

# NORTHERN NSW NGO FLOOD GRANTS SERVICE DIRECTORY

## 2022 - 2023



NSW Department of Communities and Justice



## NSW Department of Communities and Justice – who’s who

### **Grants Designs and Support Team** – Sydney

**Tracey Duncan:** Principal Management Officer, Strategy, Policy and Commissioning

**Dan Jacobs:** Manager Community Building Partnerships, Strategy Policy and Commissioning

[SPCgrantsteam@facs.nsw.gov.au](mailto:SPCgrantsteam@facs.nsw.gov.au)

Issue contracts and provide advice and support to grant recipients and NGO Flood Grants Project Officers.

### **Commissioning and Planning Northern NSW** – Ballina

Leane Draper: Manager Commissioning and Planning Northern NSW

[ManagerCommissioningandPlanningNNSW@facs.nsw.gov.au](mailto:ManagerCommissioningandPlanningNNSW@facs.nsw.gov.au)

Manages the two NGO Flood Grants Project Officers (and everything else Commissioning and Planning!)

### **Northern NSW Flood Grants Project Officers** - Ballina

**Sally Moore**

[sally.moore@facs.nsw.gov.au](mailto:sally.moore@facs.nsw.gov.au)

0447 356 168

**Sarah Cole**

[sarah.cole@facs.nsw.gov.au](mailto:sarah.cole@facs.nsw.gov.au)

0488 334 122



Sarah and Sally monitor the 82 grants and provide support to the 81 NGO grant recipients, coordinate regular forums and document activity reported by grantees. They prefer face to face meetings and are passionate about the connections and support for the communities that organisations are working in. They also like to lunch by the rivers.

## **NSW Reconstruction Authority**

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/emergencies/nsw-reconstruction-authority>

### **Community Recovery Officers**

Sylvia Roylance (Tweed)	<a href="mailto:SRoylance@tweed.nsw.gov.au">SRoylance@tweed.nsw.gov.au</a>
Andrew Hayes (Byron)	<a href="mailto:ahayes@byron.nsw.gov.au">ahayes@byron.nsw.gov.au</a>
Jackson Connellan (Ballina)	<a href="mailto:Jackson.Connellan@ballina.nsw.gov.au">Jackson.Connellan@ballina.nsw.gov.au</a>
Laura Woolcott (Ballina)	<a href="mailto:Laura.Woolcott@ballina.nsw.gov.au">Laura.Woolcott@ballina.nsw.gov.au</a>
Nikki Treanor (Lismore)	<a href="mailto:nikki.treanor@lismore.nsw.gov.au">nikki.treanor@lismore.nsw.gov.au</a>
Peter Kelly (Kyogle)	<a href="mailto:Peter.Kelly@kyogle.nsw.gov.au">Peter.Kelly@kyogle.nsw.gov.au</a>
Helen Richardson (Richmond)	<a href="mailto:Helen.Richardson@richmondvalley.nsw.gov.au">Helen.Richardson@richmondvalley.nsw.gov.au</a>
Gina Carpenter (Tenterfield)	<a href="mailto:g.carpenter@tenterfield.nsw.gov.au">g.carpenter@tenterfield.nsw.gov.au</a>
Robyn Monk (Clarence) (LEMO/ Resilience officer)	<a href="mailto:Robyn.Monk@clarence.nsw.gov.au">Robyn.Monk@clarence.nsw.gov.au</a>

### **Community Resilience Officers**

Zoe Fobian	<a href="mailto:ZFobian@tweed.nsw.gov.au">ZFobian@tweed.nsw.gov.au</a>
Sarah Boulle BSC Disaster Resilience	<a href="mailto:sboulle@byron.nsw.gov.au">sboulle@byron.nsw.gov.au</a>

## **Northern NSW Reconstruction Authority**

1800 844 085

## Anglicare

Tweed - Northern NSW	
<b>Flood Recovery Services:</b> 	<p><b>Murwillumbah Hub</b> – flood recovery support and referral, psychosocial support groups, preparedness and resilience workshops.</p> <p><b>Chinderah Hub</b> – offering support, RSS referral services, food support and household goods to flood affected people in Chinderah and surrounding communities.</p> <p><b>Contact details:</b> <a href="https://anglicarenorthcoast.org.au/services/">https://anglicarenorthcoast.org.au/services/</a></p> <p>HUB 2478 Shop 10-12/41-45 Murwillumbah Street 0403 488 817 <a href="mailto:volunteerhubmurwillumbah@gmail.com">volunteerhubmurwillumbah@gmail.com</a></p> <p>Chinderah Hub 23/18 Ozone Street Chinderah 0417 737 868 <a href="mailto:chinderahdonationhub@gmail.com">chinderahdonationhub@gmail.com</a></p>
<b>Main Partners:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Murwillumbah Community Centre</li><li>• Pottsville Neighbourhood Centre</li><li>• Foodbank</li></ul>	
<b>Other Services:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Financial Counselling</li><li>• Community Housing</li><li>• Emergency Relief</li><li>• Disaster Recovery Program</li><li>• Food Support</li><li>• Material Aid</li></ul>	
<b>Good News Story:</b>	
<p>The flood grants have allowed us to lease a building that can now host numerous services to assist the community in recovery from the floods. From hosting RSS services, Service NSW and other organisations we have been able to support the community with a dedicated recovery support space and outreach services.</p> <p>This was in integral part in our good new story...</p> <p>A single mum and her four children were stranded in their home for hours after the flood. Whilst she was insured, the trauma from the event and the circumstances that followed left her emotionally and financially vulnerable.</p> <p>Whilst her insurance company paid out quickly, it was her bank that refused to release the funds so she could start the rebuilding and recovery process. This exacerbated her financial distress and well as saw a dangerous deterioration in her mental health and wellbeing.</p> <p>Through our networks and resources, we were able to co-ordinate mental health support, legal aid, material aid and food support and finally put her in contact with a national media outlet to cover her story, which instantly resulted in the bank releasing her money getting her money, 9 months after the flooding event.</p>	

## Arts Northern Rivers

Northern NSW

### Flood Recovery Services:

**ARTS** NORTHERN RIVERS

Arts Northern Rivers is the peak arts organisation for our region, we deliver services and projects that foster the creative industries. Since the 2022 Feb floods, Arts Northern Rivers has moved into the space of supporting our devastated sector in its recovery and renewal across the region to support recovery through professional development uplift, connecting creatives to opportunities and pathways.

### Contact details:

[artsnorthernrivers.com.au](https://artsnorthernrivers.com.au)

M Arts Precinct, Murwillumbah

0456 770 632

[info@artsnorthernrivers.com.au](mailto:info@artsnorthernrivers.com.au)

### Main Partners:

- Exchange network development
- Dance/Physical theatre/Experimental practice sector uplift
- First Nations sector support

### Other Services:

As the peak arts body, Arts Northern Rivers works with individuals, organisations and government to generate, promote and advocate for the arts and creative industries in the Northern Rivers region of NSW. Arts Northern Rivers is supported by Create NSW and local Governments in our region who work with us to ensure access to arts and cultural activity for everyone.

### Good News Story:

**PATHWAYS LAB** is a professional development pilot program that offers support to five First Nations creative practitioners living on Bundjalung country. The program aims to develop the leadership skills of emerging practitioners, grow their creative capacity, and connect them with pathways into areas of the arts. Facilitated by lead artist, Bundjalung and Yaegl man Mitch King, with Minjungbal-Yugambah, Wiradjuri and Ni-Vanuatu guest artist, Thomas E.S Kelly of Karul Projects.



Photography by Kate Holmes

## Aussies4Aussies

Ballina, Clarence Valley, Kyogle, Richmond Valley, Lismore

### Flood Recovery Services:



*aussies4aussies* offers a three pronged approach to getting flood affected people back into their homes.

1. Resheet a couple of rooms enabling a safe and comfortable place.
2. Teach the resident how to do it themselves by re-sheeting a room with them. From there, they can purchase material from us at a discounted rate to complete their own home.
3. For those with knowledge/experience, they can simply order the materials from us at a super discounted price.

### Contact details:

<https://www.aussies4aussies.com.au/index.htm>

Steve Dickson

0413 337 751

[steve@aussies4aussies.com.au](mailto:steve@aussies4aussies.com.au)

### Main Partners:

- Resilient Lismore

### Other Services:

- We work with other organisations supporting their efforts such as;
  - Resilient Lismore – supply and transport of discounted materials for the 2 Rooms project.
  - Ballina Hot Meal Centre financial support during COVID lockdowns.
  - Local RFS units financial support during bushfires.
- We also work with individuals helping them get their worthy cause off the ground;
  - Matthew Hardy Defibrillator Fund for units in the Ballina Shire.
  - Molly Black beach wheel chair fund.
  - Mark Ross flood relief voucher program.

### Good News Story:

Whilst we primarily focus on just re-sheeting a room or two, the DCJ funding has enables us to go one step further where required. One recent case was a woman (currently living in a motel room) whose permanent caravan annex was destroyed. Late last year her partner passed away (in the motel room) and there was a serious need to get her home quickly. Whilst we haven't finished yet, we have made some great progress. With the DCJ funding, we were able to employ the right people to replace some of the flooring, re-sheet the walls and completely rebuild the bathroom.

We are working with the resident to complete this project, whereby she is doing some painting for example, then we go back and do a bit more. We're still a way off, but getting there week by week.



## Australian Childhood Foundation

Northern NSW	
<b>Flood Recovery Services:</b>  	<p>OurSPACE provides specialist outreach trauma therapeutic support to those children and families affected by the floods in Northern NSW.</p> <p><b>Contact details:</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.childhood.org.au">www.childhood.org.au</a> 1300 381 581 <a href="mailto:intakeourspace@childhood.org.au">intakeourspace@childhood.org.au</a></p>
<b>Main Partners:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Wardell CORE,</li><li>• Resilient Lismore</li><li>• Evans Head / Woodburn Preschool</li></ul>	
<b>Other Services:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Individual, group, and family counselling (in home or outreach).</li><li>• Training and support for professionals supporting for families.</li></ul>	
<b>Good News Story:</b>	
<p><b><i>*Response from Project Counsellor:</i></b></p> <p>Many parents said they were very grateful for the service, feeling they didn't know what to do about the ongoing distress displayed by their children. The outreach nature of our service has worked well for those who don't want to visit a place-based counselling service. We have received several referrals for children and young people who continue to display trauma-based behaviours as a result of the ongoing stress of remaining in transitional accommodation. We have extended our therapeutic response to encompass their broader network (especially schools and early childhood settings to offer training to those staff who are unsure how to respond to the behavioural presentations of chronic stress), this has been received with gratitude. We are also now regularly attending services which offer practical supports and, on those days, providing ad hoc therapeutic support to those who are still chronically stressed and requiring a high level of support, but find attending traditional counselling difficult.</p>	

## Australian Red Cross

Northern NSW	
<b>Flood Recovery Services:</b>  	<b>Community Connector Flood Relief</b> Needs assessment, warm-referral support, support coordination and follow up, funding to help people be safer and more comfortable in their flood-affected properties.  <b>Contact details:</b> <a href="https://www.redcross.org.au/">https://www.redcross.org.au/</a>  <b>Eleanor Taylor-Perkin</b> 0404 029 978 <a href="mailto:etaylorperkin@redcross.org.au">etaylorperkin@redcross.org.au</a>
<b>Main Partners:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Neighbourhood Centres</li><li>• Community Hubs</li></ul>	
<b>Other Services:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Social Inclusion Program</li><li>• Red Cross Emergency Service team</li><li>• Red Cross Community branch</li></ul>	
<b>Good News Story:</b> <p>Community Connector visited a Red Cross branch president who was concerned for another branch member's wellbeing. After speaking with her I found she was struggling financially and mentally after losing her husband and son-in-law in the same month as the floods. We were able to link her into our Social Inclusion Programs as well as buy fencing materials for her as hers were damaged in the floods.</p> <p>After the floods her farm is at a big financial loss having lost many cattle from flood-related diseases and having to re-do all her fences on her own. She sent this text after picking up the fencing supplies, "Thank you very much Eleanor. This is a much appreciated help. When it is cooler, I will be fencing. Thank the Red Cross organisation please." She is excited about being a part of our Social Inclusion programs and incredibly grateful for the fencing materials. She also let me know that receiving support from us encouraged her to pay it forward. She advised she has organised to start calling another lady in her community who is a widow, once a month.</p>	

## Bilambil Community Preschool and Out of School Hours (OOSH)

Tweed LGA	
<p><b>Flood Recovery Services:</b></p>  <p>Bilambil Community Preschool &amp; OOSH Inc.</p>	<p>Bilambil Community Preschool is utilizing their flood grant in the following ways;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To employ and cover wages for 2 additional staff at our Preschool.</li><li>• To purchase fuel vouchers for our families and staff.</li><li>• To create a welcoming Indigenous cultural space in our outdoor playground.</li></ul> <p><b><u>Supporting Families</u></b> <i>The flood grant has allowed us to support our families by gifting them a fuel voucher for having to purchase additional fuel during flood road closures.</i></p> <p><b><u>Supporting Indigenous Culture</u></b> <i>We aim to install an indigenous cultural meeting space for our children and families to enjoy. We aim to consult closely with local Indigenous Elders to assist with our design and installation. additional costs of fuel.</i></p> <p><b>Contact details:</b> <a href="https://www.bilambilpreschooloosh.org">https://www.bilambilpreschooloosh.org</a> 418 Bilambil Road, Bilambil NSW, 2486 (07) 5590 7722 <a href="mailto:admin@bilambilpreschooloosh.org">admin@bilambilpreschooloosh.org</a></p>
<p><b>Main Partners:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ampol</li></ul>	
<p><b>Other Services:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Community preschool</li><li>• Before and after school care, vacation care</li></ul>	
<p><b>Good News Story:</b></p> <p>The Flood grant fund has assisted our families by reducing financial pressures of purchasing excess fuel to drive their children to Preschool. Many families were impacted with road closures and land slips, so to drive their children to Preschool, families were forced to take an alternative longer route each day of attendance. This alternative route added an additional 45 minutes each way for many families.</p>	

## BUNDJALUNG Tribal Society

Ballina & Lismore

### Flood Recovery Services:



- Flood support project officer providing intake, advocacy, support, referral for Indigenous community members.
- Assisting flood affected tenants that have been displaced from their homes in safe and secure accommodation
- Assisting the BTS community in the flood support and advocacy

### Contact details:

<https://bundjalungtribalsociety.com/>

Email: [reception.bundjalung@gmail.com](mailto:reception.bundjalung@gmail.com)

c/-31 Greenhills Drive

Goonellabah NSW

[\(02\) 6621 6992, 0427 905 684](tel:(02)66216992)

### Main Partners:

- Aboriginal Housing Office
- Social Futures
- Northern Rivers Reconstruction Corporation

### Other Services:

- Long term accommodation to members
- Aim to strengthen, build up and contribute to identity, sense, purpose and culture of Aboriginal persons within the community.
- Own and manage a 30 hectare property where we inspire to include a range of programs that will benefit for the BTS and wider community through economic, environmental, social and cultural projects.



### Good News Story:

Bundjalung Tribal Society negotiated for a 12 month temporary accommodation for Alicia and her 3 children. They had been staying in temporary government accommodation since their unit in East Lismore was severely impacted by the 2022 floods.

Alicia and her 3 children, the youngest being a baby, fled the property in chest deep flood waters. The constant moving around every 14-28 days was beginning to take a toll on Alicia and her children's mental health.

In November 2022 BTS were able to offer Alicia and her children 12 months accommodation while BTS were working on repairing her flood damaged property. BTS's new flood recovery Project Support Officer will be working closely with Alicia and her children to help in their flood recovery process including, housing issues, health and wellbeing, education and any other assistance the family may benefit from.

Photo: Tracey King (Chairperson – Bundjalung Tribal Society) and Alicia and baby, at the front of a property Alicia and her children are offered for up to 12 months.

