Peter Styles  
Deputy Chief Minister of the Northern Territory, Minister for Business  

**NT Government helping people achieve through Community Benefit Fund**  
19 May 2016

HPA “Helping People Achieve” has received a well-deserved helping hand towards its mission of assisting people living with disabilities to achieve their full potential thanks to more than $180,000 NT Government funding through the Community Benefit Fund (CBF).

HPA is a non-profit organisation which provides supported employment opportunities as well as an outreach residential support service to Territorians with disabilities living in their own homes or at HPA’s 24-hour supported accommodation.

Minister for Business Peter Styles said HPA was a very deserving recipient of CBF funding which aims to help NT organisations achieve projects and initiatives that benefit the community.

“The major grant of just over $164,000 will allow HPA to convert disused outdoor areas at its Winnellie head office and Kokoda Industries workshop into a wheelchair accessible Community Hub and importantly, enable them to share their message of inclusion within the workforce,” Mr Styles said.

“The hub will not only provide an inviting work space for HPA’s employees but also allow it to showcase the fantastic work being produced within the workshop.”

HPA CEO Tony Burns said the Community Hub would create an environment of inspiration for its 36 staff, 23 of whom have disabilities.

“This transformation will make such a difference to our employees working lives every day,” Mr Burns said.

“The aim of the Community Hub is to also encourage the community and particularly business people to visit and witness for themselves how capable people with disabilities are of working and holding a job.

“We hope this could ultimately encourage more business owners to think about employing people with disabilities and giving them a chance.”
HPA was also successful in its applications for two small grants including $10,000 to go towards a long-awaited upgrade to the interior of its Ausdesigns retail shop and office space at Yarrawonga and $7,000 to replace its 15-year old screen printing carousel.

Ausdesigns (along with Kokoda Industries and Darwin Accommodation Services) is an enterprise of HPA that employs 54 people with disabilities and 8 additional staff. Its products include screen printing, digital printing, embroidery, sewing, confidential paper sorting and so much more.

Applications are open for CBF funding all year round.

This year to date; $5.2million in major grants and $1.67million in small grants have been awarded.

For more information or to apply for CBF grants visit [www.nt.gov.au/cbf](http://www.nt.gov.au/cbf).

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