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Help for low-paid families

Baptist Community Services will launch a suite of services to give people on low incomes access to affordable finance for personal and household goods and services.

Tomorrow, BCS Wellington will launch the No Interest Loan Scheme program to individuals and families in Wellington living on low incomes.

Community development group manager at BCS Ross Coleman said the program empowered people who usually were unable to access credit.

"The loans are commonly used for basic necessities such as washing machines, fridges, cars and computers," he said.

"These programs provide low-income earners in the community with the ability to purchase items that many of us take for granted but have a significant impact on individuals forced to live without them due to financial hardship. The loans are not for cash or debt repayment.

"We wouldn't be able to deliver these loans in the region without the support of Good Shepherd Youth & Family Service and funding from NAB and the federal government's Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs."

Regional executive retail at NAB for the Central West Kim Dahler said the loans were not just about lending money.

"The loan process helps to develop financial literacy and build assets for people on low incomes," she said.

"We believe we live in a community, not an economy, and these programs are part of NAB's goal to build strong, sustainable, inclusive communities."

BCS Wellington is located at BCS Food for Life, 32 Maughan Street and can be contacted on 6845 2784.