

Community Living Association Inc.



Annual Report (2019)

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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 Jagera 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 three 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 Corroborees 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 Bools 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:

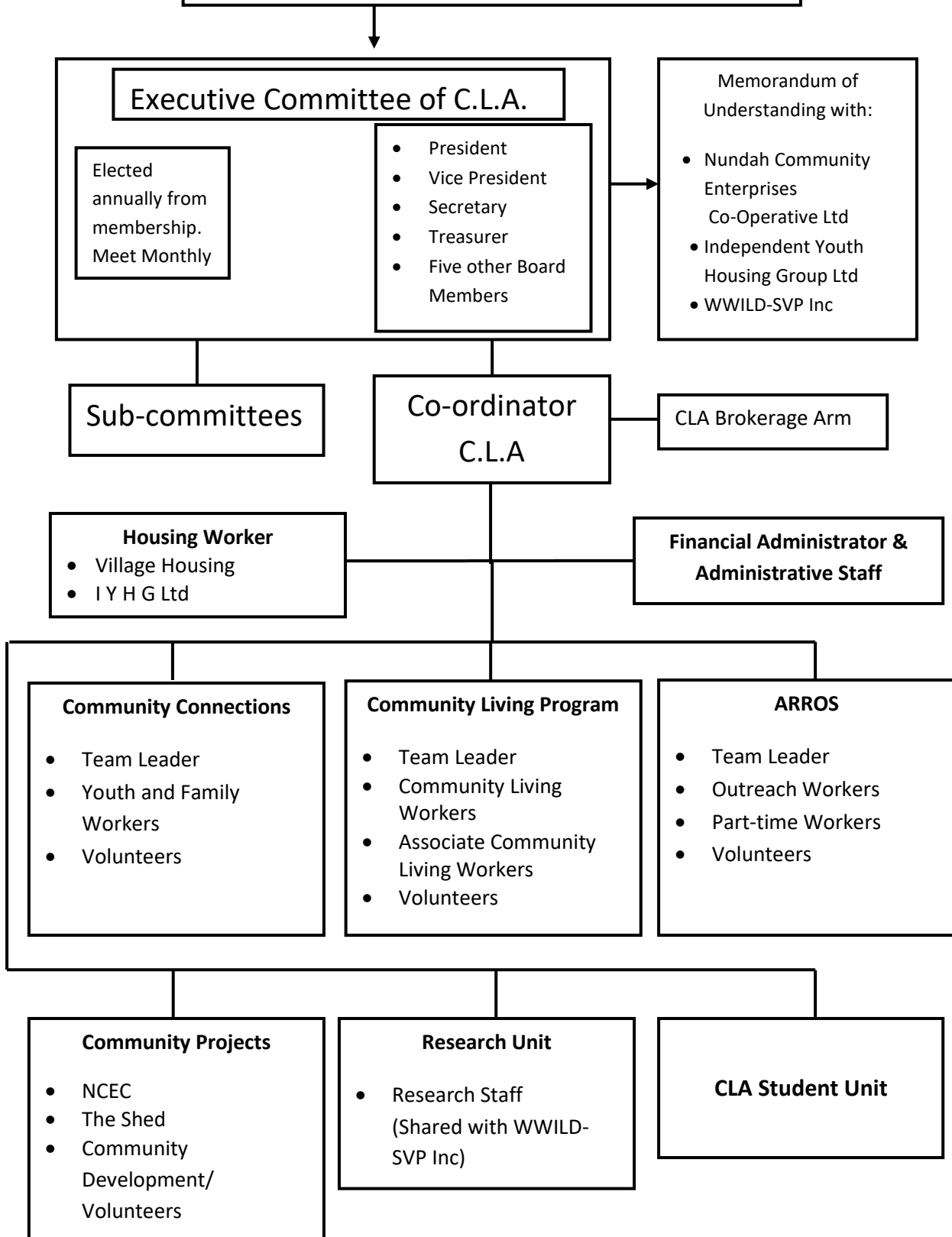
- Respectful, kind and encourage one's own control;
- Flexible, innovative and responsive, leading and giving hope;
- Diverse, fun and address the whole self;
- Written down and shared with others;
- Well-resourced and heading toward self-sufficiency;
- Co-operative and collaborative and value all opinions;
- 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
Community Living Program	QLD Department of Disability Services
ARROS	QLD Department of Disability Services
ARROS Transitions	QLD Department of Child Safety
BEROS: Transition to Independence	QLD Department of Child Safety
Student Unit	University of Queensland
Skilling Queenslanders for Work	QLD Department of Employment
Reconnect	Commonwealth Department of Social Services
School-based Social Work	Kedron State High School and Kelvin Grove State College
Student Welfare Workers	Dept of Education and Training
LDAT	Alcohol and Drug Foundation
BCC Lord Mayors Fund	Inc Brisbane City Council

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

150+ Members (Constituents/Family/Community)



President's Report

Community Living Association is now into the second year of the NDIS with all of the disruption plus opportunities that has meant for constituents and the organisation.

