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Uniting Care Community

Australia Wide First Aid supports Lifeline Community Recovery with generous First Aid kit donations.

Australia Wide First Aid

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August 2016

UnitingCare Community has partnered with Australia Wide First Aid for more than 15 years to provide personal First Aid kits kept in the cars of its mobile staff, and to provide First Aid training for staff who care for people in their own homes.

UnitingCare Community was delighted to accept a generous donation of 150 personal First Aid kits from Australia Wide First Aid in support of its Lifeline Community Recovery services in August 2016.

About 2,000 UnitingCare Community staff receive First Aid training each year, including a full First Aid certificate every three years and a CPR refresher every 12 months.

Jason Reid, Lifeline Community Recovery Program Manager, said UnitingCare Community was grateful for the generous donations from Australia-wide First Aid, which would benefit services across the North Burnett, Banana, and Rockhampton Regional Council areas.

"The majority of the First Aid kits will be distributed through our counselling services in North Burnett and Banana regions, with approximately 40 kits going to a community development program in Rockhampton.

"We'll also distribute a small number of the kits in Townsville to our counsellors who provided support to retrenched workers from the Queensland Nickel refinery in Yabulu."

Mr Reid said Lifeline's Community Recovery Program provides face-to-face and telephone-based support including information, assessments, and referrals to individuals and communities following a crisis or disaster event.

"The program aims to make an immediate impact on the trauma and stress experienced by communities through counselling interventions, as well as spearheading longer-term recovery through a coordinated approach to rebuilding or re-establishing key community networks and support structures," Mr Reid said.

"Our services are provided by professional staff from a range of fields including social work and psychology, counselling and psychotherapy, as well as highly trained volunteers."

The Lifeline Community Recovery team is activated at the request of state or local government authorities, or local community leaders in the event of a disaster or critical incident. Some support can continue for years after a critical incident.

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Garry Draper, CEO of Australia-Wide First Aid, said it was important to work with organizations with similar values, and that it was a worthy cause that resonated with his team.

"A cornerstone of First Aid is to look after those around us first. We support a number of charities and we really like to make sure we support clients who are making a difference in the community," Mr Draper said.