

## Media Release No. 509

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### **TORRES STRAIT PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES TO RECEIVE \$3.1M TSRA BOOST**

The Torres Strait Regional Authority (TSRA) has backed its commitment to community support in the first round of grant funding for the year.

The TSRA Chairman, Mr Joseph Elu, has announced funding approval of more than \$3 million for community, culture, art, broadcasting, education and sport activities and initiatives.

Major grant recipients include the Mura Kosker Sorority Inc. which will receive four separate grants totalling \$701,000 and the Port Kennedy Association Inc. which will receive two grants worth \$391,500.

“I’m pleased to say that this represents a continuing level of support for these two key organisations.”

“Both groups provide critical community support services in the region such as community after school care and early intervention and family support.”

“One of the important Mura Kosker initiatives is Kerkar Bau or Shaping the Warrior Within.

“This program is about Mura Kosker working with the founders of Red Dust Healing (RDH) to develop and implement a model of healing for Torres Strait Islander men living in the Torres Strait region.

“Fifteen men will undergo the RDH Program to become facilitators to deliver the Program to people and groups in the Torres Strait.

“The goal of the Program is to heal and rehabilitate offenders and those at risk of offending.

“We have also acknowledged the importance of sport in our communities with a \$615,000 allocation to the Torres Strait Youth & Recreational Sporting Association.

“Cultural activities have been supported with \$10,000 to support a regional camp in Cairns for the Gondwana Nation Indigenous Children’s Choir, \$25,000 to Buthu Lagau

Saral Torres Strait Islander Corporation for Poruma and Warraber Islands language projects and \$10,000 for the Kiriri Arts and Craft Development Group.”

“The Torres Strait Island Media Association has also been supported for Regional Broadcasting for \$524,000 for 4MW operations and support for the RIBS network.”

Mr Elu said a total of 38 applications had been funded from the 80 applications received.

Further applications will be called in September for the TSRA’s second funding round for 2013.

Other first round grants approved:

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Grant</b>
Samuel Andrew Passi (Snr)	Wood working tools	\$5,000
Erub Erwer Meta TSI Corporation	Promote art from Darnley Island Art Centre	\$10,000
Dennis Newie	Make dance apparatus	\$6,500
Tony Harry	Purchase art supplies	\$5,000
Billy Bourne	Language project	\$8,000
Buthu Lagau Saral Torres Strait Islander Corporation	National Indigenous language and technology forum 2013	\$15,000
Ron Enosa	Produce CD of traditional and contemporary songs	\$16,500
Kapua Gutchen	Produce traditional dance objects and instruments	\$10,000
Mura Badulgal TSI Corporation RNTBC	Mabo Day 2013	\$14,000
Justina Warusam	Showcase Saibai culture through music, song, dance, arts and craft	\$10,000
Lagau supermarket	Storage shed	\$51,380
Seisia Community Torres Strait Islander Corporation	Upgrade office space short term commercial rental	\$39,000
Torres Strait Islanders Media Association	Studio Upgrade	\$300,000
Saibai Community Development TSI	Security Officer training	\$7,700

Corporation		
Kos and Abob Fisheries TSI Corporation	Ugar community fisheries development	\$30,000
Prescribed Body Corporates (7)	Basic support funding	\$56,500
Torres Shire Council	Lift for Life	\$154,000
Kaziw Asesered Le Association Inc.	St Pauls raft race	\$4,400
Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council	Seisia internet access	\$53,500
Kaziw Asesered Le Association Inc.	Yam Island youth project	\$3,500
Relationship Australia (QLD)	We feel prapa gud, we feel safe	\$98,000

**ENDS**

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