

## **Gold Coast resident wins \$5k to rescue abused horses**

Amanda Vella from Helensvale has won a \$5,000 grant for her Save a Horse Australia Horse Rescue and Sanctuary in the November round of SunsUPER's Dreams for a better world competition.

Based in the Gold Coast Hinterland and the Tweed Valley Hinterland in Northern NSW, Save a Horse Australia Horse Rescue and Sanctuary was established by Amanda Vella to take in unwanted, neglected, abused and slaughter bound horses, rehabilitating them and finding them the perfect forever home.

The organisation has rescued and rehabilitated more than 500 neglected, abused, unwanted and slaughter bound horses over nearly 10 years.

Amanda entered SunsUPER's Dreams for a better world competition to try win extra funding to continue the amazing work her organisation does.

"Tough economic times have seen an increase in neglected horses in our area, but with funds tight we've had no choice but to turn them away," said Amanda.

"We also had to close our biggest Sanctuary on the Gold Coast due to limited funding. We use to have around 25 horses in care at any one time, but we're now limited to 10 at once.

"Our dream is to rescue more and more horses, expanding our organisation into areas outside of South East QLD and Northern NSW and the \$5,000 grant from SunsUPER will go a long way in helping us."

Entries for the December round of SunsUPER's *Dreams for a better world* initiative are now open, and to celebrate Christmas SunsUPER will be awarding a \$5,000 bonus grant in December to a Dream of their choice.

### **Ends**

**Media enquiries: Rebecca Cassidy, SunsUPER, (07) 3333 7059 or 0402 246 851**

**Interview and photo opportunities:** Amanda Vella is available for interview, photo and broadcast opportunities if required. Photo opportunities can also be arranged with the Save a Horse Australia Horse Rescue and Sanctuary on the Gold Coast.

#### **About SunsUPER's *Dreams for a better world* initiative:**

SunsUPER's *Dreams for a better world* initiative is all about doing something positive for the community in a really meaningful way and giving individuals, groups and organisations the opportunity to help realise a dream for a better world.

Australian-based dreams are submitted through [www.sunsuperdreams.com.au](http://www.sunsuperdreams.com.au). Visitors to the site then vote for their favourite dream/s and the dream with the most votes at the end of each round of voting will be awarded a \$5,000 grant to their nominated charity.