

# News Release

www.ministers.sa.gov.au



**Hon Michael Atkinson**

Attorney-General  
Minister for Justice  
Minister for Multicultural Affairs  
Minister for Veterans' Affairs

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2008

## GRANTS TO KEEP SOUTH AUSTRALIANS SAFE

The Attorney-General Michael Atkinson has announced 13 new projects aimed at stopping crime and making South Australians safer.

This year's *Crime Prevention and Community Safety Grants Program* has yielded a wealth of new ideas on how to prevent crimes across the State.

"These grants are about taking action now for the future - preventing crime before it becomes entrenched amongst some groups or in particular locations," Mr Atkinson said.

"I'm particularly encouraged by the range of organisations that are finding fresh solutions to youth offending. One project will use African art and culture to steer new arrivals away from crime, and another teaches young people driving skills through the challenge of rebuilding a car," he said.

"Local people can be locomotives of change. It's new ideas like these that best fulfil local crime prevention needs and help make all South Australians safer."

More than 50 organisations responded to the State Government's annual call for grassroots projects that can be completed within 12 months. Grants of \$10, 000 to \$50, 000 were on offer.

Some of the successful projects this year include:

- **Elderly Assist:** Using data dot technology to mark property and create a register for police use.
- **Fast 'n' Furious:** Mentoring for first offenders in the Marion area through sporting groups and youth centres.
- **Unley Security:** Installing new security technology in public spaces such as the library and swimming centre to increase public safety.
- **Step Up:** Intervention project aimed at refugee and migrant young offenders and those at risk of offending. Includes outreach work and intensive individual support.
- **Independent Living Skills:** Teaches homeless offenders living skills and links them to the gamut of services, including justice, education, housing and training.
- **Rhyme Not Crime:** Works with recently arrived youth from west and central African countries. Using art, music, dance, poetry and the Internet, it will help young people establish new lives.
- **Tjinajunanyi (Footprints to Freedom):** An alternative education program for Aborigines aged 12 to 19 who are disengaged from formal education. Focuses on alternatives to crime.

"Congratulations to all the successful organisations. I look forward to seeing these projects help keep the public safe," he said.

*Please see full list of grants attached. Feel free to call for more information about the projects.*