



The Hon Ray Williams MP

Member for Castle Hill
Minister for Multiculturalism and
Minister for Disability Services

MEDIA RELEASE

YOUTH AT THE CENTRE OF \$1.1 MILLION GRANT FUNDING

Local Member for Castle Hill Ray Williams, who is also the Minister responsible for youth, announced \$1.1 million in grant funding for organisations and councils under the NSW Government's Youth Opportunities program.

One-off grants of up to \$50,000 are available for projects that engage young people to lead and participate in community development activities.

"The Youth Opportunities program is focused on engaging with young people and removing barriers that prevent them from participating more in their community," Mr Williams said.

"Whether you are a teenager or in your 20s, our Government wants to help everyone realise their full potential."

Since 2012, Youth Opportunities has provided almost \$8 million in funding to more than 148 projects across NSW.

Funded projects from previous rounds have focused on giving young people the opportunity to develop a diverse range of skills, including leadership, communication, and teamwork, as well as event management and planning.

"These skills are essential for getting the most out of life, as well as forging a successful career," Mr Williams said.

"I am absolutely delighted to announce the Youth Opportunities team are accepting new applications for the next round of grants from this wonderful program."

In October last year, the NSW Government announced grants totalling \$1.1 million for 28 new Youth Opportunities projects currently being implemented across NSW. Funding was provided to support youth with gaining employment, exploring issues through filmmaking and encouraging healthy lifestyles.

The online application process opens on Monday 22 May 2017 and closes on Monday 26 June 2017. Successful applications will be announced later in 2017.

To apply for a Youth Opportunities grant or for more information, visit www.youth.nsw.gov.au/youth-opportunities.

Media: June Belkovskis | (02) 8882 9555