



18<sup>th</sup> Nov 2015

## CafeSmart 2015 funds 132 Community Projects

On August 7th, 491 cafes, 27 coffee roasters and thousands of coffee drinkers helped raise \$135,612 to fund local grassroots homeless projects. For every coffee sold, cafes donated \$1, coffee roasters supplied beans and customers chipped in.

Across Australia, coffee heads came together to effect change in their local communities. 100% of the funds raised by CafeSmart combined with other funds raised by StreetSmart have now been allocated through 132 Community Grants totaling \$151,800. Grants target helping people who are homeless or at risk, by supporting grassroots homeless services.

Adam Robinson CEO of StreetSmart Australia said *“Having over 500 small businesses involved and engaged during National Homeless Prevention Week, not only raised vital funds but also created great awareness around the issue of homelessness and what people can do to help. Yet again the coffee industry has shown how generous and community minded they are. The funding raised goes to some of our smallest, yet vital, community groups and not for profits, who have seen funding stripped out of the sector, yet are on the front line of service delivery.”*

StreetSmart grants go to support projects **local** to the cafes who participated, funding a wide variety of responses to homelessness including emergency aid, food, shelter, as well as projects that promote social inclusion, empowerment and sustainable change for people experiencing homelessness.

On hearing the news of a successful grant application Julie Felus, Executive Officer at Northern Domestic Violence Service in South Australia, said

***“Many thanks to those cafes who were thoughtful enough to participate in this campaign. The funds raised will enable NDVS to purchase food parcels for women and children fleeing domestic violence and awaiting accommodation in shelters. The ability to provide women with supplies at the point of entry is pivotal to allaying concerns about basic needs for the family, especially when most are leaving with no, or few possessions. It not only allows women to breathe a sigh of relief, but enables a warm welcome and an opportunity for staff to engage with families and set in motion strategies to address need. The grant is an important contribution to front line work and NDVS is most appreciative of community efforts.”***

If you would like to know more about the latest grants and more examples of where funds have gone please contact **Adam Robinson CEO StreetSmart Australia on 0488 336419, or visit the website.**

The event relies on hundreds of participants but it's great to acknowledge the high fliers. This year our Top fundraising Café was Yellow Bernard in Hobart, Tasmania and our Top Coffee Roaster Partner was Campos Coffee.

Since 2003 StreetSmart has raised \$3.6 million and has funded 1147 community projects.

Further details  
[www.streetsmartaustralia.org](http://www.streetsmartaustralia.org)