

# Community Living Association Inc.



## Annual Report 2018

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## Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners

Community Living Association Inc would like to acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we live and work. We acknowledge the Turrbal people of the north of Brisbane, the Juggerra of the south and other traditional groups in the surrounding areas.

We acknowledge all of our ancestors, Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander, and non-indigenous, past and present, for shaping who we are and guiding us into the future. We welcome you to the community we share. We acknowledge this country as a 3 flag nation.



## History of the Turrbal People

The Turrbal people are the self-identified traditional custodians of the North Brisbane area and linguistically relate to a poly-block of languages - the Yuggerra (European translated Yuggerra) and Gubbi-Gubbi dialect - which is spoken as far inland as Moggill, North to the Pine River and South to Logan (Steel, 1983, p. 121). An Indigenous people's language belongs to country and creates traditional lore, custom and the country from which it originates, i.e. flora and fauna species. The 'TURR' in Turrbal is translated as 'NO' whereas 'BAL' describes an Indigenous peoples place marker. Central to an Indigenous people's name and linguistic grouping is the root that is an indicator of one's immediate family and their familial reproduction under this name. Underlying this immediate connection is the kinship net-work that connects a people to country. This connection is directly descended from the mother's side, hence the Indigenous expression, "*skin of my country*". (Dr. Peter Whalley, Interview. March 19, 2010. Senior Lecturer QUT Oodgeroo Unit).

Nundah was originally pronounced in the language Yuggerra as both Nyanda and Nandah meaning 'chain of water holes' (Steel, 1983, p. 129). This definition stands in relation to a major Indigenous pathway that was effectively used as a coastal trade route, a site for Corrobories and a meeting spot for various Indigenous groups who travelled North and South along the Coast, as well as for those Indigenous peoples travelling inland (Steel, 1983, pp.123-131).

Post-colonial Nundah was initially named Zion Hill in relation to the presence of the German Moravian Missionaries (who later relocated to the Bunya Mountains) to which local Indigenous Tribes referred to as 'Umpie Daggur' (houses of white men); Zion Hill was later renamed The German Station but was officially re-named Nundah during the 1890's reflecting both local Indigenous historical interest and the connection to Turrbal country.

Pre-colonisation (Steel, 1983, pp. 123-126) there were a large number of Bora Rings or Boos located within the Nundah area; this indicated that a dense Indigenous population were present on country. Bora Rings are traditional initiation sites where young Indigenous men are welcomed into manhood through customary ceremonious rituals such as circumcision, scarification, the learning of sacred song, stories, dance and traditional law. Indigenous people are not homogenous groups but consist of separate nations all encompassing differing languages, traditions, lore and symbology. Therefore Bora Ring ceremonies are conducted in a variety of ways reflecting a particular Indigenous group (Family Representative Committee, 2006, pp. 4-6). Indigenous groups were distinguished from one another by the directions of the incisions (scarification) that were made upon the breasts and arms during initiation ceremonies i.e. the Turrbal people were differentiated by a fleshy protuberance made upon the wrist by continually casting fishing nets (Dr. Peter Whalley, Interview. April, 17, 2010. Senior Lecturer QUT Oodgeroo Unit) and also displayed chest scars which were arranged in vertical patterns with scarring added to the shoulders of males at the time of a Bora Ring ceremony (Steel, 1982, p. 126). The Turrbal people were known to have participated in Bora Ring ceremonies at Nudgee, Keperra, and Samford neighbouring the Garumngar people. The Bora Ring at Keperra lent itself to the suburbs

name as 'Kipper' means young man in Turrbal. Bora Rings still presently exist in Brisbane and can be located at Toorbul Point, Samford, Samsonvale and Mount Esk Pocket (Petrie, 1902, p. 55).

The Turrbal people displayed a continuous connection to country in the Nundah area. The Duke of Yorks camp, that self-identified themselves as Turrbal people, was located in Yorks Hollow which at the time was a gully that passed through Victoria Park and the Royal National Association Showgrounds (RNA). This Indigenous campsite was traditionally known as Barrambin. Another two known Turrbal campsites were located at Toowong and was called 'Baneraba' and Newmarket known as 'Buyuba' meaning 'shin and "[referred] to the straight reach of Enoggera Creek in the vicinity of Bancroft Park" (Steel, 1982, pp. 124 – 125). The Turrbal people of Barrambin, Baneraba and Buyuba were Riverine people and consisted of between fifty to sixty men who utilized a wide array of local resources that were located upon country. Indigenous groups that subsisted along coastal inlets were recorded as having high population densities due to the availability of marine resources producing a picture of "a stable and well developed coastal settlement patterns" pre-colonisation (Whalley, 1987, pp. 19-24)

*\* CLA has compiled this history as part of its commitment to Reconciliation processes in Australia. We recognise that much of the material is sources from European records and may contain inaccuracies.*

*\*CLA continues its support of Reconciliation by supporting annual Sorry Day activities with Noonga Reconciliation Group.*

## CLA's History

Community Living Program (CLP) was established in 1987 as part of the Commonwealth Rehabilitation Service (CRS). The program, which was attached to the Taringa Rehabilitation Centre, was to support young people with an intellectual/learning disability towards independence. In 1987 the program was moved to the Spring Hill regional unit, its first community-based setting.

People with an interest in the program (Friends of CLP) became concerned when the CRS decided to cut back CLP's resources, and decided to seek funding under the new Disability Services Act (1986). Funds were granted in 1989 for a research and development project. The Friends of CLP incorporated as the Community Living Program Inc. on the 23rd of June 1989. On the 20th January 1995, CLP changed its name to Community Living Association Inc (CLA). CLA now manages CLP, and has sponsored a range of other projects. CLA also manages:

- Village Housing
- Community Connections (Reconnect, Youth Support Co-ordinator and Youth Connections).
- ARROS
- Community Projects (Volunteer Programme, The Shed Space)
- A small research programme
- CLA Student Unit

## Our Purpose

Community Living Association (Inc.) aims to:

- To contribute to the relief of poverty, sickness and other misfortune and to the promotion of the well being of individuals, groups or communities who are disadvantaged and vulnerable either socially, physically, intellectually or emotionally (hereinafter called social welfare); in particular those people who experience a learning (intellectual) disability.
- To undertake, or carry out any other benevolent work or purpose.
- To promote, establish carry out and support and to assist in promoting, establishing, carrying out and supporting any social welfare program designed to contribute to the alleviation of poverty, sickness or other misfortune including those undertaken by Statutory Authorities, voluntary Welfare Organisations and other community groups.
- To assist people with 'learning difficulty' to determine and achieve what is important to them.
- To assist people with 'learning difficulty' to stand up for themselves, individually and collectively in the community and to have their say in representing their interests, issues and needs to all sectors of the community and government.
- To assist people with 'learning difficulty' to improve the social and economic conditions of their lives, for example: income, housing, health, transport, sporting, recreational, artistic etc.
- To assist people with 'learning difficulty' to develop a safe and secure life in the community.
- To assist people with 'learning difficulty' to develop their family, friend, partner and community relationships and connections.
- To assist people with 'learning difficulty' achieve a state of good psychological and physical well being.
- To assist people with 'learning difficulty' achieve a sense of personal potency and of personal meaning.
- To assist people with 'learning difficulty' achieve a sense of meaningful use of time for example; employment, community service etc.
- To collaborate with other organisation's in the achievement of C.L.A.'s objectives.
- To document and record C.L.A.'s work and endeavours.
- To identify and initiate creative responses to the needs and issues of people with 'learning difficulty'.

- To assist community members build better communities through the inclusion of people with learning difficulties.
- To assist families in their commitment to family members with a learning difficulty.

