

Charitable Foundation proves a good listener for SCIC

SCIC Newcastle commenced in 2006 with one part time audiologist and has grown to a staff of 8 providing services throughout Newcastle, the Upper Hunter, North Coast and North Western NSW. Surgeries are performed at John Hunter and John Hunter Children's hospitals as well as private hospitals in Newcastle.

SCIC Newcastle has been a long term beneficiary of the generosity of the Newcastle Permanent Charitable Foundation with support provided in 2008 enabling the purchase of a motor vehicle to facilitate outreach services beyond the Newcastle environs. Subsequent donations allowed for the purchase of essential audiological equipment to expand its services.

The Manager of SCIC Newcastle, Audiologist Carmel Ramsey, said that as a not for profit organisation, it was dependent on support from the local community to maintain and grow its services.

"The donations received from the Newcastle Permanent Charitable Foundation have been a great example of this support and has enabled us to provide services to local children whose families struggled to travel to Sydney. Outcomes for young recipients of a cochlear implant are now much enhanced. We now have over 400 people accessing our services here in Newcastle and beyond"

Newcastle Permanent Charitable Foundation chairman, Mr Michael Slater, said that SCIC Newcastle's application for funding had clearly demonstrated a significant local need for its services. "We were delighted to enable the Centre to expand the range and quality of its services and were equally pleased to assist the Hunter and North Coast communities to gain better access to these important services."

SCIC Newcastle is looking forward to maintaining its collaborative relationship with the Foundation so that it can continue to provide and expand services to the people of the Hunter and North Coast communities.