

MEDIA RELEASE

THE CENTRE FOR WOMEN & CO. AWARDS FIVE LOCAL WOMEN WITH SCHOLARSHIPS IN ANNUAL LAUNCH EVENT.

Underwood, Logan, March 9, 2021: The Centre for Women & Co. celebrated five Queensland women at the second annual scholarship fund event.

The Centre for Women & Co. is a not-for-profit which exists to educate support and empower women across the Logan and Redlands regions. Despite providing over 35, 000 hours of front-line support to women, children and men in the last financial year, The Centre for Women & Co. team knew that they could do more to positively impact the local community. Each year four scholarship categories are available for applications. The business-start up, capital purchase and education and training scholarships are worth \$2500 each and the two nominate a friend scholarships are each worth \$1250.

"We witness women going through some of the hardest experiences, some of the most terrifying stories that at times it's hard to comprehend how they are still with us," said Chief Executive Officer of The Centre for Women & Co., Stacey Ross. "We also see first-hand what women can achieve when they tap into their support networks. We know that when you invest in a woman's life it's not only going to have a positive impact on her life, but also on her family and those around her, and ultimately the entire community. So it makes sense to invest in women." On March 9th, 2021 five women from across South East Queensland were chosen by a panel of judges from within The Centre for Women & Co. and were presented with their awards at the afternoon ceremony. The use of the scholarship funds will go to varied causes.

The recipient of the capital purchase scholarship will put the money towards her spectrum-inclusive children's play centre and cafe. The education and training scholarship recipient will use the funds to purchase supplies for high school for an amazing local young woman. The business-start up recipient will put the funds towards her LGBTQI+ underwear apparel brand – 'Antics Apparel'. One of the nominate a friend recipients will put the money towards her driving lessons and schooling supplies.

The Centre for Women & Co. is incredibly grateful for the community support. The scholarships were made possible by local businesses offering to sponsor a scholarship. Many of these businesses have chosen to remain anonymous, however, Addictive Pole Fitness in Underwood held a fundraiser to raise the funds for a scholarship and The Centre for Women & Co. would like to acknowledge this community of strong women. The Centre for Women & Co. would also like to acknowledge Councillor Teresa Lane for attending the scholarship event and listening to members of the team about the realities of front-line Domestic and Family Violence work.

The Centre for Women & Co. team are overwhelmed with the display of community support from individuals, local not-for-profits, the Logan and Redlands councils, local businesses and the scholarship recipients for sharing their stories. We know that we cannot do this work alone and it will take all of us to make a difference and welcome anyone to become a part of this special project. The recipients are "all resilient, strong, resourceful, powerful and incredibly inspiring women and we are excited to be a part of their lives," said Ms Ross in closing the ceremony.

If local businesses would like to know more, than please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Ross at The Centre for Women and Co. at staceyr@centreforwomen.org.au.