

MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday, 10 August 2022

COMMUNITY RESOURCES ANNOUNCES THEIR EXCELLENCIES, THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, GENERAL (RETD) DAVID HURLEY & MRS LINDA HURLEY AS OUR INAUGURAL JOINT PATRONS

Community Resources is delighted to announce that His Excellency, the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd) Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia and Her Excellency Mrs Linda Hurley will become our inaugural joint patrons.

"One of Linda and my priorities is to celebrate people and organisations who are doing great and important things in the community. From the very first moment that we stepped foot on the Green Connect Farm, we saw that this was an incredible organisation quietly showing how together we can tackle some of the largest problems that our planet is facing today," the Governor-General said.

"Through Green Connect and other initiatives, Community Resources actively employs people experiencing barriers to employment in jobs that care for people and planet. We are delighted to become joint patrons and look forward to supporting their work."

Community Resources' CEO, Marc Higgins, said of the announcement:

"Their Excellencies have a long-held commitment to progressing Aboriginal affairs, sustainability practices and the environment. We are excited about how their patronage will help us in our goal to create thriving communities that value people, planet and the traditional custodians of the land. I can't think of more appropriate inaugural joint patrons.

This appointment is a great honour. After winning our prestigious Global Sustainability Award last year, we were delighted to host their Excellencies to view our unique permaculture farm and meet the former refugees and young people who work there. Our people come from culturally diverse backgrounds all around the world, working together to make a difference.

Our work shows that it is possible to bring about social change and environmental benefit while running a business. We hope our story inspires others to see how they too can play a part."

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Background

Community Resources started 35 years ago, as an Aboriginal-led organisation, helping Aboriginal people living on Worimi Country (NSW Mid North Coast) to find work.

Today, we run the successful environmental social enterprises <u>Green Connect</u>, <u>Resource Recovery Australia</u> and <u>Soft Landing</u>. We also run a range of <u>Community Services</u>: <u>The Great Lakes and Manning Youth Homelessness Service</u> (supporting youth homelessness), <u>Helping Hands</u> (providing care and building services), <u>Homebase</u> (offering holistic wraparound services to young and Aboriginal people) and <u>WasteAid</u> (working with Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander communities to co-design waste solutions).

Last year we provided jobs for 650 people across Australia, 79% of them experiencing barriers to employment.

In 2021, our social enterprise Green Connect was the Australian winner in the Commonwealth Secretary-General's 2021 Innovation for Sustainable Development Awards.

The Sustainable Development Goals are a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and improve the lives and prospects of everyone, everywhere.

FOR MEDIA ENQUIRIES CONTACT

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Community Resources is a national not-for-profit that runs some of the largest social enterprises in Australia and a range of community services. We create jobs that care for people and planet.

www.communityresources.org.au

