

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



Community has been central to the ADCO story for over 50 years. We continue to engage actively with charities, community groups and like-minded businesses to create positive impacts across Australia.



ADCO's community engagement is underpinned by the [BRINSMEAD HILL FAMILY FOUNDATION](#). The Foundation was established by our chairman Judy Brinsmead AM 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 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 commit almost \$1,000,000 including staff hours, in support of local 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 supports Property Industry Foundation (PIF)'s efforts to help vulnerable young people, and we have gladly supported them for many years, including with their PIF House in Sydney which we are currently building.

PIF's purpose is to increase the availability of transitional housing through their PIF House Program to aid the 44,000 young people homeless each night.

In the past year ADCO, through both company and staff campaigns, has raised over \$300,000 towards PIF's important work through events such as the PIF Regatta, Tour de PIF, the popular PIF 30-Day Challenge, Spin for PIF, Hard Hat Day and Neil Harding's 'PIF Walk Against Homelessness', in addition to others.

ADCO was also delighted to be the building partner for the Property Industry Foundation (PIF) House in Sydney, for Stepping Stone House. The PIF House Program brings together the property and construction industry to build homes, providing a safe and secure place to live for five homeless youth.

Laptop Donations

Each year we proudly donate over 50 re-purposed laptops to school students and charities around Australia.

Beyond Blue

We are pleased to partner with Beyond Blue, a national organisation that works to raise awareness and support programs to address issues related to depression, suicide, anxiety disorders and other related mental health illnesses.

ADCO encourages staff to seek out Beyond Blue's services, when needed. In the past year \$50,000 has been donated to Beyond Blue towards their important work.

KARI Foundation

For the past two years, ADCO has engaged closely with the KARI Foundation and KARI Aboriginal Procurement.

ADCO and the KARI Foundation have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to formally establish our common intention and provide a framework for future dealings, demonstration of our shared commitment to support high quality, sustainable services, and programs and to create meaningful points of connection to share Aboriginal history, culture and achievement.

In 2022, ADCO was proud to take home the KARI Foundation 'Commitment to Reconciliation' award. This recognises the efforts of an organisation towards reconciliation, strengthening relationships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Indigenous peoples, for the benefit of all Australians. The award also acknowledges the important role that organisations play in developing respectful relationships and promoting understanding between cultures. It is a powerful symbol of hope and a reminder of the importance of working together to build a better future for all Australians.

Since 2020, our two organisations have worked together on programs and initiatives delivering cultural awareness training, strengthening the relationships between Aboriginal peoples and non-Indigenous peoples and donations.

Tour De Cure

ADCO's team proudly supports Tour de Cure with around \$50,000 annually through the Snow Ball Gala and the Melanoma Long Lunch. Donations go directly towards ground-breaking cancer research, care, and special equipment.

Souths Cares

ADCO has partnered with sporting organisations alongside our construction projects. ADCO donated \$75,000 to Souths Cares, the South Sydney Rabbitohs' independent, public benevolent institution. The Souths Cares charter is to support disadvantaged and marginalised youth and their families through the delivery of capacity building programs addressing education, training, health, and employment needs.

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 medalists 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. 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

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