



CFMEU



SUPPORTING COMMUNITY

in Australia and worldwide



“The gratitude of the locals can be seen in the way they treated the boys, lending them cars, offers of food, lodging, opening up their hearts,” — WJ Antney, Darwin Union Brigade volunteer.



Darwin, December 25, 1974



The Construction, Forestry, Mining and Energy Union of Australia works hard to safeguard the health and safety of its members and gain the fair and just wages and conditions.

However we also have a proud history of community involvement and support —

leading the reconstruction effort after Cyclone Tracy devastated Darwin in 1974, is just one example.

This leaflet barely scratches the surface of what we do. We hope that after reading it, you may see that we help build communities in many ways both in Australia and overseas.

CFMEU SUPPORTING COMMUNITY



East Timor Reconstruction

After the successful independence referendum in 1999, CFMEU NSW, Victoria and National offices played the central role in organising rallies in support of the new nation of East Timor.

The Australian Government were standing by as the Indonesian Army and their militias attempted to destroy the new nation. After two weeks of protests, the Government granted the people's wishes and sent Australian forces to East Timor.

Subsequently in 2001, the CFMEU Construction National Office raised around \$450,000 to fund and build the East Timorese Vocational Training Centre, known as KNUA BUKA HATENE ('Place of Learning' – pictured left).

The Centre has trained over 3,500 East Timorese in construction trades, tailoring, small business, literacy, civic education, organic fertilizer production, plough making, vegetable production and agriculture. It has also contributed to setting up many co-operative businesses which are helping to rebuild East Timor.

SIDS and Kids

SIDS and Kids provide family support services and health promotion programmes to communities throughout Australia and drive research to stop Aussie kids dying of this heartbreaking syndrome.

This is one of many community organisations supported by the ACT Branch of Construction & General Division. Pictured is the 2005 donation of \$18,000. This donation is one of many, totalling \$1.955 million to 20 organisations, in the period from 2005 to 2007.



Rescue Helicopter Service

Since 1991, the CFMEU Mining & Energy Division has sponsored the Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service, operating in the Hunter, Mid North Coast, New England and North West regions.

Every member of the Northern Districts Branch makes direct wage contributions to raise a total of around \$700,000 for the service each year.

In 2006, the affiliated Mineworkers Trust made an additional donation of \$250,000 and the Miners' Northern Districts Office topped up their member donations with \$100,000, giving the service more than one million dollars. Additionally, the 2007 Miners National Golf Championships raised \$9,370 for the helicopter service.



Manna Industries Soup Kitchen

In 2004, the West Australian Construction & General Branch of the CFMEU was approached by Bev and John Lowe of Manna Industries for assistance with their soup kitchen for the homeless.

The Lowes were asking for help with the ceiling. Branch Secretary was asked to have a look and Manna Industries provided the materials, and the work was done by electricians, tilers and plumbers.

In no time at all about 100 hours of work had been completed. The kitchen was up to scratch. The Lowes provided a further \$40,000, to get the kitchen running.

