



Media Release

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ANZ's 'Impact in the Community' recognised with Prime Minister's Award

ANZ's contribution to Australian communities was recognised last night when it received a Special Award in the 2006 Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence in Community Business Partnerships.

The Award for 'Impact in the Community' recognised ANZ's achievements in financial literacy and inclusion partnerships and programs including:

- Saver Plus – a matched savings program which helps families on low incomes to set and achieve a savings goal, and establish a long-term savings habit
- MoneyMinded – which helps educate people on money management
- MoneyBusiness – a money management education program specifically tailored to Indigenous communities.

Other ANZ community partnerships such as Habitat for Humanity, Seeds of Renewal, The Long Walk and Comic Relief, and staff programs such as ANZ Volunteers and Community Giving were also recognised by the Award.

The Prime Minister of Australia, The Hon. John Howard MP presented ANZ with the Award at a ceremony in Canberra.

Commenting on the Award at the ceremony, Mr Howard said: "The Special Award for Impact on a Community recognises ANZ for its significant community involvement covering a suite of programs and projects with one or more partners.

"ANZ supports communities through Financial Literacy and Inclusion Partnerships, Employee Community Involvement Programs and other significant partnerships that assist rural and Indigenous communities, low income families and help to make poverty history," Mr Howard said.

ANZ Chief Executive Officer Mr John McFarlane said the effectiveness of ANZ's programs would not have been possible without the innovation and passion of community partners such as the Brotherhood of St Laurence, The Smith Family, Berry Street Victoria and The Benevolent Society.

"Over time we have established close partnerships with these organisations where we have a common goal and share our resources and expertise to make a significant and lasting difference to the lives of some of the most disadvantaged people in our communities," Mr McFarlane said.

"However, we know we can do more. We are committed to taking these programs to the next level by continuing to expand them to reach more Australians to ensure we make a real impact on financial literacy and inclusion and lasting community contribution.

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“The efforts of every ANZ employee are recognised through this Award. This year more than 24% of our people in Australia have contributed around 40,000 hours as part of our ANZ Volunteers program, 10% participate in our workplace giving program and together we support close to 300 community organisations,” Mr McFarlane said.

Brotherhood of St Laurence Executive Director Mr Tony Nicholson congratulated ANZ on the Award.

“It’s fantastic that ANZ and its partners have been recognised with this Award. Through our work with people on low incomes, we know that too many Australians can’t meet their most basic needs because they have no access to financial services.

“Through our partnership with ANZ we are helping people out of poverty and reconnecting them with society, making for a fairer, more inclusive Australia,” said Mr Nicholson.

The Prime Minister’s Awards for Excellence in Community Business Partnerships were established in 1999 and recognise businesses and community organisations which come together to generate outcomes that have a long-term benefit for the community.

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