



CEO message



The support we provide to rural and regional students is funded entirely by donations and fundraising and relies on the efforts of over 400 CEF volunteers across Australia.

Their combined efforts have contributed to a record level of

assistance in 2015, despite difficult economic circumstances in many rural communities.

This includes 463 local grants worth more than \$652,000 and matched funding from our education partners worth \$333,401.

When you talk to students like Noelle (below) and Alex (p3) you get a real sense of the impact of those grants.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this great effort – you’re part of something that is making a real difference to so many rural and regional Australians.

Best wishes,

Sarah Taylor, CEO

CEF Friends welcome Fran Kelly and Noelle Swainston



Noelle Swainston and ABC RN presenter, Fran Kelly at the CEF Friends' Lunch

When she was invited to speak at the 2015 CEF Friends' Lunch and share the stage with leading Australian journalist, Fran Kelly, Noelle Swainston from Orange leapt at the opportunity – her first experience at public speaking.

Noelle, who is studying psychology at Charles Sturt University, shared her experience of leaving home to take up tertiary study.

She said many young people hope to attend university but worry about how they will manage when their parents may not be able to provide

the financial assistance that they need. “This results in financial struggle in the midst of trying to transition into adulthood, living away from home and focusing on study,” she said.

Despite some very difficult circumstances Noelle has worked incredibly hard and achieved great results.

“In the year and a half since I first had contact with the CEF team, I have received constant support, understanding and encouragement through the loss of my mother to cancer in late 2014 and the diagnosis of my father’s terminal illness in the same year.

“It’s very much appreciated, as it makes such a substantial difference, allowing us to achieve what we often thought might not be possible.”

Great support for rural and regional students

In 2015, the CEF has again increased the number and value of grants awarded to disadvantaged rural and regional students.

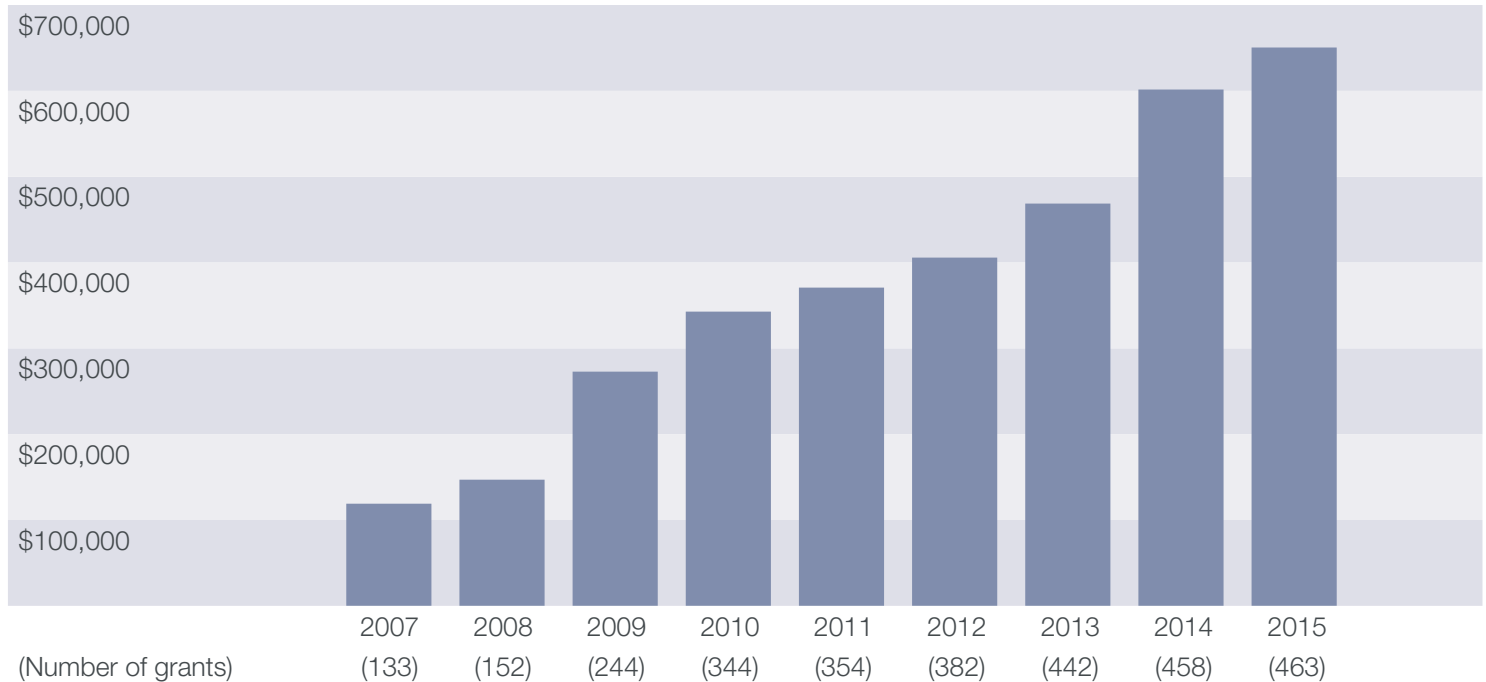
Over \$650,000 in grants will go to 463 students from communities in New South Wales, Queensland,

