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MEDIA RELEASE

NEW CONTAINERS FOR CHANGE DEPOT IN HEATHWOOD

More than \$75,000 has been returned to the local community since the opening of the Heathwood Containers for Change depot in August.

Operated by Swap Save Recycling, locals have given the depot a warm welcome, returning more than 750,000 containers in just over two months.

The over-the-counter depot is at 53 Moreton Street and customers can receive refunds for eligible containers via cash or EFT if they have registered for a scheme ID on the Containers for Change website.

The Containers for Change scheme encourages Queenslanders to reduce litter and increase recycling across the state by returning eligible containers for a 10 cent refund.

Swap Save Recycling Director Minh Pham said he saw a great opportunity to become involved with the scheme and open a container refund point close to home.

"I live in the area and wanted to be able to provide the community with easy access to the scheme," said Mr Pham.

"There's been a really positive response from the community so far, which is really motivating to see that we have a customer base who are such avid recyclers.

"We have three full time employees and three casuals, and our hope is that over time as we get busier, we can employ more people."

Container Exchange is the not-for-profit organisation that operates the scheme. Chief Executive Officer Ken Noye said the scheme continues to have a positive uptake across the state with more than 971 million containers returned so far.

"Through the scheme new business and employment opportunities have been created and it's great to see communities support local businesses," said Mr Noye.

Lids should be removed from the containers.

Swap Save Recycling's Containers for Change depot is at 53 Moreton Street, Heathwood and is open Mondays to Fridays, from 8 am to 6 pm and Saturdays to Sundays, from 8 am to 5 pm.

For more information on Containers for Change, or to register for a scheme ID visit <u>www.containersforchange.com.au</u>.