



MEDIA RELEASE

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ELVIS GOSPEL SERVICE DONATES THOUSANDS TO CHARITIES

Parkes Shire Council has applauded the Parkes Ministers' Association (PMA) donation of \$7,000 raised at the 2019 Parkes Elvis Festival Gospel Service to two charities.

The PMA chose to split the full proceeds from the collection at the 2019 event between Local High School Ministries and the East Timor Mission.

PMA President, Pastor Andrew Taggart said, "We were overjoyed with the kind donations from visitors to the Elvis Gospel service. It's a great pleasure to be able to pass on the proceeds to two worthwhile causes."

"This is a remarkable expression of partnership between Parkes Shire Council, our local communities and the churches of Parkes", Pastor Taggart added.

David Hayward, Local High School Ministries said, "This funding will help to provide pastoral care in the High School"

David who is one of the most experienced scripture teachers in NSW added "The classes are very well supported".

The donation will fund a shipping container full of hospital beds, fencing, linen and cleaning items which that will go to five non-government organisations in East Timor.

Director of charity organization ParaMarcia, Geoff Steventon said "All our efforts are in the medical area to bring relief to those people who have absolutely nothing in the way of medical equipment".

Para Marcia is Portugese for "For Marcia". Marcia is a baby who was born in the care of one of their midwives in East Timor who died through lack of basic facilities (in her case, a functioning respirator).

Festival Director, Cathy Treasure said, "This donation, thanks to our generous visitors, is a wonderful result.

It's satisfying to see that through the growth of the Festival, we're able to contribute further to community organisations."

"Congratulations to the Parkes Ministers' Association on delivering a successful event", Ms Treasure added.

Image 1 (L-R): Cr Neil Westcott, Pastor Andrew Taggart (President of the Parkes Ministers' Association), Mayor Ken Keith OAM, Geoff Steventon (Director of ParaMarcia), Cathy Treasure (Parkes Elvis Festival Director).

Image 2 (L-R): Cr Neil Westcott, Pastor Andrew Taggart (President of the Parkes Ministers' Association), David Hayward, Local High School Ministries, Cathy Treasure (Parkes Elvis Festival Director).