## Mission Statement

CLA Inc. will seek to carry out its' objectives in ways that are:

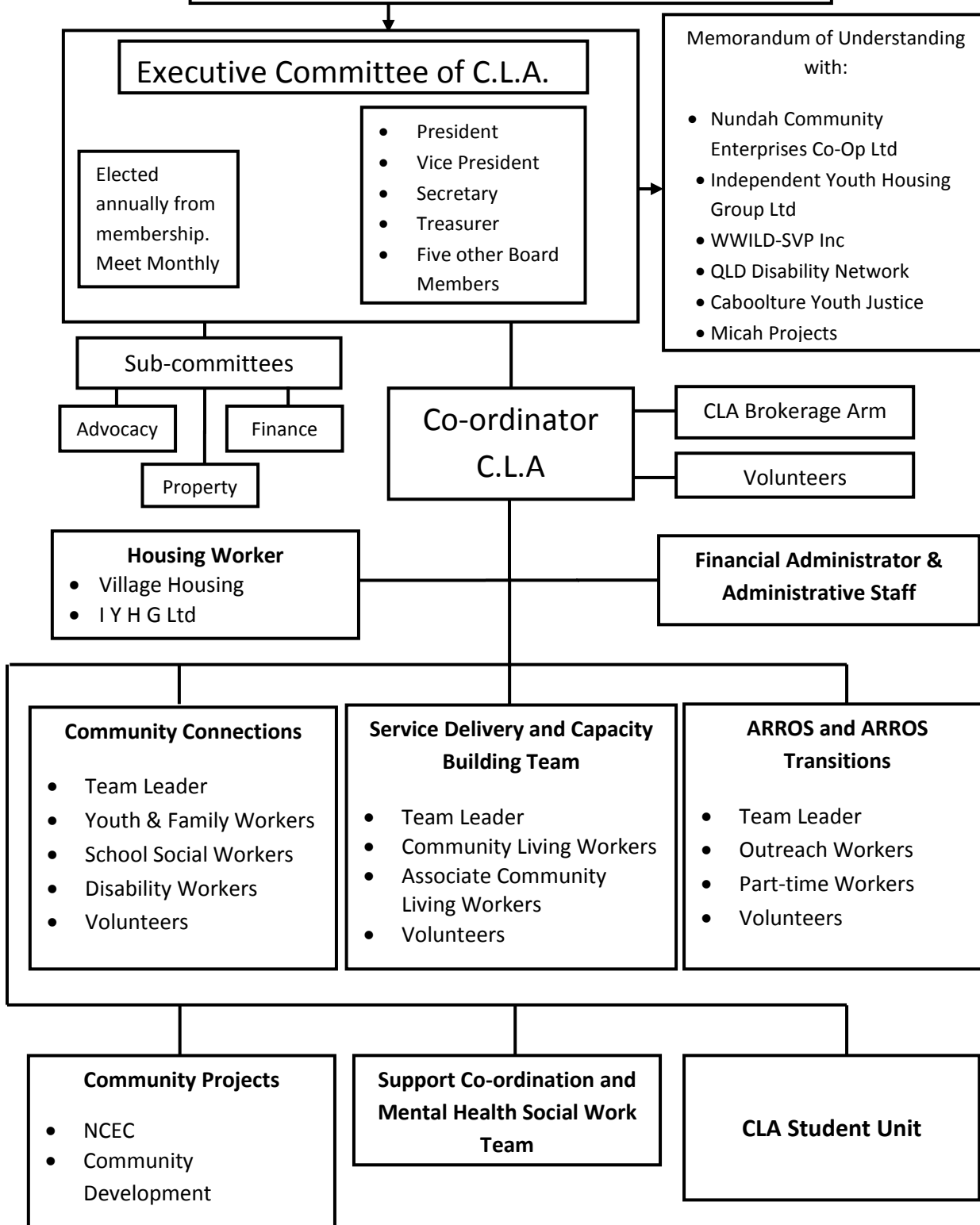
- Respectful, kind and encourage one's own control;
- Flexible, innovative and responsive, leading and giving hope;
- Diverse, fun and address the whole self;
- Written down and shared with others;
- Well-resourced and heading toward self-sufficiency;
- Co-operative and collaborative and value all opinions;
- Seek feedback and question deficiencies; and
- Challenge society and change it, acting politically.
- Stable, keeping core values and vitality

## CLA's Funding Partners

Grants	Funded By
On the Grid Project	Commonwealth Department of Social Security through the Queenslanders with Disability Network Consortium
Disability Week	
BEROS	QLD Department of Disability
Student Unit	QLD Department of Child Safety
ARROS Transitions	University of Queensland
QLD Department of Employment	Skilling Queenslanders for Work
Reconnect	Federal Department of Social Services
Disability Services	Kedron State High School
School-based Social Work	Kelvin Grove State College

# ORDINARY MEMBERS OF C.L.A. (INC)

150+ Members (Constituents/Family/Community)



## President's Report

This last financial year July 2017 – June 2018 will be remembered as our last pre-NDIS year. However, while it has been pre-NDIS, a lot of the year has been dominated by NDIS as workers, constituents and families have worked to understand and get ready for the introduction of NDIS.

However, next year will be the one where we talk about our journey of discovery with the NDIS.

This year we can still focus on pre-NDIS, unless people want to particularly focus on the changes brought on by NDIS.

So, firstly thank you to all the constituents, family members, committee members and staff who make up CLA.

The last year has as usual been a big year.

- BEROS – Brisbane Emergency Response Outreach Service working to support homeless young people in child safety care has been re-funded for 3 years.
- Reconnect – Reconnect Service for young people at risk of homelessness has also been re-funded for 3 years.
- CLP and ARROS have both been busily preparing for NDIS.
- ARROS Transitions – we are still waiting to find out about its future funding.
- Village Housing continues to provide both transitional and long-term housing.

CLA continues to have workers at Kedron and Kelvin Grove High Schools and as well as Virginia, Gumdale and West End Primary Schools.

Skilling Queenslanders this year has delivered projects in horticulture, hospitality and disability studies.

Our partnerships and joint projects include:

- With WWILD-SVP our long-term partnership and the 'Well Beans' project this year.
- With IYHG – who have just purchased a new unit.
- With NCEC who have this last year expanded the number of people with a disability they employ.
- With Queenslanders with Disability Network we have continued the 'On the Grid' project.
- A new MOU with Caboolture Youth Justice to support their young people in applying for NDIS.
- The Nundah All Stars staged yet another successful musical 'Click' with the support of Mary McKillop College and of course by the time of our AGM they will have held their 2018 musical 'All Aboard'.

As well as Nundah All Stars a number of other projects and groups have been active.

Community Connections has run a very successful Women's Week project. There has also been the Transition from School Group and the Men's Group have left hardly a fish uncaught in South East QLD.

BEROS – Brisbane Emergency Response Outreach Service ran their first young women's group. BEROS also co-facilitated the G-Force Forum alongside Peakcare and Create- Non-Approved Homes.

Literacy group, Adventure Holiday, and the Scammers group have all had busy years. On the training front, Victoria Tucker and Sam Nayda have continued to deliver Dual Disability training and Sarah MacDonald has delivered Trauma Informed Practice and Attachment Therapy based Practice training.



In finishing a big thank you to all the volunteers, staff and committee members. In particular, I wish to acknowledge those staff who have had to move on from CLA for their contribution while employed here. For those staff who have continued, I offer the thanks and appreciation of the whole organisation.

## Change and Same Day

CLA is undergoing a restructure due to the changes brought by the National Disability Insurance Scheme. We decided to gather all the constituents and their family members together to officially announce the restructure. It was also an opportunity for us to hear what they value about CLA. The event provided a platform for CLA to assure constituents that CLA will continue to provide the best support. The things that constituents value about CLA will remain the same despite of all the changes happening right now. We have listed all the things that they like about CLA in the chart below.

