

We are here to help our communities

21 August 2020. Applications are now open for the latest round of the Community Bank Elmore, Lockington and Rochester branches' Community Sponsorship Program that focuses on supporting community recovery from the impacts of COVID-19.

First established in July 2016, the Community Sponsorship Program is open to community-orientated organisations and groups situated in the Elmore, Lockington and Rochester districts, typically twice per year.

Since 2004, the Community Bank branches of Elmore, Lockington and Rochester have returned more than \$1.7 million in funding to its local communities.

Brad Drust, Chair of Lockmore Financial Services, said the Community Sponsorship Program highlights the commitment of the three Community Bank branches to supporting local communities.

"It's been a tough year with our lives disrupted by COVID-19. Like previous funding rounds this one again provides local organisations with an opportunity to access locally generated capital for community programs, projects and events however we are particularly interested in applications that will support our community to bounce back from the impacts of the pandemic," Mr Drust said.

This will be a special round that focuses on groups and organisations that have not received funding of more than \$500 in the last two years, that have been affected by COVID-19 or that are assisting community wellbeing in these difficult times. This could involve initiatives that deal with the direct financial impacts of COVID-19, that provide mental health support or that strengthen community connections.

Alex Rosaia, Branch Manager, Community Bank Elmore, Lockington and Rochester, is encouraging local groups and organisations to consider applying for sponsorship assistance through the Program.

"This is a fantastic opportunity for organisations across the districts to seek funding and support for projects they may be keen to get off the ground. Our previous round of Community Sponsorship Program funding awarded 13 local groups with financial support to help develop new community infrastructure such as; new mural shelters, a community weather station and new solar panels" Mr Rosaia said.

"Simply put, the more our customers bank with us, the more our Community Banks can invest back into our local communities. Come talk to our staff today and learn more about how banking with your local Community Bank branches can practically help your community develop, grow and thrive," Mr Rosaia concluded.

Information on how to apply for round eight of the Community Sponsorship Program can be sourced by sending an email to swade@lockmore.com.au or by visiting one of our Community Bank branches today. Applications close on Monday 28 September 2020.

More information please contact Sandra Wade, 0413 417 055.