

22 February 2023

Future secured

The future of the Grit and Resilience Program has been secured.

Rural City of Wangaratta, consortium agencies and community partners are happy to announce the program will receive ongoing financial support from government.

Consortium Chair Jacki Eckert welcomed this development as a huge success for the community.

“Securing recurrent funding and enabling the program to continue within Rural City of Wangaratta has been a huge achievement,” said Jacki.

“It is fitting that the Grit and Resilience Program is able to proceed with the support of the Victorian Government’s Social Inclusion Action Group funding.”

The SIAG program is a flagship initiative recommended by the Royal Commission into Victoria’s Mental Health System.

Grit and Resilience Program Coordinator Bek Nash-Webster explained the impact of the new funding stream.

“We have been advocating for the continuation of the Grit and Resilience Program as the program is nearing the end of the four-year funding and are thrilled this is now secure.”

“The program will continue to evolve with an enhanced focus on social inclusion initiatives building on the programs’ work to date in strengthening connectedness and inclusion in our community,” said Bek.

“We are working to transform the mental health of our community through social inclusion and all of the outcomes and learnings of the program over the past four years will be used to guide the program going forward.”

“Our greatest asset is our community and our partnerships, and we are looking to grow community representation in driving program activities and initiatives going forward.”

Working together to build and sustain Grit and Resilience across the Rural City of Wangaratta community

MEDIA RELEASE

The Grit and Resilience Program are holding a number of events and workshops over the next month open to the community to attend.

Solstice will be screened at the Wangaratta Cinema Centre on Wednesday 1 March at 6.30pm.

Spotlight on You is a project in partnership with headspace Wangaratta, Gateway Health, NESAY and Rural City of Wangaratta Youth Services. This project offers a series of 12 free workshops in Wangaratta aimed at shining a light on mental health.

The sixth Heartbeat event for the Rural City of Wangaratta community will be held at Boorhaman on Thursday 23 March 2023 from 5:30pm to 7:00pm.

“The Grit and Resilience program is evolving with secure, place-based social inclusion funding that will allow us to build grit and resilience into our community for the future,” said Bek.

To stay up to date with events and information about the Grit and Resilience Program, please visit, <https://www.wangaratta.vic.gov.au/Residents/Grit-Resilience>.

For further enquiries regarding this media release, please contact Felicity Hartridge, Media and Communications Coordinator at f.hartridge@wangaratta.vic.gov.au.