

Combined support from the NRMA and AstraZeneca has resulted in the purchase of three additional cars for Driving Change.

The additional cars will provide more young Aboriginal people with vital access to supervised drivers and enable them to accumulate the required 120 hours of driving practice needed to qualify for the Provisional P1 Driving Test.

According to Driving Change Project Officer, Jake Byrne the new cars will revolutionise the program and make a dramatic difference to the lives of those young people without access to car or a licence -helping to close the gap for young Aboriginal people in terms of access to services and opportunities.

“Driving Change is a community-led program that helps break through the barriers that some young Aboriginal people have to getting a licence, such as access to identification documents, limited availability to supervising drivers or cars, and prohibitive lesson costs,” he said.

“The cars allow us to help young people get the hours of practice they need on their learner licence to become safe drivers,” he added.

Since its implementation in 2012, Driving Change has been established in nine sites across NSW with a further three sites being launched later this month (July 2014).

To date, 225 young people have registered with Driving Change and 59 people have obtained their Learner, Provisional 1 or 2 Licence.

Employees at AstraZeneca have raised almost \$45,000 through fundraising activities, including raffles, auctions and an iPad buyback scheme.

Thanks to the generosity of AstraZeneca and the NRMA more young Aboriginal people will have the chance to learn to drive safely and get on the road.