

# MEDIA RELEASE

20<sup>th</sup> January 2020

## ***Showcasing life-changing interventions***

Community Industry Group is proud to announce that their 'Grass Roots Solutions' videos will be launched in Kiama by **Minister for Families, Communities & Disability Services, Gareth Ward MP** on **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January**.

The videos showcase the value of early intervention programs and highlight the important work of small, place-based community organisations. Using personal stories, told by the participants, the videos demonstrate how individuals, families, and whole communities benefit from these grassroots services.

"Local place-based community service providers are part of their local communities and are trusted by community members to be there when they are in need." said Nicky Sloan, CEO of Community Industry Group "So they are often the first place people turn to when things get tough."

"Intervening with programs and services either early in life, or early in need, makes a significant difference to people and families at times when they are struggling. Working with and in communities, our place-based service providers are enabling children, young people, families and communities to reach their potential, and to live their best lives." Ms Sloan said.

Sometimes these services are like a pebble in a pond. These short videos demonstrate that the initial intervention may be small, and the impact barely perceptible, but the waves that it creates go on and on. True community development work takes time, and outcomes may only be seen years down the track. But these services can make tangible, life-changing impacts for individuals, families, and communities.

"We are so excited that many of the people featured in the videos will be with us for the launch" Ms Sloan added "We are grateful to them for sharing their stories, and showing how important our local community services can be. I'm particularly hoping to meet 'Alfalfa' and 'Gangsta Granny'!"

## **Event Details:**

**Date:** Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2020

**Time:** 1pm

**Venue:** The Assembly Room, The Sebel Kiama Harbourside 31 Shoalhaven St, Kiama NSW 2533

## **Media Contact:**

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CEO

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### **About the Community Industry Group**

Community Industry (formerly known as Illawarra Forum) is the peak body working for community services and organisations in the South East of NSW. It supports community organisations, promotes expertise and innovation in community development, fosters industry development and provides advocacy for social justice. Community Industry Group is an independent organisation governed by a committee of management elected annually by the membership.

Community Industry Group represents the non-government community services industry in the South East of NSW, and works closely with numerous organisations which provide support to vulnerable people across the region.

### **Media Contacts:**

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