



Media Release

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Chinchilla collects more than 5M containers in 10 months

Chinchilla residents have embraced the Containers for Change scheme, collecting more than five million containers since the site opened just over 10 months ago.

Western Downs Outreach Project Inc Manager Jason Vella operates the container refund point in Chinchilla, and he said the response from the community has been overwhelming.

“It’s been great to see first-hand how the community have embraced the scheme,” said Mr Vella.

“It’s because of this response that we extended our operating hours. When we first started, we were open five days a week and now are open seven days a week.

“We are a social enterprise and something that aligns with our interests is job creation, especially for youth in the region. Currently, we have eight employees aged under 26 employed and hope over time that this number may grow.”

Ken Noye, Chief Executive Officer of Container Exchange, the not-for-profit organisation that delivers the scheme commends Chinchilla and the surrounding regions on their recycling efforts and uptake of the scheme.

“This result means more than \$500,000 has been injected back into the community, which is a great result, not just for the community, but the local environment,” said Mr Noye.

“We’re seeing tangible results—an uptake in recycling, which means less litter making its way to landfill and the environment, in addition to the economic benefits the scheme has created.”

The Containers for Change scheme encourages Queenslanders to reduce litter and increase recycling across the state by returning eligible containers for a 10 cent refund.

Western Downs Outreach Project’s Containers for Change depot is at 19 Malduf Street, Chinchilla and is open seven days a week, from 8.30 am to 6 pm. They also offer a mobile and pop-up service in Jandowae, Kogan, Miles, Tara, Taroom and Wandoan.

For more information on Containers for Change or to register for a scheme ID visit www.containersforchange.com.au.