The event was hosted at CLA carpark on 16<sup>th</sup> August 2018 from 11 am to 1pm. There were more than 60 people attending the event. The event was hosted by CLA coordinator Morrie. The workers helped constituents to write down the things they like about CLA on sticky notes, and put them on the wall, sharing them to the group. During the event, we also asked constituents to help us name our new service delivery team. The constituents came out with 40 names for the new team, and voted for their favourite names by show of hands. We ended the event with a BBQ lunch. It was a great time to have all the constituents and workers gathering together to celebrate what CLA has achieved and look forward to the future.



## Feedback from constituents:

Community	Staff-Awesome!	Skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Nundah Community</li> <li>- Different people you get to meet</li> <li>- Supportive environment</li> <li>- Gotta keep the <b>fun</b> element</li> <li>- Funny people who can take a joke</li> <li>- Keep being very friendly</li> <li>- Been around for long time</li> <li>- The people               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>oThe community</li> <li>oEveryone is nice and friendly</li> <li>oThey are like me , other people who are autistic</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Bringing people together               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>oSocialisation</li> <li>oHaving a coffee and a chat</li> <li>oHaving a BBQ</li> </ul> </li> <li>- People in Nundah/CLA</li> <li>- Wonderful organisation               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>oGet together</li> </ul> </li> <li>- CLA is fun / want to keep AGM</li> <li>- Morrie's sense of humour AKA The lord</li> <li>- Everyone is friendly</li> <li>- Keep helping me live a fun life</li> <li>- Help each other out</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "I like my workers"</li> <li>- Provide great support</li> <li>- Willing to help constituents achieve goals</li> <li>- Reliable, know the constituents really well               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>oCan talk about anything</li> <li>oCan be trusted</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Close relationships between workers and constituents</li> <li>- Approachable               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>oAlways available if constituents needed</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Qualified Staff               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>oHad experience in this field</li> <li>oBetter support to people</li> <li>oUniversity qualified</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Able to fix problems</li> <li>- Friendly/Supportive               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>oEasy to converse with</li> <li>oVery understanding</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Flexible</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Support living at home</li> <li>- Participation in management meetings</li> <li>- Able to be part of management committee</li> <li>- Learn to be social</li> </ul>
Groups and Activities	Work and Employment	Housing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Nundah All Stars Musical</li> <li>- Art Days</li> <li>- Young Women's group</li> <li>- Moonlight Walk</li> <li>- Shared Meal</li> <li>- Adventure Holiday Group</li> <li>- Post School Group               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>oSchool learners group</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Men's Group               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>oGets people out of the house</li> <li>oVery social, guys talk</li> <li>oStaff put a lot of effort in</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Fishing group</li> <li>- Outreach support</li> <li>- Literacy</li> <li>- Going to Ekka with workers</li> <li>- Micah Ball</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "NCEC: more council contracts, more crews"</li> <li>- "Type of support"</li> <li>- "Continue to work for money"</li> <li>- "More days of work"</li> <li>- "SQW course: parks and garden, Cert 1 Tafe course"</li> <li>- "Want café to stay!"</li> <li>- "Want more paid traineeship options!"</li> <li>- "The location- is very central"</li> <li>- "The café- nice coffee!"</li> <li>- "Forced to change to fit the NDIS"</li> <li>- "CLA people can drive me to places I need to go"</li> <li>- "We need an organisational chart to give everyone, eg: volunteers"</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "Achieved long term housing"</li> <li>- "Village housing"</li> <li>- "Like support for housing co-op"</li> </ul>

## CLA Reconciliation

CLA acknowledges the importance of a culturally safe and competent workplace for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

CLA is an active member of Noonga Reconciliation Group and has a partnership that supports Noonga with some of their important work around reconciliation. This includes; offering space for Noonga to hold their monthly committee meetings in the Community Connections office and resourcing social work students and a worker to collaborate with Noonga committee members to organise an annual National Sorry Day ceremony at the Kalinga Park Sorry Site in Clayfield. This year's ceremony was well attended and saw Elders, First Nations community members, school communities, politicians and the general public come together to reflect on the harm caused by policies leading to the Stolen Generations. CLA constituent Taurean Lea performed a poem written by his mother Robyn which was very moving. Taurean's performance was wonderful, receiving a lot of positive feedback from the audience... WAY TO GO TAURY!!!!



As part of the Sorry Day project, Noonga pays for the CLA social work students to attend the Ration Shed at Cherbourg to gain insight into the impact of government policy of forcible removal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from family and country. Below are some excerpts from reflections written by students Toni, Louis, Yasmin and Laura.

*“The experience of visiting Cherbourg and being involved in the Sorry day working group has expanded my understanding of cultural competence. More than learning about differences in cultural traditions and values and acknowledging one’s own privilege; practicing cultural competence also involves seeking out, respecting and learning from different cultural perspectives. Cultural competence involves respectfully and openly communicating with people from different cultural backgrounds, building relationships to understand each other and working toward equality together. Being culturally competent allows social workers to acknowledge the strength, resilience and self-determination of First Nations people and encourages us to shed the victim narrative. Instead, acknowledging culture as an important and positive component of Indigenous and Australian identity.”*

- Toni, 2018

*“I felt incredibly moved by our experiences at the Ration Shed... Physically being in a space where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians were imprisoned behind fences and forced to work in unsatisfactory conditions for measly rations made me feel uneasy, especially in the office of the superintendent where we learned about the atrocities of living under the Protection Act.”*

- Louis, 2018

*“I now see reconciliation as a process of bringing together Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal people, whilst acknowledging past loss, and working towards reconciling these losses (including loss of culture, family, language, land, etc). Although I believe there is significant progress to be made in relation to reconciliation, the mission also gave me a glimmer of hope. To see where we had come from as a country, and to see the direction which we are heading, moved me. I feel that this experience has had the power to shape my practice as a social worker, as it has opened my eyes to the importance of learning about different cultures and the importance of recognising social injustice and actively seeking to push for social change. It also increased my awareness of Australia’s history, the not so positive role social work once played in this history and how as a Non-Indigenous person I need to be aware of this history and its ongoing impact for the Traditional Owners of our land.”*

- Yasmin, 2018

*“Overall, I think that this visit has helped me to understand the impact that colonisation has had on the First Australians. I feel that previously I was able to intellectualise the stories, however, I was never able to feel it. This visit I was very confronted, however I think it will change the way that I practice Social Work in the future.”*

- Laura, 2018





**EVENTS**

ARROS has had a busy twelve months! We continue to come up with new ideas and ways of engaging with our constituents and providing them with meaningful activities and events.

**MS Moonlight Walk**

ARROS constituents were thrilled at the opportunity to join in the CLP group and participate in the MS Moonlight Walk on Friday October 20<sup>th</sup> 2017.

The 5km walk was pleasant for all and a great opportunity to mingle with other constituents and take gorgeous photos of Brisbane at night.



## Micah Moonlight Magic Dinner Dance

One of the highlights of the event calendar is the Micah Moonlight Magic Dinner Dance. The Micah Ball provides positive opportunity for constituents to dress up and attend a fancy ball and interact with people they wouldn't normally meet. It provides social connection and opportunities to get to know other ARROS and CLA constituents, as well as people from all over Brisbane and surrounds.

The celebrations commenced early as preparations began with hair and makeup. The constituents showed off their skills as they helped one another get ready. After a couple of photos we got into the cars and on the way!

Seven ARROS constituents with four workers celebrated the night away with good food, great company and excellent entertainment and dancing. Everyone attending had an amazing time and is eagerly awaiting next year's event!

Thanks to Wayne Swan, Federal Member for Lilley who contributed \$100 and Leanne Linnard, State Member for Nudgee who contributed \$300. These donations helped contribute to the success of the evening!



The ARROS Christmas Party was a fantastic celebration to end the year. The event was fun in the sun at Redcliffe Lagoon.