## Bunjum Aboriginal Corporation

Ballina LGA	
<b>Flood Recovery Services:</b>	Bunjum provides case work, advocacy, community activities and support for Aboriginal people residing in the Ballina Shire. Bunjum is supporting family members moving into the Pod Village at Wardell and continue to maintain connection to assist them under an Aboriginal Cultural Lens. Bunjum is empowering and strengthening support to Aboriginal Jarjums, their families, young people, elders and other members of community to Stay Connected and Together after the impact of the flood. Bunjum is here to support you by offering our Confidential Services under an Aboriginal umbrella.
 	<b>Contact details:</b> <a href="http://www.bunjum.com.au/">http://www.bunjum.com.au/</a> 10 Hayman St West Ballina NSW 2478 (02) 66 86 5644, (02) 66 81 1540, 0484 371 737 <a href="mailto:postflood.operations@bunjum.com">postflood.operations@bunjum.com</a>
<b>Main Partners:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• GIVIT, OzHarvest, Indigenous Legal Aid, Indigenous Service Officer: Service Aus.</li></ul>	
<b>Other Bunjum Services:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Jarjum Bugal Nah Childcare and Family Centre</li><li>• Goori Youth Program</li><li>• Aboriginal Family Together TEI Support Officers</li><li>• Early Year Family Coordinator</li><li>• Changing Ways Aboriginal Family Violence Program</li><li>• Bundjalung Nyangbal Language Program</li><li>• Bunjum Social Housing</li><li>• Us Mob Together Disability Support Program</li><li>• Assistive Support – Emergency Relief</li></ul>	
<b>Good News Story: Wellbeing Community Day:</b>	
<p>The Community Day focus was on Well-being and Healing under an Aboriginal Culture Lens. Many of our local Community members were displaced after the devastating floods. Our Wellbeing Community Day was very successful. We listened to our Elders telling their stories about growing up on Cabbage Tree Island and their history as First Nations People. We shared our local Aboriginal Language together which in turn supported the connection / reconnection to local Aboriginal Culture and connection to Country within our Aboriginal Kinship ways. <i>“Glad to see Bunjum back as you understand us and listen to me as I would not get the help I needed elsewhere”</i>. It was so good for the younger generation, to see and hear how our community is connected to Country and experience our local Aboriginal Language with songs performed in Bundjalung Nyangbal language. This day lifted the spirit of all of those who had attended, and it was good to see smiling faces and the happiness of being together. Since the devastating floods Bunjum has ensured the Aboriginal Communities affected had immediate support to resources to enable them to move into more permanent accommodation. Our focus is not about how we support them or the material thing, it’s about being there for them, walking alongside them and having that yarn to meet their service support needs as outlined by the positive feedback shared below: <i>“We are thankful for the support to our family and without these items to move into the pod village making a difference, it now feels like we have liveable homely place’</i>. <i>‘It is great as a family unit we can be together as before the flood and helping us get Chester drawers and linen, instead of having our clothes in stripe bags as hard to not be in our home for such a long-term’</i>.</p>	

## Byron Bay Community Association

Byron Shire	
<p><b>Flood Recovery Services:</b></p>  <p><b>BYRON COMMUNITY CENTRE</b></p>	<p>Fletcher Street Cottage (FSC) is a frontline service of Byron Bay Community Association for people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness based in the centre of Byron Bay at 18 Fletcher Street. It provides advocacy and support for flood affected people by its team of Community Support Workers. FSC services include practical services eg, breakfast, showers, laundry, emergency relief, haircuts, podiatry. FSC also provides weekly Outreach Services from First Light Healthcare, Social Futures (Connecting Home), My Momentum, Homeless Health Outreach Team (HHOT), Centrelink, Community Corrections.</p> <p><b>Contact details:</b> <a href="http://www.byroncentre.com.au">www.byroncentre.com.au</a> 69 Jonson Street Byron Bay NSW 2481 (02) 6685 6807 <a href="mailto:mgrfsc@byroncentre.com.au">mgrfsc@byroncentre.com.au</a></p>
<p><b>Main Partners:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Homeless Health Outreach Team (HHOT)</li><li>• Public Space Liaison Officers - Byron Shire Council</li><li>• Social Futures (Connecting Home)</li></ul>	
<p><b>Other Services:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• FSC is able to assist with access to phones, laptops, printing &amp; identity documents.</li></ul>	
<p><b>Good News Story:</b></p> <p>Like many organisations FSC was severely understaffed for the demands on its services after the floods. The flood grants enabled the Byron Community Centre to employ more support staff to assist flood affected people in our community.</p> <p>The staff at Fletcher Street Cottage have seen many people fall between the cracks in our system since the floods. As an example, an older lady came to The Cottage &amp; her situation was very concerning. Twelve months on from the floods she was living in a caravan that was still damp &amp; riddled with mould. It was compromising her health &amp; mental wellbeing. Collaboration between FSC &amp; several other organisations resulted in a positive outcome for her. Temporary accommodation was secured for her, she was prioritised for a POD &amp; temporary accommodation extended until it is available for her to move in. Storage for her caravan was secured &amp; someone to move it. A further highlight in this situation for FSC Support Workers was reconnecting this lady with her family.</p>	

## Byron Youth Service

Byron LGA	
<b>Flood Recovery Services:</b> 	<p>BYS has offered creative based recovery projects and individual case work support. The projects are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Art Café – a safe creative space for young people to express themselves, socialise and receive advice from an art therapist and youth workers.</li><li>• Aureate – An celebratory exhibition of artworks created in Art Café.</li><li>• Resto-Cross – A motorcycle restoration project for boys who had their bikes damaged during floods. Co-funded by Northern Rivers Community Foundation.</li><li>• Mullum Voices – A community mapping and podcast project in Mullumbimby.</li><li>• Tourism Board for 12 year olds. A creative project focussing on positive attributes of Main Arm community through Radio and filmmaking workshops.</li></ul> <p><b>Contact details:</b> <a href="http://www.bys.org.au">www.bys.org.au</a> 1 Gilmore Crescent Byron Bay 2481 (02) 6685 7777</p>
<b>Main Partners:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Karma Barnes - Art Therapy Northern Rivers, Main Arm Upper Public School, Northern Rivers Community Foundation</li></ul>	
<b>Other Services:</b> <p>Support for young people and their families in Mullumbimby and Byron. Byron Youth Service provides wellbeing casework, safe space, creative projects, training and activities for young people from all walks of life.</p>	
<b>Good News Story:</b> <p><b>Art Cafe</b> is a weekly art event where young creatives can come connect and participate in creative art making in an inspiring environment. Art Cafe is an opportunity to collaborate, get involved in upcoming art projects and/or work on your personal artworks in a supported environment. Sessions are hosted by professional artist and youth arts mentor Karma Barnes. This project has supported 10 young artists in their arts practice and social lives that were disrupted by the floods. The cohort of young people are living with mental health challenges and a large percentage are LGBTQIA young people. The project has been therapeutic and supportive and culminated in a successful exhibition at the end of 2022. Due to popular demand Art Café will continue in 2023.</p>  <p><b>Matt Lockwood, Elvis, Thomas and Karin Kaufman (BYS)</b></p> <p><b>Photo credit:</b> Christian Tancred</p>	

**CASPA**

**Locations:** Lismore

**Flood Recovery Services:**



Social Enterprises – The Tuckshop (Café), Hammers4Hope and Lawyers4Hope

The Wellbeing Hub provides counsellors and other mental health support providers, giving the community access to free services to support their recovery.

Supporting flood affected community members with food, household goods, services, training and well-being support.

**Contact details:** [www.caspa.org.au](http://www.caspa.org.au)  
**17 Keen Street, Lismore NSW 2480**  
**1300 227 722**

**Main Partners:** Northern Rivers Community Healing Hub, Social Futures, We AI-Li

**Other Services:** Foster care support, children, youth and family and people living with disability support

**Good News Story:**

In the aftermath of the flooding events in the Northern Rivers in early 2022, CASPA saw a way that we could further provide support to the Northern Rivers community. Mere days following the flood, as the flood waters receded, the idea of the Wellbeing Hub was born. Partnering with counsellors, mental health specialists and community service providers, we provided free space so that access could be restored to vital services.

The Tuckshop is a social enterprise café that is located on the CASPA Campus in Lismore. In the weeks and months following the flood, our café opened its doors wide open to the community, providing free barista-made coffee and food to those accessing mental health services in the Healing Hub.

CASPA was fortunate enough to be able to support families in the community during the holidays – assisting with the purchase of food and gifts for families who were flood affected. We were also able to support many families with the purchase of replacement white goods and furniture.



## Challenge Community Services

Lismore, Ballina, Clarence Valley, Kyogle, Byron, Tweed

### Flood Recovery Services:



Support for children, young people in OOHC and their foster families.

### Contact details:

<https://www.challengecommunity.org.au/>

Suite 5, Level 2/191 River St, Ballina NSW 2478

(02) 6629 7000

### Main Partners:

- DCJ, Health Pathways and Aruma

### Other Services:

- Outreach
- Story Time Program
- Therapy/Family room which can be used by external psychologists

### Good News Story: We are very excited about our new and improved family/therapeutic space



All resources are not only fun and interactive, but are sourced specifically to meet various aspects such as textures for sensory input and culturally diverse clients.

### Ongoing it will be used for :

- Improved space that promotes quality family engagement.
- Therapeutic space for assessment such as developmental, parenting capacity.
- Ongoing access and support to Challenge clinician for child and carer support.
- A space for staff to develop greater rapport and engagement with the children and young people within the service.



## Christian Life Church Kyogle

Lismore, Kyogle, Casino, Nimbin, Woodenbong and Muli Muli

### Flood Recovery Services:



Christian Life Church Kyogle provide support, outreach, counselling, furniture and whitegoods to community members impacted by the floods. Frozen meals, food pantry items and toiletries also available to those in need.

### Contact details:

[www.clckyogle.org](http://www.clckyogle.org)

5 Geneva St, Kyogle

(02) 6632 1884

[clckyogleinfo@gmail.com](mailto:clckyogleinfo@gmail.com)

### Main Partners:

- GIVIT, Kyogle Family Support Services, Kyogle Lions Food Pantry and Kyogle Together.

### Other Services:

- Parenting Course, Parent support group,
- Professional Adult and Children counselling,
- Youth group, Games group, Men's group, Ladies' group, Family group.

### Good News Story: Christmas hamper delivery

Christian Life Church Kyogle were able to deliver over 60 hampers to community members in need, including many affected by floods. The hampers were personally delivered in and around Lismore, Kyogle, Coraki, Casino, Nimbin, Woodenbong and Bonalbo. These hampers contained generous gift cards funded by DCJ, as well as Lego provided by Good360, clothing from Kyogle Together, and other goods from members of Christian Life Church Kyogle and other churches in Queensland. Many of these hampers were also accompanied by a food hamper box from Red Cross and the Kyogle Lions Community Food Pantry. Back packs were also given to each child, filled with school equipment, some clothing and extra school holiday activities.

Being able to gather so many products to give away, showed the clients that they have not been forgotten, and that they will continue to be supported throughout 2023. This is especially true when the hampers are delivered by familiar smiling faces who are always willing to sit, listen and have a cup of tea together.

The DCJ funding has made it possible for us to support so many people in the community that are in desperate need. Local agencies have recognised the good work being done here and are keen to contribute extra goods towards this need. We have even had referrals made from the local electrical store, when they hear of hardship due to the floods. The building of collaboration between all the local agencies in Kyogle is incredibly valuable and contributes greatly to the resilience of the community.



PHOTO: Smiling faces as the van is loaded up with amazing, personalised hampers: James and Danni Howes, Christian Life Church Kyogle.



## Clarence Landcare

Clarence Valley	
<b>Flood Recovery Services:</b> 	<p>Community network development and support of individuals and groups, particularly rural landholders with land impacted by floods. Access to training opportunities, funding advice and NRM technical support via the retention of the Farming Project Officer.</p> <p><b>Contact details:</b>  <a href="http://clarencelandcare.com.au/">http://clarencelandcare.com.au/</a>  <a href="mailto:landcare@clarencelandcare.com.au">landcare@clarencelandcare.com.au</a>,            1/48 Prince Street, Grafton, NSW 2460, (02) 6643 5009</p>
<b>Main Partners:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mudyala Aboriginal Corporation, St Vincent de Paul Society and Mend and Make Do Crew</li> </ul>	
<b>Other Services:</b> Clarence Landcare currently manages conservation and community development projects, as well as supporting the work of the many volunteer Local Landcare Groups, who protect and enhance their local environments.	
<b>Good News Story:</b> <p>The Department of Communities and Justice flood recovery funding was very timely and enabled our Farming Project Officer to support landholders who ask Landcare for help. She welcomed a new landholder who has moved from Western Australia and is unfamiliar with the local farming environment and natural ecosystems on her farm. They discussed tree species, weeds, grazing management and the impact of flood on the property.</p> <p>Another young farmer, approached Landcare to ask if there was any funding available to restore flood erosion of creek banks. He received \$5000 from Landcare 9 years ago to fence stock out of the creek, and has made impressive progress in weed management and protection of the lush river environment since. He said about the \$5000 he received in 2014, <i>"I didn't have a spare \$5k, my new wife and I were only 23, we'd bought a property and lived in a shed"</i>. What they have done to protect their river vegetation since is uplifting. That \$5k set them up for progress. Not only is Landcare aiming to find funding for private riparian restoration projects, like Billy's, but his property will now host a joint Landcare/ Local Land Services field day exploring best practice riparian restoration in May.</p> <p>The farming project officer plans to write grants to enable direct funding of on-farm projects.</p>	
	<p>Just \$2-\$5000 can make a big difference to a farmer prioritising environmentally beneficial work.</p> <p>Photo: B. Bowling. Major landslips and large tree falls in the Chambigne River (a tributary of the Clarence) are causing loss of habitat and an increase in the velocity and "dirtiness" of floodwaters.</p>

## CHES Connect

Lismore	
<b>Flood Recovery Services:</b> 	Supporting the increase in demand for support, especially barrier management for people with a disability seeking employment.  <b>Contact details:</b> <a href="http://www.chessconnect.org.au">www.chessconnect.org.au</a>  <b>1800 899 017</b>
<b>Main Partners:</b>	
<b>Other Services:</b> CHES Connect Business Resilience Project is a free wellbeing service for local business owners and their employees, providing the tools and guidance needed to build mental fitness and resilience. Employment support service for people with a disability.	
<b>Good News Story:</b> Immediately after the 2022 Flood Disaster in the Northern Rivers, the team at CHES Connect collaborated with on the ground not-for-profits, community organisations and disaster relief agencies to create an up to date 'disaster recovery resource' to help support sole traders and small businesses effected by the natural disaster. Feedback from front-line workers in the area was that information and access to available supports and funding was fragmented, hard to locate and confusing, particularly for people recovering from the trauma of the flood event. A need was identified and, in addition to the employment and wellbeing services already being delivered to the community, the CHES Connect teams undertook an initiative to provide individuals, business owners and community services with comprehensive, up to date information on supports and funding that were available to them. This was delivered in the form of a dynamic website that was updated in real time and regularly distributed 'info packs' that were printed for people who did not have access to the internet. Information was sectioned into helpful categories for Small Businesses, Primary Producers, Individuals, Housing, Community Organisations, Legal, Insurance, Financial, Wellbeing and Animal welfare. Links to these resources were regularly shared with huge mailing lists of local service providers, on social media and local groups to ensure the dissemination of the information to as many people in need as possible. The success of this resource was dependent on collaboration between community services that allowed the free flow of information on new funding or changes to funding and supports available to the community. Over the course of 2022 there were just under 5000 visits to the website <a href="https://chessconnect.org.au/disaster-recovery-funding/">https://chessconnect.org.au/disaster-recovery-funding/</a> and hundreds of printed packs delivered to local people in need. Quote from local sole trader caught in the Lismore flood disaster: <i>"Thank you so much Cate for everything you have done. If it wasn't for people like you and her I would have lost the plot. God bless, you give people like me hope again."</i>	

## CONNECT Northern Rivers

Tweed, Byron, Ballina, Clarence Valley, Richmond Valley, Lismore, Kyogle	
<b>Flood Recovery Services:</b> 	<p>Connect is providing career and transition support for flood-affected young people to take their next steps in education, training or employment. Through the flood-assistance grant, we have delivered Future Tracks for Indigenous students in Lismore high schools to develop work readiness and prepare for post-school options. In Term 2, we are developing a life skills and arts program for Year 7, 8, 9 students at Richmond River High who are at risk of disengaging from education prior to Year 12. We are also delivering one-on-one career and transition support to Headspace clients.</p> <p><b>Contact details:</b> <a href="http://connectnr.com">connectnr.com</a> <a href="mailto:info@connectnr.com">info@connectnr.com</a> 1-2, 38 Carrington Street, Lismore 1300 183 352</p>
<b>Main Partners:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Local government high schools, Headspace, Rekindling the Spirit</li></ul>
<b>Other Services:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Case management, training and employment support for young people at risk of disengaging from education</li><li>Career counselling for any young people in the Northern Rivers aged 17-24</li></ul>
<b>Good News Story:</b>	<p>Through the flood-assistance grant Connect delivered work readiness sessions to 17 local Indigenous students who had all been flood-affected. The work readiness program included an hour session each week across ten weeks which supported students to prepare for post-school options, develop a career and transition plan, establish pathways and goals, and create a resume and cover letter.</p> <p>Students also participated in training, including how to approach employers, workplace communication, appropriate clothing and personal hygiene, and mock interviews. Students were able to practice their Learners Practice test online and obtain work ready documents/accounts necessary for education/employment, including Tax File Number, bank account and USI. All participating students had expressed the desire to obtain part-time work while finishing school, and students appreciated the practical nature of the program.</p> <p>One young girl came into the program without any prior work experience and participated across the 10 weeks to prepare for employment. At the end of the program, she secured a part time job and is still successfully engaged part-time while finishing her HSC.</p>

## DAISI

Ballina, Byron, Clarence Valley, Kyogle, Tweed, Lismore,	
<b>Flood Recovery Services:</b> 	Mobile counselling, telehealth appointments and NDIS support and coordination. Grandparents as carers support group.  <b>Contact details:</b>  <a href="https://daisi.asn.au/">https://daisi.asn.au/</a> 1800 800 340
<b>Main Partners:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• North Coast Community Housing</li><li>• Nimbin Community Centre</li><li>• Community hubs and community Centres</li></ul>	
<b>Other Services:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• NDIS Support coordination and specialist support coordination</li><li>• NDIS plan management</li><li>• D.E.S.I.R.E.S sexual health and education service</li><li>• Sector support and development commonwealth home support program</li><li>• Sole trader information course</li></ul>	
<b>Good News Story:</b>  <b>Reaching our communities- Mobile team</b>  We are working with the temporary accommodation parks in all areas and the service requests are expanding. The staff are loving the work, we have just brought on a new provisional psychologist to assist across this and NDIS work. One of the counsellors said he had a good day ... “ I think I stopped a guy going to beat up someone else... that makes it a good day”  Appointments are working well and we are also increasing access for people by phone when we have developed the relationship.  <b>Grand Carer support</b>  Working across the groups we have contact with... being able to connect people into supports when appropriate. Psychologist is attending to provide counselling when needed.	

