ESPERANCE AG FUND
Agriculture Investing in the Esperance Community

Media Release

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Esperance farmers fund local community projects in 2026

Local grain growers have funded three more Esperance community projects through the 2026 Esperance Ag Fund grants, supporting children's arts and early years play across the region.

The Cannery Arts Centre ($46,898) will run its KickArts Children's Art Program over two years, in 2027 and 2028. This much-loved program has inspired generations of children through creativity. Each year it will offer 36 two-hour school-holiday workshops, named for and aligned with the Wudjari Nyungar seasons. Around 580 children a year will learn painting, drawing, pottery, printmaking, craft and more from 12–24 professional artists, and a free Open Studio day each school holidays will ensure cost is never a barrier.

Escare ($9,500) will deliver Esperance Pop Up Play, offering free, guided play sessions in public parks and community spaces. Each two-hour session includes story time to build pre-literacy and language skills, along with informal support for parents and carers from early years specialists such as occupational therapists, speech therapists and nurses.

Attendance at a four-session pilot in January and February grew each week, reaching 131 children and 108 parents and carers. Pop Up Play will give isolated, vulnerable, at-risk and rural families a safe, welcoming place to connect, play and build community.

The Escare Christmas Hampers ($5,000) will also be funded again. Escare is a not-for-profit Esperance organisation that works to reduce barriers for vulnerable community members while fostering a connected, inclusive community. Its 2026 Christmas Hamper Project will provide 150 food hampers to local households experiencing financial hardship.

The Fremantle Foundation continues to administer the Fund's grants, so 100% of grower donations go to projects that make a direct, lasting difference to the Esperance community.

Esperance farmers established the Esperance Ag Fund to strengthen and enhance their community.

The Fund has three strategic objectives: creating more opportunities for young people, enhancing liveability and building a healthy community.

To learn more about the Fund's objectives or download the Expression of Interest Form, visit www.esperanceagfund.com.

Farmers can donate by cash to the Fremantle Foundation or through CBH Loadnet Number 40567935.

For further media enquiries, please contact Esperance Ag Fund President Tara Vermeersch on M: 0404 845 435.