

Question on Notice

No. 1123

Asked on Wednesday, 29 September 2004

MR MULHERIN asked the Minister for Communities, Disability Services and Seniors (**MR PITT**) -

QUESTION:

With reference to the Building Inclusive Communities Program-
Will he outline how this program can support communities

ANSWER:

The Building Inclusive Communities grants program supports the growth of a strong and supportive Queensland by funding events and initiatives that celebrate the experiences of people with a disability and promote their role as active, participating members of the communities to which they belong.

Grants of up to \$5000 are available for local community-based initiatives, while activities that have a regional or statewide focus can attract funding of up to \$15 000. Applications are now being assessed and I will announce the recipients on 3 December 2004.

Last year the grants were used for a diverse range of programs and events from fun days, workshops and exhibitions, through to the production of radio programs, CDs and videos.

This funding program is especially effective because it capitalises on the positive energy and great ideas that communities bring to the table, and empowers everyday people to make a real difference at a local level.

These types of projects can strengthen the community's capacity to welcome and include people with a disability in their lives and provide valuable opportunities for people to interact and form supportive relationships.

This can contribute to a better quality of life for people with a disability and benefit communities through the participation of all its members, including those with a disability.

The Building Inclusive Communities grants program is a practical, effective way of building strong supportive communities for all Queenslanders.