



MEDIA RELEASE

Businesses Backing Breakfast Programs In Schools

21 August 2017

The Mildura Region School Breakfast Partnership (The Partnership) is holding its first Sponsors' Breakfast to acknowledge the local businesses that have provided funding to support breakfast programs in local schools during the 2016 & 2017 financial year.

The Partnership is one of the most important and unique programs initiated by Healthy Together Mildura (HTM) to date. The program commenced in 2013, with 8 schools registering in response to a growing awareness that students were frequently going to school without eating breakfast. The Partnership has grown over the past 4 years to include 15 schools across the region.

The Middle Years Development Index School District and Community Report for Mildura (2016) highlighted the significant need for breakfast programs in our region. The report suggests that: 18% of students in Grade 4 report going to school never having eaten breakfast; and 32% of students in Grade 7 report going to school never having eaten breakfast. Both of these statistics are higher than the state average for Victoria. While the reasons for these statistics were not highlighted in the report, the data indicates the need for school breakfast programs in our region.

HTM Health Promotion Officer, Rachael Longeri, praised the local business community's commitment to contributing to a healthier community.

"The combined effort of all of our donors helps to make this program sustainable for our community, relieved the burden on school budgets, and gives every child in our region the opportunity to have a nutritious start to the day."

The breakfast to acknowledge our valued donors will be held at St Joseph's College Mercy Campus on Wednesday 23rd August at 7.30am. Over 70 guests are expected to attend including Mayor Glenn Milne, Cr Ali Cupper, School Principals, Breakfast Program Co-ordinators and student representatives.

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Media enquiries to:

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A photo opportunity will be available at St Joseph's College Mercy Campus on the morning of Wednesday 23rd August 2017. Breakfast commencing at 7.30am. Mayor Glenn Milne and Cr Ali Cupper will be in attendance.