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**MEDIA RELEASE**

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**FAR NORTH-WEST QLD BUSINESS WINS STATE  
RECYCLING AWARD FOR AMAZING COMMUNITY SERVICE**

A recycling business that provides outstanding services to a vast area of Far North-West Queensland has won a state-wide Change Maker Award for the second year running.

Based in Normanton, Gulf C4C operates container refund points through the Containers for Change scheme that covers an area of 173,000 square kilometres - more than double the size of the entire state of Tasmania.

On Friday night they were named the winner in the category of Community Engagement for small to medium business at the annual Change Maker Awards in Brisbane.

In 2020 Gulf C4C won a similar honour in the Customer Focus category.

The Containers for Change scheme operates more than 320 Container Refund Points across Queensland, exchanging a 10-cent refund for every eligible container returned to a registered refund point.

The efforts Gulf C4C take to provide recycling to their remote communities is immense, and the secret behind their success in the award category.

They have now ensured more than 4 million beverage containers have been recycled in the remote communities, which equates to over \$400,000 in refunds going back to local residents, charities, community groups and businesses.

“We frequently engage and connect with residents, business owners and various organisations throughout the wider Gulf region, encouraging them to get involved with the Containers for Change scheme,” said Gulf C4C operator Annie Cork.

“Our Containers for Change area of responsibility encompasses the four Gulf shires of Burke, Carpentaria, Croydon and Etheridge and equates to almost 173,000 square kilometres.

“We love what we do, albeit with some logistical challenges in providing services to a region with extremely limited resources.

“We must frequently think outside the box in engaging our clientele, and in providing first class services on the ground to the people in these isolated locations.”

Gulf C4C’s has now encouraged every school, pre-school and kindergarten in the Gulf to actively collect beverage containers to raise money for their organisations.

It is yet another example of their community-minded approach that is working wonders in the area by raising recycling rates and reducing landfill.

“It is what we do here at Gulf C4C,” said Ms. Cork.



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“We are making sure our small and diverse demographic of 3,380 people in this part of North-West Queensland receive services that city and larger regional areas are accustomed to.

“We try to do this with as much friendliness, consistency and professionalism as possible.”

Fourteen awards across nine different categories were handed out on Friday night at the awards ceremony led by Master of Ceremonies, Shane Webcke.

For more information on the Containers for Change scheme or the Change Maker Awards, visit [www.containersforchange.com.au/qld](http://www.containersforchange.com.au/qld) or view the awards ceremony playback on our [Youtube channel](#).

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*Cleaning up our state since November 2018, Containers for Change aims to increase recycling rates and reduce litter by allowing Queenslanders to exchange eligible drink containers to either earn a 10 cent refund for each container returned, or donate the proceeds of those refunds to their nominated community group.*

*COEX is the non-profit organisation that implements the Containers for Change scheme.*