

# Media Release

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30 April 2019

## Recipients announced for North Queensland \$100,000 flood-recovery grants

North Queensland's flood recovery efforts have received a welcome boost with the successful recipients of Aurizon's \$100,000 of grants announced today.

Aurizon, Australia's largest rail freight operator made \$100,000 available to local charities and community groups through an extraordinary round of its Community Giving Fund following the devastating flooding in North Queensland earlier this year.

General Manager of Aurizon's Bulk East business, Sarah Dixon said Aurizon was delighted to support twelve different charities and community groups in the region that are helping to get the community back on its feet.

"Aurizon is a local business with a major presence across North Queensland and employees living and working in Townsville, Hughenden, Cloncurry and Mount Isa. We understand the lasting impact of the floods on local communities and that recovery efforts will be going on for a long time," she said.

"Some of the grants will be used to help repair property that was destroyed or damaged in the floods. For example, we are supporting BlazeAid's Cloncurry Base Camp so they can purchase steel fence posts and wiring for their volunteers to use in constructing rural fencing for impacted farmers.

"The grant will also help purchase the fuel to move material and machinery, as well as to buy volunteer meals," said Ms Dixon.

"There are also charities providing important services that had equipment damaged in the floods, so we've been able to support them to purchase new equipment.

"Pacific Rim Just for Kids delivers health and wellbeing programs for isolated youth in need. The portable generator they use to support their program delivery in remote locations was destroyed in the floods, so we've funded its replacement.

"Supporting charities and community groups and the important work they do is something we are proud of at Aurizon.

"Many people in my team live in these impacted communities, and we're really pleased to support some of these smaller grass-roots initiatives that may not get funding elsewhere.

"Thank you to everyone who applied for funding during this round. It's always encouraging reading about the worthwhile projects being undertaken across the impacted communities.

"The normal round of our Community Giving Fund opens in May, so I would encourage charities and community groups to keep an eye out for our announcement and apply."

For more information about the Community Giving Fund visit [www.aurizon.com.au/community](http://www.aurizon.com.au/community) or please contact Corporate Affairs at [media@aurizon.com.au](mailto:media@aurizon.com.au)



*Image supplied by BlazeAid. Aurizon's grant will support BlazeAid's base camp in Cloncurry.*

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## Aurizon Community Giving Fund | Flood Appeal Recipients

Recipient	Project	Project outcomes
Althea Projects Inc	Electronic Devices	Aurizon's grant will be used to replace electronic devices that were lost in the floods at Wee Care, a centre that provides emergency child care services to vulnerable children and families who may be experiencing domestic violence, mental health problems or family breakdowns.
Blazeaid	Cloncurry Base Camp	Aurizon's grant will help fund steel fence posts and wiring to help volunteers construct rural fencing for impacted farmers. The grant will also help purchase fuel to move material and power machinery and to buy volunteer meals.
Children's Charity Network	Children's Art & Literacy Program	Aurizon's grant will support Literacy Enhancement/Art Workshops for disadvantaged and at-risk children in rural areas across North West Queensland that aim to increase literacy and artistic levels of these children.
Conservation Volunteers Australia	Townsville Environment Flood Recovery	Aurizon's grant will fund native plants to revegetate areas damaged by the floods in the Townsville region.
Cootharinga North Queensland	Accommodation and Recreation Centre	Cootharinga North Queensland provides temporary accommodation and activities for people with disabilities. Aurizon's grant will provide funding to help repair internal and external damage from the flooding to Cootharinga's Accommodation and Recreation Centre.
Hughenden Show Society (auspiced via FRRR)	Hughenden Agricultural Show	Aurizon's grant will help fund the Hughenden Agricultural Show to bring people from across the community together with the aim of facilitating the health and wellbeing of people impacted by the flooding.
Pacific Rim Just for Kids	Equipment Replacement Program	Pacific Rim Just for Kids provides supplies, vital medical equipment/kits and health and wellbeing programs for isolated youth in need. Aurizon's grant will replace a portable generator that was destroyed during the floods in Townsville and is used in various remote locations throughout the region to support program delivery.
Queensland Police-Citizens Youth Welfare Association	Refloating PCYC Townsville	Aurizon's grant will be used to replace tables and sporting equipment that were destroyed in the floods. This will help restore normal sporting and social programs to support mental and physical wellbeing of members and local residents.
Sporting Wheelies & Disabled Association	Wheelchair Basketball Storeroom	Aurizon's grant will fund the building materials and labour to install a suitable storage facility for up to 20 senior and junior sports wheelchairs and other equipment. Previously they were stored in a trailer, which was damaged in the flood.
The Salvation Army	Emergency Catering Response	During the flooding, the Salvation Army identified the need to upgrade and expand their emergency catering equipment. Funding will support the purchase of a new emergency catering truck or trailer.
Townsville (Flinders) Girl Guides	Townsville Girl Guides Skill Development	Aurizon's grant will be used to replace indoor and outdoor cooking equipment that was damaged in the flood. The equipment is used to teach the girls vital skills in food preparation, storage and basic nutritional knowledge in an effort to combat chronic health issues.
Townsville Picnic Bay Surf Life Saving Club	Improving Disaster Readiness	Following the Picnic Bay Surf Life Saving Club's assessment of the club's response to flooding in Townsville, they identified the need for equipment and training to improve readiness for future disasters. Aurizon's grant will fund an Inflatable Rescue Boat, trailer and wetsuits, helmets, and IRB driver and crew training to increase their capacity to respond to emergencies that threaten the lives of local community members.