Highlights of the events included the yummy BBQ, DIY decorated cupcakes and a photobooth where attendees could take photos with an Instacamera. This was a great hit with instant photos that people got to take home. We had so much fun we forgot to take photos for the ARROS album!

## **Birthday Parties**

Over the last twelve months, ARROS constituents have been supported to organise birthday parties with their friends and families. These events promote social connection, social skills and let the young person know they are valued.

Some of the great birthday parties that were held included:

- BBQ fun day at Shorncliffe pier
- a picnic in the park held at South Bank

## **ARROS Art Day**

In January 2018, ARROS constituents were invited to participate in an art day. Attendees were encouraged to explore their creativity in art projects including painting and craft.

The constituents that attended had a great time and even gave ideas of what art & craft they'd like to do at the next Art Day.

## **Bushwalking Event**

In April 2018 ARROS Constituents set off to the Boondall Wetlands. After some lunch, we went for a 2km walk exploring the nature. This nature & physical activity themed event was a hit with those who attended with comments made at how interesting the day was.

## **Down Time Day**

To promote self-care, a Down Time Day was enjoyed by ARROS constituents. A day of pampering and luxury was had including activities of yoga and art, indulgent manicures and facials and gourmet food with a sushi making station.

ARROS constituents had a fantastic time and the sushi making station was a hit!

## **Transition to Independence Month**

To celebrate Transition to independence month, ARROS held an art day event with the aim of exploring individual journeys.

Many constituents attended and had a great day engaging in art, activities and games.

## **Women's Week Self Defence**

In partnership with Stage 6 gym, some ARROS women were supported to participate in self-defence classes held for Women's Week.



This event was successful with positive feedback from attendees including one woman commenting she was stronger than she thought.

## **YOUNG WOMENS GROUP**

Over the last twelve months, ARROS held regular activities for a group of young women to improve social connection and experience new opportunities. These activities are centred around a fun outing or event, that can help in building friendship skills and most importantly, having fun. Each activity centres around a core learning/life goal for the young women, including self-care, independence, family and relationships, and other important life skills.

Some of the activities and outings from the Young Women’s Group included Ten Pin Bowling, City Cat rides, as well as shopping & having lunch. One of the highlights from the Young Women’s Group was attending the Marvel Exhibition!



## **CELEBRATIONS & ACHIEVEMENTS**

ARROS has had the pleasure in supporting and celebrating with constituents over the last twelve months!

An ARROS constituent has now been volunteering for two years of service with the SES. More volunteering - another ARROS constituent is celebrating six years of service with Samford Riding for the Disabled! This year they had the opportunity to support the club and some of its horses at the National Championship held at the Queensland State Equestrian Centre.

We celebrate Jonathon who has kicked goals over the last year! Jonathon has successfully completed a Certificate I in Conservation and Land Management available through Skilling Queenslanders for Work. His employment success continued when he found casual work with a car wash. Jonathon is now planning for his next goal – a road trip to Sydney! Another constituent has also completed a Certificate I in Conservation and Land Management and was successful in gaining ongoing employment with the NCEC!

## **VOLUNTEERS**

ARROS is grateful to the number of volunteers that support our constituents. With the involvement from our volunteers, this allows constituents to access more support, engage more in the community and more opportunity to build capacity.

## **FUNDING**

ARROS is appreciative of additional funding and grants received over the last twelve months. ARROS was successful in obtaining \$750 from StreetSmart Australia. This funding has been used to support constituents to obtain assessments for their application for NDIS access. Grill'd Chermshire & Ascot have graciously been able to provide funding for various projects through the year. One campaign through Grill'd Ascot was to support the activities facilitated in the Young Women's Group. To celebrate our funding win, Grill'd Ascot put on a lunch for the group where we could celebrate receiving funding and enjoy a yummy burger.



**BEROS**



What a year it has been for BEROS!

BEROS is a consortium of two NGO's in Brisbane Community Living Association and Micah Projects.

There are three parts to the BEROS service:

- 1. Case Management
- 2. BEROS Street to home
- 3. BEROS Overnight support

Case management operates Monday-Friday 9-5ish. We hold the one on one relationship with the YP whilst working closely with the system.

BEROS Street to home is our after hours outreach team that operate from 6pm-midnight 7 nights a week (with follow up from Micah safer lives team post midnight available). They respond to YP Self referrals, CSAH, QPS, and residential call outs. They transport YP back to placements or to safe self placing arrangements. The street to home team also do assertive outreach where young people may be sleeping rough and can provide welfare checks and practical supports.

BEROS Overnight support houses up to 2 young people for up to 2 nights at a time who do not have a placement, and are self placing. We also use this space during the day as our office space and occasionally bring YP in to build independent life skills and access practical supports such as showers and laundry facilities.

We officially launched the service after being refunded for 2 years- our BEROS launch was held in October 2016. The launch attracted a large attendance from across the Child Safety and NGO sectors.

The consortium went from three services delivering BEROS to two- CLA as the lead and Micah Projects as the second. Kyabara deciding to exit the program at the end of our trial project in June 2016.

The case management team has presented at 2 conferences:

- Australian Association of Social workers conference in November 2016: talked about the BEROS program
- Create Voices in Action Conference in Sydney in June 2017: “Finding a Voice for Self-placing Young People through the Therapeutic Alliance”

BEROS continues to receive positive feedback from the sector in relation to our service delivery- including:

- “very impressed with the skill set of BEROS staff”
- “BEROS staff are great at building relationships with young people and CSSC staff”
- “The service is great at locating young people, when no one else can”

And young people have provided their own feedback:

- “I can tell you anything pretty much without being judged or feel unsafe”
- “Youse keep everything I say confidential and its important cause no one is confidential anymore, and I feel safe sharing”
- “They helped me with child safety, and helped me get a placement

CLA has successfully taken over the management of BEROS overnight support:

- Purchasing a property at Wavell Heights (thank you to NCEC for the amazing fence)
- Employing 5 overnight support workers
- Continuing to support young people to access a safe place when they have no other options available to them

We said good bye to 1 of our case managers Tracey Wrigley who had been with BEROS since day one and we welcome Jori Etuale on board in November 2017.

Team identity and cohesion continues to improve across the 24/7 service- with CLA and Micah staff coming together on a regular basis for the following:

- Monthly team meetings
- Quarterly professional development this includes topics based around the following: trauma and attachment, legal issues for young people, drug and alcohol, transitions to independence.
- Group supervision (monthly for overnight workers)
- Whole of service strategic planning (once a year)

Looking forward to a productive 2017/2018- with plans to increase the participation of young people in our service development and empower young people to have a voice.

Thanks from the BEROS team!!

## BEROS Young Womens' Group

Earlier in the year BEROS day workers Tamara, Anna and Social Work student Yasmin ran a 12 week developmental group with a number of young women who are supported by BEROS. As a service we

acknowledged that young people who are self-placing do not always have access to the same resources and peer activities that young people who are engaged in child safety placements might.

The purpose of this group was to bring together young women who have a shared experience and encourage positive peer relationships. Young Women's Group would meet once a fortnight and spent the day together engaging in both paid and unpaid activities including op shopping, movie slumber party at the BEROS house, Gold Coast adventures, picnics, swimming at Enoggera Reservoir and more.

In the 12 weeks we shared stories, music, adventures and many laughs.

As a worker I learnt a lot from this experience and appreciated the opportunity to engage with the young women in a 'real world' setting, it was a pleasure to move away from conversations about placements, care plans, schooling, employment etc and just connect, as women. For me it was a humble reminder that the young people we work with are unique and complex individuals with their own narratives and perspectives. I observed very real friendships form between the young women who reflected fondly on their experience over the 12 weeks together.

