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To whom it may concern,

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I am writing this letting in support of the funding requested by Darrell Dalton, PGA Professional and President - Golf Programs Australia Incorporated.

Golf Programs Australia Inc. was founded in 2015 and its mandate is to offer quality and sustainable golf programs to disadvantaged individuals & groups within the Sunshine Coast community. The biggest challenge in delivering their programs is the lack of ability to enjoy a dedicated green space. Unfortunately, all golf clubs they approached on the Sunshine Coast to date have declined or overlooked their proposals to provide GPAI with certain timeslots for program delivery.

Their vision is to secure support and funding for a dedicated golf facility to deliver Golf Program Australia's Specialty Golf Initiatives.

The Compass Institute is one of the Sunshine Coast's largest providers of day activities to young people living with an intellectual and/or physical disability. As the CEO of Compass and being very involved in the sector more widely, I am personally very familiar with the very considerable gap that prohibits these people from participating in a wide variety of activities that could otherwise provide pathways for greater community inclusion.

It's not just that they play golf for that period of time. They have a reason to get up and out of the house; there is involvement with other people in getting to the venue; potential to add other ancillary activities – shopping, a coffee etc; there is the respite opportunity for the carers and many other benefits. When we consider that at the last census 18.4% of Australians were recorded as living with a disability and this constitutes some 60,000 people on the Sunshine Coast as a potential market for and beneficiary of these activities.

Compass Institute fully supports the GPAI application and I give testament to the ethos, capability and mission of Golf Programs Australia Inc. and see the potential in the GPAI Association to work closely together here on the Sunshine Coast.

Please give this application favourable consideration. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me on 07 5457 3716.

Kind regards,



David Dangerfield  
CEO - The Compass Institute Inc.