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## Media Release

*For Immediate Release*

### Findex Community Fund and CEF Make Supporting Regional Youth Their Business

Country Education Foundation of Australia (CEF) and Findex Community Fund (FCF) are excited to announce the 6 x \$3,000 scholarships to CEF recipients undertaking further education in areas related to business and finance.

#### The six 2023 FCF – CEF Scholarships are awarded to:

**Hugh White** – Bachelor of Economics and Finance, University of Wollongong – CEF Coleambally/Darlington Point

**Tayah Zapata** – Bachelor of Business Studies, Charles Sturt University – Hastings Education Fund

**Sophie Barclay** – Bachelor of Business, University of New England – CEF Nyngan

**Clarissa Langebeck-Muller** – Bachelor of Accounting, Charles Sturt University – Temora Education Fund

**Jordan Austin** – Bachelor of Commerce/Bachelor of Advanced Studies, University of Sydney – CEF Griffith

**Jazmyne Sumalinog** – Bachelor of Business, University of Wollongong – CEF Far West NSW

Clarissa Langebeck-Muller, has always had a passion for numbers, but had to defer her studies last year due to financial stress. When notified she was a successful recipient this year, she said: “Receiving the Findex Community Fund scholarship has increased my strive and determination to succeed and will certainly have a massive impact on my future studies.” Clarissa is supported by the Temora Education Fund - a member of the CEF local foundation network - to undertake a Bachelor of Accounting with Charles Sturt University and is extremely grateful for the additional help. “You have definitely reduced the stress of finances associated with study, thank you all so much,” said Miss Langebeck.

CEF Chief Executive Officer, Juliet Petersen says the partnership with Findex Community Fund provides much needed financial relief for rural and regional students. “Since 2018, with thanks to Findex Community Fund, we have awarded \$79,000 in scholarship funds to 25 CEF supported students, ensuring they can access post-school education. In addition, the Fund has generously donated an additional \$57,000 to support our local foundation and CEF national office. We are appreciative of their commitment to education, and for their belief in our work,” said Ms. Petersen.

Findex Community Fund Director, Danielle Maxwell, added, “We’re proud to partner with CEF providing grants to young people for further education, particularly those that, without this support, may not have been able to due to financial reasons. The vast regional footprint of Findex gives us first-hand understanding of the barriers regional communities can face. The Findex Community Fund is committed to creating equal access in the areas of health, education and entrepreneurship, helping to connect young people in regional communities with their potential.”

Findex Community Fund (FCF) works to create equal access to opportunity for people isolated by location or circumstance through programs which are regionally relevant, nationally impactful and globally scalable.

Country Education Foundation of Australia (CEF) is a national for-purpose charity helping rural and regional youth access post-school education and jobs through grants, scholarships, support services and resources.

#### ENDS

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**Our purpose: to foster the further education, career and personal development opportunities of rural and regional youth, through community-based encouragement and financial assistance.**

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