Since this experience the BEROS day workers have re-grouped, debriefed, reflected and are planning for the next round of group work which will commence in the coming weeks with both young men and women who are supported by BEROS. We are equally excited to learn and grow in this experience alongside the young people we are fortunate enough to connect with.

## Community Connections

Community Connections (fondly known as Coco's) is one of CLA's Youth Teams. We operate programs that fall under 3 broad areas.



1. Reconnect
2. School Based Social Work
3. Disability Support

Community Connections works alongside young people and families where there are issues that could lead to early home leaving and/or early disengaging from school. Using an early intervention and community development framework, our work also encompasses group and project work and creating links with the school and wider community.

We are no longer continuing to work with young people aged 12 – 25 years who receive funding from Disability Services, due to CLA's changing structure to respond to NDIS. We have enjoyed being part of these young people's journeys and know that they will go onto bigger and brighter things with the new service delivery team, or new opportunities.

The Reconnect service goes from strength to strength, and along with the school based Social Workers at Kelvin Grove State College, Kedron State High School, West End, Virginia and Gumdale State Schools, help maintain our relationships with schools.

We have continued to invest energy in strengthening our existing, and building new partnerships to support our work with vulnerable and at risk young people. We would like to acknowledge and thank all of our stakeholders for their support over the past 12 months.

- We continue to work alongside Picabeen Neighbourhood Centre, Jabiru Youth and Community Services, Youth Outreach Service and ZYPSS (Zillmere Young People's Support Service) as BNYA (Brisbane North Youth Alliance) to seek opportunities to expand support options to young people in Brisbane North.
- Several groups at local High Schools (some co-facilitated with school staff and other community agencies) including Peer Skills, BRITA Futures, Independent Students groups, and the Transitions Group.
- Facilitating the Northside Intercultural Youth Working Group to link youth work supports for EALD young people across north Brisbane.
- Provided support and participated in the National Sorry Day event hosted by Noonga Reconciliation Group Inc.

## Reconnect Program

Reconnect supports young people aged 12 to 18 and who are at risk of homelessness. We work alongside young people and the people they identify as important in their lives, to be connected to their goals, relationships and communities.

The 2017/2018 year was dynamic and full of exciting new projects, individual and group work. We welcomed the news of a three-year extension to our partnership with the Department of Social Services to continue our efforts in the community. We're excited to action our plans with young people, families and school communities to provide early intervention responses to homelessness.

We feel privileged to hear young people's stories and get to witness their resilience and achievements in the face of tough problems. Over the past 12 months we have celebrated alongside young people as they have;

- Rebuilt safe and meaningful relationships with family members
- Graduated from school
- Learned independent living skills
- Worked towards their mental health recovery and taking steps to maintain a healthy lifestyle
- Started employment or completed courses to help them to land their dream jobs.
- Found ways to pay off debt, manage bills and strengthen budgeting skills
- Grown confidence to manage the responsibilities of life, including phone calls, appointments, online reporting and all sorts of everyday tasks
- Minimised & stopped using alcohol and other substances
- Explored opportunities to volunteer and give back to the community
- Pass their learners licence test and start driving lessons
- Advocate for themselves within systems
- Settle into their own accommodation, as well as navigating share house relationships
- Learnt and used problem solving and communication skills to help their peers work through problems
- And found ways to have better relationships with the people they love and that love them.

Alongside support to individuals, Reconnect also provides responses in the community through group work and community based projects. These activities help increase skills, knowledge and connections between all community members and aims to strengthen capacity of our systems to reduce young people's experience of homelessness. Below are some examples of this work:

### **Groupwork**

Working closely with local high schools in the Brisbane North region to provide early intervention responses to young people, some of the group we undertook includes:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Young Women's Group at Wavell SHS, Term 4 2017, in partnership with Aunty Moira Bligh.
- BRITA group program after 2018 NAPLAN tests for Year 9 students from Kedron SHS's EAL/D unit, practicing stress relief and resilience building techniques
- Mental Health and Wellbeing week 2017 activities at Kedron SHS.

### **Community Based Peer Skills Project**

We send a BIG thank-you to Streetsmart for the grant that enabled us to run two Community Peer Skills groups in September 2017 & January 2018. The workshops supported young people to strengthen their problem solving and communication skills and increase ways of looking after ourselves and help seeking to prevent problems getting out of control. The young participants share some wise insights about respecting diversity and the value of being heard.



### **Women's Week 2018 Project -**

March 2018 saw us come together with women in our community to Move, Sweat, Laugh, Connect! Thanks for Qld Office for Women and Brisbane City Council, and our project partners, Nundah Neighbourhood Centre and Jabiru Youth and Children's Services, we tried out a number of different activities that had our minds and bodies feeling healthy and active. Women's week showed the positivity that comes when connect with others and have a go at new things.

Women also told us that without access to, safe spaces free or low cost child care, activities and transport assistance they are excluded from physical activity in the community. We continue to work with BCC and our project partners to address this gap.

### **Interagency & Networks**

The Reconnect team is committed to holding strong relationships in the networks across North Brisbane, to build capacity for systems to provide the best possible responses for young people and families. In the last year we contributed to the;

- Northside Alliance Against Domestic Violence - United Nations 16 days of activism to end gender-based violence in November 2017 and Domestic and Family Violence Month in May 2018.
- Northside Sexual Assault Action Network – Sexual Violence Awareness Month Banner Project in October 2017, providing survivors of sexual violence a platform to send a message to the local community about stopping sexual violence. We congratulate BRISC and Zig Zag Young Women's Support Service for their successful tender to Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women for the 12 month pilot project to scope responses for survivors and education community for prevention of sexual violence.
- Brisbane North Youth Alliance – launched the 2018 edition of the North Brisbane Youth Info Card. BNYA continues to join up the diverse direct practice youth focused work in the north Brisbane area and we thank our Alliance members for their continued commitment to develop best practice for the young people and families we meet.
- Queensland Youth Housing Coalition - Platform 1225 Forum *Abuse of Power Confronting Dynamics of Harm*. We also congratulate QYHC for their successful negotiation of a 3 year partnership with the Department of Housing and Public Works. We look forward to their leadership across the State on the issues of youth homelessness prevents and response.





**Action Research:**

We continued with our Participatory Action Research around "what would it take for young people to successfully complete and submit private rental applications". We presented this project at the UQ Alumni Practices Day to share with others the usefulness to working with the people using your service to create solutions.

**Kedron State High School**

In 2018, Community Connections, Kedron SHS and Australian Catholic University have continued to combine resources to provide a two day a week Social Worker and two social work students per semester in the school community. Since January 2018 the role has operated out of the newly established Kedron

SHS Wellness Hub in dedicated office space alongside KSHS Guidance Officers, School Based Health Nurse, School Chaplain, and social work students. The Wellness Hub is a wonderful resource in the school and reflects Kedron SHS commitment to the support and wellbeing of their students and families.

As Social Worker my role is to provide support to individuals and families; engage in project and group work in the school; and supervise social work students on placement. Work with individuals and families addresses a range of needs impacting on young people's wellbeing and engagement in education, including anxiety and depression; family relationships and conflict; peer relationships and conflict; homelessness; financial disadvantage; learning needs; and school refusal. Support can be brief or ongoing; school or outreach-based in family homes and community; and includes direct casework and referral to specialist services as required.

Social Work students extend the capacity of social work services in the school and perform an important role in the Wellness Hub, including initial response to presenting students, supporting students at lunchtimes and returning class, and connecting with students via assistance in classroom and afterschool activities. Social work students also play a key role in organisation and delivery of events in the school community, including Harmony Day and Mental Health Week.

I have greatly enjoyed my work at Kedron SHS over the past year in a role that is diverse, challenging and fun. I have worked collaboratively with Wellness Hub and KSHS teaching staff to deliver holistic support to students, group work intervention to young people at-risk of school disengagement, and Harmony Day and Mental Health Week events. I would like to thank the young people and families I have been privileged to work with for their willingness to engage in support; Kedron SHS staff for their warmth and commitment to collaboration for improved outcomes for young people; and social work students and staff of ACU for their efforts and commitment to school-based social work. I look forward to continuing this exciting partnership in 2019.

