



## Helping hands put farming communities back on their feet

Earlier this year, the nation watched as Queenslanders united to help their neighbours, friends and strangers ravaged by flood, but it takes more than a few weeks to rebuild a community.

Queensland peak farm group AgForce and rural charity Aussie Helpers are putting out the call for people to donate time and funds to help farmers and regional communities continue down the long road to recovery.

Aussie Helpers founder Brian Egan said rural families have welcomed Aussie Helpers volunteers with open arms, and the charity continues to seek as many helping hands as possible to continue rebuilding efforts.

“We are always looking for more volunteers to join our hard-working group who are on ground wherever there is a need, from the Fitzroy Basin to the Darling Downs; we are in it for the long haul and will not rest until all the work is done,” Mr Egan said.

“Aussie Helpers’ goal is to get farmers and their local communities back on their feet as quickly as possible by chipping in however we can.

“One of the most moving stories I heard was when a young family from Surat wrote to me with ‘deepest thanks and misty eyes’, after Aussie Helper volunteers visited their property to repair fences, do odd jobs and offer a friendly ear.

“They wrote ‘I never realised people did this kind of thing and we really do appreciate the helping hand that has been extended to my family. I am in awe of your generosity of spirit towards your fellow rural Australians and thank the wonderful volunteers, you and Aussie Helpers’,” Mr Egan said.

“There are so many people who are just like that family who continue to need our help, and I implore anyone with some experience and a few spare hours to contact Aussie Helpers so we can put you in touch with those in need.”

AgForce flood recovery coordinator Noel Brinsmead said the Queensland Farmers Flood Appeal remains open to those wishing to directly support Queensland producers.

“The Queensland Farmers Flood Appeal will help producers and rural communities who need a hand getting their businesses back up and running.

“Agriculture supports us by providing the food on our plates and the clothes on our backs, not to mention being one of the key contributors to the Queensland economy so it is essential we all dig deep and help farmers get back on their feet,” Mr Brinsmead said.

**Donations to the Aussie Helpers Queensland Farmers Flood Appeal can be made to ‘Flood Appeal – Suncorp’, BSB: 484 799, account number 015147867, and cheques can be posted to Aussie Helpers, PO Box 405, Charleville Qld 4470. Volunteers can contact Aussie Helpers on 1300 665 232 for more information.**

Photos of Brian and Noel available on request.

For comment, contact Brian Egan on 0488 123 400 or Noel Brinsmead on 0400 665 436.  
AgForce media manager: Rebecca Jennings 0418 733 102 or [jenningsr@agforceqld.org.au](mailto:jenningsr@agforceqld.org.au)  
AgForce communications officer: Grace Reck 0427 626 853 or [reckg@agforceqld.org.au](mailto:reckg@agforceqld.org.au)