## Eden Creek Fairymount Pre School

Kyogle	
<b>Flood Recovery Services:</b>  <p>Eden Creek Fairymount <b>PRESCHOOL</b> - since 1985 -</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reimbursement of expenses</li><li>• Increased staffing costs</li><li>• Purchase of minor equipment</li><li>• Family support costs</li></ul> <p><b>Contact details:</b> 176 Summerland Way, Kyogle NSW 2474 (02) 6632 1790 <a href="mailto:director@fairymountpreschool.com.au">director@fairymountpreschool.com.au</a></p>
<b>Main Partners:</b>	
<b>Other Services:</b> Fairymount Preschool is a Kyogle child care centre. Offering a safe, nurturing environment that encourages children to realise their full potential and to pursue their passions.	
<b>Good News Story:</b> Grant funds have been used to support staffing costs, treat mold in the pre-school and employ a First Nations Connection Educator (2 days p.w). The Preschool is wanting to embed Indigenous Culture within the curriculum.  "As discussed our grant will mostly go toward wages for our team which we are also expanding to recruit a 'First Nations Connection Educator'. This action has been outlined in our Quality Improvement Plan and will assist to create cultural safety within our service for First Nations children and families we support. Additional hours have been allocated to ensure we continue to provide exceeding quality services to support our local community and we hope to develop connections within the wider community, including other grant recipients."	

## FEROS CARE

Ballina, Byron, Clarence Valley, Kyogle, Tweed, Lismore, Richmond Valley	
<b>Flood Recovery Services:</b> 	Aged Care Wellbeing Programs Outreach support  <b>Contact details:</b>  <a href="https://www.feroscare.com.au/">https://www.feroscare.com.au/</a>  1300 090 256 <a href="mailto:advisors@feroscare.com.au">advisors@feroscare.com.au</a>
<b>Main Partners:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Aged Care Assessment Team (ACAT)</li><li>• Aidacare (equipment and aids)</li><li>• Aquamarine Personalised Home Care (Domestic assistance provider)</li></ul>	
<b>Other Services:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Disability Support</li></ul>	
<b>Good News Story:</b> <p>Feros Care’s application of the funding included retrospective payments for costs incurred as a result of the flooding across the region and supporting actions which aligned to the Flood Debrief Action Plan.</p> <p>We are happy to report that a \$3 per hour pay rise has been applied to all Feros Care Community Support Workers along with an increase to reimbursement for travel and KMs travelled. The reimbursement increase was back-paid to the commencement of the financial year which provided a welcome boost to Community Support Workers whose work and client related travel had been negatively impacted as a direct result of damage roads and elongated travel routes caused by the flooding event in 2022.</p> <p>Feros Care are also happy to report that there has been a steady increase in Community Support Worker recruitment with an additional 16 staff members joining the region since July 2022. This boost in workforce has allowed greater control over the quality and service delivery outcomes for clients in the region. Local workers supporting local clients who understand the impacts on their communities. More workers also reduces a reliance on contractors and reduces unnecessary travel in areas which had been adversely affected.</p> <p>In addition, the Feros Care Emergency Control Committee has implemented the use of a mobile app ‘Signal’ which allows notification between the committee in times of natural disaster and emergencies. This app is in testing phase with the committee at this stage and is showing promise in being a reliable mechanism to connect multiple functions across the organisation.</p>	

## Health Voyage - Headspace (formerly GenHealth)

Grafton , Clarence Valley	
<b>Flood Recovery Services:</b>	Employed two youth workers to promote the organisation and support young people's access to services
	<b>Contact details:</b> <a href="https://headspace.org.au/">https://headspace.org.au/</a> 59 Duke St, Grafton NSW 2460 <a href="tel:0266421520">(02) 6642 1520</a> <a href="tel:1800650890">1800 650 890</a>
<b>Main Partners:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Our Healthy Clarence, Youth Interagency and participating services run by Clarence Valley Council,</li></ul>
<b>Other Services:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Support for young people with mental health, physical health (including sexual health), alcohol and other drug services, as well as work and study support.</li></ul>
<b>Good News Story:</b>	<p>The flood grant funds that support my position at headspace as a Peer Support Worker opened many opportunities for both me and the young people we work with. Providing valuable support to the young people who rely on headspace's services, especially in important times of crisis or uncertainty, such as during a flood, when young people may be experiencing heightened stress or anxiety is crucial to help them feel supported and have a safe environment with a support network to lean on. As a Peer Support Worker, I can offer them with a mindset of a fellow youth and create connections to help young people feel welcome in our centre.</p> <p>With this funding it has allowed headspace Grafton to expand the community engagement and offer more connections with the youth of the Clarence Valley, as well as more clubs and groups within our centre for example I am about to commence our first sessions of cooking club. This group will allow participants to grow their social connections and interactions with other young people from the area and build their teamwork skills, while gaining experience in cooking meals and food preparation. Overall, the flood grant funds that have helped support my position at headspace are a positive development, and I hope to continue provide opportunities to help make a difference in the lives of young people in your community.</p>
	
Sinead – Peer Support Worker	

## Happy Paws Haven

Clarence Valley - Eatonsville NSW

### Flood Recovery Services:



Helping cover cost of vet bills for flood affected and abandon dogs and cats.

### Contact details:

<https://www.happypawshaven.com.au/>

happy Paws haven Inc

140 Tindal Rd, Eatonsville NSW 2460

0419 404 766

0266449936

<https://www.facebook.com/happypawsrehoming/>

<https://www.instagram.com/happypawsdogscats/>

### Main Partners:

- Clarence Valley Vet Clinic and SASH
- Loving life 2FM
- ChewProof Dog Beds
- Dogmovers

### Other Services:

- Cat and dog rescue and rehoming.
- Education & rehabilitation for cat and dog owners.
- Special Education School and NDIS visits, Work Experience and Duke of Ed.

### Good News Story:

Happy Paws Haven was established in 2006 and is a no-kill rehabilitation and rehoming sanctuary, not for profit organisation for abandoned, surrendered, neglected, mistreated cats and dogs. Every animal is given a safe haven to be until a new home can be found, no matter how long that takes.

A sociable, healthy or treatable companion animal, whatever their age is never euthanised.

Happy Paws is an essential part of the community and has an excellent reputation working with schools and colleges. Kids with special needs from South Grafton High School and people with disabilities on NDIS visit the sanctuary, teaching them how to care for and respect animals as sentient beings, working with Volunteers, Families in Crisis, Community Service, situations of Domestic Violence where their pets are in crisis, housing pets until they can be returned to a safe environment. The fires and floods have also brought animals in crisis to HPH gates in a time of great anxiety for their owners. We were contacted to take three dogs in urgently as their carer had to go into hospital to have a major operation. When the carer went to hospital we contacted the original owner to let him know where his dogs were. He thought at first, he would have to surrender them as he was staying with a family member and could not have them with him. 2-3 weeks later he contacted us and asked if he could come and get them the following week-end, as



he had found some where they could stay near him. We agreed, the looks on the dogs faces when the owner turned up to pick them up was wonderful, they had immediately clamoured all over him showing us all how important the human animal bond is and we knew immediately that we had made the correct decision to ensure these dogs were returned to the original owner and not rehomed elsewhere.

## Healing and Resilience Australia

Ballina, Richmond Valley	
<b>Flood Recovery Services:</b> 	Psychologists and Counsellors are providing trauma therapy and community reconnection activities to groups and individuals from Ballina and the Mid-Richmond areas.  <b>Contact details:</b> <a href="https://www.hara.org.au/">https://www.hara.org.au/</a> 239 River Street Ballina, NSW 2478 0457 169 704 <a href="mailto:connect@hara.org.au">connect@hara.org.au</a>
<b>Main Partners:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mid Richmond Neighbourhood Centre, Wardell CORE, Health NSW</li></ul>	
<b>Other Services:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Resilience @ Work program</li><li>• Critical incident debriefing</li><li>• Equine Therapy – Individual and Group therapy sessions</li><li>• Art Therapy – Group</li><li>• NDIS – Will assist participants when not working with Flood Affected Communities</li></ul>	
<b>Good News Story:</b> <p>We completed our first Creative Journey program at Wardell Hub, a 3-week program where participants explored acknowledged the amazing strengths, they have drawn on for the past 12 months. Using the Internal Family Systems model they were also able to explore parts of themselves that are either in conflict or making it difficult for them in their recovery. At the beginning of the group we recognised that many have been working hard to rebuild their lives and not had the space or energy needed to process their emotions. Two of the big gains people reported to us were being able to acknowledge the impact of their experiences in a non-judgemental safe environment, and hearing others deeper stories which created greater connection and a sense of belonging. Most of the 17 participants commented that they walked away with new or deeper friendships within their community.</p>  <p>We also ran our first Introduction to Equine Therapy program with our participants commenting that what they learnt about themselves during the connections with the horses was life changing and they couldn't wait to apply it in their relationships with others. This is a 3-hour program which we run monthly. We are so pleased to be working with Tassiriki Ranch. Their property and horses were also severely impacted by the floods with the 14 horses having to be rescued and set free in the sand dunes of a nearby property in hope they would survive.</p>	

## Heart of Love Foundation

Tweed	
<p><b>Flood Recovery Services:</b></p> 	<p>Delivering mental health first aid sessions for community service providers, volunteers and schools. Providing weekly food hampers to people in need.</p> <p><b>Contact details:</b>  <a href="http://heartoflove.org.au">heartoflove.org.au</a>  <a href="mailto:info@heartoflove.org.au">info@heartoflove.org.au</a>  <a href="https://fb.me/hlfaustralia">fb.me/hlfaustralia</a></p>
<p><b>Main Partners:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2484 Community Hub, Murwillumbah Community Centre, OzHarvest</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Other Services:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mental health first aid training sessions</li> <li>• Youth development programs (cooking classes, photography classes, art and crafts etc)</li> <li>• Weekly food hampers (across Australia)</li> <li>• Daily online human development sessions (across Australia)</li> <li>• Indigenous programs (trauma healing workshops)</li> <li>• Regular health check-ups and well-being education</li> </ul>	
	<p><b>Good News Story:</b></p> <p>The Heart of Love Foundation Australia (HLF) hosted a series of Mental Health First Aid Training Session in 2022 with the intention to help local communities to better equip themselves in recognising and dealing with mental health issues during a disaster such as floods.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mental Health First Aid Training mobilises and empowers communities by equipping people with the knowledge and confidence to recognise, connect and respond</li> </ul>
<p>to someone experiencing a mental health problem or mental health crisis.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Topics included assessment and intervention, anxiety disorders, panic attacks, depression and dissociative disorders</li> <li>• The training included interactive sessions of discussion, role play, sharing of personal experiences as well as insights from real life persons dealing with these mental health illnesses</li> <li>• There were 11 participants from the Tweed &amp; Lismore communities including representatives from Agape Outreach, Fred's Place, Vinnies, Lismore support workers, Murwillumbah Community Centre and ISKON</li> <li>• The training was conducted by Wendy Carcaillet, B.H.Sc, an accredited instructor</li> <li>• The training (usually a paid course) was provided free of cost by HLF with the support of the NSW Government</li> </ul>	

## Heart2Heart Project

Tweed and Byron LGAs	
<b>Flood Recovery Services:</b>	<p>Cook and deliver nutritious fresh and frozen meals to Fred's Place, Murwillumbah Community Centre, Byron Community Centre and Women Up North Housing Inc. and Mullumbimby District Neighbourhood Centre for vulnerable community members.</p> <p><b>Contact details:</b> <a href="mailto:info@heart2heartproject.org.au">info@heart2heartproject.org.au</a></p>
<b>Main Partners:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fred's Place</li><li>• Murwillumbah Community Centre</li><li>• Byron Community Centre</li></ul>
<b>Other Services:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Creating and delivering nutritious meals to people in need.</li></ul>
<b>Good News Story:</b>	<p>The great news story for us is quite simple and at the same time wonderful – the flood grants has enabled the Heart2Heart Project to continue providing nutritious wholefood meals to community members in need. We have been able to continue reaching out and doing our little bit. At the same time, even more wonderful, as the increase in demand for meal support increased due to the impacts of flooding across the region, we were not only able to continue our weekly commitments but also increase the amount we supply each week. Just as an example, one year ago we were supplying 80 meals per fortnight to Fred's Place in Tweed Heads and now we are supplying 120 per week at this location alone. And when people who come back to us and say they have been so grateful for these meals because they have kept their family going, or things like, they even feel their health has improved eating our meals, that's when we feel tremendously happy. It really is something shared from one heart to another heart. We could not do what we do without our volunteers, nor could we do it without this support from NSW Flood Grants.</p>
	

## Human Nature Adventure Therapy

Ballina, Byron, Kyogle, Lismore, Tweed, Richmond Valley

### Flood Recovery Services:



Outreach therapeutic support for young people at risk and / or disengaged from school.

### Contact details:

[www.humannature.org.au](http://www.humannature.org.au)

111 Tamar Street Ballina NSW

0477 176 312

[connect@humannature.org.au](mailto:connect@humannature.org.au)

### Main Partners:

- High Schools (Ballina, Evans River, Richmond River, Lismore, Mullumbimby)
- The Family Centre (referring parents/carers for support)
- Social Futures (referrals from and to)

### Other Services:

- Therapeutic group 8 week program at Evans Head School, providing support for 10 flood-affected students to participate in learning about positive ways to support their mental health.
- Aboriginal Therapeutic Mentor to focus on engagement of young people.

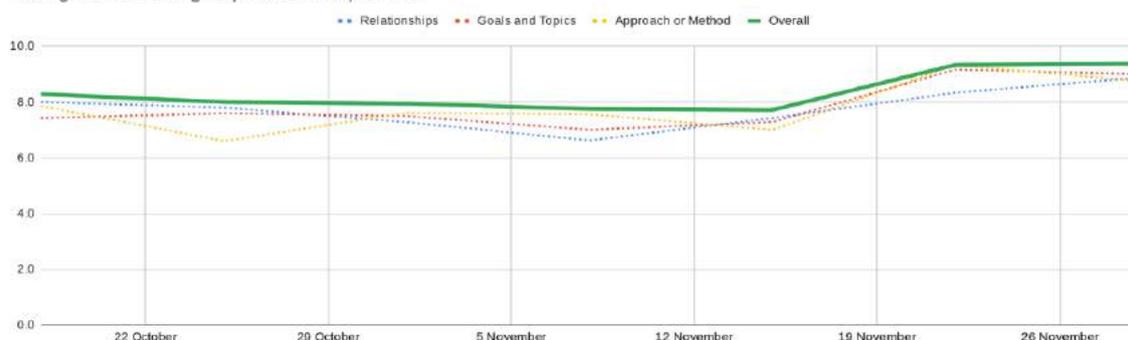
### Good News Story:

Group sessions included tools for self-reflection and how to use nature to connect with self. The facilitators supported participants to develop these skills through the use of narrative therapy and experiential exercises such as creating art, journaling and making clap sticks. Over the weeks young people were supported to complete a tree of life exercise - a narrative therapy tool that uses a visual tree as a metaphor for your life, each part of the tree represents different aspects of life. It's a way of supporting young people to tell a different story, to identify different strengths that they may not have realised that they have and to find ways to cultivate their tree. The group also provided an opportunity for Human Nature staff to establish and build rapport with young people which has resulted in referrals into Human Nature's intensive therapeutic program.

The chart below reflects the feedback collected during the program and demonstrates that participants consistently felt understood, respected and heard in the groups. After each session, young people were invited to rate their experience on a scale of 0-10.