To conclude, I would like to thank the wonderful Community Connections team for welcoming me into the team and for always being willing to share their knowledge when I email questions and their office space over the school holidays. In particular, I would like to thank Tania Lawrie for her leadership, guidance and support of my role and practice over the past two years.

- Sarah Macdonald, Kedron SHS Social Worker

### **Community Connections would like to say special thanks to:**

The current Community Connections Team –Cate, Renee, Eden, Kat, Taki, Sarah, Jane, Ben, Jenny, Sonia, Dom, Katelyn, Toni, Nina, Audrey and Jaydon.

We would like to acknowledge the contributions of the workers have left us to move onto new opportunities within or external to CLA: Laura Martin, Courtney Wale, Tess Henessey, Jo

Ashurst, Anna Reimich, Brianna Toms and Faye Meloche.

Caitlin, Reece, Jenny, Toni, Louis, Shaun and Marc for their contributions while on student placement.

CLA Inc, in particular Morrie O'Connor, the Management Committee, Carmel, Sylvia and Mandy, and the workers at CLP, ARROS and BEROS.

Susan Allen, external facilitator for our Strategic Planning days.

Brisbane City Council

The Department of Social Services

The Department of Communities, Disabilities, and Child Safety

The Department of Education and Training

The School and Learning communities with which we engage.

Elders and community members from the various Indigenous communities in the Brisbane North area.

Elders and community representatives from the various communities that have supported the ongoing work with young people and families from diverse cultural backgrounds.

To all the young people and families who have shared their stories with us.

## Community Living Program/Service Delivery Team

This year has been one of change and growth for our team, as we merge into the service delivery team. Staff, students and volunteers alike have continued to work tirelessly and to a very high standard as the year has transpired. I want to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for your hard work and integrity at this challenging time. I look forward to another year of challenges and triumphs as we move forward into 2019.

- Samantha Nayda, Service Delivery Team Leader

## Adventure Holiday Group

**Thunderbird Park Camp** – In April the Adventure Holiday group returned to Thunderbird Park by popular demand. It was lovely two days filled with lots of activity, and everyone enjoyed the comfort of the bunkhouses after some very heavy rain got in the way of putting up tents. Highlights of the camp included minigolf, laser skirmish, a treetop walk challenge for a brave-hearted few, and as always some lovely nights spent sharing stories and connecting around the campfire. The kitchen and rec room was a great place to relax and play card and board games, as well as a few movies, and on Saturday night the group gave a warm farewell and thanks to Simon and Sam, who were having their last time as workers for the Adventure Holiday Group. On the way home we stopped off for lunch at a local markets and then unloaded back at CLP, everyone was excited about what the next camp would be.

**Australia Zoo** – On the 9<sup>th</sup> of June 2018 the Adventure Holiday Group visited the Australia Zoo “Home of the Crocodile Hunter” at Beerwah. We enjoyed the walk amongst various animals, big and small, tall and short, happy and grumpy. We were able to come in close contact with Koalas, reptiles and birds which were ready to greet us once you move through the entrance. We got up close and personal to feed the kangaroos, and Crocoseum show was great – watching the crocs get fed was a great way to get hungry for a big lunch, and we finished the day watching the incredible tiger show. Who knew that tigers love milk as much as little kittens do??



## Nundah All Stars Musical

On Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> September, the All Aboard Musical project went live at Mary McKillop College in Nundah. The night was a smashing success, with constituents getting on stage and entertaining the crowd with some of their classic favourites, and some famous new numbers as well. The musical was train themed, and the cast and crew's hard work paid off with a stage-wide model steam engine, projected displays, and fantastic props and choreography assisted by students of the College.

We'd like to say a big thankyou to all the constituents for their wonderful performances, to the staff at CLA for helping run the event, to the staff and students of Mary McKillop College for all your support, and the NCEC Good Food Project's food van for the great catering.

We can't wait to see what the theme is for next year!



### **Feedback from The All-Stars:**

**Taurean**– I enjoy the friendship in Nundah All Stars, the song I did for solo is from Robbie Williams, and is called Rock DJ. I also enjoy the group friendship from Mary Mackillop College. I would love to do more Nundah All Stars in the future. I also enjoy being in part of the group songs and it is great.

**Belinda** – I think the musical is fun, and I enjoy it. I like performing in front of family and friends.

**Carolyn** – I hope everyone enjoy the songs and I am doing a solo at the musical which is called Penny Lane by Beatles. This is my first solo song, and I love the Beatles. I like the students from Mary Mackillop College, Dominic, and Madeline.

**Matthew** – Keep the musical going. Friends keep. Would love to have musical for every year. I am doing two of my favourite songs, first one is 'Follow Me' from Uncle Kracker, and the second one is group song – living on a prayer by Bon Jovi. I am big fan of Bon Jovi; and I will go to Bon Jovi concert on the 6<sup>th</sup> December at Suncorp Stadium.

**Susan** – I am doing my first solo – Octopus's Garden from Beatles. I enjoy the musical so much, it is very good.

**Monny** – I enjoy the musical and singing. Very happy. My solo song is Halo, and I love this song.

**Ali** – I enjoy doing musical with Craig and guys this year.

**Kerri** – I like everyone getting together, not just CLP, but everyone in the community. Lots of fun, come out with creative ideas.

**Craig** - I love people getting together, working together, getting out ideas together. Everyone enjoys watching the musical.

## Shared Meal

Shared meal is a fortnightly community meal held in the space of Espresso Train. About 25 constituents come together to share a meal with each other. Constituents contribute a meal or pay \$7 for some food that is prepared by the shared meal worker and other constituents.

Shared meal operates as a group and for one to come to Shared Meal, the constituent applies to become a group member. The application is then put forward to the group, and if there are no objections from the group, the person becomes a Shared Meal member and is able to come and join the group on a Thursday evening. In much the same way, all decisions or changes are put to the group and the group always has the last say in whether or not to implement new changes or introduce a new dish.

This year, we said goodbye to long term Shared Meal worker Donna Williamson and welcomed Thiri. The transition was smooth due to Shared Meal group members' motivation to maintain the stability, essence and energy of the group.

This is how a typical Shared Meal day goes:

3pm: Adele arrives. Adele and worker begins preparing food. Adele always makes her potato bake, garlic and herb breads, as well as various other dishes. Depending on availability, other constituents also comes and helps out at this time.

4pm: Dave, our long term volunteer arrives. He arranges chairs and tables in the café to suit a more communal eating style. He also pulls out all the serving ware and makes cordial.

5pm: Most of the constituents begin arriving between 5 and 6. Social work students and extra workers also begin arriving at this time to help out. The students from Mary Mackillop College also arrive at this time. The students volunteer their time as they're part of the Justice Representative Committee. The students contribute to the meal and join in to have a chat or play games with group members.

Steven M and Allan D also will arrive at this time. Steven always prepares a delicious dish such as a pea and ham soup, rice with stew or a stir fry. Other dishes for the evening are usually: Christian's famous chicken drumsticks, Dave's chicken nuggets, Mick's apple pie with custard, Jamie's jelly and Allan's soup.

6pm – 8pm : We begin eating. If the shared meal worker has some news, she would share the news at this point. At this time, the space is a whirlwind of activity as group members chat, socialise, play games and help out in the kitchen. Dessert is served at 7 and if it is someone's birthday, there will be a cake with icing and candles. When all the eating is done, constituents, workers and volunteers wash up, pack up and by 8pm, we are all done and ready to go home after an energetic and fulfilling evening.



