

MEDIA RELEASE: 19 June 2018

For Immediate Release

MEDIA RELEASE: BOSTON OR BUST! THE QUEST FOR TEEN SUMMIT

Two young members from The Clubhouse in Lismore are very close to boarding a plane to the United States. Just three thousand dollars stands between them and a once in a lifetime opportunity to attend Teen Summit 2018 in Boston.

“Every two years, more than 300 young people and chaperones from Clubhouses in more than 100 countries gather in Boston,” says Deb Hall from Social Futures, which manages the Clubhouse here, “wouldn’t it be great if two of our Lismore members are among them?”

“Teen Summit is a wonderful opportunity for Clubhouse members to connect and collaborate, and explore innovative solutions to social issues through the creative use of technology,” adds Deb “The event includes collaborative cross-cultural activities and other opportunities for educational, career, and personal growth. This year’s theme is *‘Stand Up, Speak Out, Change the World!’*”

“We have two very excited young candidates hoping to attend and we are so close now to being able to send them on their way.”

Fleet Partners in Lismore and Alstronville Rotary Club have each contributed \$1,000. We now urgently need \$3,000 to cover the costs. If you have funds left in your end of year budget, please consider us. Donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

Co-located at the Northern Rivers Conservatorium in Keen Street, The Clubhouse provides a safe, free, after-school program for young people aged 12-18. It is one of only four in Australia; and the only one in regional Australia. Members work with mentors to explore their ideas, develop skills, and build confidence through the use of cutting-edge technology to become self-confident, motivated learners and leaders.

To help send our young hopefuls on their way, please contact Deb Hall 02 6620 1800 or go to socialfutures.org.au and click ‘donate to the Clubhouse’ on the home page.

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We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land where we live and work and their continuing connection to land, water, sea and community. We pay respects to Australia's First Peoples, to their unique and diverse cultures, and to Elders past, present and future.

Notes to editors:

1. Social Futures is a community services organisation based in Northern NSW. We have more than 40 years' experience as a regional leader, advocating with the communities we work in; working in partnership with others; and providing services that promote inclusion, fairness and social justice. Our work encompasses homelessness and housing supports, youth and family services, programs that promote genuine participation for people with disability, community sector support, professional development, and systemic advocacy.
2. The Clubhouse is a proud member of The Clubhouse Network: A Global Community for Creativity & Achievement, a program of the Museum of Science, Boston with support from the MIT Media Laboratory.