

Dr Chris Bourke
Member for Ginninderra
Adjournment Debate
Karinya House and Tiny's Green Shed

One of my pleasant duties recently was to represent the Chief Minister at a cheque presentation. The cheque was for \$10,000 and I presented it to Karinya House – Home for Mothers and Babies - on behalf of Tiny's Green Shed.

Tiny's Green Shed is located at the Mugga Lane reusables facility. It runs a charity day on the last Wednesday of each month.

Tiny's Green Shed has already made similar donations to the Starlight Children's Foundation, the McGrath Foundation, Pegasus Riding School and Marymead. It also donates goods to members of the public and community groups such as Cowra Men's Shed.

This \$10,000 donation will provide invaluable resources for Karinya House which is a community based organisation that provides supported accommodation, transitional housing and outreach services to pregnant women and women with children in crisis.

Karinya House supports young women from Canberra and surrounding regional areas. It is the only residential and outreach service specifically for pregnant and parenting young women in the region and it operated seven days a week, 24 hours a day.

Karinya provides casework support to between 30 and 40 outreach clients at any one time.

Staff develop individual support plans for each client according to their specific needs and circumstances. These support plans encourage residential and outreach clients and their families to access a range of life skills and opportunities.

I want to congratulate staff from Tiny's Green Shed for their passionate work in supporting the local community. I also want to thank those in the community who have supported their initiative by donating unwanted goods and by buying used goods on the charity days. Patrons are able to monitor progress by watching the red line creep towards the \$10,000 target on a giant thermometer.

On Charity Days, 100% of all proceeds from sales are collected until the figure of \$10,000 is reached. This amount is then donated to the current chosen charity before collection starts for the next charity on the list.

Tiny's Green Shed donates to non-profit organisations that are registered charities and which operate to benefit the Canberra community. They are always happy to hear from local groups which feel they meet these criteria.

As well as raising money, charity days encourage more Canberrans to drop off their unwanted goods for re-use rather than taking them to landfill. This helps people save money by avoiding landfill fees as well as being better for the environment.

Since Tiny's Green Shed started operating in January 2010 it has accepted and sold for reuse tens of thousands of items including books, lounges, tables and chairs, bikes, clothing, furniture, building materials, gardening items and sporting equipment.

In 2010-11 it recovered nearly 1300 tonnes of material that would otherwise have gone to landfill.

I want to remind Canberrans that if they wish to participate in future charity days they should take their unwanted goods to Tiny's Green Shed and then shop there on the last Wednesday of each month.

This is a great community initiative and I urge all Canberrans to support it.
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