

Transforming the lives of disadvantaged rural and regional students through education, training and careers.

Jamin's Trading Up

He's only 16 but Jamin White has a plan for his future. And the Country Education Foundation, in partnership with the James N. Kirby Foundation, is helping him get there.

Jamin has just started a mechanic apprenticeship in Cootamundra.

"I wasn't really big on school and just wanted to get on with getting some good skills," Jamin said.

With his post-school training sorted Jamin turned his focus to the cost of doing a TAFE course and buying tools. He said costs soon started to add up.

A family friend told Jamin's mum about a grant he might be eligible for so he applied. When news of his success came through he was excited and said it also made him feel proud of the choice he has made.



Apprentice mechanic Jamin White is being supported by the Country Education Foundation and a James N. Kirby Scholarship in 2016.

"I think it's important to support kids who don't want to go on at school. I only get \$5 a week tool allowance from the government and there's plenty of costs involved in TAFE."

To get Jamin on his way to becoming a skilled mechanic the Country Education Foundation awarded him a 2016 Kirby Scholarship.

The Country Education Foundation is proud to partner with some incredible organisations to help rural and regional youth achieve their dreams, including the Bruce and Robyn Loder Foundation, Eureka Benevolent Foundation, James N. Kirby Foundation, McLean Foundation, Rotary Club of Sydney Cove and the Snow Foundation.

St Andrew's Students in the Spotlight

The Country Education Foundation has joined forces with St Andrew's College, University of Sydney and the Thyne Reid Foundation to support rural and regional students. Four CEF grant recipients have been awarded scholarships in 2016.

Sarah, Tom, Emma and Zac said the St Andrew's community was making the big move from the country to the city a whole lot easier and their scholarships were easing the financial burden that comes with study.

Principal of St Andrew's College, Wayne Erickson, welcomed the new partnership. "Our partnership with the Country Education Foundation gives the College a valuable perspective on the higher education aspirations and needs of students from rural, regional and remote NSW, and allows us to tap into a detailed local expertise and understanding about these students and their circumstances."

"The CEF have made it easier for me to pursue my passion for mathematics and statistics by providing me with financial support and assistance. The money they provided helped pay for my textbooks and kickstarted my university degree."

Sarah Marcon, NSW



Sarah

Supporting More Than 450 Rural and Regional Dreams in 2016

Each year our 42 local CEF foundations support school-leavers from their regions to get started with TAFE, university, further training and careers.

This year our foundations are supporting 454 students with \$628 350 in grants. That's a lot of tools, laptops and textbooks we'll be providing for disadvantaged rural and regional young people.

Our volunteers work tirelessly to raise funds for the local grants program and deserve huge congratulations for another successful year of putting rural and regional school-leavers on track to achieving their dreams.



Some very excited school-leavers from the Country Education Foundation of Kapunda, SA were amongst the 454 CEF 2016 local foundation grant recipients.

Anna's Buoyed by Success

Former CEF grant recipient and scholarship winner Anna Boyes grew up four hours' drive north-west of Rockhampton, in the small inland Queensland town of Clermont.

Anna's story is a familiar one across rural Queensland. She revelled in both the freedom and security of a small country town and didn't give much thought to life beyond Clermont. She certainly hadn't entertained the idea of becoming a high school teacher. But with assistance from the Country Education Foundation that's exactly what she did.

When Anna's local high school principal told her about a grants program supporting rural and regional students to pursue further education she got some big ideas.

As Anna considered going to uni she was confronted by the tyranny of distance and financial burden. "I'm the first in my family to go to university and when I told my parents that was what I wanted to do they were really supportive but I knew they couldn't afford to put me through a higher education degree."

"When you're 1,000 kilometres away from the course you have applied for you feel so far away from opportunity that the hurdle seems impossible to clear."

Anna received consecutive CEF grants throughout her studies and was a 2014 Rotary Scholarship recipient.



Former CEF grant recipient Anna Boyes is now enjoying a successful and rewarding teaching career in rural Queensland.

After graduating in 2014 Anna was offered a full-time teaching position at Dysart State High School, just over an hour from her hometown of Clermont.

"I feel really lucky to have grown up in the bush and be supported to go away and gain qualifications. If I can pass that story on and show kids what's possible that would be really satisfying."

Thanks to the Snow Foundation and Origin Foundation the CEF has established an alumni project to locate former grant recipients. This project is an important step in recognising the success of our family of local committees and the students they support.



Forestry Funds Help Rural and Regional Youth

Forestry Corporation of NSW has partnered with the Country Education Foundation to support rural and regional school-leavers in further education, training and employment.

As part of Forestry's centenary celebrations the organisation has made a generous donation that will have a direct impact on

Forestry Corporation of NSW Chairman James Millar and CEO Nick Roberts are proud to be supporting the study and career aspirations of rural and regional students.

the CEF's capacity to help disadvantaged rural and regional students.

"Forestry Corporation is proud to support the great work of the Country Education Foundation to help young people from the bush further their education and training and build their careers," Forestry Corporation of NSW CEO Nick Roberts said.

Donors Dig Deep to Help More Students

As the long Aussie summer of 2016 came to a close we headed to Pennant Hills Golf Club for the biggest corporate charity golfing event in Australia.

The ASX Thomson Reuters Charity Foundation Golf Tournament was a great opportunity to meet donors committed to the same goal we are – providing disadvantaged rural and regional students with access to education, training and career opportunities.

We also made a trip to Sydney to accept our donation from the 2015 ICAP Charity Day. This amazing global charity day brings together financial brokers from all over the world for a day of trading where 100 per cent of profits are donated to charities.

The Country Education Foundation were honoured to be one of 110 charities who benefited from this incredible experience.

Our local foundations have been busy too, with Goulburn hosting another successful biennial Art in the Woolshed fundraising event to benefit school-leavers in their region.

It's always great to get on the ground at these events and share inspiring stories of our beneficiaries. Corporate charity days and fundraising events are a powerful way to bring organisations, community members and not-for-profits together to make a difference.



The CEF were honoured to be part of the ICAP Global Charity Day.



CEf CEO Sarah Taylor with Mark Owens from ICAP Australia.



The 2016 Art in the Woolshed fundraising event in Goulburn was a huge success.



CEf CEO Sarah Taylor with volunteers Jamie and Prue at the ASX Thomson Reuters Charity Golf Day.



The Country Education Foundation (CEF) is a national not-for-profit organisation assisting disadvantaged rural and regional students to pursue their higher education, training and career goals. With your help we provide financial grants, scholarships, mentoring and support.

The CEF encompasses over 40 local education foundation committees, operating throughout Queensland, New South Wales, the Northern Territory and South Australia.

Since 1993 we've given almost 4000 grants to disadvantaged young people across Australia. The CEF has helped apprentices buy their toolkits, funded laptops and textbooks for TAFE students, and helped remote students travel to capital cities to study at university. Our support services also include an annual University Survival Guide, a University Scholarship Guide and student mentor programs.

To find out more about our life-changing work please visit www.cef.org.au or phone us on 1300 652 144.