On behalf of Committee and constituents I thank staff for their perseverance, good humour, and co-operation through what has been hard slog, lots of confusion and adjustment.

However, in spite of all this, CLA's disability teams - CLP, Support Co-ordination, ARROS Transitions, Plan Management and Village Housing can be proud of their efforts.

Individuals have achieved many things:

- Paul O'Dea, Bernard Denny, Alan Duffy, Michael Cherry, Susan Harbottle – participants and speakers at Australasian Society for Intellectual Disability National Conference on Gold Coast November 2018.
- Susan Harbottle – Volunteer in Vessel, worker in Espresso Train, key-note speaker Les Helliwell address October 2019 at Community Development Conference at Toowoomba.
- Felice Kirby – The voice in Aged Advocacy Australia video cartoon on money management.
- Alan Duffy and Susan Harbottle – The Recyclers Project.
- Belinda Penman, Craig McAllister, Alan Duffy, Karen Cook, Taurean Lea, Bernard Denny, Stephen Mowchanuk, Ian Williamson, Paul O'Dea, Matthew Elliot, Shayne Elliot, Kelee Sheard, Susan Harbottle, Carolyn Harbottle, Aidan Leong, Aaron Canavan, Moya Jones, Joe Attal, Megan Mowchanuk, students and teachers of Mary MacKillop School – the creators, performers, stage managers, prop designers of Nundah All Stars Musical.
- Taurean Lea – Master of Ceremonies at Kalinga Park Sorry Day event.
- Paul O'Dea and Michael Cherry – Steering Group members for 'Self-Advocacy QLD'.
- Michael Cherry – Appearing in Aged Advocacy Australia Money Management video.
- Taurean Lea, Michael Cherry, Susan Harbottle, Ian Williamson – Key Note speakers at QLD Community Development Conference 2019.
- Moya Jones and Kylie Rosenthal – International Social Work Day at Prince Charles Hospital.
- Susan Payne starting own business.
- Jonathan Hanstock-Andrew – achieving manual driver's licence, successfully pursuing financial independence and Public Trust revocation.
- Aidan Leong – moving into his own apartment in Nundah.
- Anna Frank – moving into permanent Department of Housing in Bowen Hills.

- Blake Bridgeman – formally working on turning his creative vision into a video game.
- Kieron Scott and Stephen Mowchanuk – both providing outstanding support to family members during difficult times.
- Aaron Canavan – completing Certificate III in Business Administration.
- Shannon Duffy – joining Capalaba Men’s Shed.

All the people who danced the night away at the Micah Ball.

The Adventure Holiday Group who experienced their most adventurous holiday and braved the howling winds and collapsing tents of Atkinsons Lagoon.

To the Scammers Group, Literacy Group, Walking Group, Train Enthusiasts Group.

To Nundah All Stars on their 10 year anniversary.

To the members of IYHG who have been recipients of an Information, Linkage and Capacity Building grant.

To the members of Nundah Community Enterprises Co-op who have gone from strength to strength.

To the members of Skilling Queenslanders.

To James Taylor, Michael Cherry, Tim Roskam who got their Learners Licence.

To those continuing to work towards their licence.

To the Young Men’s Group who put on movies at Nundah Activity Centre.

To all the people who experienced the food at Eat Street.

I know I’ve missed out on some people and some achievements; however, I have taken that risk. If I’ve left you out and there is something you want to celebrate, please take this opportunity to speak up.

However, CLA isn’t only the disability teams; there are also Community Connections, BEROS (Brisbane Emergency Response Outreach Service), the Wavell Project and Skilling Queenslanders for Work project.

Community Connections has continued with Reconnect, it has continued working in schools and continued that work, projects have included a Cyber Bullying Project and Alcohol and Drugs Awareness Project.