South Australia and the Northern Territory.

With an extra \$333,401 from our education partners across Australia that brings our total assistance to

over \$986,101.

Value and number of CEF local grants 2007-2015



Thank you...

Our work in rural and regional Australia is made possible by the generous donations and support from all individuals, families, sponsors and partners.

This month we'd like to say a special thank you to Renshaw Irrigation, Simply Centrepieces, Cumulus Wines and the NSW Bridges Partnership of universities.



Stay warm and dry!

Dry your dishes and warm your heart with these great new CEF tea towels.

Only \$10 each (plus postage) and all proceeds will support disadvantaged rural and regional students. Ideal for gifts and for larger orders we'll add your corporate logo. Enquiries: **02 6362 3162** or email **info@cef.org.au**



Breaking down barriers in Broken Hill

If you live in Broken Hill, going to uni involves some tough choices.

Leaving home, adjusting to life without family and friends and finding accommodation and employment are just some of the obstacles that Alex Rowbotham has overcome to pursue his goal of becoming a primary school teacher.

Alex is the first in his family to go to university and with the support of the CEF and Eureka Benevolent Foundation he is now studying at La Trobe University's Mildura campus.

The \$10,000 Eureka Scholarship was a huge help to Alex, covering travel and set up costs when he moved out of home.

He loves his course and looks forward to one day teaching in rural Australia: "I want to give regional students the best chance of education and to access resources they may not be aware of," Alex said.

The Eureka Scholarship is one of a number provided by the CEF with support from the Eureka Benevolent Foundation, Loder Foundation, McLean Foundation, Origin Foundation, Snow Foundation and the Rotary clubs of Sydney and Sydney Cove. Our thanks to each of them for supporting Alex and other students from rural/remote locations.



Alex Rowbotham, future rural teacher

Help us support more rural & regional students

Online:
Visit www.cef.org.au and click on the 'donate now' button on our home page.

Pro Bono:
Call us on **02 6362 3162**

By cheque:
Fill in the form below and send it with your cheque to the Country Education Foundation, PO Box 245, Orange NSW 2800.



A sound investment – Research by Social Ventures Australia (SROI Report 2011) indicates that for every dollar invested, a social return of \$3.10 is generated.

Name:

Postal Address:

Telephone:

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Donations \$2 and over are tax deductible

The Country Education Foundation | Tel: 1300 652 144 | www.cef.org.au

2015 CEF Friends' Lunch

CEF Board and staff joined friends, supporters and students at the CEF Friends' Lunch in Sydney, sponsored by Boyce Chartered Accountants, Cumulus Wines and Simply Centrepieces.

Guests enjoyed presentations by ABC Radio National Breakfast host, Fran Kelly and CEF grant recipient, Noelle Swainston. The event raised over \$35,000 to support rural and regional students.



COOL CLIMATE | HIGH ELEVATION | HAND CRAFTED



Nick Burton Taylor AM, CEF Chairman; Beth Hoskins, Boyce; Phil Alchin, MD Boyce; Guy Milson, CEF Treasurer



Jane Strang, Chrissie Hurrell and Helen MacPhillamy



Sarah Woodrup, Cumulus Wines; Sarah Taylor



The Hon Katrina Hodgkinson MP; Noelle Swainston; Sarah Taylor, CEF CEO



Sarah Smith and Sue Cavanagh



Karl Sinclair, Paraway Pastoral; Bob McKay, Agfarm Grain Marketing



Angus Taylor MP; Noelle Swainston



Louise Clegg, Goulburn CEF; Georgina Byron, Snow Foundation