- Relationship - I felt understood, respected and accepted by the leader and the group
- Goals and topic - We worked on and talked about what I wanted to work on and talk about
- Approach or method - The leader and group's approach is a good fit for me
- Overall - Overall, today's group was right for me, I felt like part of the group

Rating scale of the group session experience



## Interrelate Ltd

Ballina, Byron, Lismore, Tweed, Richmond Valley	
<b>Flood Recovery Services:</b> 	Providing trauma specific counselling outreach services for community in Northern Rivers.  <b>Contact details:</b> <a href="https://www.interrelate.org.au/contact-us/our-centres/northern-nsw">https://www.interrelate.org.au/contact-us/our-centres/northern-nsw</a> Level 3, suite 2, 214 Molesworth St, Lismore, 2480. (02) 4363 8036 1300 473 528
<b>Main Partners:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Wollongbar &amp; Ballina Pod Villages</li><li>• Bunjum</li><li>• Lismore City Council</li></ul>
<b>Other Services:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mediation, Children’s contact service, case management, community development.</li></ul>
<b>Good News Story:</b>	<p>This additional funding has provided the local Interrelate team with the opportunity to continue to support the community through the impacts of the floods over the last 12 months. We have been able to expand and offer additional office based, phone, video and outreach counselling to local impacted families. Our team have been providing weekly counselling on-site at one of the pod villages with plans for at least two more.</p> <p>We’ve also been able to provide our staff with the latest training in disaster recovery assessment and case planning through the disaster recovery outcome star. We have been supporting local teachers and service providers who have been struggling with the impact of their own experiences and potential vicarious trauma from clients.</p> <p>Additionally we have been acutely aware of managing our own staff’s wellbeing and continuously provide staff sessions around managing vicarious trauma and maintaining their own self-care.</p> <p>We have also been able to have a team at the flood anniversary events with counsellors attending the discreet boatie recognition. A couple of highlights of this event were being able to support community members, and networking with local service providers.</p> <p>One final positive share was a 6 year old girl who did a beautiful drawing on a rock and then had a worker write “Lismore stay strong” and then hid it in a garden for someone to find. Since July 2022 we have been able to provide support to more than 300 individuals and families.</p>
	

## Jumbunna Community Preschool and Early Intervention Centre

Casino, Wardell, Bonalbo, Stratheden

### Flood Recovery Services:



- Therapeutic support: birth to 18 years
- Preschool (Casino)
- Mobile Preschool (Wardell, Bonalbo, Stratheden)
- Family support
- Professional paediatric clinics

### Contact details:

[jumbunna@jumbunna.com.au](mailto:jumbunna@jumbunna.com.au)

60 High Street Casino NSW

(02) 6662 2866

### Main Partners:

- Aurora Regional
- Dr Chris Ingall
- Casino Schools

### Good News Story:

In 2022 we were able to offer extra spots to children and families at our services, as we were able to use the grant funding to employ extra staff. Some of the children were having difficulty self-regulating their emotions and extra staff allowed time for more one on one support and relationship development.

We were also able to implement the Exploring Feelings program to more children to support this area of need too. This is implemented on a one to one basis, with information given to parents to help them support follow up at home. We were also able to run the PALS (Playing and Learning to Socialise ) group.

Coming into the new year we have so far found most children have settled back in well and families appear relaxed. We have supported two families already with access to essential assessments so they can continue to gain the required supports for their child. If they could not access them it would impact negatively on the child's development and wellbeing. We sourced and covered the cost of them.



**K.I.T.T.E.N Rescue INC.**

Lismore, NSW

**Flood Recovery Services:**



Brought fencing for flood impacted people so they can keep their pets on their property.

Purchased cattery for people in temporary accommodation.

Helping cover cost of vet bills for flood affected pets.

**Contact details:**

**101 Union Street, Lismore NSW  
(02) 6622 2571**

<https://www.facebook.com/petsandsaddles/>

**Other Services:**

- Pet store and cat rescue, adoption.
- Rescue and rehome dogs, cats, kittens

**Good News Story:**

Strayed flood affected cat, vaccinated, wormed, chipped, and rehomed.

Purchased cattery for young lady with disability, so she could keep her cat in her temporary accommodation after she lost her home

## Koori Kitchen

Lismore and surrounds

### Flood Recovery Services:



Provision of cooked meals, fresh food and a safe cultural space for flood affected people.

### Contact details:

Unfortunately Koori Kitchen had to close in January 2023 despite the need for their service remaining

### Main Partners:

- OzHarvest, Mental Health Services, Koori Mail

### Other Services:

- Weaving circles, Aboriginal Mental Health Counsellors and Nurses, Naturopaths

### Good News Story:

Born out of the 2022 floods, Koori Kitchen was established at the Koori Mail Recovery Hub days after the first flood. Named fondly by the Koori Mail mob, it has provided over 280,000 hot meals to the people of Lismore and surrounding communities via foot, car, helicopter and boat. We love our community and we love what we do.

The kitchen has become an essential service to the community. Being the only food hub still operating, it continues to provide not only nourishing hot meals & groceries to the local flood-affected community but has become a safe space for people to come & connect, have a yarn or sometimes a shoulder to cry on. Most importantly it enables a culturally safe space for meaningful social connections. Rebuilding Lismore and returning residents to liveable homes is still a long road ahead.

Koori Kitchen delivered: Casino Hub – 100 meals per week, Coraki – 50 meals per week, Individuals without transport – 85 meals daily, Lismore Pod village and was about to commence delivery to Wardell and Wollongbar Pod Villages.

*“We need the Koori Kitchen to continue helping our community”*

*“Our family is so grateful for delicious meals and for saving scraps to feed our guinea pigs”*

*“It’s more than hot food, it’s a culturally safe space to meet & have a yarn. On this balcony we have formed so many new friendships”*



This is James... He has been coming to the hub & kitchen since the 1st flood. He loves getting a hot drink, a meal & having a yarn with everyone on the balcony.

## Koori Mail

<b>Lismore LGA</b>	
<b>Flood Recovery Services:</b> 	<p>KOORI MAIL has created a culturally safe HUB in Lismore for Aboriginal community members. The hub provides an opportunity for community to connect and access services.</p> <p>Koori Mail are renovating their property to create a social enterprise café which will offer young aboriginal people the opportunity to learn barista training and employment skills. They will have a safe space for trauma healing from a First Nations perspective.</p> <p><b>Contact details:</b> <a href="http://www.koorimail.com">www.koorimail.com</a> 11 Molesworth St, Lismore NSW 2480 (02) 66 222 666</p>
<b>Main Partners:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Koori Kitchen</li></ul>	
<b>Other Services:</b> <p>Koori Mail is a fortnightly national newspaper reporting on the issues that matter to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.</p>	
<b>Good News Story:</b> <p>Grant funds were used for the Koori Creative Christmas on 6<sup>th</sup> December that worked with the local community, Police and Council to organise. Cultural activities were held for children and adults.</p> <p>A local Indigenous healer has been contracted to present cultural therapy workshops and renovations have started on the Koori Mail building which the Koori Mail owns and operates from. As the building was flood affected there are significant renovations required but once completed this will provide a safe cultural space for all community members.</p>	

## Krurungal – ATSI Corporation for Welfare, Resourcing and Housing

Tweed Northern NSW	
 <b>Flood Recovery Services:</b>	Krurungal provides emergency relief vouchers, toiletries, clothing and support for people in emergency accommodation in the Tweed Shire, Coolangatta and Murwillumbah areas.
	<b>Contact details:</b> <a href="https://krurungal.com.au/">https://krurungal.com.au/</a> <b>Office:</b> Shop D10, Eastern Avenue, Airport Central Coolangatta (07) 5536 7911
<b>Main Partners:</b>	
<b>Other Services:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Providing outreach support for community members, intake, needs assessment, referral</li></ul>	
<b>Good News Story:</b>	
<p>One of our community members had a landslide at her rented property of 7 years, the house was deemed un-liveable, and condemned by the Tweed Shire Council.</p> <p>This mature woman pulled up outside Krurungal distraught with all her possessions loaded into her car. We assisted and encouraged her to seek accommodation through 'Link to Home' to enable her to reside in a motel and assisted her to apply for grants that she was eligible for. Recently she rang in tears to inform us that she had been allocated a brand-new unit in Tweed Heads.</p> <p>We have assisted her in sourcing furniture and various items, supplied her with vouchers to allow her to independently shop for kitchen utilities, linen, and other items she was in need of. On a recent home visit, she is so grateful and still in tears over the assistance provided and her home for life.</p> <p>Another of our community members had to repair her vehicle and replace other possessions. We have assisted her with applying for grants. She rang last week and was grateful for the assistance as her car had been repaired and she had replaced some of her lost items with vouchers we assisted her with.</p>	

## Kyogle Family Support Services Neighbourhood Centre

Kyogle and surrounding LGAs	
<p><b>Flood Recovery Services:</b></p>  <p><b>Kyogle Family Support Services</b> Neighbourhood Centre Inc.</p>	<p>Outreach cultural activities and support. Storm-Birds training in Schools (Kyogle, Woodenbong, Bonalbo, Casino). Intake officer/family worker to assist with any intake, family support, homelessness, domestic and family violence and emergency relief. Case Management. Mixed aged support program Mulli Mulli community.</p> <p><b>Contact details:</b> 8 Geneva Street, Kyogle NSW <a href="http://www.kfss.org.au">www.kfss.org.au</a> (02) 6632 1044</p>
<p><b>Main Partners:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HART services</li> <li>• Services Australia</li> <li>• Headspace</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Other Services:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Case Management/Family Support</li> <li>• Housing Support</li> <li>• Intake officer</li> <li>• Groups for children and young people</li> <li>• Cultural activities within community to encourage connection with support services.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Good News Story:</b></p> <p>During the school term we were privileged to facilitate an after-school program, one day in Kyogle and one afternoon at Muli Muli Indigenous community. A school holiday the program reflects the desires of community and the children.</p> <p>Our activities incorporate the Stormbirds natural disaster program assisting children &amp; young people to effectively process experiences of change, loss and grief resulting from natural disasters and everyday life. Connection to country and access to the children’s natural environment is paramount to our program’s success.</p>  <p>Activities that have been a great success; relationship building games, cooking and discussions around healthy eating, craft activities, fishing trips to Tooloom falls and Toonumbar dam, nerf gun wars, bowling, dancing /singing, pool and beach parties.</p> <p>(Photo credit to Lesley Garred)</p>	

## Kyogle Lions Club

Kyogle and surrounding LGAs

### Flood Recovery Services:



Kyogle Lions Community food pantry provides low-cost groceries for people in need. The food pantry includes dry goods, essentials, toiletries, donated bread and a changing variety of vegetables, and occasionally fruit.

Open: Thursday 8.30 am – 3.00 pm

### Contact details:

33-35 Bloore St, Kyogle NSW 2474

P.O. Box 56, Kyogle 2474

0484 676 628

### Main Partners:

- Foodbank NSW / ACT
- Kyogle Christian Life Church
- Kyogle Together Collective

### Other Services:

- Assistance Vouchers for fuel, supermarket, and chemist (Kyogle businesses only)
- Network support for: clothing, limited white goods, household goods and furniture, Counselling for individuals and families.

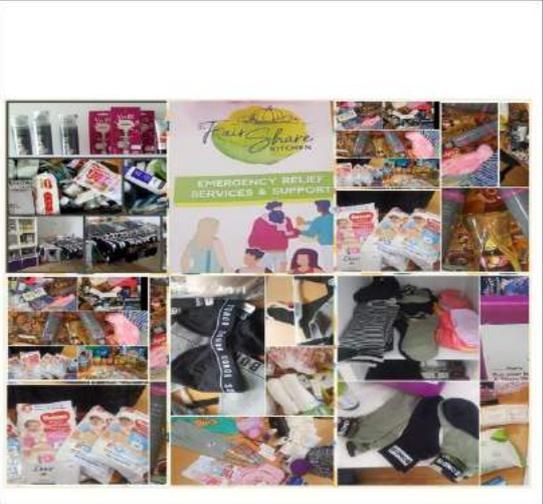
### Good News Story:

A local farmer, who lost multiple fences and had extensive damage to outbuildings and machinery, had to bring his tractor and seeder to Kyogle to get repairs.

He drove both to the Kyogle Lions Community Food Pantry to buy some groceries and also collected a grocery hamper, IGA, fuel and chemist vouchers.



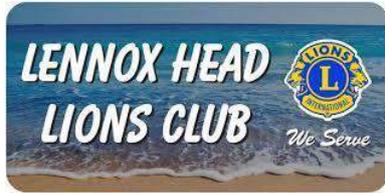
## Kyogle Together

Kyogle LGA	
<b>Flood Recovery Services:</b>	<p>The Fair Share Kitchen (TFSK) is an emergency relief and community assistance program based at the Laneway Community Space in Kyogle.</p> <p><b>Contact details:</b>  Maree Boyland – The Fair Share Kitchen -0477 514 784  Kyogle Together (02) 5627 5006  Lea Hine – Co General Manager – 0474 495 399</p>
<b>Main Partners:</b> OzHarvest	
<p><b>Other Services:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KRIC (Kyogle Resource Innovation Collective) (Tip Shop) -social enterprise</li> <li>• GYM – social enterprise</li> <li>• Targeted Early Intervention Program - youth drop in space/care &amp; co-ordination</li> <li>• Community Drug Action Team</li> <li>• Kyogle Youth Advisory Council</li> <li>• Young Women’s Programs (FEM’s &amp; Love Bites)</li> <li>• Kyogle Anti Violence Alliance (KAVA)</li> <li>• Recovery Support Services through Resilience NSW</li> <li>• Village Youth Program – delivering youth services into the villages of Tabulam, Bonalbo and Woodenbong</li> </ul>	
<p>2021-2022 has been one of adaption and flexibility. Ongoing recovery from the 2019/2020 Black Summer fires, COVID 19 pandemic lockdowns and the 2022 flood events have impacted the whole community, area and region. TFSK program of emergency relief and community assistance has been in overdrive sourcing material aid and meeting with more than twice the number of clients we had worked with at any other time. Individualised Community Service networks have morphed into whole of community inter-agencies collaborating toward recovery and building capacity for preparedness. TFSK has continued to respond to a growing and visible need across the Kyogle LGA. The dedicated TFSK team has delivered:</p> <p>Distribution in excess of 1.2 million dollars' worth of donated material aid, 1000 frozen meals, meat packs and food hampers, 1000 dignity and crisis bags 4 community “take what you need” events which initiated the permanent “take what you need” shelves at the Laneway, Community Space and community lunches. Mobilisation of OzHarvest donated fresh fruit and vegetables into the villages of Tabulam, Bonalbo and Woodenbong. The flood support grant has supported The Fair Share Kitchen to increase hours of delivery significantly. This program is a front-line responder and no more so than in times of natural disaster. The Fair Share Kitchen continues to support the Kyogle LGA and the influx of displaced people from surrounding towns with dignity, kindness and care in recovery and preparedness. Additionally, we have been able to resurrect the Food Recovery part of the TFSK with a community BBQ brunch every Thursday, making available the provisions of fresh and shelf stable food items.</p>	
	

## Lennox Head Lions Club

Lennox, Ballina, Coraki, Broadwater, Woodburn and surrounding communities

### Flood Recovery Services:



Flood relief services provided by the Lions Club included vouchers, food, household goods, ongoing donations to hubs at Wardell, Coraki, Woodburn and Broadwater.

The Dry Room Project in Coraki was to rebuild one weatherproof room in each house to get people back in their homes. The project was completed for 23 homes prior to Christmas 2022.

Water tank clean, repair and refill around Woodburn and potentially around Wardell for properties not on mains water is in progress.

The Youth Mental Project is the provision of mental health education to students 14–16 years at Evans River High School and Ballina Coast High School. The program is to be presented to approximately 200 students.

Relocation and reconstruction of accessibility ramp to Broadwater Community Hall.

### Contact details:

<https://lennoxheadlions.com/>

[lennoxhead.nsw@lions.org.au](mailto:lennoxhead.nsw@lions.org.au)

[www.facebook.com/lennoxheadlions](http://www.facebook.com/lennoxheadlions)

Derek Audus 0418971902 / Terry Hodgetts 0413332582

### Main Partners:

- Coraki Hub, Anglicare, Global Care Australia

### Other Services:

Lennox Head Lions is a Club of Lions International. Our Club aims to work together to help people in need in our local Community and support major health and research initiatives. Fund raising is done through event catering and a range of special events such as Golf Day, Art Show, Christmas Tree sales and traditional fund raisers such as raffles and Christmas cake sales.

### Good News Story

Lennox Head Lions Club was proud to be the winner of the Ballina Shire Council's Flood Relief & Recovery Community Event of the Year.

With the support of Lennox Head Lions Club, Mid-Richmond Neighbourhood CENTRE, Mark Bemmer, and a team of trades & labour volunteers, we successfully launched 'The Dry Room Project' for eligible residents of Coraki & surrounds ... with funding allocated to complete 22 dry rooms for 22 households by Christmas 2022. The response has been overwhelmingly positive. 23 homes were completed by Christmas.