Brisbane Emergency Response Outreach Service continues to work with young people in Child Safety who are homeless. Their work is highly regarded. This year Child Safety invited them to present Trauma Training to Child Safety staff. Child Safety continues to talk about new BEROs projects.

Wavell Height Hall is a new project which opens up options for the future.

Skilling Queenslanders has received two-year funding and continues their great work with people with a disability and recently arrived migrants and maintains an ongoing relationship with Hendra Pony Club.

Also a big thank you to our partners Nundah Community Enterprises Co-op, IYHG, WWILD, Micah Projects, Hendra Pony Club, Mary MacKillop School, Queenslanders with Disability Network.

And a very big thank you to all the volunteers.

Thanks to all of you.

To all of you well done in difficult times. We owe you.

Leona Berrie

President

CLA Committee of Management

CLA Management Committee Group

The CLA management committee consists of 9 committee members of which 3 are members who are living with disability and are members of our constituency. These 3 members have been meeting monthly with a support worker to breakdown some of the more complex decisions and actions that the CLA committee is discussing and to share, explore and write down ideas that they wish to bring to the next CLA committee meeting. The CLA committee members have continued to contribute to the Committee in a professional and meaningful way and provide an opportunity to share the voices of the people who CLA provide support to, giving a direct and meaningful line of communication between the CLA Management Committee and those within our constituency. CLA is a disability people's organisation with a majority of people with a disability and family members on the committee group.

CLA Reconciliation

CLA recognises that there was and still is a rich and vibrant history of our First Nations people and their connection to country (land, sky & waterways) around Nundah and the north Brisbane (Meanjin) area. We acknowledge the Traditional Owners & Custodians of the land that CLA occupies today (Turrbal & Jagera people) and pay respect to all Elders- past, present & emerging.

CLA is an active member of Noonga Reconciliation Group and partners with them to deliver projects related to reconciliation including;

- Providing space for the Noonga committee to meet for their monthly meetings.
- Providing a Reconnect worker and social work students to help organise an annual National Sorry Day Ceremony at the Kalinga Park Sorry Site in May.
- Supporting community engagement events to raise awareness of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander cultures, histories and lived experiences.

The Sorry Day event at Kalinga Park this year saw the participation of fourteen school communities in addition to other schools who gathered along with Elders and First Nations community members, politicians and the general public to reflect on the devastating impact of government policies that saw Indigenous children removed from their families (the Stolen Generations). Steven & Jennifer Hart who are Elders from the Cherbourg community shared their own personal experience of having their daughter removed from them after her birth and their lifelong search to be reunited with her.

CLA constituent Taurean Lea shared the MC role for the event with Moira Bligh the president of Noonga Reconciliation Group. Taurean performed this role with respect and care for the stories and culture being shared throughout the ceremony and is to be congratulated for his amazing effort and performance.

CLA is committed to ongoing learning and the development of culturally appropriate practice alongside Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander communities.





Disability Services

In November 2018, ARROS transitioned the majority of the DS funded constituents into the new Service Delivery team (now re-named CLP). With a small staff group, we held onto a small group of constituents who still fit into the ARROS criteria:

- Young person (15 – 25 years old)
- With a cognitive disability
- At risk of homelessness, with particular preference for young people
 - o With a care experience
 - o With a youth justice experience
- Living in the Brisbane North and Moreton regions

In June 2019, DS funding ceased. All our current constituents are now accessing funds through alternate sources (mostly NDIS or Transitions funding).

Transition and Post Care Support

ARROS was successful in retaining a small amount of funding to work with young people (15 – 25 years) with a disability who have a care experience. This funding, previously managed by Disability Services, now sits with the Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women. We were granted a six month extension until 30th December 2019, at which point the funding will go to tender. We are keeping an eye out for the new tender process and intend to submit to extend our work with young people transitioning from care. ARROS is funded to work with 10 people across the last half of 2019.

NDIS Support Coordination

As we moved into NDIS, ARROS' intention was to offer Support Coordination and Specialist Support Coordination. ARROS began taking on support coordination work and provided support coordination services to 8 people. Following some changes to the NDIS price guide, and some price modelling, we made a strategic decision to move away from Support Coordination and focus on provision of core supports. This moves us closer back to our previous practice.

NDIS Core Supports

Having moved back to provision of core supports, we have taken on and currently work with 5 people using their NDIS plans. We are contracted to provide a total of 3080 hours of support with 5 young people.

