



Kilkivan & District Community Care Assn Inc.

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Advocating for & providing care services and facilities on behalf of aged & disabled people in Kilkivan & districts.

MEDIA RELEASE

4.9.23

Hand, Heart Pocket matches Kilkivan Masonic Lodge donation

In a further significant injection of funds locally, Hand Heart Pocket, the charity of Freemasons Queensland, has matched the early 2023 donation of \$30,000 by the Kilkivan Masonic Lodge to Kilkivan & District Community Care Association (KDCCAI).

At the Kilkivan Lodge's annual installation dinner held on Saturday evening at Kilkivan Bowls Club, members of the Kilkivan Lodge were joined by representatives of both the State organization & other lodges, several members' wives, and some community representatives.

The event not only formally recognised this significant additional commitment to KDCCAI's Rise & Shine Ageing-in-place Project, but also provided a further local funding boost by Kilkivan Lodge, this time to Kilkivan Kindy. Kindy representatives Janet Amos (President of the Kindy Committee) & Anne Bicknell (lead Kindy educator) were delighted to accept a cheque for \$10,000, which was accompanied by this citation: *"To assist the group to purchase new education and equipment resources to allow the children from Kilkivan, Tansey, Goomeri and Woolooga districts to keep abreast of their counterparts in more populated areas"*.

Ms Amos said that the Lodge's generous contribution would help provide the children with "the tools, resources and opportunities they need to thrive."

President of Kilkivan & District Community Care Association Rosie Fitzgerald thanked Kilkivan Lodge members and Hand Heart Pocket for their financial and symbolic support of the ageing-in-place project. "We are a small community trying to address an important goal for seniors especially – the ability to remain longer, better, in the place we call home. Our organization is part of a consortium with The Affordable Housing Charity (TAHC) which is applying for both state and federal government grants to fund an infrastructure project for the Kilkivan-Goomeri-Tansey-Woolooga districts. We need external funding to achieve this. But if we can demonstrate the commitment of both local individuals and local organizations to this objective, we believe our case is strengthened enormously. KDCCAI is so very grateful for the role of both Kilkivan Masonic Lodge and Hand Heart Pocket in providing this financial and strategic commitment."

Kilkivan Lodge members instigated the matched-giving application after discussing at length the Rise & Shine Ageing-in-place Project with KDCCAI representatives and believing it qualified as having "potential to make an important difference" in the local community.

"I left Saturday's dinner in Kilkivan feeling very impressed by and grateful for the contribution of our Masonic Lodge to this community: on this occasion, Lodge funds had been gifted to the two ends of the age continuum – the Kindy kids and our seniors!" said Rosie Fitzgerald yesterday. "This generosity should make an awesome difference to many people's futures."

Authorised by Rosie Fitzgerald

Pres., KDCCAI

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3 photos emailed with this document.