*Mark – a man with a big heart is pictured with other volunteers and the delighted recipients of the work done.*

## Lifeline Northern NSW

Northern NSW / National	
<b>Flood Recovery Services:</b> 	Telephone crisis support, counselling, education and referral. Suicide prevention, community capacity building and events to raise awareness. <b>Contact details:</b> <a href="http://northernnsw.lifeline.org.au">northernnsw.lifeline.org.au</a> 1300 152 854  13 11 14 (24/7 crisis support) <a href="https://www.lifeline.org.au/">https://www.lifeline.org.au/</a>
<b>Main Partners:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Healthy North Coast</li><li>• Stand By – Social Futures</li><li>• Headspace</li></ul>	
<b>Other Services:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Community events</li></ul>	
<b>Good News Story:</b> <p>The Lifeline team in Lismore moved out of the temporary caravan facilities and back into their Conway St, Lismore building in February 2023. As part of the floor repair works, changes to the floor plan meant that we can double our Crisis Supporter capacity and have up to 6 Crisis Supporters on-shift at any one time. Given that calls to Lifeline from Northern Rivers residents remain significantly higher than pre-flood, this increased capacity is important so we can respond well.</p> <p>The first new Crisis Supporters cohort whose training was supported by the DCJ Flood Support grant have completed their student training, and entering the intern phase of their training, which means they are now answering calls. We will continue to see new interns throughout the rest of this year and into 2024 as they finish their training, adding valuable additional Crisis Supporters to the local team.</p> 	

## Life Without Barriers

Northern NSW	
<b>Flood Recovery Services:</b>  	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• OOHHC support and case management.</li><li>• Foster care and kinship care.</li></ul> Residential and leaving care support.  <b>Contact details:</b> <a href="https://www.lwb.org.au/contact-us/ballina-nsw-2478/">https://www.lwb.org.au/contact-us/ballina-nsw-2478/</a> (02) 6618 2600 <a href="mailto:info@lwb.org.au">info@lwb.org.au</a>
<b>Main Partners:</b>	
<b>Other Services:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Disability Support</li></ul>	
<b>Good News Story:</b> <p>One of the young people with an emergency pack that we bought for all of our carers and young people in our supported independently living program. These packs were provided to over 40 carers and young people within the flood affected areas. The grant has also allowed LWB to help keep carers and children homed. Some of our carers were displaced and we have supported them by subsidising a portion of rent, this has allowed for carers and children safe and comfortable whilst their homes are being repaired.</p>	
	

## Lismore Meals on Wheels

Lismore and surrounding LGAs

### Flood Recovery Services:



Lismore MOW provides food services to eligible frail aged, older people aged over 65 and frail older Aboriginal people over 50 and people with a disability living in the Lismore local government areas and surrounding villages such as Nimbin, Wollongbar and Alstonville.

### Contact details:

<http://www.mealsonwheels.net.au/>

Suite 2 - 27 Oliver Avenue

Goonellabah NSW 2480

(02) 66 248 215

[lismore@mealsonwheels.net.au](mailto:lismore@mealsonwheels.net.au)

### Main partners:

- Nimbin Aged Care & Respite
- Flagstaff, Gourmet meals & SPC
- Hammond Care, Kyogle

### Other Services:

- Meal service
- Other food services – visiting consumers and going over healthy meals choices, food storage and nutritional information.

### Good News Story:

Flood grant funding has helped Lismore Meals on Wheels purchase a new fridge so that we are able to provide shopping at times of need to our community.

Grab and go bags are going to be provided from the grant. In these bags we are looking at purchasing emergency items such as torches, batteries, sanitiser, masks, poncho, whistle, wipes, local maps, and emergency contacts.

We have also been able to purchase new raincoats for volunteers when delivering meals in all weather conditions.

Volunteer photo is of 4 generations of my family providing meals to our community during the recent flooding in 2022.



## Mackillop Family Services

Northern NSW	
<b>Flood Recovery Services:</b> 	Support for children, young people in OOHC and their foster families.  <b>Contact details:</b> <a href="https://www.mackillop.org.au/">https://www.mackillop.org.au/</a> <b>Richmond/Tweed</b> 214 Molesworth Street Lismore NSW 2480 (02) 6616 1200  <b>Clarence/Coffs</b> 2 Villiers St Grafton NSW 2450 (02) 6642 3022
<b>Main Partners:</b>	
<b>Other Services:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Intensive Therapeutic Care</li><li>• Permanency Support program</li></ul>	
<b>Good News Story:</b> <p>In September we held carer appreciation events aligned with Foster Care week. There was a fantastic turn out in Grafton. The event involved family friendly games, live music and was catered by a local business. Many carers expressed that they felt appreciated and valued in what has been a challenging period.</p>	

## Marine Rescue NSW

Northern NSW	
<p><b>Flood Recovery Services:</b></p> 	<p>Marine Rescue Brunswick Heads is a unit of the volunteer and rescue service of Marine Rescue NSW.</p> <p>Marine Rescue provides training for volunteers, including responding in natural disasters, advanced first aid and mental health first aid.</p> <p><b>Contact details:</b>  <a href="mailto:uc.brunswick@marinerescuensw.com.au">uc.brunswick@marinerescuensw.com.au</a>            0437746854  <a href="https://www.facebook.com/marinerescuebrunswick/">https://www.facebook.com/marinerescuebrunswick/</a>  <a href="https://www.marinerescuensw.com.au/">https://www.marinerescuensw.com.au/</a></p>
<p><b>Main Partners:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NSW SES</li> <li>• NSW RFS</li> <li>• NSW Ambulance and NSW Police</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Other Services:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 24/7 emergency Search and Rescue.</li> <li>• NSW only log on and vessel tracking service for recreational boaters.</li> <li>• Boating safety education and advocacy, including boat and jet ski licence and marine radio courses for boaters.</li> <li>• Marine Rescue NSW is an independent not-for-profit organisation. Operating under the NSW State Emergency and Rescue Management Act 1989 and Marine Safety (Domestic Commercial Vessel) National Law Act 2012 (the National Law).</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Good News Story:</b></p> <p>14 Marine Rescue members have attended a 2 day advanced 4wd and recovery course. Facilitated in Byron, Lismore Hinterland and local beaches. This training allows members to head into devastated areas where roads are impassable by normal vehicles. This has increased our capacity to support with response to disasters, assist in evacuations and supply goods into devastated areas.</p>  <p>Some of our members have completed level 1 Swift Water Rescue training at Penrith White Water Stadium. This is a full one-day course, participants are thrown into a manmade fast flow river to simulate what happens in flood waters. This isn't a training course for the light-hearted and shows how dangerous flood waters can be. The focus is on safety and what to do when something goes wrong.</p> <p>We have also had some members travel out to western NSW to places to assist with flood operations. This work has been to re-supply food to remote communities by car and boat, movement of stock including camels by boat, and supporting community members.</p>	

## Men and Family Centre

Lismore and Tweed LGAs	
<b>Flood Recovery Services:</b> 	The Men and Family Centre is a professional team of men and women who primarily work to end male violence against women and children.  <b>Contact details:</b> <a href="https://menandfamily.org.au/">https://menandfamily.org.au/</a> Goonellabah: 0458 172 846 Suite 6/32-34 Gumtree Drive Goonellabah Tweed: 0422 195 003 Level 1/46-48 Wharf Street Tweed Heads
<b>Main Partners:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>NORWAC, Nimbin Neighbourhood Centre</li></ul>	
<b>Other Services:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>MEND (Men Exploring New Directions) Men's Behaviour Change Program.</li><li>ARC – Accountable Respectful Connected – Primary Prevention project.</li><li>FAST – Family Advocacy and Support Team – Support for people affected by Domestic and Family Violence.</li></ul>	
<b>Good News Story:</b> <p>MFC have successfully recruited a co-ordinator for the Healthy Men flood response project for the Lismore / Richmond and Kyogle LGA's. Several of our team members will be attending the LCC anniversary events held in Lismore over the next few weeks with the view to supporting the community to engage in additional supports available. MFC Healthy Men project co-ordinator attended the Community Recovery sessions held by David Younger to gain a broader understanding of the effects / impacts of the flood disaster. We met with NCCH team members at the Evans Head Pod village a few weeks ago and are working towards holding Healthy Men spaces at various NR Pod Villages over the next few months. MFC are also supporting the Kyogle DV alliance group to hold an event in May 2023.</p> <p>MFC are soon to engage a co-ordinator for the Healthy Men flood response project for the Tweed / Byron LGA's.</p>	

## Mid-Richmond Neighbourhood Centre

Northern NSW	
<p><b>Flood Recovery Services:</b></p> 	<p>The Mid-Richmond Neighbourhood Centre provides recovery support services, emergency relief, intake, assessment, case work, outreach and referrals for community members.</p> <p>Community Hubs at Coraki and Woodburn provide pantry staples in a cost recovery model, vouchers and frozen meals to community members.</p> <p><b>Contact details:</b>  (02) 6682 4334  <a href="https://www.mrnc.com.au/">https://www.mrnc.com.au/</a>  <a href="mailto:admin@mrnc.com.au">admin@mrnc.com.au</a></p>
<p><b>Main Partners:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Services NSW, Oz Harvest and the RSS team</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Other Services:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NDIS</li> <li>• Child and Family Team</li> <li>• Youth Services</li> <li>• Brighter Futures</li> <li>• Services Australia</li> <li>• Aged Services</li> <li>• Justice of the Peace</li> <li>• Volunteer opportunities</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work being done at the hubs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information, advocacy and referral</li> <li>• Access to emergency relief</li> <li>• Community event planning</li> <li>• Partnership building with services; warm referrals. E.g. Carer Gateway, HARA, Services NSW, RSS, Safe Haven</li> <li>• Community Pantry, Oz Harvest.</li> <li>• Access to material goods</li> <li>• 'Cup of tea' accidental counselling</li> <li>• Facilitating 'dry room project' and 'water tank project' in partnership with Lennox Lions Club.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Good News Story:</b></p> <p><b>News from Coraki</b></p> <p>Hope* was displaced to the Coraki pod village after being dual affected by the 2022 floods and a subsequent fire at her home in Kyogle. Hope has recently connected with the counselling services offered at our recovery hub by HARA. We have seen such an improvement in Hope's mental wellbeing since connecting with our team. She intends to pay this impact forward by establishing a basket weaving circle for the youth currently residing in the pod village. We are so touched we could offer Hope a place to connect with community and mental health services. Hope is one of many displaced residents who have utilised Coraki Hub as a place to heal and connect.</p> <p><b>News from Woodburn</b></p> <p>I had the pleasure of attending the weekly morning tea at Woodburn Hub and asked the attendee's what the hub meant to them, some replies were;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <i>"I feel that this is my space to connect with friends"</i></li> <li>❖ <i>"I have only just felt ready recently to socialise and connect again. This place means a lot to me"</i></li> <li>❖ <i>"I have met so many people at the hub, it really brings the community together"</i></li> <li>❖ <i>"Sometimes I just come here to sit. I can relax and not worry for a little while".</i></li> </ul>	

## Momentum Collective

Ballina and Casino LGAs NSW

### Flood Recovery Services:



Provide specialists homelessness services including Aboriginal homeless and rough sleeping, family and domestic violence support and refuge, mental health, disability, community and social housing.

#### Contact:

##### General enquiries

1300 900 091

##### DV response line

1300 355 305

##### Crisis accommodation

1800 387 867 (24/7 helpline)

##### Community Housing

[tenancy@mymomentum.org.au](mailto:tenancy@mymomentum.org.au)

138 Canterbury Street,  
Casino NSW 2470  
(02) 6662 2898

4/79 Tamar Street,  
Ballina NSW 2478  
(02) 6681 3622 | Homelessness Service

35 Wharf Street  
Tweed Heads NSW 2485  
1300 900 091 | Homelessness Service | Assertive Outreach

### Main Partners:

- Women's Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Service
- Specialist Homelessness Service Providers
- Agapie Outreach

### Other Services:

- NDIS, Community Housing, Mental Health.

### Good News Story:

We have engaged additional specialist tenancy resources to support accessing sustainable tenancy and tenancy support across the Northern Rivers. We've been able to replace belongings in Women and Children's refuge that were destroyed by flooding so we can continue to support women and children in need. We continue to host weekly breakfasts for community in Casino to bring people together to discuss and access services.

We've been able to assist individuals in need with vouchers and provisions as they get back on their feet.

## Mudyala Aboriginal Corporation

Clarence, Richmond, Ballina LGAs NSW

### Flood Recovery Services:



Community support, vouchers, house clean-up, household goods, for Aboriginal families across the region including Maclean, Grafton, Yamba, Casino, Coraki, Cabbage Tree Island, Ballina and surrounding communities

### Contact:

[www.mudyala.org.au](http://www.mudyala.org.au)

[office@mudyala.org.au](mailto:office@mudyala.org.au)

0434 242 152

### Main Partners:

- Koori Mail
- GIVIT
- Bulgar Ngaru
- Headspace Grafton

### Other Services:

- Community Preschool Engagement Program
- Aboriginal Children and Youth Program
- Yaegl Elders Aboriginal Corporation

### Good News Story:

Mudyala Aboriginal Corporation have been assisting families who have been displaced with one-off vouchers for essential items such as groceries and appliances. So far Mudyala have assisted over 30 families.

One family was displaced in the Lismore floods and is now residing in the Clarence Valley in emergency accommodation at a local motel with a high needs child. With the voucher assistance they were able to afford some fresh groceries and hygiene products to make short term living a little easier.

## Mullumbimby and District Neighbourhood Centre

Byron LGA	
<b>Flood Recovery Services:</b>  Mullumbimby & District <b>Neighbourhood Centre</b> <i>Connecting the Byron Shire Community</i>	Mullumbimby District Neighbourhood Centre is offering community support and individual case management for flood affected people. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Material aid brokerage.</li><li>• Free counselling through Listening Space</li><li>• Aboriginal engagement activities</li><li>• Community connection activities</li></ul> <b>Contact:</b> <a href="https://www.mdnc.org.au/">https://www.mdnc.org.au/</a> 55 Dalley St, Mullumbimby NSW 2482 (02) 6684 1286
<b>Main Partners:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Byron Shire Council</li><li>• Safe Haven</li><li>• Australian Red Cross</li></ul>	
<b>Other Services:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Recovery Support Service</li><li>• Staying Home Leaving Violence &amp; Integrated and Domestic Violence Programs - specialist domestic and family violence services</li><li>• More Than a Meal Community Meal &amp; frozen meal program</li><li>• Community Support/Emergency Relief</li><li>• Gulganii Community Pantry</li><li>• Brighter Futures</li><li>• Harwood community engagement</li></ul>	
<b>Good News Story:</b> <p>The Flood grant has been used to help cover staffing costs, reimbursement of expenses, operational costs, and minor expenses for individual clients. The funds are spent on meeting the increased demand.</p>	

## Mullumbimby High P&C Association

Mullumbimby NNSW	
<b>Flood Recovery Services:</b>	Accidental counsellor / culturally appropriate trauma training – targeted to school staff as well as the school and wider community  <b>Contact details:</b> <a href="mailto:mullumbimbyhighschool@pandcaffiliate.org.au">mullumbimbyhighschool@pandcaffiliate.org.au</a> Cath Graeme-Cook 0400 452 090
<b>Main Partners:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We Al Li organisation, Deep Listeners Network, Mullumbimby High School</li> </ul>	
<b>Other Services:</b>	
<p>The parents and community association (P&amp;C) is a vibrant and committed group of parents and other community members who play an important role in supporting the school principal, teachers and non-teaching staff to enhance the learning outcomes and overall school experience for our children.</p>	
<b>Good News Story:</b>	
<p>The Mullumbimby High school P&amp;C have been offering trauma-informed community connection workshops funded by the DCJ flood recovery grant. Offering two Deep Listening workshops in 2022 with the facilitators Deep Listener and two more Dadirri workshops in 2023 with the facilitators of We Al-li. These workshops offer diverse opportunities for building resilience for our Northern Rivers community members. Most recently, community members have gathered with We Al-li leaders in January and February to learn and share ancient Aboriginal mindfulness knowledge of Dadirri. A healing space was established, and guidance to flood recovery as a community through self-care, family, and community care was explored. These community members gathered as professionals on the front line of our collective recovery, and their work was acknowledged in the healing process of our community. Dusty McOnie, our Mullumbimby High School Student Support Officer, attended and offered,</p>	
<p><i>"We Al-li's profound group process and skilled facilitators create 'cultural safety' for participants to be confronted by these traumas and learn traditional practices which promote compassion, empathy, self-care or 'cultural fitness' that is necessary to work with others through their trauma recovery, and ultimately grow communities of care and practice to benefit everyone."</i></p>	 
<p><b>Workshop for teachers, student supports and counsellors. Photo credit Jeff Dawson</b></p>	

## Murwillumbah Community Centre

Murwillumbah NSW

### Flood Recovery Services:



- Emergency Relief & Welfare Support
- Case Coordination and wellbeing support
- Community pantry
- Intake, assessment and referral
- Group programs: art-therapy and support skills for community volunteers
- *Community Supporting Community* initiatives: Community Markets

### Contact details:

[Reception@mccentre.org.au](mailto:Reception@mccentre.org.au)

(02) 66 723 003

<https://mccentre.org.au/>

### Main partners:

- Hub 2484
- Tweed Council
- Chinderah HUB

### Other Services:

- Nullum House Social Inclusion Centre: free meals, access to shower and laundry facilities. Links to Housing and homelessness outreach services.
- Youth Centre: Holiday program, Youth Festival, after school group, personal support and referral pathways.
- Indigenous Services: Aboriginal Family Support, Kids Caring For Country, Guyhayn playgroup and parenting group, Kinship Festival, women's circle.
- Community groups and activities: *Weaving Connections Through Generations*, Yoga, Art Program.
- Community HUB: access to specialist services operating from our centre.