Counselling

ARROS has recruited an Arts Therapist to provide individual counselling and therapeutic groups utilising people's NDIS funding. Her name is Donna Confetti. Donna began mid 2019 and is working 5 days per fortnight. She has run some great workshops, eg flow painting and creating decorations for the AGM! We look forward to welcoming some other counsellors into the ARROS team over time.

ILC Transition to Employment Project

COMING SOON!!!

ARROS was successful in an NDIS ILC (Information, Linkage and Capacity Building) submission. This project will work with young people who have traditionally struggled to gain or maintain employment to develop skills for work, a sense of their strengths, capacities and opportunities and hopefully to lead into some employment for people (this could be paid work, a volunteer job, or engagement in an activity that provides meaning and purpose). Toni Sumner has been appointed to the ARROS team as a project worker. We look forward to working with Toni on this exciting new project!

Special Thanks

Funders:

- Queensland Disability Services (to 30th June 2019)

- COAG's National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness for Transition and Post Care Support Funding (administered through Disability Services, then transitioned to Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women)
- NDIS Information Linkage and Capacity Building Grant

Staff for your strong commitment to the ARROS constituency and the work we do -

- Current staff – Jess A, Donna, Chelsea, Jess B
- Previous staff – Penny, Michael, Linda M, Eleanor, Mandii, Rani, Monique, Dan, Karla, Sarah and Zoe
- Students – Laurel
- Upcoming staff – Toni

ARROS supports who have helped and guided us on our journey

- Heidi and the Support Coordination team for your support as we ventured into Support coordination, and again as we transitioned the work back to you,
- Tania who continues to provide support to staff and management day to day,
- Morrie for your leadership and direction
- Sarah for your support with NDIS applications and the successful ILC submission

ARROS constituents, past and present – who have handled this tumultuous year incredibly well and continue to inspire us with your wisdom, courage and willingness to stick out the tough times. Well done!

BEROS

2018/2019 year has been business as usual for BEROS- in the past we have seen achievements such as finishing our trail period and being funded for additional contracts.

This year has seen BEROS settle into the first year of the current 3 year contract and start looking at how do we ensure BEROS has a future post July 2021.

BEROS held a service wide strategic planning day focusing on exactly this- moving the BEROS service forward into the future and sustaining & maintaining our role within the Child Safety systems funded support services.

The BEROS team identified the following as integral to ongoing BEROS service delivery:

- Centralising young people's voices to the work we do including at a systems level and how we raise the profile of self-placing young people
- Promotion and networking:
 - o BEROS has continued to seek opportunities to present at conferences and this year presented at the AASW QLD branch conference around ***"Engagement with young people who are on a child protection order and are self-placing"***
 - o BEROS also presented Trauma Informed Practice to Child Safety after hours 2 full time teams and to both the CLA staff and student groups. Child Safety after hours have identified they would like BEROS to return and present this to new workers and the casual staff
 - o BEROS Team Leader Chloe Warrell will also be presenting at the AASW National conference in Adelaide in November alongside Toni Cash from Child Safety around ***"Working in Partnerships"***
- Ongoing professional development and professional supervision: Staff spoke about the importance of staying up to date and increasing their skill levels around working with complexity and young people in high risk situations. This year BEROS has completed PD around the following:
 - o Dual Diagnosis through CLA
 - o Working with intoxication presented by Dovetail
 - o Working with Diversity presented by Carolina Bouten-Pinto
 - o Visited The Ration Shed in Cherbourg

BEROS have also farewelled and welcomed a number of workers this year whilst also maintaining a relatively consistent cohort of workers.

BEROS look forward to 2019/2020 year and the hope of new and exciting opportunities for the BEROS service and the broader CLA.



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 (high schools)
3. Student Welfare work (primary schools)

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.

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, and Student Welfare Workers at 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, and Independent Students groups.
- 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.

School Based Social Work – Kelvin Grove State College

The social work role at Kelvin Grove State College continued to strengthen across the KGSC community throughout the year to support and enable at risk young peoples' engagement in school. This has only been possible through the willingness of the school community and young people to make this happen, and through collaborative partnerships with staff, young people and families. This year has seen:

- Increasing numbers of young people and families accessing social work support, both in school and through outreach services.
- Group work including young women's groups, young men's groups and a peer support group to build inclusivity and understanding around mental health.
- Supporting 'Wellbeing Week' activities
- Mindfulness presentations developed in collaboration with young people for year 9 students
- Developing project work with young people to build inclusivity and connectedness.

