meeting is scheduled for 19 October 2010.



Attending the May 2010 Development Officers Meeting in Wagga Wagga from left to right are: Glen Waterhouse-Tumut Shire Council, Maryanne Mitchell –Carrathool Shire Council, Lani Houston –RDA Riverina and Andrew Robbins-Temora Shire Council



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The RDA encompasses 13 Local Government Areas as shown in the map above

**'Most educated people don't realise how little impression abstract words make on the average man.'**  
**George Orwell**