

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## Solar powers a brighter future for WA charities

Four Western Australian not-for-profit groups will be able to reduce their running costs and redirect valuable savings back into the community, after being gifted a fully-installed rooftop solar PV system from Synergy.

The Synergy Community Solar Fund makes energy more affordable and accessible for the groups, and was established to help members of the WA community to benefit from renewable energy.

In 2018, the initiative gave six WA charities a total 150kW of affordable renewable energy, enabling them to re-invest savings back into the vital services which they provide.

Synergy's CEO Jason Waters said supporting important community causes, particularly through the use of renewable energy, aligned strongly with Synergy's values.

"For a second year, the Synergy Community Solar Fund is helping a diverse mix of community groups to access the wide-reaching benefits of solar energy and reinvest those savings back into the valuable work that they do," Mr Waters said.

"We know that rooftop solar can significantly reduce an organisation's operational costs in both the short and long term, but many not-for-profit groups simply can't afford the upfront cost so they are missing out on these savings."

The four recipients of the Synergy Community Solar Fund for 2019 are:

- Orana House.
- Police and Community Youth Centre in Gosnells.
- Wheatbelt Natural Resource Management in Northam.
- Native Animal Rescue in Malaga.

The Synergy Community Solar Fund recipients from 2018 have already saved more than \$30,000 since January this year from their solar panels.

In addition, Synergy has provided 110 not-for-profit groups across WA with a free energy audit and energy-saving recommendations.

For more information on the Synergy Community Solar Fund please visit <a href="https://www.synergy.net.au/solarfund">www.synergy.net.au/solarfund</a>.

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Media contact: Carolyn Herbert Synergy 0447 195 714/ (08) 6282 7319



## media@synergy.net.au

## **About Synergy**

As Western Australia's leading energy generator and retailer, Synergy is an essential and trusted provider of electricity and gas. Utilising our diverse energy generation portfolio, Synergy supplies reliable and affordable energy to more than one million residential and business customers.

Synergy owns and operates electricity generating assets, including thermal power stations, spanning from Kalbarri in the north, out to Kalgoorlie in the east and down to Albany in the south – an electricity network known as the South West Interconnected System (SWIS).

Owned by the Government of Western Australia, Synergy proudly supports the people of Western Australia and plays an active role in the communities in which we operate. Synergy's purpose is clear – to lead Western Australians to their intelligent energy future. For more information visit <a href="https://www.synergy.net.au">www.synergy.net.au</a>.