

# Communities for Children FP Townsville West, QLD Program Overview 2022-2024



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## Townsville West is an Inclusive and Culturally Safe Community.

### Our Priority Areas

- **Great Beginnings** – A positive trajectory from first beginnings. Early Learning and School transition and engagement.
- **Wellbeing; physical, mental, and social-emotional** - improving childhood and family wellbeing, supporting early intervention, health and wellbeing for children's learning and future outcomes
- **Empowered Parents and Caregivers** - improving parent/caregivers understanding of the role parenting and home environments and the affect it has on their child's development and future aspirations and outcomes.
- **A Culturally Safe and Connected Community** - enabling children and families to develop, learn and seek support in a culturally safe and supported environment.

**The Communities for Children Facilitating Partner (CfC FP) Initiative is place based, developing and facilitating a whole of community approach to support and enhance early childhood development and wellbeing for families and their children from birth to 12 years**

The Townsville West site has been in operation for 16 years, having commenced in 2006. The current CfC FP site consists of seven adjacent suburbs - Currajong, West End, Aitkenvale, Garbutt, Gulliver, Heatley and Vincent. The site is located within the local government area of the City of Townsville. Approximately 8.99% of the site population is of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent and 39.2% are children aged 0-14 years. While the average age of the Townsville West population is 37 years, our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population average age sits at 21 years which has implications for engagement and program delivery. There is also an emerging former refugee population within the catchment with some families requiring intensive support.

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The Smith  
Family

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**Community Partners are funded to deliver services within the Townsville West CfC FP site for children aged birth to 12 years and their families.**

## Dthulgurri Weebura Giyu

The Program has Supported Playgroups for families with children ages 0-5 years will providing high quality play-based learning opportunities utilising the 'Abecedarian Approach Australia (3a) to assist parents/caregivers to develop positive parenting strategies.

The program includes the evidence-based program "Bringing Up Great Kids (BUGK)" an integrated suite of activities and tools that offer all parents and caregivers a fresh way to understand and enact relationships with their children.

**Community Partner:** Churches of Christ

**Service delivery area:** Townsville West area

**Eligibility:** Families with children aged 0-12 years.

**Contact:** Julie Teakle, 0439 585 516

[Julie.teakle@cofcqld.com.au](mailto:Julie.teakle@cofcqld.com.au)

## Healthy Life

**Healthy Harold** a range of approved AIFS promising evidence-based program will delivered to children between the ages of 4 – 12 years from the 6 state primary schools and various Early Learning Centres in the Townsville West area. The program provides a suite of sequential age-appropriate education modules that a range of topics related to health and wellbeing.

**Triple P** positive parenting program will also be available for parents to support their children to develop resilience as well as manage anxiety.

**Community Partner:** Life Education

**Eligibility:** Selected Primary Schools and Early Years Learning Centres.

**Contact:** Wendy Flynn, (07) 4772 3391



## Mother Goose

Mother Goose strengthens attachment and interaction between parents or carers and their young children. Parents/carers with children aged 0 - 5 years will meet as a group for weekly sessions with two trained facilitators to learn how to use songs, rhymes, and stories with their children to increase child's learning and positive attachment patterns.

**Community Partner:** Community Gro

**Eligibility:** Families with children aged 0-5 years residing in the Townsville West Areas.

**Contact:** Courtney Hart; 0478 754 465,  
[chart@communitygro.org.au](mailto:chart@communitygro.org.au)

## Holding Space: Supporting Our Early Years Educators

Using the Wings to Fly program, a strengths-based approach for early years' educators to optimise their practice supporting the development of social and emotional wellbeing for children from birth to five years. Building upon educator's capacity and strategies by developing a greater understanding of brain development in the early years, attachment, and the way to build relationships that support children's resilience and wellbeing.

**Community Partner:** Pathways to Resilience

**Eligibility:** Early Years Educators

**Contact:** Daniel Pierce, 0438 549 895,  
[daniel@pathwaystoresilience.org](mailto:daniel@pathwaystoresilience.org)

## Thriving Mums, Thriving Families

Thriving Mums, Thriving Families is a peer-led/co-designed model of early intervention and prevention. Utilising an advisory committee of mothers from refugee backgrounds, this will combine group-focused psychoeducation as well as focus on individual and family wellbeing.

**Community Partner:** QPASST (QLD program of Assistance to Survivors of Torture and Trauma).

**Eligibility:** Parents and families from CALD and Refugee Communities.

**Contact:** Natalie Youssef, 0481 965 551,  
[natalieyoussef@qpastt.org.au](mailto:natalieyoussef@qpastt.org.au)



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## Art Inc. For Schools - WholeARTedly

The program uses Art Therapy as a tool to encourage children and young people to look at their mental and emotional well-being. Using visual arts, music and movement the program allows participants to explore their issues through a creative process which will in turn assist them in behaviour change, reduce stress and improve self-esteem.

**Community Partner:** Shed3

**Eligibility:** Selected Primary Schools in Townsville West Areas

**Contact:** Rachel Cook, 0408 635 998,  
[rachel@shed3.com.au](mailto:rachel@shed3.com.au)

## Linking To Schools

This project will work with referred children and families from self-nominated schools within the CfC FP area. The project will offer tailored support for students who are at risk of disengaging, from mainstream school.

Families will work in partnership with the Community Partner support workers who will provide wrap around family supports to increase school attendance of children and higher parent/caregiver engagement with the school.

**Community Partner:** Community Gro

**Eligibility:** Townsville West Primary Schools.

**Contact:** Kathrin Meehan, 0438 335 884  
[kmeehan@communitygro.org.au](mailto:kmeehan@communitygro.org.au)



## Murma Yallorin

Supports and engages Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children aged 7 – 12 years and families through sport. It aims to improve children's physical health, social and emotional wellbeing and positive social connections for the family. It provides a supportive and positive cultural environment with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander mentors.

**Community Partner:** Garbutt Bombers Sporting & Cultural Association

**Eligibility:** Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families with children 7-12 years

**Contact:** Leon Stubbs, (07) 4774 4124  
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## Contact Us

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