## Literacy

Literacy has now been going for nearly 18 years and with Allen and Alec as some of the original students and Gay as one of our original volunteers. Literacy has welcomed some new volunteers this year, Katherine and Lydia and we have said goodbye to some students and workers. We said goodbye to Dominic who is sadly missed. We have said goodbye to students: Brett, Shane and Cathy and welcomed Taurean who joined us in February. The Literacy group had our annual Christmas party at the Shed. This was a great event full of good food, good company and lots of laughter.

Taurey says that one his favourite parts of Literacy is the games played at the end of each lesson. Christian says that Literacy is interesting in what you learn and allows to learn new skills and information. Susan likes to learn new recipes and Literacy allows her to do this. Stephen likes the fact that it is all about the supporters and the people around us especially the CLA office which allows us print and use their resources. Katalin says that she likes the fact that she can do her scrapbooking, outings and afternoon tea.

Students say that it is a great to be given the opportunity to learn, meet up with members, make new friends and playing different games. Sharing morning and afternoon tea with our volunteers always brings everyone to the table with laughter, good conversation and sometimes a discussion about politics.

It was a privilege to nominate all of our committed volunteers for the Lilly Award last year which recognises the amazing contribution by volunteers in the Lilly electorate. This year 2 of our fantastic volunteers were successful in receiving an award from Wayne Swann. Gay D and Kathy A were recipients of the award. Whilst the Literacy group was extremely excited about the awards to Gay and Cathy we also want to recognise the other amazing volunteers who help us out each week at Literacy. Jim does want to know where the king prawns are!!!





# Nundah Community Enterprises Co-operative

Nundah Community Enterprises Cooperative (NCEC) provides meaningful work for people with cognitive disabilities who were long-term unemployed, having fallen through gaps in the employment system. This is achieved through the establishment of employment generating businesses. NCEC measures its performance by the sustainability of its businesses (Espresso Train Café and NCEC Parks and Maintenance) and the quantity and quality of employment it creates.

NCEC adopts a *depth* approach to social impact, creating employment for those whom the private market and funded programs had been unable to assist. Our leadership is demonstrated in being finalists in each year of the Australian Social Enterprise Awards (2013-2016) winning best Australian Social Enterprise in 2015.

## Reflections on 2017 Calendar Year

2017 saw growth in trade in both parks and café businesses which have managed 10% p.a. increase (adjusted for inflation) over the previous 10 years. Overall the cooperative made a small-profit with close to 80% of its income derived from trading and 20% from other sources and remains a going concern. The enterprise focus for 2017 has been on:

- 1) Retaining existing parks contracts to ensure sustainability as well as well as seeking out new contracts to provide additional work
- 2) Responding to increased demand for café and catering whilst managing this growth efficiently.
- 3) Successfully trialling a new profitable food trailer venture



Above : The NCEC Community Enterprise Model

## FINANCIAL OUTCOMES

	2017	2016
<b>Total Income:</b>	893,546	706,247
<b>Profit/(Loss):</b>	\$9,558	\$ 51,803
<b>% from trade:</b>	% 78	80 %

## STAKEHOLDER OUTCOMES/SOCIAL IMPACT

The Co-op continues to operate according to the model outlined in a Social Return on Investment (SROI) report (2011) which found employment in the Coop to be “highly valuable” to its members and achieving a SROI ratio of 3.31 : 1 (indicating that for every \$1 of investment in the cooperative \$3.31 of social value is created). NCEC maintains its commitment to measuring social impact by reporting annually according to quantitative and qualitative measure

## QUANTITATIVE MEASUREMENTS

Measurement of employment and wage creation for calendar year 2017 is as follows:

**Work created for members\*** = 8645 (hours) (\*primarily people experiencing intellectual disability/mental illness)

**Payments to members** \$129,451 (or 1/3 of total wages)

**Work positions created/sustained** = 21 (up three from 2016)

**Turnover generated by Refugee -led businesses NCEC has mentored and is continuing to assist** = >\$250,000.00

## QUALITATIVE MEASUREMENTS

In 2015 NCEC embarked on a three year research partnership with the University of Queensland (UQ) to document qualitative outcomes for workers within the co-operative as well as our model of sustainable job creation. The study had two key findings:

- 1) Most participants acknowledged they had an increased sense of belonging, happiness and confidence in comparison to past experiences of work.
- 2) The Co-operative culture encourages members to have a say, values workers for who they are, and supports their autonomy.

The findings of this research have been submitted for publication to a respected academic Journal and we are waiting for notice of publication.

## VOICES FROM THE RESEARCH

*"I get a vote I get to vote and have a part/say, if I think something's not right I can put up my hand and say, 'hey I disagree with this'"*.

*"Feeling good because you have done something for yourself and proud because you have done something for the community"*

*"This job has helped me to become the person I am"*.

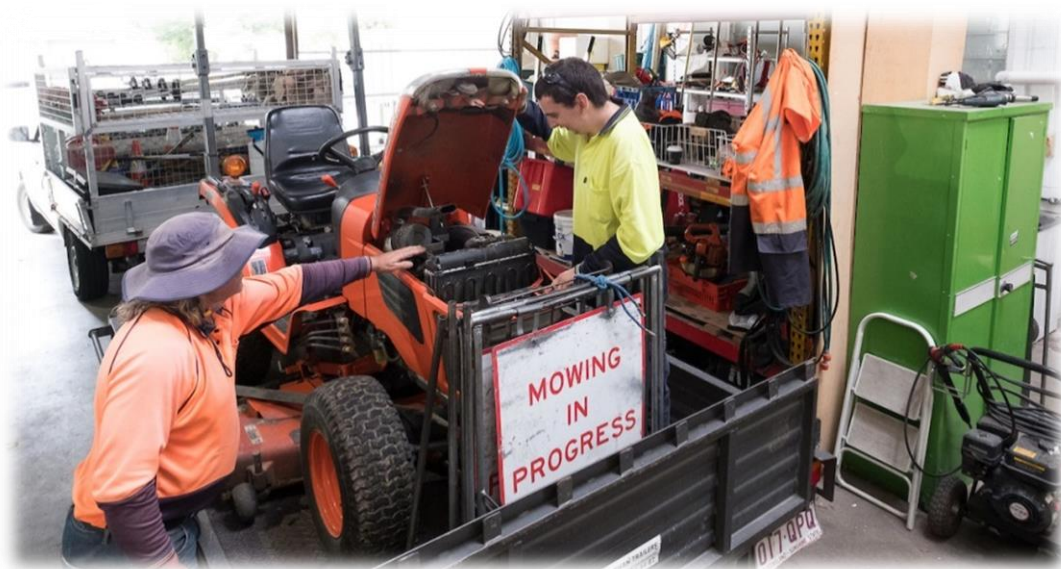
### TRAINING & ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT:

#### Refugee and Asylum Seeker Led Businesses:

NCEC continued support the development of refugee and asylum seeker led businesses established by long-term unemployed including: Hari's mowing, Laleh Persian Catering, Mamas Momos, Syrian Sweet Shop, and the Mountain Mowing Men. In the calendar year these businesses generated over \$250,000 in turnover.

#### Hands on Training:

60 people with disability and/or refugee background have accessed certified training in partnership with Community Living Association's Skilling Queenslanders for Work (SQW) program in 2017. Close to 70% have found employment post-training.



## Skilling Queenslanders for Work

CLA continued to receive funding from the State Government's Skilling Queenslanders for Work initiative to host two projects: The Re-Gen Project and The Good Food Project.

### The Re-Gen Project

The Re-Gen Project delivered two rounds of traineeships in Conservation and Land Management again in 2017/2018. The projects were 21 weeks long and engaged 30 people at the Hendra Pony club maintaining the grounds for the safety of horses and riders.

