

Heidi Victoria MP

Member for Bayswater District

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Funding just fine for furry and four-legged friends

A Bayswater north business has been given a funding boost to help continue its fabulous work helping the four-legged and furry friends of local residents.

Bayswater MP Heidi Victoria was pleased to announce recently that Paws for Purrfect Patient (Pet) Therapy was a recipient of a \$10,000 state government grant under the Animal Welfare Fund program.

“Supporting the wonderful work of this business will ensure that care packages and food can be delivered to dogs and cats in foster homes, as well as providing leads, collars, medication, and flea and worm treatment,” said Ms Victoria.

Paws for Purrfect Patient (Pet) Therapy founder Naomi Snell was excited to be funded for the second year running which she said helps her continue her work which has so far helped about 50 animals.

Last year, she used the funding for a foster care program for pets that needed to be temporarily surrendered while their owners were being treated for mental illness or were experiencing homelessness or domestic violence.

This program was highly lauded by various organisations including The Salvation Army run EastCare, NorthWestern Mental Health and the Western Region Health Centre.

Ms Snell would love to be able to fund this program again next year as she says there is a strong need for this type of service.

“I’ve had such a great response and it would be great if I could run both the Feed for Need program and the foster care program,” she said.

“The Feed for Need project is a new initiative for emergency care packages which will be run in conjunction with Animal Aid and other welfare agencies.

Ms Victoria said the government was committed to supporting not-for-profit organisations in work to ensure the welfare of pets.

“This year there were 24 grants for a total of \$355,000 as part of the governments \$1.6 million Animal Welfare Fund,” she said.

Paws for Purrfect Patient (Pet) Therapy recruits volunteers through its Facebook page and there is more information about the organisation at www.facebook.com/PAWS4Purrfectpatienttherapy

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