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# Media Release:

## Funding boosts safety gear at Collie Horsepower

Horse riders at Collie HorsePower are now feeling more protected against head injuries with the latest in helmets, thanks to a \$1,400 donation from Premier Coal.

Riding helmets are a vital part of horse riding, reducing the risk of serious head and brain injury by limiting the impact of a collision on the head. The donation has funded 12 new helmets for Collie HorsePower, ensuring all riders feel confident and safe every time they get on a horse.

Wendy Akkerman, Secretary at HorsePower Collie was delighted with the new safety equipment.

“We are all horse-riding enthusiasts and aim to provide an enriching experience to every rider and safety is a key part of that.

“A number of our riders have disabilities and they come to us to experience the joy of horse riding, challenge themselves and feel a sense of achievement by giving it a go.

“Horse riding also assists people with a disability to improve their physical strength, balance, coordination, social interactions while learning a new skill. We are proud to be a part of the community providing this service to people in Collie, Donnybrook, Harvey, and Bunbury.

“Collie HorsePower is a volunteer run, non-for-profit organisation so we are grateful to Premier Coal for their funding to purchase the new safety equipment,” said Wendy.

Collie HorsePower offers horse riding, carriage driving, and vaulting activities dedicated to enriching the lives of people with and without disabilities.

Acting Premier Coal Operations Manager Chris Knight was happy to help Collie HorsePower.

“Horse riding is a fantastic sport that can improve people’s physical and mental health, self-confidence and is a form of therapy to some individuals.

“We are always pleased to see projects where a small donation can make a big impact on a community organisation,” said Chris.

The donation was part of the Premier Coal Community Support Program, which is funded by Yancoal and aims to make a positive difference in the local community and to the lives of the people who work and live in Collie.

Since 2004, Yancoal has grown to be one of Australia's largest coal exporters: owning or operating nine producing mines across the country, employing over 4,300 Australians, contributing to the national economy, and investing in regional communities.

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