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**MEDIA RELEASE - EMBARGO UNTIL 10.00AM MONDAY DECEMBER 12, 2016**

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### **\$4.5 MILLION INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS FOR GLADSTONE COMMUNITY GROUPS**

Central Queensland University, Salvation Army (Qld) Property Trust and Mercy Health and Aged Care Central Queensland Ltd are set to benefit from more than four and a half million dollars' worth of grants from the Gladstone Foundation.

“The Foundation is proud to be able to support the needs of Gladstone Communities through the provision of these grants,” said Mr Tim Griffin OAM, Chair of the Board of Advice for the Gladstone Foundation.

“These fourth round grants will assist the organisations to support the needs of some of the community’s most deserving organisation or volunteer groups.” The grants have been approved in principle subject to the completion of appropriate legal and financial due diligence checks.

The Gladstone Foundation was established as a perpetual trust in February 2011. It manages voluntary contributions paid into a trust by liquefied natural gas companies Queensland Gas Company (Queensland Curtis LNG), ConocoPhillips (Australia Pacific LNG) and Santos (Gladstone LNG). The Public Trustee of Queensland is the Trustee of the trust and has the ultimate responsibility for the investment and distribution of foundation funds.

The Foundation aims to ensure there is sufficient social infrastructure to meet the needs of the region’s growing population, enhance the liveability of Gladstone communities, and help build more stable workforces.

**Central Queensland University (CQU)** will develop the Gladstone Foundation Health and Wellness Education Facility at the Gladstone Campus which will offer educational and training facilities to health students and the existing health professionals in the community.

**The Salvation Army (Qld) Property Trust (SAQPT)** will construct an integrated Communities Facilities Centre, which will include a Community Centre, a Child and Family Centre and an Allied

Health Centre, within the Integrated Health Precinct, Philip Street, West Gladstone.

**Mercy Health and Aged Care Central Queensland Ltd (MHACC)** will construct a Mental Health Service Centre in Gladstone.

10 expressions of interests were received in early June 2016 totalling \$8.2 million, thus not all short listed applications could receive their full requested funding. Three organisations have been successful in gaining \$4.5 million from Gladstone Foundation Round 4 Grant. This follows on from \$3.18 million granted in 2015 to 4 grant round “social infrastructure” entities.

Grant round 1 recipients included Anglicare Central Queensland which built three therapeutically designed homes to accommodate residential placements and provide 24/7 care for local children and youth from disadvantaged backgrounds and Telehealth Solutions’ Anywhere Healthcare Gladstone Link Program which delivered more than ten thousand telehealth-enabled allied health occasions of service to people living in the Gladstone region. Gladstone Link provided individuals with direct access to health care services such as Occupational Therapy, Speech Pathology, Dietetics, Diabetes Education and Psychology.

Grant round 3 recipients included Gladstone Community Linking Agency Inc, Gladstone Men’s Shed Association Inc, Roseberry Community Services Limited and Churches of Christ in Queensland’s Shed 19 program are benefiting from \$3.18 million dollars’ worth of grants from the Gladstone Foundation.

Gladstone Community Linking Agency Inc. will build a purpose designed Respite Care House for people who have a disability and their carers.

Gladstone Men’s Shed Association Inc. will build a larger permanent facility where they will continue to provide a safe, friendly and healing environment where men from the Gladstone community are able to work on meaningful projects.

Churches of Christ Gladstone will expand and improve Shed 19 to transform the centre to better serve the people of the Gladstone / Toolooa area experiencing disadvantage and social isolation. The upgrade will also improve the facility to provide better disability access.

Roseberry Community Services Limited's range of youth and family services in the Gladstone Region will be coordinated from a new headquarters building funded by the grant.

The Gladstone Foundation invites all business and industry groups to consider providing financial support to the foundation to assist with its ongoing objective of reducing social disadvantage in the Gladstone region.

**ENDS**

**For more information please contact Chairperson Tim Griffin OAM (0418 787 012).**