



**Advocating for Rights &  
Promoting Abilities of  
People with Disabilities  
since 1999**

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **Local Business in Santo Support DPA**

Local business in Espiritu Santo have shown great support to people with disability in Vanuatu through a donation of much-needed office furniture to the Disability Promotion and Advocacy Association.

The business group, led by Charmaine Viljoen from Coral Quays and Mayumi Green from Wrecks to Rainforest, collect proceeds from the ANZAC Day commemorations held in Santo on 25 April every year and direct them to local projects or activities that can support people with disability.

This year the proceeds were used to purchase office chairs and provide a filing cabinet for use by DPA staff, volunteers and members. The chairs provide an important improvement with adjustable settings that can be configured to the needs of people with disability as they work to advance the human rights of all people. The filing cabinet will allow greater security for the confidential stories people share with us.

The Chair of the DPA, Willie Sablan, and the National Coordinator, Nelly Caleb, thank Charmaine, Mayumi and other participating businesses for their generosity and willingness to support Ni-Van organizations.

"The donation of office furniture is no small thing to a non-government organization like the DPA. It is a central part of being a viable organization that can provide effective advocacy to the thousands of people in Vanuatu living with a disability" said Mr Sablan.

Ms Caleb said, "The support of local business in delivering local solutions is an important step forward. We encourage all of the community to also be a part of supporting disability inclusion."

This donation is part of a long-term commitment by the participating businesses. Last year the business group donated a digital camera to Sanma Frangipani Association which has helped record and publicize their activities across the province.

Anzac Day is a national day of remembrance in Australia and New Zealand that broadly commemorates all Australians and New Zealanders "who served and died in all wars, conflicts, and peacekeeping operations" and "the contribution and suffering of all those who have served." In Santo a dawn memorial service is held every year. Contact Phil Jones on Ph. 36 257 at Coral Quays for more details on Anzac Day.



**Picture:** Charmaine Viljoen from Coral Quays with DPA staff and members Bani Alfred (rear), Nelly Caleb, Peter Dick and Gloria Tarileo.

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