

Media Release

A photograph of two people wearing high-visibility safety vests and hard hats, standing outdoors in a natural setting. The date "14 July 2016" is overlaid on the bottom right of this image.

14 July 2016

VicForests grant supports Warragul Opportunity Shop

VicForests has provided funding to Baw Baw Combined Churches Food Relief to support their Opportunity Shop through a Community Support Program grant.

Baw Baw Combined Churches Food Relief recently opened an Opportunity Shop in Warragul to raise money for their food relief program and sought funding to promote the shop to the broader community in its early stages.

The organisation is instrumental in providing food aid and support for over 600 families in the Baw Baw Shire.

Mrs Anne Pascoe, Manager Baw Baw Combined Churches Food Relief said that the funds provided by VicForests will be a great help in launching the Opportunity Shop to the public.

“Thanks to VicForests we will be able to promote our Op Shop to the community and begin to raise some much needed funds for the food relief program.

“This program is a lifeline in our community that supports people from all backgrounds including youth, senior citizens, families, and their children, and local aboriginal groups.”

Mrs Pascoe said that the group will begin promotion of the Op Shop immediately in order to get the word out to the community.

VicForests’ annual Community Support Program helps regional community groups and services, who are positively contributing to their local area.

The VicForests initiative, now in its seventh year, has provided over \$350,000 to communities as well as a number of in-kind donations and ongoing support to other groups and services across the State.

Liz Langford, Regional Engagement Manager VicForests, said the grants are supporting the important work of community organisations.

“Many of our staff live and work in regional Victoria and VicForests is proud to support these communities.

“Each year we have a great response from organisations applying for a grant and we’re happy to be able to reach out and help many different groups and projects,” Ms Langford said.

VicForests’ Community Support Program assists organisations that contribute to the wellbeing of local communities by providing grants of up to \$2,000 to charity, sporting, educational and community groups in regional Victoria.

Close to 250 community groups have received grants from VicForests since commencing the program in 2009.

For more information about the Baw Baw Combined Churches Food Relief Opportunity Shop please visit <http://www.warraqul.foodrelief.org.au>



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Image: Volunteers at the new Baw Baw Combined Churches Food Relief Opportunity Shop