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Funding support for local disability employment enterprise

A grant awarded by the RACT under its community fund program to Self-Help Workplace at Youngtown has assisted with the purchase and installation of a rag cutter.

Self-Help Workplace, an Australian Disability Enterprise that provides employment to 51 people with a disability, is using the rag cutter to produce commercial cleaning cloths for local businesses.

The RACT Community Fund offers small grants of up to \$2000, twice a year, to non-profit community groups to assist with local community-building projects.

Self-Help Workplace general manager Donna Bain said the organisation was delighted to receive the funding support.

“Rag cutting is one of our core areas of business and we were struggling to meet the demand from local businesses with only two machines,” she said.

“Our employees absolutely love to work and this purchase will allow us to build a stronger enterprise, which in turn will increase our ability to offer employment opportunities to people with disability.”

RACT Community Manager Will Oakley said the RACT was pleased to offer its support to local organisations such as Self-Help Workplace.

“Local clubs and organisations play a vital role in fostering strong and cohesive communities, often with very small budgets and volunteer efforts,” he said.

“Self Help Workplace provides people with disability meaningful and productive work – work they enjoy and can do in a safe and supportive environment.

“A new rag cutter will not only help provide valuable products for local businesses, but will also divert material from landfill by recycling clothing and other materials, as well as provide much-needed income for the enterprise, which relies on the sales of its goods and services for revenue.”

The next round of the RACT Community Fund opens Saturday 9 March 2019.

The RACT has assisted more than 200 Tasmanian groups with grants through the RACT Community Fund.

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