



## MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Rotary Club provides boost for young carers**

Sixty-eight young carers across Victoria have received scholarships to assist them with their secondary school studies, thanks to the support of the Rotary Club of Mt. Eliza.

"The Young Carers Scholarship Program has made a difference to many young carers who are juggling schoolwork and their caring responsibilities for family members with care needs. These scholarships have helped to pay for books, uniforms and school fees. Carers Victoria would like to acknowledge and thank the Rotary Club of Mt. Eliza for its ongoing support to the program," said Maria Bohan, CEO of Carers Victoria.

"The Young Carers Scholarship Program is a step in the right direction. It acknowledges young carers and helps young carers who are battling to go through school, battling to finish their studies and to have a job and a career," said Aaron Paul, a young carer who supports his mother who has advanced MS. "Sometimes you worry about things like not having the money to attend a school camp, not having runners for sport, or not being able to concentrate on your homework because your mother is ill."

"We are very pleased to be involved in the Young Carers Scholarship Program," said John Horscroft, President of the Rotary Club of Mt. Eliza. "Young carers play a vital role in our community and it is important that our community rallies to provide adequate support. We encourage other Victorian Rotary Clubs to come on board."

The program has been a priority for the Rotary Club of Mt. Eliza since 2006 with fundraising efforts contributing a total of \$13,000 for the 2007 scholarships. An additional \$12,000 was contributed by Portland House Foundation.

#### **For further information:**

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*Carers Victoria is the statewide voice for family carers,  
representing and providing support to carers in the community.*