### Good News Story:



MCC staff came up with the idea of organising a community market in our temporary premise, the old art gallery in Murwillumbah, facing the Tweed River. As we were supporting community members affected by the floods, we identified that many of them had creative and crafting skills that could be maximised, promoted and showcased with our assistance, while creating some extra income from it in the lead up to Christmas.

We offered those clients free market stalls, but we also helped those ones in extreme financial hardship with brokerage support to buy basic materials and resources to make their products. We had 14 registered stallholders with a variety of stalls including hand-made jewelry, Artwork, plants, Christmas craft, handmade gifts, textiles and more.

## Ngunja Jarjum

Northern NSW	
<p><b>Flood Recovery Services:</b></p> 	<p>Supporting Aboriginal community members to navigate systems and services through referral and advocacy. Advocacy for systemic change in disaster management spaces and evacuation processes. Intensive family preservation services Supervised family time</p> <p><b>Contact details:</b> <a href="https://ngunjarjum.com/">https://ngunjarjum.com/</a> (02) 6626 3700 Suite 15 Level 1, 21 Conway Street Lismore NSW 2480 <a href="mailto:info@ngunjarjum.com">info@ngunjarjum.com</a></p>
<p><b>Main Partners:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ABSEC</li><li>• NCOSS</li><li>• Jarjum Centre Preschool</li></ul>	
<p><b>Some of our Other Services:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Out of home care case management support for Aboriginal children, young people.</li><li>• Aboriginal families as teachers, supported playgroups and in home delivery for families</li><li>• Tabulam District targeted early intervention including yarning circles – community led initiative</li><li>• Car restraint training (accredited providers)</li><li>• TunedIn youth mentoring services</li><li>• CluedIn youth tutoring service</li><li>• Planning for Disaster project – Healthy North Coast. Development of a planning tool to support families to plan for disasters</li></ul>	
<p><b>Good News Story:</b></p> <p>With this funding we have secured a lease of the former Jarjum Centre cottage at the base of Cynthia Wilson Drive (near SCU). This lease will allow NJ to hold a space for family time supervisions, youth mentoring groups, young parent yarns and cultural activities. Repairs to the foundations of the building are now complete and a water management strategy is being implemented. We hope the internal and external painting will commence in the coming 2 weeks or so and hope to occupy soon after that.</p> 	

## Nimbin Neighbourhood and Information Centre (NNIC)

Nimbin LGA	
<p><b>Flood Recovery Services:</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nimbin Recovery Support Service (RSS) – case management, assessment, personalised recovery plans, assistance with grant applications, advocacy, referral, emotional and practical support.</li> <li>• Emergency relief, material aid and CONC Food Recovery project.</li> <li>• General welfare and support services.</li> <li>• Community events aimed at supporting social connectedness.</li> <li>• Public access to technologies – PCs, printers, phones, fax, etc.</li> <li>• Community Hub – access to rooms, equipment, resources.</li> <li>• Community Tools and equipment library.</li> <li>• Nimbin’s Sustainable Living Hub - 7 Sibley Street</li> </ul> <p><b>Contact details:</b>  <a href="https://nnic.org.au/pub/">https://nnic.org.au/pub/</a>            71 Cullen Street, Nimbin NSW 2480            (02) 6689 1692/891 453  <a href="mailto:admin@nnic.org.au">admin@nnic.org.au</a></p>
<p><b>Main Partners:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Channon Hub</li> <li>• Nimbin Country Women’s Association</li> <li>• Resilient Lismore</li> <li>• CONC</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Other Services:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DHS/Centrelink Agency</li> <li>• Nimbin Community Drug Action Team (CDAT)</li> <li>• Take Home Naloxone Program registered provider</li> <li>• Nimbin Soup Kitchen</li> <li>• Nimbin Integrated Services program (clinical AOD/MH program - dual diagnoses clients, case management, clinical and therapeutic treatment plans).</li> <li>• Brighter Futures\ Auspicing Nimbin Disaster Resilience Project</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Good News Story:</b></p> <p>After the floods our Centre became very dirty with so many mud-covered people utilising our services. This was not good for morale for our staff and volunteers or for the people who access the Centre. We used some of the NGO NSP funds allocated to small equipment to purchase George our new multi-purpose carpet cleaning machine. George has been working his way around the Centre sprucing things up. The NNIC team members just love George!</p>	
	

## North Coast Community College

Northern NSW	
<p><b>Flood Recovery Services:</b></p> 	<p>Accredited Barista training for students in years 10 &amp; 11 (aged 15-18 years) and North Coast Junior Barista Competition – for schools and students impacted by floods.</p> <p><b>Contact details:</b>  <a href="https://northcoastcc.edu.au/">https://northcoastcc.edu.au/</a>            494 Bruxner Hwy, Alstonville NSW 2477            (02) 6628 5426</p>
<p><b>Main Partners:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Byron Youth Service, participating High Schools in the area</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Other Services:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Phoenix Experience – Personal development workshops for students not involved in Barista training.</li> <li>Registered Training Organisation (RTO) delivering courses for our community and general public</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Good News Story:</b></p> <p>Each Barista course has diverse group of students who have had their lives impacted by flooding and were experiencing some trepidation about the future. Trainers and staff have observed a common thread in delivery training, with many students beginning the day with low confidence and some anxiety, like they were facing an exam. We have been able to turn this around with supportive trainers and hands on training, delivered in a fun and inclusive way. After each course, students have left with a newfound confidence and more positive outlook. This information is captured with pre and post course surveys around confidence and anxiety with a noticeable general improvement in anxiety.</p> <p>One particular group had two students that were so shy they could barely make eye contact at the beginning of the day. Throughout the day their communication and confidence improved. As they completed training and made coffees, NCCC staff sampled coffees and provided feedback and encouragement. After receiving feedback, they asked the trainer if they could make coffees and get feedback from a group of strangers doing a separate training course in our nearby conference room. What a great surprise! One student also intended to ask the local café for a job! Such a dramatic turnaround and wonderful outcome which aligns perfectly with the intent of the project.</p>  <p>We look forward to continuing the training throughout the next two school terms culminating in the North Coast Junior Barista Championship. An outcome from the previous DCJ forum is a collaboration with Byron Youth Service. Partnership with BYS is to utilise their Youth</p> <p>Activities Centre space, shared expertise and networks to promote &amp; deliver the Barista Competition. <b>The North Coast Junior Barista Competition is scheduled for 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2023.</b></p> <p><i>Barista training with Kadina High School students at our Alstonville campus. Credit North Coast Community College (NCCC).</i></p>	

## North Coast Community Housing

Northern NSW	
<p><b>Flood Recovery Services:</b></p>  <p><b>HOUSING our local communities since 1984</b></p> <p><i>Providing homes, Improving lives, Strengthening communities</i></p>	<p>Tenancy and case management for vulnerable community members.</p> <p>Managing tenancy agreements and case work in Community Villages located in Wollongbar, Pottsville, Kingscliff, East Lismore, Ballina, Mullumbimby and Evans Head.</p> <p><b>Contact details:</b>  <a href="https://www.ncch.org.au/">https://www.ncch.org.au/</a>            info@ncchc.org.au            (02) 6627 5300</p>
<p><b>Main Partners:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social Futures, Momentum, CPL and Aruma</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Other Services:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• North Coast Community Housing is a Tier 1 Community Housing Provider with over 950 social, affordable and SDA dwellings located between Yamba, the Tweed border, and out to Kyogle.</li> <li>• Our portfolio includes dwellings with supports provided by a range of local support providers</li> <li>• NCCH provides fully supported accommodation for around 60 people under the Together Home project – a two-year program for long-term homeless based on the Housing First model.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Good News Story:</b></p> <p>North Coast Community Housing is currently housing over 600 flood displaced people in over 400 pods or caravans in 7 locally based Community Villages. Our focus is on building community villages rather than collections of ‘flood pods’. Housing so many displaced survivors has its challenges, but we have many examples of our residents’ strength, resilience and success. Daniela was one of the first residents in our Wollongbar Community Village. Pre-flood Daniela owned a caravan on a permanent site and was awoken at 5am on 28 February to flood waters lapping at her front door. The previous two days the caravan park had been landlocked by water, which is not unusual in flood, however, to have water rushing into the park has never happened before. Daniela and her neighbours moved their cars to higher ground and by the time they returned to their homes they were walking through waist deep water. Daniela only had time to grab a bag of clothes and leave with the help of those nearby, who formed a human chain to help everyone move through the flood current. Daniela was registered for temporary housing with Service NSW and received an offer for a pod. NCCH was then arranged a viewing for the following Monday and she moved in. <i>“It was the nicest, smoothest and most gentle experience I’ve ever had in my life”</i>, Daniela says about her experience with being housed in the Mindaroo Pod at Wollongbar. <i>“I cannot believe the generosity in this place. I’ve got everything I need and it’s even brand new. Fixing my home is overwhelming and the energy is just not there right now. I can’t believe I’ve got a home for now and I don’t have to worry about finding a place to live. I’ve got peace of mind.”</i></p> <p>Some of the local Wollongbar residents have also met Daniela, who could not stop talking about how happy she is to be housed at the Village. Those locals returned the next day with a housewarming gift of flowers and a card.</p>	



## North Coast Radio

Northern NSW	
<b>Flood Recovery Services:</b> 	92.9 River FM is Lismore's longest running community radio station and independent media. Back up transmitter and studio generator systems to ensure radio station and communication can continue in the result of another natural disaster.  <b>Contact details:</b> <a href="https://2ncr.org.au">https://2ncr.org.au</a> 4 Foleys Road, South Lismore (02) 66227 939 <a href="mailto:manager@2ncr.org.au">manager@2ncr.org.au</a>
<b>Other Services:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Podcasts</li><li>• Our Story's</li><li>• Music</li></ul>	
<b>Good News Story:</b> <p>Following the Flood disaster, River FM identified the need for installation of independent electricity generation at both its broadcast and transmission sites, both of which were impacted due to our reliance on the grid electricity system. As a vital emergency communication service, we were able to maintain provision of service throughout the night of the 28th February 2022, up until the immersion of the electricity supply.</p> <p>Until that supply was reconnected we were able to provide independent generation to ensure a limited service up to the point where electricity supply was re-established to the building on May 19<sup>th</sup> 2022. This was vital as it allowed us to provide important, but limited service to our listenership during the subsequent flood. Planning for automated independent electricity supply at our transmission site was identified, as has our ability to implement computer-supported connectivity to the internet, independent of the NBN. This grant will ensure that process is manifested.</p> <p>The upgrades that this grant support will allow us increased security of community service whereby we can confidently increase provision of our services ensuring that our listenership will be able to receive the latest critical information throughout unfolding emergency situations, such as flooding and fires, both of which have been identified as potentially occurring on a more frequent basis due the challenges of the internationally recognised climate crisis that is being faced.</p>	

## North Coast Community Gateway

Northern NSW	
<p><b>Flood Recovery Services:</b></p> 	<p>Emergency relief. Trauma counselling, distribution of donations, vouchers and support for community members impacted by the floods. Resilience Support worker.</p> <p><b>Contact details:</b> <a href="http://www.nrcg.org.au">www.nrcg.org.au</a> (02) 6621 7397 76 Carrington Street, Lismore 10 Centenary drive, Goonellabah 5/48 Tamar Street, Ballina 2/70 Prince Street, Grafton</p>
<p><b>Main Partners:</b> Murwillumbah Community Centre, Specialist Homelessness Services (SHS) Aboriginal Alliance &amp; NCOSS -NSW Council of Social Service</p>	
<p><b>Other Services:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Community Hub Intake, information, and referral</li><li>• Trauma Counselling Children, Young People and Adults.</li><li>• Trauma Counselling Adult Survivors of Sexual Assault</li><li>• Parenting Under Pressure</li><li>• Connecting families case management</li><li>• Rainbow Region Kids, Supported playgroups</li><li>• Helping Hands SHS Case Management for Aboriginal people</li><li>• No Interest Loans</li><li>• NSW Financial Inclusion Coordination program</li><li>• Financial Capability workshops &amp; Financial counselling (from 1 July 2023)</li><li>• Choices Program (Sexual &amp; Reproductive Health)</li><li>• Spontaneous volunteer program</li><li>• Volunteer resource centre</li><li>• Community Visitors scheme</li><li>• New Generations Program</li></ul>	
<p><b>Good news story:</b> A single mother of two children experienced severe damage to her home as a result of the floods. She had no insurance and was experiencing financial hardship. The women was not receiving any child support and used her savings to rebuild her family home.</p> <p>We provided financial assistance for essential home repairs, referral to RRK vacation care to create time and space to repair. We completed referral to trauma counselling, also EAPA vouchers as bills had skyrocketed due to repairs. We also assisted the family through the food pantry, emergency clothing, vouchers for fans to help with drying out the home and Bunnings vouchers for essential repairs to bathroom.</p> <p>As a result this woman and her children were able to move back into their home safely. We are still supporting the family with counselling, food pantry and she now has insurance which was supported by legal aid.</p>	

## Northern Rivers Community Legal Centre

Northern NSW	
<p><b>Flood Recovery Services:</b></p> 	<p>An independent community organisation that provides free legal services including information, referral, strategic casework and advice, community education and community development, advocacy, and law reform.</p> <p>The Centre is supporting community members impacted by floods by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attending temporary and emergency accommodation sites, to provide a range of flood related advice, information and assistance.</li> <li>• Outreach to flood affected communities to provide advice, assistance, and information with regards to flood grants, insurance, and in specialised circumstances elevating matters for appeal to AFCA.</li> <li>• Holding blitz grants, insurance, and legal advice days often in conjunction with other organisations, to provide flood related advice, information and assistance to the community.</li> <li>• Identifying systemic issues resulting from natural disasters and advocating to help make a difference for any future natural disasters.</li> <li>• Planning and preparation for streamlining future disaster legal responses.</li> <li>• Collating logistical data and information to develop new policies and procedures to manage disaster events in a legal forum.</li> </ul> <p><b>Contact details:</b>  <a href="https://northernriversclc.org.au/">https://northernriversclc.org.au/</a>  <a href="mailto:nrclc@northernriversclc.org.au">nrclc@northernriversclc.org.au</a></p> <p><b>Legal Service</b>  <b>(02) 6621 1000 or 1800 689 889</b></p> <p><b>Tenants Advice &amp; Advocacy Service</b>  <b>(02) 6621 1022 or 1800 649 135</b></p> <p><b>Northern Rivers Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Service</b>  <b>(02) 6621 1044 or 1300 720 606</b></p>
<p><b>Main partners:</b> Service NSW, Uniting Care, Social Futures</p>	
<p><b>Other Services:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tenants Advice &amp; Advocacy Service</li> <li>• Northern Rivers Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Service</li> <li>• Disaster Recovery Service</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Good News Story:</b></p> <p>Application for disaster relief grant by multiple occupants residing on one property, who were previously refused for a grant, as they did not fit the criteria. They presented to our service, seeking to appeal an earlier decision, our service collaborated with all parties, including Service NSW and other stakeholders to achieve a positive outcome.</p> <p>Our clients received the grant, and as a result were able to fix and repair the access road to the property, and improve the dwellings to a habitable living standard after being flood impacted.</p>	

## Northern Rivers Women's and Children's Services - WORTH

Northern NSW	
<b>Flood Recovery Services:</b> 	Therapeutic outreach support for women and children who experience domestic and family violence  <b>Contact details:</b> <a href="mailto:worth@norwacs.org.au">worth@norwacs.org.au</a> (02) 6628 8940 60 Uralba Street, Lismore.
<b>Main Partners:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• North Coast Community Housing</li><li>• Baptist Care</li><li>• Healing Hub</li></ul>	
<b>Other Services:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lismore Women's Health &amp; Resource Centre</li></ul>	
<b>Good News Story:</b> <p>Since late December 2022 the WORTH team has provided an outreach health service to the women and families living in temporary accommodation sites in Lismore and its surrounding areas.</p> <p>One of the families that has accessed its service is Jane (pseudonym). Jane and her young family moved to the temporary housing site in December after their rental property was destroyed in the February floods.</p> <p>Jane has a new baby and initially accessed our service for support and education surrounding parenting with the women's health nurse and midwife. Our team was able to conduct a health check on her and the baby, provide education and normalisation of newborn behaviours and extend referrals for ongoing help and support such as Tresillian day stay unit and supported playgroups.</p> <p>Jane has had regular follow up with the nurse/midwife and as a therapeutic relationship developed, she was also able to access the services of our counsellors to begin to discuss the trauma her and her family experienced around the flood event.</p> <p>The input of the WORTH team has helped Jane to engage and enjoy her parenting experience in a difficult situation and has facilitated more supportive relationships within the wider community.</p>	