Grounds maintenance and small landscaping projects were also carried out at other sites including the Wavell Heights Community Centre and Village Housing. The team from the second intake also erected a shade-house at the Hendra Pony Club to propagate native plants to provide hands-on experience to the unit potting up plants.

Trainees achieved Certificate I Conservation and Land Management, First Aid Certificate and construction White Card. Trainees also participated in Job Preparation and Job search activities and employment outcomes continued to be in excess of 55 percent.





## The Good Food Project

The project delivers Certificate II in Hospitality (café and barista) supporting disadvantaged Queenslanders with barriers to employment to achieve accredited training and to gain work in the hospitality industry. Our participant cohorts are people with an intellectual disability and people from refugee backgrounds.

CLA works in conjunction with Designer Life in Nundah to provide valuable practical experience in cooking, coffee making and customer service. Students also participate in work experience to further enhance their learning and receive assistance in job search and updating resumes.

The project also works in conjunction with NCEC's Good Food Trailer, enabling course participants to gain a wider variety of work experience; to trial their own food business ideas; and to potentially gain paid employment.



## Housing

### Village Housing

Village Housing is an initiative of CLA that provides long-term housing to Community Living Program (CLP) constituents and other eligible community members.

Village Housing purposely includes people with and without intellectual disability in its aim to create the best life possibilities for people with an intellectual disability. Village Housing hopes to demonstrate that communities can be a place where all people are equally valued and where their gifts and contributions to others can be recognized.

#### **Goals of Village Housing are to:**

- Increase housing options for constituents of CLA and other eligible persons in North-East Brisbane;
- Provide safe, affordable and secure accommodation close to public transport and other services;
- Provide supportive accommodation through:
  - A balance of people with and without an intellectual disability;
  - Positive and purposeful interactions with other tenants and neighbours;
  - Engagement of those who are important to constituents in their housing situation; and
  - Engagement of tenants in sharing the management of Village Housing

Village Housing has 10 dwellings, comprising 6 units (1) CAP and 3 houses.

Over the past year we have undergone some minor alterations and upgrades, including new flooring, blinds and appliances.

Village Housing continues to offer good quality, well maintained and affordable housing to people on low incomes and pensions.

### Village Housing Crisis Accommodation Program

Village Housing utilises one property with Queensland Housing Department funding for crisis accommodation for eligible persons. Village Housing also subsidises a number of people with crisis housing needs in private rental. Funds for this purpose are through donations.

Village Housing also provides support for the In Home Mentor Scheme which provides in house support to people transitioning to independent living.

## Independent Youth Housing Group LTD



IYHG is a constituted body which receives ongoing support from Community Living Association. The co-operative has been operating for 29 years and is not for profit and completely run and maintained by its 14 members.

The main goal of IYHG is to provide quality, stable housing for low income earners. IYHG presently has 12 properties in Clayfield, Nundah, Northgate, Woolloowin and Zillmere areas and houses 13 people.

Last December IYHG were fortunate to add to their current housing stock and were able to purchase a new 2 bedroom unit in Nundah area. Short term this unit is privately rented and will re tenant an existing member/tenant at the end of the year.

IYHG has continued throughout the year to improve and maintain its' properties. Thanks to the Gambling Benefit Fund for successfully funding a new kitchen renovation in one of our properties. In addition, we have undergone some minor alterations and upgrades, including new flooring, blinds, hot water systems and stove/oven.

# Research

## BEROS Research Project

This financial year BEROS begun a collaborative research project alongside University of Queensland working with Dr Jemma Venables. The project is titled 'Emergency Response and Outreach for young people under child protection orders: The perspective of service users and practitioners regarding service delivery'.

The project has gained ethics approval and approval by the Director General of Child Safety to engage young people in the project in order to capture their perspectives of BEROS service delivery. There have been a few hurdles along the way around gaining ethics approval to work with an at risk group- but we got there! The research project will continue into the next financial year and be utilised in future conference presentations, publications and delivered to Child Safety.

### **Project Purpose**

The focus of the evaluation would be on the perspectives of young people in relation to their experience of working with the different parts of the BEROS service, and their perceptions of the outcomes associated with accessing BEROS

The evaluation would capture the voice of YP via:

- interviews with young people – individual or as a focus group (n=3-5)
- possible online survey to be promoted via BEROS & CREATE

Methods utilised in the project include:

- One on one interviews with young people
- Focus groups with young people
- Closed case file review (de-identified, including closed cases) would also be used: with the purpose of the review being to identify the identified needs, intervention/support provided, reason for closure (n= 20)
- Online staff survey delivered through survey monkey

As part of the analysis, composite case studies would be developed to highlight the experiences of young people in accessing BEROS services. These would be illustrative of the experiences and trajectories of YP accessing the service

BEROS looks forward to bringing this project back to the Community Living Association community and 2019 AGM!



Lost in Transition is a three-year ARC-funded research project exploring the issues of young people with complex support needs in transition.

### **Project Aims**

- Scoping and mapping current national and state frameworks for transition support planning, and comparing and contrasting these to international best practice models
- Describing the needs of young people with complex support needs in relation to key life transitions (from early life and educational experiences to transitioning to adult services)
- Developing an understanding of the various meanings of transition to young people with complex support needs and for those who provide transition support
- Exploring how these transitions can be tracked and quantified using existing data collection frameworks

The project is implemented by UNSW in partnership with Monash University, La Trobe University, Queensland University of Technology; NSW Department of Family and Community Services, Berry Street and Jesuit Social Services, Victoria; Community Living Association, Queensland; and Life Without Barriers, NSW.

Results are due to be published February 2019.

## Student Unit

Continuing a long tradition of mentoring future generations of workers, CLA has generously hosted a diverse range of great students from Queensland universities in 2018. This is an exciting time for students to build experience in the field, take part in projects and support work, and interact with you, the CLA community!

We want to take this opportunity to thank our mentors and supervisors, all the CLA members we work alongside, and the constituents for helping us feel welcome, and letting us be a part of your lives while we are here.






In the first half of 2018, The Community Living Program team hosted Ines, Alex, Isabella, Michelle, and Rhiannon. Community Connections took on Toni and Louis, Patrick and Aoife worked with ARROS, Michael joined NCEC, and Yasmin worked with the BEROS team.

These students left quite an impression, and some have happily continued working at CLA during their studies!

In the second half of 2018, CLA hosted another cohort of students. The Community Living Program (now the Service Delivery Team) has taken on Jennifer, Corbin, Amelia, Karen, Afra, Mandy, Jade, and Margaret. Community Connections is working with Shaun and Marc, BEROS has welcomed Seth, and Hassan and Nichola have joined Skilling Queenslanders for Work and the Nundah Community Enterprise Co-op.

We've had a great time so far, and look forward to seeing you all at the AGM in October!

Here are some websites that are connected with Community Living Association

	<p><b>CLA Inc website:</b>  <a href="http://www.communityliving.org.au">www.communityliving.org.au</a></p>
	<p><b>Facebook page:</b>  <a href="http://www.facebook.com/CommunityLivingAssociation">www.facebook.com/CommunityLivingAssociation</a></p>
	<p><b>Community Crew Resource Hub:</b>  <a href="http://www.communitycrewhub.com">www.communitycrewhub.com</a></p> <p>This site provides information on supporting people with a disability and their families to explore the options of niche volunteer roles or creating a micro business as an alternative way of meaningfully engaging in community.</p>
	<p><b>Nundah Community Enterprises Co-operative:</b>  <a href="http://www.ncec.com.au">www.ncec.com.au</a></p> <p>The Nundah Co-op provides meaningful employment for people with intellectual disabilities and mental health issues.</p>
	<p><b>Home Share Project:</b>  <a href="http://www.homesharebrisbane.com">www.homesharebrisbane.com</a></p> <p>The idea of homeshare is to create an opportunity for the householder to offer affordable accommodation to a homesharer in exchange for some agreed support or company.</p>

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