A big thank you is extended to all the young people and families for enabling this work to move forward, through their strength, resilience and wisdom. Thank you also to all the staff without whom this work would not happen. It is an incredible strength to work in such a supportive team alongside both school staff and the 'Shed' staff (Holly (Defence mentor), Rosie (SBYHN) and Chappy Josh). Community Connections values Kelvin Grove State College's ongoing commitment to young people's engagement and wellbeing through their continued support of this role.

Reconnect Program

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

In 2018/2019, we have had the privilege of working alongside young people individually and in groups as they work toward their aspirations and navigate some difficult situations. Some of the goals we have supported young people with include;

- Rebuilding safe and meaningful relationships with family members
- Working towards their mental health recovery and taking steps to maintain a healthy lifestyle
- Starting employment or completing courses to help them to land their dream jobs.

- Paying off debt, managing bills and strengthening budgeting skills
- building independent living skills
- Increasing confidence to manage the responsibilities of life, including phone calls, appointments, online reporting, and applying for QTAC.
- Minimising or completely stopping use of alcohol and other substances
- Learning to drive and getting their P's
- Advocate for themselves within systems
- Graduating Year 12
- Getting involved in hobbies and sports
- Settle into their own accommodation, as well as navigating share house relationships
- Learning and using problem solving and communication skills to help their peers work through problems

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:

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 have now partnered with QYHC and are consulting and collaborating with Tenants Union and the RTA about how to make a web-based resource for first time renters.

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 2018 and Domestic and Family Violence Month in May 2019. We are also party to the working group for a DV Seminar Series which will be held later in 2019.
- Northside Sexual Assault Action Network – Sexual Violence Awareness Month community awareness campaign 2018.

- Brisbane North Youth Alliance –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.

Group Work

The Reconnect Team also works closely with local high schools in the Brisbane North region to provide early intervention responses to young people. Some of the group and project work we've undertaken includes:

- BRITA group program after 2019 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 2018 activities at Kedron SHS, Kelvin Grove SHS, Craigslea SHS, Aviation High and Everton Park SHS.



Local Drug Action Team (LDAT) Project

In 2018, Community Connections secured funding from ADF (Alcohol & Drug Foundation) to consult with High Schools in the North Brisbane community about how we might be able to work in collaboration to reduce the uptake and/or harmful use of Alcohol & Other Drugs among young people. Community Connections, alongside Kedron SHS & Wavell SHS secured further funding in January 2019 from ADF for a Community Action Plan to deliver a drug education program called Climate Schools. Since then, Community Connections has facilitated implementation training and written lesson outlines for teachers who will be delivering the program. Climate Schools will be delivered to students in years 8-10 in term three and four of 2019.

Community Connections would like to say special thanks to:

The current Community Connections Team – Renee, Eden, Sarah, Jane, Timi (maternity leave), Mandy and Cate (long service leave).

Shaun, Marc, Rincy, Madeline and Laurel 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.

Jenny Gilmore, external facilitator for our Strategic Planning days.

Brisbane City Council

The Department of Social Services

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

Adventure Holiday Group

Atkinson Dam Holiday Park– From the 10th of May the Adventure Holiday Group set out to a new adventure a place we've never been before. Atkinson Dam was an incredible experience where the group got the chance to experience a weekend filled with fun, laughter, great food and all sorts of amazing activities. Highlights that stood out at Adventure Holiday Group were experience a ride on the small buggies which sit comfortably for four people, a nice walk around the beautiful lake, going on the Jumping Castle, playing board games and a great time around our campfire. The camp involved great moments where the group worked together to prepare our meals which included teamwork and singing. Atkinson Dam Holiday park had an undercover area with all cooking utensils and chairs and tables. This is where we found ourselves connecting, having great fun, eating meals and singing along to songs. On Sunday afternoon we set off to another adventure, and that was to Eat Street Markets. It is an Adventure Holiday Group Tradition to visit a Market where the group will get to have lunch, enjoy some shows and explore souvenirs.

Warner Bros. Movie World – In September, Adventure Holiday Group had planned to visit Theme Park Warner Bros. Movie World based in Oxenford. The group were able to enjoy the shows that were performed, the scenery of Movie World, purchased souvenirs and had lunch together as a group. The group had the choice of participating any rides they would wish to experience on or just to explore Movie World. The group went to see Hollywood stunt driver 2 which included watching stunt drivers drive with great skill and the show was filled with action and special effects, almost like a movie.



