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Media Release:

Blackwater Highlanders Youth group gets funding support

Students at the Blackwater Highlanders Youth Group are happily enjoying new activities at Blackwater PCYC, thanks to a donation from Yarrabee Coal mine.

This \$4,500 donation funded some new technology including an iPad, Television, Playstation console, controller and games. The youth group attendees can also enjoy new gear including shirts and hats.

The Blackwater Highlanders Youth Group provides a safe environment to socialise and participate in sporting and other activities, offers assistance with homework and a comfortable space for kids to hang out and chat.

Yarrabee Coal Operations Manager, Cris Shadbolt, was pleased to give a boost to the local youth group.

"Youth groups enable young people to meet, socialise and become part of the community in which they live. They can also help young people gain self-confidence and reduce the risk of becoming involved in unsafe activities.

"The Blackwater PCYC is an important facility in our community and the youth group is one of its key programs. They rely heavily on community donations and assistance.

"We are happy we could fund the new gaming gear and television, which will provide endless entertainment and help encourage locals to join the youth group," said Cris.

Blackwater Highlanders Youth Group is also running a program called 'Blue Edge' and they have invited a Yarrabee Coal representative to attend one of the sessions and talk about the resources sector and career opportunities in mining.

Sergeant Will Lathrope, Youth Club Manager, PCYC Blackwater said, "Thanks to Yarrabee Coal's kind donation, we are able to enhance our youth space with modern interactive devices. This provides our youth a safe environment to socialise, learn and have good old fashion fun. Yarrabee's support to Blackwater PCYC contributes to making a positive difference for the youth in Blackwater'.

The funding support is part of the Yancoal Yarrabee Community Support Program, which aims to make a difference in the community and to the lives of the people who work and live in the areas where it operates.

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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