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Thanks to the hospitality industry, StreetSmart celebrates its 1000th Community Grant

Australian restaurants and cafes who have been participating in StreetSmart fundraising campaigns can pat themselves on the back. This week, it has been announced that StreetSmart has awarded its 1000th Community Grant.

DineSmart has had over 740 restaurants participate over its 12-year history, while CafeSmart – the organisation’s café-based fundraising event has had 672 cafes participate since 2011.

So far, StreetSmart has raised over \$3.42 million, supporting 1009 projects; a huge milestone for the small not for profit organisation.

Adam Robinson, CEO of StreetSmart said that the partnership with so many great restaurants and cafés was the backbone to StreetSmart’s fundraising campaigns.

“What I love about our partnership with the hospitality industry is that the restaurants and cafes really demonstrate to me the true meaning of hospitality. I have met so many genuinely compassionate and generous people who share a passion for making our community a better place for all.”

“I just can’t thank the Australian hospitality sector enough for their ongoing support of StreetSmart, without them we wouldn’t have been able to change so many lives”, he said.

Simon Denton, StreetSmart Ambassador, owner of Kappo and Izakaya Den in Melbourne, was the first restaurant to sign up in 2003, said...

“We’ve been supporting StreetSmart for 12 years at all my restaurants. I’m proud to see the organisation make its 1000th community grant through its partnership with restaurants and cafes across Australia. We are so happy to be involved in such great programs that can have an impact at a grassroots level and to be aligned with such a great team at StreetSmart. It is our privilege to be able to be a small part of this ongoing program.”

Sam Christie, StreetSmart Ambassador, owner of Longrain Sydney and Melbourne, The Apollo, Cho Cho San and Subcontinental in Sydney, also added

“It’s rewarding to be part of the DineSmart campaign and see the hospitality industry help raise funds for over 1000 community projects. Our restaurants have been involved since 2006. We have been overwhelmed by the participation and support of so many people in our industry, our customers, as well as our suppliers, over those years! To see StreetSmart’s impact on the community reach 1000 community grants and change the lives of so many people who are homeless, makes all of our staff proud to be involved.”

StreetSmart celebrates its 1000th Community Grant with Iramoo Youth Refuge, an organisation that supports young people who are at risk of homelessness by providing housing and support through their six-week crisis accommodation program in Melbourne.

"To be the recipient of the 1000th StreetSmart Community Grant is so special. We have been fortunate to have received wonderful support from StreetSmart over the last ten years", said Alistair Sutherland, Manager, Iramoo Youth Refuge

"Finding funding for a service as small as ours is never easy to come by, but StreetSmart have been there for us and the projects they are willing to support make a real difference to our work and the outcomes we can achieve for our young homeless clients."

This grant is part of the latest round of 70 community grants funded through the 2014 DineSmart event. Leading fundraisers from 2014 included Chin Chin, Café Sydney, Stalactites, Windy Point, Red Spice Road, Longrain, Kong, Ole, and Pizza D'Oh.

The hospitality sector can support StreetSmart by:

- Taking part in numerous events including DineSmart, CafeSmart and RunSmart
- Organising your own fundraiser
- By donating online or through the PROJECTS crowdfunding site
- By supporting and sharing content from StreetSmart's Facebook, Twitter and Youtube accounts

For more information, visit: www.streetsmartaustralia.org

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About StreetSmart

StreetSmart was founded in 2003 to support and strengthen smaller, grassroots community organisations helping the homeless. These smaller organisations are critical in helping many people in crisis. StreetSmart helps out by raising funds and delivering financial grants, raising community awareness of the issues of homelessness and assisting these organisations to connect across their communities.

For more information, visit www.streetsmartaustralia.org