



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**Embargoed until 6pm 9 June 2010**

### **Milton's Australian Red Cross benefits from \$100,000 Grant Program**

The Governor of Queensland, Her Excellency, Ms Penelope Wensley AO in her capacity as Patron of the Lady Bowen Trust, today presented \$100,000 to seven organisations to assist Queenslanders who have experienced homelessness to make their life-changing move into secure accommodation and a more stable future.

Australian Red Cross was one of the seven organisations to receive a grant at today's event. The organisation has received \$15,000 to put towards its Youth Housing Life Skills program.

The Australian Red Cross has been helping Brisbane's homeless young people since 2001 and its focus is to provide pathways out of homelessness. The organisation prides itself on providing clients with the confidence and life skills required to live a happy, healthy and, most importantly stable life.

The Youth Housing Life Skills program provides the support and training required by young people to make a success of their lives.

Matthew Cox from the Australian Red Cross is excited the Lady Bowen Trust has recognised the work he and his team do for young Queenslanders in need.

"We're thrilled to receive this grant. The funds the Lady Bowen Trust is providing will help us in helping our clients put an end to homelessness," Mr Cox said.

"With this grant money, we will be able to continue with some of our programs such as the MasterChef Night Cafe and Five Buck Feast – where we teach our clients how to prepare nutritious, delicious meals that don't break the budget."

Darryl Seccombe, Chair of the Board of Advice of the Lady Bowen Trust said he felt privileged to be able to support worthwhile charities, such as the Australian Red Cross, through his role.

"The Lady Bowen Trust partners with charities assisting Queenslanders experiencing homelessness," Mr Seccombe said.

"We pride ourselves on helping these organisations provide practical support to Queenslanders in need, and help them transition to more stable housing arrangements.

The grants announced today mean the Trust has now provided over \$280,000 since it was established in late 2006 to assist people experiencing homelessness throughout Queensland."

The Lady Bowen Trust was established to provide funds to service providers that are flexible and practical. Prior to the Trust being established, it was recognised that the factors contributing to homeless were complex and varied, and people needed support that was tailored to their specific needs. The Lady Bowen Trust assists organisations to meet those



varied needs, by providing funding for programs that complement the already crucial work they perform within the community.

Mr Seccombe said the Trust has recognised the great work the Australian Red Cross does within the community and is proud to support the organisation.

“We are delighted to provide this support to the Australian Red Cross and its Youth Housing Life Skills program,” Mr Seccombe said.

“The program is an innovative approach to assisting those young people in our community who are finding it tough to make ends meet.

“We hope the grant will enable the Australian Red Cross to continue the great work it does.”

Other organisations to benefit from the Lady Bowen Trust’s 2010 grants include Mission Australia’s Roma House, Chameleon Regional Community Housing, Children of the Dreaming – Allawah, the 139 Club, Lifeline Community Care and Brisbane Youth Service.

The Trust was launched in November 2006 by the Queensland Government, with funding provided by the former Queensland Department of Housing and the Residential Tenancies Authority, and is managed by the Public Trustee of Queensland.

For further information on the Lady Bowen Trust, please visit [www.ladybowentrust.org.au](http://www.ladybowentrust.org.au) or contact the Secretariat to the Lady Bowen Trust on 1800 081 698.

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Vision and interview opportunities available. For further information please contact:  
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