Micah Ball

The Micah Moonlight Magic Dinner Dance is a highlight of the year. This event gives CLP constituents an opportunity to dress up and feel special at a fancy event.

We all start arriving the to CLP office from 3pm. We get ready by brushing our hair, putting on make up and sometimes putting glitter in our hair.

We then get in the cars between 5:30-6pm to drive to the Brisbane Convention Centre. At 7pm the event kicks off! A two-course meal was enjoyed and the dance floor was never empty.



Literacy for Everyday

Literacy for Everyday has some incredible highlights over the past twelve months from July 2018 – June 2019.

In October Literacy for Everyday had a social outing to the Toombul Bowls Club. A delicious lunch and dessert were enjoyed as well as a few games of croquet!



At the end of the year we had our Christmas Party! We enjoyed delicious food and played Christmas themed games. All constituents and volunteers received a certificate to mark their participation in the program over the year.



The beginning of 2019 marked our 20th year of the Literacy for Everyday group. We said thank you and goodbye to volunteer Trish. All Literacy constituents took time to think about what goals they wanted to work on for the next year.

In April we took an outing to Chermside library! We really liked being able to use the computers and look at the books. We had fun eating lunch at the café there and being able to spend time as a group.

The end of our second term we celebrated our 20th anniversary with a big party! We were so grateful to all past constituents and volunteers who joined us in celebrating.

The Nundah All Stars Group

The Nundah All Stars is a long-standing group of highly creative CLA constituents that have been hosting events and performing their own productions for many years. In 2018 the group continued their warm partnership with Mary Mackillop College, who kindly provide the ongoing use of their hall and encourage their highschool students to become involved in Nundah Allstars productions. The group performed All Aboard in September 2018, using the theme of the local Brisbane rail network to perform a collection of group and solo songs, complete with incredible props and costuming, and as always some warming crowd participation on the night. It was noteworthy that the group recognized that 2018 had been a year of change for CLA, but expressed their

determination to continue their creative pursuits and grow alongside the vibrant community of Nundah.



Cooking Group

In February 2018, a Cooking group was established. At this stage there were only three constituents involved in this group. In February 2019, the group met again and was joined by more constituents eager to build on their kitchen skills, doubling the group size. The group has learnt many skills including hygiene in the kitchen, healthy eating, how to follow a recipe, cross contamination, cleaning, as well as simple cooking skills such as slicing and dicing, operating an oven, mixing, boiling foods, just to name a few. Healthy cooking is the main goal, where also learning how to turn some “comfort” foods into something healthier. We have cooked things such as; pizza, fish and chips, stir-fry, fried rice and apple crumble, to name a few. The group is eager to keep learning how to cook healthier recipes, with more constituents expressing their interest and joining the group.



Swimming/Walking Group



CLP has continued the favoured Swimming and Walking group. During the warmer part of the year, the constituents enjoyed getting outside and into the pool to keep active. Whether it was swimming laps, walking up and down the pool, or just moving in the pool, the group enjoyed cooling down and getting active together. When it started to get a bit cold for swimming, the group changed into Walking group. Venturing and exploring some of the walking tracks around the area. The group was eager to meet and walk, no matter the weather. Rain, hail or shine – the group had their walking gear on every Wednesday and were ready to explore. One of the

group's favourite places to go, includes catching a train and taking in the serenity at Shorncliffe.

Men's Group

Men's group was meeting weekly to continue to build positive friendships and after running for some time has now finished. The final Men's group celebration was a full day of adventure, where the members were supported to visit Mt Glorious for some bush walking and lunch near the rockpools. The members of the Men's group have expressed some great ideas for how the program can be run in the future to better suit their needs for adventure and a desire to connect with nature.

Shared Meal

In early 2019, Shared Meal ran into some problems as the group began running out of money to buy groceries. Bella, the social work student did some research and discovered the Brisbane Airport Community Giving Grant. The group quickly applied for the grant and received \$1000. While the grant was under application, the group held a meeting to discuss what could be done to avoid facing a similar issue in the future. The group decided to raise the price from \$7 to \$8 and decided to ask members bringing food or volunteering to contribute \$2 towards buying groceries and ingredients for the whole group that the facilitators purchase. Along with the grant money and the measures that the group took, the group continues to flourish, meeting once a fortnight on a Thursday to enjoy a meal and each other's company. The group also continues to hold meetings whenever necessary, to discuss and problem solve together any issues that arisin





Train Enthusiast

The Workshops Rail Museum – In August, the train enthusiast group visited the rail museum which is located in Ipswich. The group got to experience a tour around the museum and were able to witness old vintage trains and read stories of past train railway workers. Our tour guide had shared stories of railway workers passed on from generation to generation. The group got to explore projects to show how trains operated and got the chance to see a big train layout model.