## One Vision Productions

Byron LGA and surrounding communities	
<p><b>Flood Recovery Services:</b></p>  <p><b>onevision</b> P R O D U C T I O N S</p>	<p>Mental health support and community engagement initiatives for young people through MPower Mind Mastery creative arts, music, dance, film one day workshop. One on One Mentoring for young people at risk. Music for Change– five day school multimedia program conducted for students at risk of disengaging from education.</p> <p><b>Contact details:</b>  <a href="https://www.onevisionproductions.com.au/">https://www.onevisionproductions.com.au/</a>            1/19-21 Centennial Circuit, Byron Bay NSW 2481            (02) 6685 5024</p>
<p><b>Main partners:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SAE Institute (School of Audio Engineering), Byron Bay</li> <li>• Aboriginal Land Council, Casino</li> <li>• Koori Mail, Lismore</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Other Services:</b></p> <p>One Vision provides mental health support and community engagement initiatives for young people, through the creative arts, music, dance, film production, and culture activities. Music for Change is a five day school multimedia program conducted for students at risk of disengaging from education. MPower is a one day workshop addressing mental health concerns through music and dance and small workshop sessions.</p> <p>One to One Mentoring- to empower and facilitate the individual to develop music production skills with the direct support of music industry professionals, and to create and release their first recording. The initial phase of the mentoring program involves songwriting and music production education, followed by the creation and recording of a track from scratch to release. One-on-one mentoring is also provided for indigenous young people at risk.</p>	
<p><b>Good News Story:</b></p> <p>Mentoring - Coedie McCarthy, a renowned local producer and creator of the band, Indigenoise, is mentoring Cooper Fleming, a very talented 17 year old creative from Ballina. One Vision is also supporting a 15 year old male in the juvenile justice system, developing his MC skills, and helping to direct his emotional expression into music, thus, supporting his mental health through a new creative purpose and pursuit. Two female students are enrolled to learn song writing and composition, and perform with local artist, Nidala Barker.</p> <p>Workshops under this program will be run at Kyogle Public School, Wollumbin &amp; Murwillumbah High School, Lismore Public School, Mullumbimby High School Special Needs Facility, Ballina Coast High School, and the Casino community. Many of these areas are still facing major infrastructure and displacement issues, as a result of the 2022 flood disaster.</p>	

**Plan C – (formerly Resilient Byron)**

Ballina, Byron, Tweed, Kyogle, Lismore and Richmond Valley LGAs

**Flood Recovery Services:**



**PLAN C**  
OUR PLAN IS THE COMMUNITY

- Training Community Carers and Responders (CCR).
- The Community Resilience Mentoring (CRM) project.
- Connecting and recovering together - a trauma-informed approach to flood recovery and disaster resilience.

**Contact details:**

<https://www.planc.org.au/>  
[hello@planc.org.au](mailto:hello@planc.org.au)

**Main Partners:**

- Community hubs
- Resilient Lismore, Bundjalung Tribal Society
- Councils and Emergency Services

**Other Services:**

- Improving food security in the Northern Rivers. The project is a scoping study which aims to create a shared vision and pathways towards food security and resilience.

**Good News Story:**

The first Northern Rivers Community Carers and Responders (CCR) have graduated. The CCR network supports greater crisis prevention, preparedness, response and recovery at the community level. It does so by setting up a network of 300+ volunteer CCRs across six LGAs, who form a trained and connected network of leaders dedicated to community cohesion and resilience.

Participants undertook 3 days of free training, which included self-care, disaster resilience, community building, emergency communications as well as food, water, energy security, and first aid training. Upon graduation, participants received a CCR cap, t-shirt and first-aid kit, and are now mentored to lead a project that builds the resilience of their own community. CCRs will also complete psychological first aid training. CCRs are regularly invited to additional workshops, community events, and field visits to deepen their knowledge and connections with community.



Picture taken by Olivia Katz, of the CCR participants who graduated the Main Arm training.

Northern Rivers residents are invited to apply to join the next rounds, scheduled in March-April in Lismore, Ballina and Uki. More training opportunities in additional locations will follow. Anyone can apply via this link: <https://www.ccrnetwork.org/>.

## Pottsville Beach Neighbourhood Centre

Northern NSW	
<b>Flood Recovery Services:</b> 	Recovery Support Service Child, Youth and Family Support Service (CFSS) Assisted Referral and Material Aid (ARMA) Agent and Access Point (Centrelink Agency)  <b>Contact details:</b> <a href="https://www.pbnc.org.au/">https://www.pbnc.org.au/</a> 12A Elizabeth St, Pottsville NSW 2489 (02) 6676 4555 Brighter Futures <a href="tel:0266824334">(02) 6682 4334</a> Recovery Support Service 0476 677 422
<b>Main Partners:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Consortium of Neighbourhood Centres (Northern NSW)</li><li>• Recovery Support Service Providers</li><li>• Tweed Shire Council / Tweed Shire Service Network</li></ul>	
<b>Other Services:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Op Shop and 2nd Hand Furniture Store</li><li>• Technology Centre</li><li>• Brighter Futures</li></ul>	
<b>Good News Story:</b> <p>The DCJ Flood Support Grant has enabled Pottsville Beach Neighbourhood Centre (PBNC) to enhance its existing service through the engagement of a dedicated Community Capacity Worker. This CCW supports people impacted by the 2022 flood disaster, by direct provision of material aid, case coordination and assisted referral to specialist services. This type of enhanced support for client optimal outcomes are demonstrated through the following good news story:</p> <p>A client came into PBNC's Services Australia Agency seeking assistance as she had lost employment due to the floods and was worried about not being able to maintain her mortgage payments. The Agent was able to help her apply for financial assistance via Flood Disaster Relief payment. The Agent then referred her to the CCW who completed a referral into PBNC's Recovery Support Service for case management for herself and her daughter, Financial Counselling and ongoing support via PBNC's Child, Youth and Family Support Service. At the same time the CCW was able to supply a range of material aid products, including food and fuel cards, frozen and other food items, toiletries, and clothing. PBNC were also able to provide Christmas presents and a food hamper (via external donors).</p> <p>The client was so moved by the support given, that she wrote a letter to PBNC. Some of her sentiments are articulated in the following excerpt:</p> <p><i>"Thank you seem such small words, but they are the biggest that I can find. Our little family has felt the impacts and I have struggled to continually face it all. Christmas was to be very quiet and stressful as I had no means to prepare for it – no food and no presents. Your generosity changed all that. Thank you for keeping it real and providing love to all who walk through your doors. The support and care factor that everyone at PBNC has shared with us has incredibly changed what could have been for my family, and massively for me."</i></p> <p>The CCW also coordinates direct brokerage for clients to obtain essential items where gift cards cannot be used, or in the case where other donor requests are not met.</p>	

## Queer Family

Northern Rivers

### Flood Recovery Services:



Queer Family is a community-based peer-led organisation. We reduce social isolation and improve mental wellbeing through the creation of safe spaces for LGBTQIA+ people and allies to connect, build, and strengthen community.

Our mission is for people of diverse sexualities and genders to have equitable access to resources and opportunities to meet their health and wellbeing needs so they can live full and purposeful lives.

### Contact details:

queerfamilynorthernrivers@gmail.com

[www.queerfamilynorthernrivers.weebly.com](http://www.queerfamilynorthernrivers.weebly.com)

[www.facebook.com/QueerFamilyNorthernRivers](https://www.facebook.com/QueerFamilyNorthernRivers)

<https://www.instagram.com/queerfamilyinc/>

### Main Partners:

- Queer Community, ACON, Tropical Fruits, Queer affirming Community of Practice Therapists

### Other Services:

- Creative Programs, Workshops & Performance events (art, comedy, writing) and Training
- LGBTQIA+ community special day celebrations (Wear it Purple, IDAHOBIT etc.)
- Queer Information & Referral Project (referrals to support & brokering services)
- Manage the Community of Practice of Queer-affirming therapists (peer supervision, training, support, referrals & brokerage)
- Year of Queer (Advocacy & Social Media connection & representation)
- Rainbow Remedies (Trauma Sensitive Yoga & Walking with Horses camp)
- Flood Recovery support for individuals & community (healing events, grant / service support, purchase of items and brokerage for those in flood recovery)
- Partnership with other LGBTQIA+ organisations, individuals, and groups
- Young Queerios (LGBTQIA+ youth)

### Good News Story:

In 2022, Queer Family created *Rainbow Remedies* to provide flood-affected LGBTQIA+ people and allies access to free, soft-entry, group therapeutic activities. We chose evidence-based activities to heal trauma, and we know that participating in activities in community is also healing. Participants were given ongoing support and we funded individual sessions to those who could otherwise not afford counselling. In October we held 6 sessions of Trauma Sensitive Yoga with Integrative Somatic Therapist Alma Brock (she/they). We had 45 people participate and an average of 7 per



session. In November we held *Walking with Horses*, a 2.5 day camp on a property near Kyogle. The camp was drug and alcohol free, all food provided, equine therapy, art, music/singing, bush walks, swimming, communal cooking, fireside chats, camping, community, child friendly. The camp was very successful and well received, with 30 people involved, including several children and family pets.

Photo credit – Queer Family

## Rekindling the Spirit

Lismore, Northern NSW

### Flood Recovery Services:



Health Service; Care Coordination & Support, Counselling & Case Management; Community Events; Men's Group; Women's Group; Mum & Bubs; Youth Programs; Targeted Early Intervention; and Social & Emotional Wellbeing support.  
Support for community members impacted by the floods.

### Contact details:

<https://www.rekindlingthespirit.org.au/>

<https://www.jullums.com>

25 Uralba St, Lismore NSW 2480

(02) 6622 5534 Wellbeing Service

(02) 6621 4366 Health Service

(02) 6622 1117 Integrated Care

### Main Partners:

- Healthy North Coast, National Indigenous Australians Agency, Department of Communities and Justice

### Other Services:

- Northern Rivers Community Healing Hub
- Social Futures
- Solid Mob
- Local Health District
- Bullinah
- Bulgar Ngaru
- Namatjira Haven
- UCRH
- Headspace
- Paul Ramsay Foundation
- Siddle Foundation
- Northern Rivers Community Foundation
- Koori Mail
- Jali land Council

### Good News Story:

The flood grants were able to supply the Health Service with an additional doctor to provide the ongoing medical care and services to our community.

We have supported clients with accessing flood grants and supports needed post the floods. Providing frozen meals to clients, transport to appointments and shopping.

## Resilient Lismore

Lismore LGA	
<p><b>Flood Recovery Services:</b></p> 	<p>Hub offers support, connection, household and personal items, intake and referral, 2 room project. Volunteer coordination, cleaning products and equipment, grant help, wellbeing intake and referral</p> <p><b>Contact details:</b>  <a href="http://www.floodhelpnr.com.au">www.floodhelpnr.com.au</a>  <a href="mailto:hello@resilientlismore.org.au">hello@resilientlismore.org.au</a>                      Resilient Lismore Hub                      0455 218 692                      117 Magellan St, Lismore NSW 2480</p>
<p><b>Main Partners:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Social Futures, Uniting, Women Up North</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Other Services:</b></p> <p><b>Good News Story:</b>  <b>HOUSE-PROUD SOUTHIES find a path out of homelessness</b>                      Darrell and Sonja, who live with their two teenage children, are house-proud Southies, deeply embedded in their local community for nearly 30 years. Like so many of their neighbours who thought a flood could never reach their floor, they live in a state of paralysing limbo and displacement. Since their dramatic rooftop rescue, which included three large dogs, the seven of them shared a small house with family before moving to a unit above a hotel. When they were told that the power would be cut off by the owner (through no fault of their own), they reached out to Resilient Lismore for home. The Two Rooms team swung into action. Sonja spoke to us about her experience: <i>"...None of us thought we could ever be homeless. I am incredibly houseproud and it's so hard to see the house derelict. But now that there are two rooms it feels like we can get the ball rolling again. Darrell works on the house after work and it's now lockable."</i> <i>"... But it's been really just heartwarming and humbling to have a group of people come in and roll up their sleeves and help you. I think we're all just exhausted. And I can't imagine how exhausted the Two Rooms team is. They were so lovely. They were just a really, really nice and generous bunch of people."</i>                      Sonja and Darrell's family is one of more than 60 households who have been able to return home thanks to Resilient Lismore's Two Rooms project. With the aim of getting as many people as possible back living in safe and secure housing, Resilient Lismore sends out teams of volunteers with donated materials to build walls in two rooms. The project is only possible through financial donations and volunteers.                      A very different Christmas: Before and after the Flood.</p>	
	
<p><i>Photo Credit - Resilient Lismore</i></p>	

## SEWA

Northern NSW	
<p><b>Flood Recovery Services:</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 15 volunteers travelled from Sydney and spent 1.5 days assisting in cleaning, fixing houses.</li> <li>• Provided kitchen utensils and other items, cleaning essentials, footwear, tools and vouchers.</li> <li>• Linking medical volunteers with relevant organisations to support community members.</li> <li>• Providing support to organisations working on the ground in Northern NSW.</li> </ul> <p><b>Contact details:</b>  <a href="mailto:president@sewaaustralia.org">president@sewaaustralia.org</a>  <a href="https://www.sewaaustralia.org/">https://www.sewaaustralia.org/</a></p>
<p><b>Main Partners:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resilient Lismore, Woodburn Hub, Rebuilding Northern Rivers</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Future Services:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We have offered consultation services from our Licensed Counsellors.</li> <li>• We are planning on a trip to Northern Rivers region with licensed tradies who can finish some of the tradie jobs for the needy</li> <li>• We are planning on further trips with volunteers to help the community rebuild.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Good News Story:</b></p> <p>During the weekend of 04-05 Feb 2023, 15 volunteers visited 6 families in East and North Lismore. The volunteers assisted the families in clearing and cleaning up their houses, garage, lawn, spraying anti-mould liquid and pressure washing. The families spoke positively about the impact of this assistance and wished the volunteers to return again.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>15 Volunteers spent 48+ hrs travelling and performing tasks</i></li> <li>• <i>6 Lismore families were served</i></li> <li>• <i>Goods delivered approx \$7500 (goods + voucher)</i></li> </ul>	   

## Shedding Community Workshops

Byron LGA, Mullumbimby

### Flood Recovery Services:



Shedding Community Workshop Inc. offers an all-inclusive space for our community to come together in a safe environment and discover a passion for tools, hands-on learning and discovery. We are a grass roots not for profit organisation. We use reclaimed and recycled materials to provide an inventive education in sustainability, and we use tools as an avenue towards empowerment, resilience and self-confidence. We offer tool-training workshops, collective volunteer events including salvage and repair, workshop maintenance, pot luck dinners, event sculpture builds. Our workshop is trauma-informed, welcoming all people to a space of wellbeing and community connection.

### Contact details:

18 Prince St, Mullumbimby, NSW, 2482  
[hello@shedding.com.au](mailto:hello@shedding.com.au)  
 0490 501 745

**Main Partners:** Byron Shire Council, Patt Gregory

### Other Services:

- Skills training with hand-tools & power-tools (carpentry & building)
- Education in sustainable environmentally-friendly building practices
- Training in Safety & Construction Communication & Practices
- Training in NVC & MHFA & FA & Authentic Relating
- Mental health support & guidance
- Salvaging, reclaiming & re-using waste materials
- Repair services (carpentry, building, electrical, sewing, mechanical & electronic)
- Facilitator training (teaching & leadership)
- Private consultation & Project Planning Advice
- On-Site Services (voluntary building support)
- Community sculpture building

### Good News Story:

To have a functioning workshop again. To have a safe space for our community to learn hands-on tools and meet each other is such a gift, not only to our small town of Mullumbimby, but to the entire region. Following the floods we see that more people are reaching out for support on the tools of course, but more than that... They are seeking friendship, community, belonging, and a place to come together to be part of something that is bigger than ourselves. This grant funding



has allowed us to put structures and practices in place to support the longevity of our community workshop in offering ongoing and consistent support, including development of an online educational platform. This has allowed us to take time in collaboration with other community groups and offer collective support across the region, participating in community events and promoting our services - it's great advertising and also allows us to meet people one on one and enquire about their personal needs and the needs of their area (in a way that is personal, trauma-informed and undertaken with delicacy, compassion and confidentiality). It has enabled us to re-establish our pre-existing hands-on tool-training workshops and volunteer-run salvage and repair services, but with an increased capacity to support more people more often!

