ROBBIE KATTER

Member for Traeger

MEDIA RELEASE



September 13, 2019

SEARCH ON FOR KIDS IN THE NORTH WEST WHO FOLLOW IN FRED HOLLOW'S FOOTSTEPS

The Fred Hollows Foundation is calling for nominations for the annual Fred Hollows Humanity Award, which recognises Year Six students who demonstrate compassion, integrity and kindness towards others.

Parents, teachers, principals and members of communities around Australia can nominate a child who is making a difference at www.hollows.org/humanityaward before Wednesday 18, September.

Since 2012, the Fred Hollows Humanity Award has recognised more than 1,300 students nationwide, who follow in Fred's footsteps by making a positive difference in the lives of others.

State KAP Leader and Traeger MP Robbie Katter said kids in the North West often faced greater adversity compared to their coastal cousins but despite this, there were great examples of kindness, compassion and leadership to be found.

He is encouraging community members to nominate a Year 6 child who has made a positive impact on the lives of others, especially in light of this year's devastating floods.

"Whether it is helping someone in need, volunteering or fundraising for a good cause, children in the North West region make a notable contribution to our community," Mr Katter said.

"The Fred Hollows Humanity Award is a great opportunity for them to be recognised."

Previous year's nominees included a boy from the ACT who taught himself Auslan to communicate with a profoundly deaf classmate and a girl from Victoria who raised awareness and funds for refugees.

A boy from Tasmania who provided ongoing support to a classmate with a serious medical condition was also nominated, as was a boy from rural NSW who advocated for road safety and encouraged community engagement.

All nominees will receive a certificate and be recognised at a presentation ceremony later in the year.

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Each state and territory will also recognise a Junior Ambassador who will be able to extend their humanity by allocating \$5,000, donated by the award's charity partner Specsavers, to one of the Foundation's programs to end avoidable blindness.

Last year's Junior Ambassadors chose to support the Foundation's work in Cambodia, Kenya and in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in Australia.

Founding Director of the Fred Hollows Foundation, Gabi Hollows, said Fred Hollows' legacy was about looking after your fellow man.

"Fred used to say the basic attribute of mankind is to look after each other," she said.

"He would be so proud to know the Fred Hollows Humanity Award is recognising students who are demonstrating this belief in their own lives.

"I am constantly inspired by the actions of award recipients and I urge people to nominate a Year Six student in their area who embodies the values of compassion, integrity and kindness."

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