Train Spotting – Every fortnight the group ventures out to a train station to spot trains. We often meet at the office and all travel together at the chosen train station and spend the morning train spotting diesel, electric, coal and all sorts of trains. The group train spot and update each other on what trains they have previously seen and the upcoming events.



Learners Licence Group

Learner License Group started in February 2019 in recognition of a shared collective interest and goal amongst several constituents to get their driver's license.

The group utilised CLA's existing relationship with the Nundah Activity Centre to secure a space in their centre to host the group. With the support of CLA's students, the group was able to run over the course of 12 weeks in Semester 1.

In the Learner's Licence group, the 'Keys to Driving Handbook' was used to learn all the information about how to drive. Constituents also learnt how to check the oil levels and engine in cars and how to look after a car and get it serviced regularly. The constituents had the chance to sit in cars to learn what it would feel like driving. Some constituents were supported to sign up for PrepL to complete modules and get their licence. Three constituents successfully obtained their learners since then completion of the Semester 1 Program.

The success of the group has led to CLA continuing it into Semester 2 2019.

NCEC

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 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.



Board member Michael Cherry receiving a prestigious Westpac Social Scale Up grant in Sydney on behalf of the Co-op

ENTERPRISE OUTCOMES

2018 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 75% of its income derived from trading and 25% from other sources and remains a going concern.

The enterprise focus for 2018 has been on:

- 1) Retaining existing parks contracts to ensure sustainability

2) Responding to increased demand for café and catering whilst managing this growth efficiently.

3) Developing a business and strategic plan to double business activity, employment and training opportunities over the next three years with support of Bryan and Westpac Foundation grants. This has seen us already gain contracts with Mirvac Toombul and new contracts with Brisbane City Council

Skilling Queenslanders for Work

CLA was again successful in receiving 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 2018/2019. The projects were 21 weeks long and engaged 30 people from disadvantaged backgrounds 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 also contributed to planting thousands of native trees around Brisbane at various parks and conservation areas through a partnership with B4C (Bulimba Creek Catchment Coordinating Committee).

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 ICE (The Institute for Culinary Excellence) in Coorparoo 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.

NDIS Support Coordination Team

The NDIS Support Coordination Team has had another busy but successful year in supporting participants and their supporters in navigating the NDIS system.

It has been fifteen months since the rollout of NDIS in the Brisbane region. Participants living in Moreton Bay and Sunshine Coast Region joined the scheme in January 2019.

Our team was established in July 2018 with only one full time and one part time Support Coordinator. Fifteen months on, we have got four full time and two part time Support Coordinators, offering both Coordination of Supports and Specialist Support Coordination to participants living anywhere between South of the Brisbane River and Sunshine Coast area.

The main functions of Support Coordination include, but not limited to -

- Develop participant's and their supporter's capacity in understanding their NDIS plan;
- Provide assistance and information to participant in identifying, connecting and linking with informal, mainstream and funded supports in a complex service delivery environment. For example, Department of Child Safety, Department of Housing, Department of Justice and Attorney-General, Office of the Public Guardian, Department of Health.
- Assist participant to search for, contact and engage with selected providers based on their needs and plan goals;
- Build participant's capacity in managing and directing their NDIS funds;
- Provide support and information at points of crisis;
- Make referrals for assessments as per their NDIS plan;
- Prepare participant for review by collecting reports from other service providers, evaluating current support and developing new goals.

Support Coordination is a new concept to both CLA and our constituents as NDIS believes there needs to be a separation of services between Coordination of Supports and Service Delivery, which is quite an opposite to the traditional 'case management' model where the key worker has a good understanding and working relationship with the constituent.

The separation of services has posed several challenges to both constituents and CLA. Nevertheless, through collaboration, reflection and numerous phone calls with the NDIA, we have been able to assist a number of constituents in achieving their goals.

