

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

ADCO's commitment to community engagement has been part of our culture since our inception in 1972. For almost 50 years we have actively engaged with various charities, community groups, and like-minded businesses to create a positive impact wherever we can.

ADCO's community engagement is underpinned by the BRINSMEAD HILL FAMILY FOUNDATION. The foundation was established by our chairman Judy Brinsmead and her son Tom Hill to formalise strong family values and grow ADCO's capacity and reach in the community. With an independent board chaired by Tom, the foundation's vision is to:

## TO HELP AUSTRALIANS THRIVE BY NOURISHING MINDS THROUGH EDUCATION AND MENTAL HEALTH INITIATIVES, AND LIFTING HEARTS THROUGH COMMUNITY SUPPORT.

Every year sees ADCO, its people and the foundation dedicate around \$600,000 and commit over 1000+ hours of staff time, to communities in which we live and build. Some of the amazing initiatives we have contributed to or partnered in are chronicled below.

### Property Industry Foundation

ADCO completed the 30-day Fitness Challenge, leading the industry and raising a total of \$59,000. ADCO staff members walked, ran, and pedalled 12,495 km to build homes for homeless children through PIF, whom we have whole heartedly supported for many years at charity balls, and Tour de PIF.

### Hard Hat Day

For many years ADCO has been an enthusiastic supporter of Hard Hat Day another Property Industry Foundation initiative that assists homeless young people. We have held site BBQs and organised raffles to raise money and awareness of the day. Our efforts collectively see ADCO donate over \$20,000 each year.

### Laptop Donations

Over the years, we have proudly donated over 150 re-purposed laptops to school students and charities around Australia, and students in East Timor.



### Salvation Army

ADCO's board member Tom Hill, participated in a gruelling 10-day, 1400km bike trip from Sydney to Melbourne – personally raising \$35,000 for the Salvos. Tom is also on the Red Shield Appeal board. Every year we donate significant funds to the Salvos, in addition to regular staff time committed to their causes.

### Bush Fire Appeals

During the bush fire appeal, ADCO donated \$100,000, to the NSW RFS, CFA Victoria, WWF and the Salvation Army. In addition, staff donations were matched dollar-for-dollar by ADCO and passed onto the Salvation Army, NSW RFS, Port Macquarie Koala Hospital, and [givit.org.au](http://givit.org.au)

### Drought Appeals

As farmers struggled to feed their animals, ADCO staff initiated many fund raising activities. All funds were matched dollar for dollar by ADCO resulting in over \$30,000 going to Drought Appeals.

### Tour de Cure

ADCO's team proudly attends the Tour de Cure Ball where we donate over \$20,000 each year. Donations go directly towards ground-breaking cancer research, care, and special equipment.

### School of Medicine, Western Sydney University

ADCO through the Rotary Club of Narellan assists with medical scholarships to students in the Molecular Medicine Research Group at Western Sydney University. Throughout this partnership, ADCO has donated in excess of \$200,000 to the University in support of its medical students.

### Property Industry Foundation (PIF) House

ADCO is delighted to be the building partner for the next Property Industry Foundation (PIF) House in Sydney, which will give a safe and secure place to live for five homeless youth.

ADCO and PIF will be building a 5-bedroom home in Dulwich Hill for Stepping Stone House. The PIF House Program brings together the property and construction industry to build homes for homeless youth. We have been a strong supporter of PIF's important work for the past 17 years, through events such as Hard Hat Day and the 30-Day Fitness Challenge.





### ADCO Community Day

We launched ADCO Community Day in NSW in 2020. This is where our staff and project partners dedicate resources, expertise and a full day of work time to local projects that need a little more love.

Local projects included cleaning and restoring wetlands and bushlands adjacent to various sites, landscaping and repair work at women's and children's shelters, constructing a shelter for a wildlife sanctuary, and improving a vital community garden.

The ADCO Community Day takes place in all states in which we work and is an annual calendar event.



### ADCO Sports Excellence Scholarship, Bond University

In 2009 we established the ADCO Sports Excellence Scholarship. This scholarship is awarded annually and provides full funding for a degree at Bond University to men and women from Australia who are high achievers in their sport. The scholarship also includes a bursary to assist the student athletes train and compete in their sport and strong personal support and mentorship from Judy Brinsmead and Tom Hill.

Recipients of the highly sort after ADCO Sports Excellence Scholarship include World, Olympic and Commonwealth medallists and those aspiring to represent Australia.

Netballer and ADCO scholarship recipient, Ashleigh Keefe, talks about how her scholarship helped her in her studies.

*"Netball has been my passion since I started playing at 6 years old in country NSW. Through hard work and persistence, I have been able to play at a high level and I currently play with the Bond University Golden South Jaguars in the Queensland State Netball League Competition. We are currently undefeated and are training hard to try and secure our spot in the finals. Through netball, I have been fortunate to be awarded the ADCO Sports Excellence Scholarship which has allowed me to study at Bond University. I am so grateful that ADCO has given me this opportunity to start my path to being a Physiotherapist by studying a Bachelor of Exercise and Sports Science at Bond. I am currently in my second year and my studies are going well. I have been fortunate to receive multiple top of subject awards and be placed on the Vice Chancellor's List of Academic Excellence. I have really immersed myself into Bond Uni life, getting involved in social netball and representing Bond at the Australian University games for the past two years. Thanks so much Judy and ADCO for supporting me so I can follow my aspirations on both the sporting and career fronts, I really appreciate all that you have done."*

**Ashleigh Keefe**

ADCO Sports Excellence Scholarship Recipient

