**ROTARY District 9710 / 9700 RAWCS Drought Relief Project 38/2018**

**Drought Area Kids Back to School Program**

The Joint District Drought Committee has developed this program to enable Rotary Clubs in Districts 9700 and 9710 to provide School Principals in drought affected areas with $1,000 per school. The funds are to be distributed by School Principals to a maximum of $100 per child to drought effected families who need support to purchase school uniforms, clothes and shoes; school related books and equipment; and public school fees.

To apply simply send an email to the Committee Chairman David Post on david@introspective.com.au requesting to join the Program, advise the name and location of the schools you will support, club bank account details and club contact person. Each Club joining the Program will be provided with $5,000 to support 5 schools.

***You can still be involved by adopting a school or schools outside your immediate Club boundaries as long as it is drought effected.***

Principals are to be requested to promote this program throughout their school community and advise of its confidentiality. They are the sole decision maker on the children gaining $100 relief support funds. ***Funds must be provided within the following criteria:***

1. ***Only to be given to families who they assess are being financial impacted by the drought within District 9700 and 9710***
2. ***The recipients should be farming, farm worker, agricultural contractor or agricultural supplier families within District 9700 and 9710***
3. ***Funds to be used to assist families purchase school uniforms, clothes and shoes; school related books and equipment; and public school fees***
4. ***All children and family names supported are NOT to be identified to third parties including Rotary representatives***

The sponsoring Rotary Club will follow-up with each Principal every two months and gain a report on the status of the funds expended and report to the Drought Committee on:

1. Which schools have been provided with $1,000 funds?
2. How many children from each school have been assisted during the two month period?
3. What was purchased or part purchased with the individual $100 relief support fund?
4. If the schools involved have spent their initial allocation and do they require a further $1,000 relief funding?

There are government subsidies which are available for families on pensions or who are means tested for support. Several organizations and charities including Rotary Clubs, provide grants or subsidies to families in need through schools. ***Our drought relief program does not preclude these families that may already have this support but they MUST be drought impacted families.*** This is additional support that is at the discretion of the School Principal.

Rotary Clubs requesting $5,000 for this specific program are able to apply in addition to funding they may have received for any other project that the Drought Appeal Committee has approved for that Club.