Some of the highlights include -

- One external participant's family is now directing and coordinating their NDIS supports after working with our team for twelve months. The family no longer requires support coordination in their new plan.
- One constituent moved out from the family home for the first time and is now living in a supported independent living environment.
- Constituents are able to receive extra supports to meet their support needs and try new things. For example, going on a holiday, starting up a small business and receiving therapies from other allied health professionals.

Some of the challenges include -

- Keeping up with all the changes that NDIS announces on a regular basis. The team was quick to learn the need to communicate and share information with one another so that constituents can make an informed decision as well as directing their supports.
- Learning what entails Support Coordination and articulating that to participant and stakeholders.
- Not compromising the quality of service when people have very limited support coordination hours. The team endeavours to look for ways to continue offering holistic, relationship-based and pro-active support through collaborating with the CLP team and other service providers.

The Support Coordination Team had our first Team Strategic Planning day in May 2019 where we reflected on what we did well, not so well, challenges and action plans.

We have also been working closely with NDIS planners and Local Area Coordinators in regard to supporting participants with their plan reviews, overcoming barriers with plan implementation, as well as informing the NDIS about the complexity of the people we work with, and the challenges they face on a daily basis.

Looking ahead, there will be more changes and challenges waiting for us. Nevertheless, CLA is committed to continues to learn, reflect and refine our practise as we walk alongside participants and their supporters on their NDIS journey.

The NDIS Support Coordination Team would like to acknowledge and say thank you to:

Current NDIS Support Coordinators – Michelle (based on Sunshine Coast), Jess B, Agnes, Karen, Megumi, Luis, Cheryl (on maternity leave).

Previous Support Coordinators – Hollie, Mandii and Abraham.

Luke for his contributions while on student placement.

CLA Inc, in particular Morrie, the Management Committee, Kat, Carmel, Mucy, Sylvia and Mandy, and the workers at CLP, ARROS and CoCos.

To all the constituents and families who have shared their journey and stories with us.

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, appliances and landscaping.

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.

In Home Mentor Scheme

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. Short term one unit is privately rented and will re tenant an existing member/tenant at the end of the next year.

IYHG has continued throughout the year to improve and maintain its' properties. The year saw some minor renovations and upgrades, including new flooring, blinds, hot water systems.

Research

BEROS Research

The BEROS research is due to finish in October 2019 after almost 2 years. The researcher Jemma Venables has interviewed 8 young people over the phone and in person about their experiences of BEROS, as well as completed closed file reviews, a staff survey and reviewing files of young people who have consented to this post an interview. BEROS is looking forward to sharing the outcomes of this research in the near future.

NCEC Quantitative and Qualitative Research

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 2018 is as follows:

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

Payments to members \$156,000 (or 40% of total staff wages)

Work positions created / sustained = 26 (up five from 2016)

Turnover generated by external 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 was published in the leading international disability studies Journal 'Disability and Society' on May 3rd 2019

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".



CLA 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 2019. 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 Isabella, Grace, Alexa, Pauline, and Emily. Community Connections took on Rincy, and Mahboob and Mitali worked with the NCEC team.

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

In the second half of 2019, CLA hosted another cohort of students. The Community Living Program (also known as the Service Delivery Team) has taken on Allen, Dini, Leo, Gift, Juliana and Luke. Community Connections is working with Laurel, BEROS has welcomed Ryan, and Owen and Shilpa have joined Skilling Queenslanders for Work and the Nundah Community Enterprise Co-op.

We've enjoyed our time so far, and are thankful for the experiences we've had, including being a part of working with everyone to make the biggest AGM celebration ever!

Here are some websites that are connected with Community Living Association

	<p>CLA Inc website: www.communityliving.org.au</p>
	<p>Facebook page: www.facebook.com/CommunityLivingAssociation</p>
	<p>GiveNow: http://www.givenow.com.au/sleeprough On this site you can make a donation to support two projects: Young People's Homeshare Project - Each \$2600 raised will provide 12 months supported accommodation for a young person at risk of homelessness. Strong Families Project - Early intervention support for disadvantaged children.</p>
	<p>Strong Families Solar Project: www.strongfamiliesolar.org This project supports children and families from disadvantaged backgrounds.</p>
	<p>Community Crew Resource Hub: www.communitycrewclub.com 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>Nundah Community Enterprises Co-operative: www.ncec.com.au</p>

	<p>The Nundah Co-op provides meaningful employment for people with intellectual disabilities and mental health issues.</p>
	<p>Home Share Project: www.homesharebrisbane.com</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>

Supported by



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 Department of Families, Housing,
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