## Social Futures

Northern NSW

### Flood Recovery Services:



**Positive Social Change**

The Early Years Flood Grant Program delivers targeted, trauma informed support for early childhood educators, children (0-5) and their families impacted by flooding in the Northern Rivers. The program delivers therapeutic interventions including play-based therapy to build capacity of children and their families to understand trauma and its impact on their children's behaviour. The program will focus on:

Increasing the capacity of families and educators to support children's trauma induced by the floods and reducing the likelihood of PTSD in children.

### Contact details:

1800 719 625

Program Manager: [melissa.gordon@socialfutures.org.au](mailto:melissa.gordon@socialfutures.org.au)  
<https://socialfutures.org.au/>

### Main Partners:

- Family Connect and Support (Social Futures)
- Recovery Connect (Social Futures Flood Recovery)
- Children's Health QLD- provided program with resources, to use Birdies Tree book as a therapeutic tool in a child's experience of a disaster.

### Other Services:

- Disability Inclusion
- Families and Children
- Homelessness and Housing
- Mental Health and Wellbeing
- Youth and Community

### Good News Story: Strong Minds in the Early Years

There has been a positive response from the early year's sector in 'The strong minds in the early years program'. We have made connections with various education and care services across the Northern Rivers, with over one hundred educators participating our flood recovery survey.

The Play Therapy support service has had a positive impact in several preschools. Comments from children include 'I can't wait to see Jack' and 'What happened to 'Birdie' happened to me' following the reading of 'Birdies Tree' and activities. Parents have said children are able to talk about their experiences more freely and have used some of the strategies gained from sessions at home.

During the 'Emotional Wellbeing Toolbox' Session educators responded positively to the use of creative therapies. They were provided with an opportunity to process some of their traumatic experiences and create a toolbox of strategies and resources to use personally and in their work with children.



## St Vincent De Paul Society

Northern NSW	
<b>Flood Recovery Services:</b>  	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing fuel and food vouchers, starter packs, personal items and face to face appointments.</li> <li>• Outreach assessment to connect people with services.</li> <li>• Providing Christmas hampers.</li> </ul> <p><b>Contact details:</b>  <a href="http://www.vinnies.org.au/">http://www.vinnies.org.au/</a>            (02) 6621 5835  <a href="mailto:lismore.reception@vinnies.org.au">lismore.reception@vinnies.org.au</a></p>
<b>Main Partners:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• North Coast Community Housing, Lions Club – Lismore, DCJ – Grants Funding stream for localised supports to community.</li> </ul>	
<b>Other Services:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Op Shops</li> </ul>	
	<p><b>Good News Story:</b></p> <p><b>PODS Project.</b>            Temporary Accommodation for flood impacted people has been set up at Wollongbar and Evans Head with 129 units in total. SVdP approached the managers of the sites (North Coast Community Housing) and asked how we could assist, particularly coming up to Christmas.</p> <p>We noted that many units had children residing in them and wanted to bring some fun to their Christmas (particularly in their altered living circumstances).SVdP were able to provide food and fuel vouchers to 79 of the units but also vouchers to Ballina Waterslide, Bowling/Putt Putt, Byron Wildlife Sanctuary, Summerland Farm Vouchers and Movie Tickets.</p> <p>Our staff spoke with each of the Units residents asking what they would like and sent them through a collection of goodies just in time for Christmas.</p> <p>It is interesting to note that many of the people we supported within the Pods had not previously engaged with St Vincent de Paul. Evans Head 93% and Wollongbar 76%</p> <p>A fabulous outcome for these individuals and families ably supported by the funds were received from the DCJ grant.</p>

## The Family Centre

Northern NSW	
<p><b>Flood Recovery Services:</b></p> 	<p>Child and Family Service, Youth and Family Services, Youth and Family Mental Health services, Relationship Education Services, Youth Homelessness Services, Disability Services.</p> <p><b>Contact details:</b>  Tweed Heads South Office:  Unit 1/14 Amber Rd, Tweed Heads South, NSW 2486  (07) 5524 8711</p>
<p><b>Main Partners:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recovery Support Services, Murwillumbah Hub, It Takes a Town</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Other Services:</b>  <a href="https://thefamilycentre.org.au/">https://thefamilycentre.org.au/</a></p>	
<p><b>Good News Story:</b></p> <p>Administration and coordination support: 25% of the grant allocated to support 'It Takes a Town' and the 'Murwillumbah Hub' to undertake assessments and approve distribution of funds, raised in our Flood Appeal, for flood affected people in Tweed Shire</p> <p>Over 300 flood affected households requested support via It Takes a Town, the Murwillumbah Hub and The Family Centre. Over \$305,000 has been distributed to these households to help with repairs, cost of living, furniture, whitegoods and much more. The Funds have also been distributed to support children and young people to access equipment and supplies to get back to school and 'special items' they lost in the floods.</p> <p>A young boy Zach aged 10 who is home schooled, and his family lost everything in floods put in a request to his families support worker Sharna. <i>'Dearest Sharna, a laptop with mouse and case because mine is gone in the flood and I like to learn on them. A fortnight nerf gun. Lego because it got flooded away too. Thank you Sharna From Zach'</i></p> <p>Youth Homelessness support: 75% of the grant has funded an extra Youth Homelessness Worker to assist young people to secure safe and affordable housing in the flood impacted Tweed, Byron and Ballina Shires.</p> <p>Megan is a mother of 2 and contacted The Family Centre after a relationship breakdown where she needed to leave the family home. Megan was working 2 part-time jobs and was finding it hard to secure a rental property for her family due to the lack of affordable housing. Megan was supported by our Connecting Home team to apply for the Rent Choice Youth program. As Megan was working, she qualified for the Rent Choice Youth program that supports young people for up to 3 years with a rent subsidy and Youth and Family Worker support. Megan and her children were successful in securing a tenancy in Lismore. Six months after she moved in, her house and contents were destroyed by the February 2022 floods. Megan initially stayed with friends until the Connecting Home team secured her temporary caravan accommodation provided by our partner company Little Beach Shacks. Megan had been living in the caravan for 2 weeks and during this time she secured full-time employment, but the floods impacted Lismore again and the Caravan had to be relocated to South Byron. The family remained in the caravan for a further month before she was able to secure a rental property with the Rent Choice Youth program in Goonellabah. Megan and her children are now settled in their new home and community, with new furniture purchased by The Family Centre Flood Appeal and GIVIT.</p>	

## The Good Pantry

Lismore LGA,	
<b>Flood Recovery Services:</b> 	The Good Pantry. Providing low-cost groceries and food hampers to community.  <b>Contact details:</b> (02) 6622 4055 11 Bridge St, Lismore NSW 2480 <a href="https://winsome.org.au/">https://winsome.org.au/</a>
<b>Main Partners:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lismore Soup Kitchen 'The Winsome'</li><li>• The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Lismore</li><li>• Foodbank</li></ul>	
<b>Other Services:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lismore Soup Kitchen provides hot lunches and deserts daily with sandwiches to take away, from the Winsome Cafe in Bridge Street Lismore.</li><li>• The Winsome provides meals and transitional accommodation to marginalised men.</li><li>• Weekly bulk billed GP clinic at the Winsome, Wednesdays (9.30am to 12.30pm).</li></ul>	
<b>Good News Story:</b> <p>One of the organisations that we have formed a strong working relationship with post-flood is Women Up North. Women Up North work with women experiencing domestic and family violence or abuse. The Good Pantry shares the cost of providing food vouchers for emergency food relief for clients.</p> <p>The Good Pantry is also developing a reputation for being able to move donated items and fresh fruit and vegetables onto our 1300 customers. Just before Christmas (2022) an anonymous donor left several large clear plastic wrapped Christmas hampers, and on our last day of trading for the year, five minutes before closing a woman and her son* came in with a food voucher from Women Up North. We had a hamper left that we didn't know what to do with.</p> <p>When we gave her the hamper as well. She was extremely glad to receive it and her son spotted a container of pancake mix in the hamper. He said, "mum I can make you pancakes for Christmas morning."</p> <p>The generosity of our financial supporters and people who support us with material and food gifts, make it possible for us to make stories like this possible daily. The financial support of DCJ has allowed us to remain open and to build a level of sustainability to allow us to continue to serve the people of the Northern Rivers.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>*Identity of both withheld for privacy reasons.</i></p>	

## The Medical Benevolent Association of NSW

Northern NSW	
<p><b>Flood Recovery Services:</b></p> 	<p>Support for medical practitioners and specialists (and their families) through any crisis, including the recent floods that impacted Northern NSW.</p> <p><b>Contact details:</b>  <a href="https://www.mbansw.org.au/">https://www.mbansw.org.au/</a>            Phone: (02) 9987 0504  <a href="mailto:support@mbansw.org.au">support@mbansw.org.au</a>            Executive Officer:            Louise Fallon <a href="mailto:louise.fallon@mbansw.org.au">louise.fallon@mbansw.org.au</a></p>
<p><b>Main Partners:</b>            NSW Rural Doctors Network and Prof. Stewart Dunn (<i>Professor of Psychological Medicine, based in the Sydney Medical School Northern at Royal North Shore Hospital in Sydney.</i>)</p>	
<p><b>Other Services:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Financial support for medical practitioners (impacted by floods) to support them to remain viable and service the community health needs in regional locations.</li> <li>• Counselling (individual and groups) for medical practitioners experiencing adversity or other loss of income.</li> <li>• Referral and information for doctors and their families to other service providers where appropriate via Social Workers.</li> <li>• Advocacy for doctors and their role in an emergency and forward disaster planning.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Good News Story:</b>            From the DCJ Grant monies, MBANSW has provided financial support (medical supplies and equipment, gifts to support medical families and provide locum relief) and both individual and group debrief sessions. These debrief sessions have involved both private and public doctors who were significantly impacted by the floods. The testimonials below verify the benefit of our work and so are good news stories. We are in the process of documenting the learnings gained and will use as input into future natural disaster planning and advocacy for doctors' practices to be classified as Essential Services in future disasters.</p> <p><u>Testimonials from each of the three debrief session feedback:</u></p> <p><i>"Thank you to the MBANSW for your support in organising the debrief last week. Having had a week to digest Stewart's wisdom and having heard feedback from others there, I am confident you provided the much-needed space to reflect and extend our thinking around the events of the flood. It really highlights a need to ensure that doctors have access to similar spaces in the future. You have provided a life changing experience that I suspect many (including myself) will carry through our careers." - Resident Doctor after Residents Debrief Session.</i></p> <p><i>"Thank you so much for your wonderful support this year as we recovered from the floods. It is meant a lot that it was genuine and sustained care. We appreciated the recent debrief session and feel it has bought the clinic practice team closer together." - Doctors from Keen St Medical Practice, who, will reopen in their repaired premises in March 2023)</i></p> <p><i>"Many thanks for organizing the group flood debriefing session with Professor Stewart Dunn on 10 November. Professors Dunn's exercises and advice were valuable. Pass on my thanks to him. Sharing our stories of destruction and hopelessness, all the while trying to carry on, was impactful"</i>  <i>- Local Specialist whose practice was destroyed.</i></p>	

## The Mend and Make Do Crew

Grafton NSW	
<p><b>Flood Recovery Services:</b></p> 	<p>We support Homelessness, Emergency Relief and Mental Health programs across the Northern Rivers by providing a range of 'kits' for their clients, including clients impacted by natural disasters such as the 2022 Catastrophic Flooding Event in our region. The provision of new home starter kits, which is the combination of all our kits, is a free service for our client agencies.</p> <p>Our 'kit service' exists to support our client agencies. We do not deal directly with individual clients, unless they are collecting an order placed by the client agency.</p> <p>Our Op shop provides low cost household items, small electrical items, arts and craft resources and clothing for community.</p> <p><b>Contact details:</b>  <a href="https://www.mendandmakedocrew.org/nerds@mendandmakedocrew.org">https://www.mendandmakedocrew.org/nerds@mendandmakedocrew.org</a>            (02) 6643 4150            Sheds 1 &amp; 3, 46 Through Street, South Grafton NSW</p>
<p><b>Other Services:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Garden</li> <li>• Art, Craft &amp; Well Being Workshops</li> <li>• Tool Library</li> <li>• She Shed He Shed</li> <li>• Work Development Orders</li> <li>• Volunteering opportunities</li> <li>• Work Experience</li> <li>• Registered Commonwealth Volunteering Organisation (for Centrelink Mutual Obligation Clients)</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Good News Story:</b></p> <p>Mend and make do Crew supply care kits to client agencies. Including home starter kits to First Nation community members from Cabbage Tree Island who are temporarily living at Wardell Pod Village following the devastating floods.</p> <p>Mend and Make Do Crew have provided over 18,271 care kits to individuals and families in need.</p> <p>Some client testimonies from the impact Mend and Make Do Crew have had over the past year.....</p> <p>“The ability to refer individuals and families to a service that could provide basic needs – food, toiletries, bedding, kitchen items etc. I work with many communities across Northern NSW devastated by the 2022 floods and may individuals / families have lost everything. Connecting them with the Crew has not only provided access to basic goods but has lifted spirits and contributed to lowering levels of distress”.</p> <p>“Stepping up in response to the floods and supporting us and our communities to ensure people are safe and as healthy as they can be”.</p> <p>“Helping me personally to re-establish a new residence for my child and I”.</p>	

## The New School of Arts Neighbourhood House Inc.

<b>Grafton LGA</b>	
<b>Flood Recovery Services:</b>  <b>THE NEW SCHOOL OF ARTS NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE INC.</b>	Community Hubs in South Grafton & Baryulgil. Coordinating community engagement and outreach activities to support the many small communities affected by flooding across the Clarence Valley.  Providing brokerage for flood-affected individuals and families. <b>Contact details:</b> <a href="http://www.conc.org.au">www.conc.org.au</a> Cnr Spring & Skinner St South Grafton NSW 2460  (02) 6640 3800
<b>Main Partners:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clarence Valley Council</li><li>• Reconstruction Authority NSW</li><li>• Rural Adversity Mental Health Program</li></ul>	
<b>Other Services:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Emergency Relief</li><li>• Free Community Meals</li><li>• NSOA Early Learning &amp; OOSH Centre</li><li>• Clarence Valley Youth Hubs</li><li>• The Unit</li><li>• Parent Café</li></ul>	
<b>Good News Story:</b> <p>Supporting members of the community, impacted by floods. We have a high success rate in applying for community grants and helping community members successfully apply for individual grants.</p> <p>Moving into the space of community preparedness in Clarence Valley region. We will be delivering a range of workshops and events to start conversations with community members around community preparedness and mental health.</p>	

## Benefolk (Formerly) The Xfactor Collective

Northern Rivers

### Flood Recovery Services:



Training, consulting and advisory for NFPs and charities, as well as Mental Health and Wellbeing resources and training. We provide services through our social enterprise and registered charity, and work with government, philanthropy and corporate partners to help organisations achieve their mission and impact.

### Contact details:

<https://benefolk.org/>  
[1300 BENEFOBK \(1300 236 336\)](tel:1300236336)  
[Ballina NSW](#)

### Main Partners:

- Local Government / Community Engagement teams, Northern Rivers Community Foundation, Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal

### Other Services:

- Free resources including Social Sector Video Library (200+ videos)
- Social Sector Wellbeing & Resilience Online Hub with free resources specifically tailored to non profits, community organisations and charities
- Concierge helpdesk to help organisations find the right consulting, advisory and training service from a network of 100+ pre-vetted professionals, and/or connected to other trusted partners
- Consulting and advisory across many areas of expertise including governance, mental health, wellbeing, fundraising, communications, marketing, finance, people/culture, change management

### Good News Story:

Photo taken from our **'Preventing and Overcoming Workplace PTSD and Vicarious Trauma'** training in Tweed on 17 February 2023, which is one of many fully sponsored trainings as part of the NGO Flood Grant program. There are more than 75 organisations booked in the trainings across the Northern Rivers region, as well as accessing resources in the online hub.

**We are going from organisation leaders telling us: "We are traumatised people looking after traumatised people" to comments such as the following:**

*"Very grateful for today's training. It filled the gaps in my understanding of trauma."*

*"My insight was powerful 'You don't have to resolve the past, to empower the future'. Thank you"*

*"Hero stories are powerful. Changing the identity of your story can change the ongoing impact of trauma. Simple and powerful."*

*"Adam is an incredible presenter – very knowledgeable, funny, interesting, clear. Content was interesting, balance of talking/activities/breaks was perfect. Great pace. Great learning. Very highly recommend."*



## Turbans 4 Australia

NSW	
<p><b>Flood Recovery Services:</b></p> 	<p>Providing food hampers and essential goods to those impacted by the floods across the Northern Rivers.</p> <p><b>Contact details:</b>          Natasha Shearer (local contact)          McGearys Shed, Woodburn 2472  <a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/660042142100091/">https://www.facebook.com/groups/660042142100091/</a>  <a href="http://www.rebuildingnr2022.com">www.rebuildingnr2022.com</a>  <a href="mailto:rebuildingnr2022@gmail.com">rebuildingnr2022@gmail.com</a>          Amar Singh  <a href="https://www.t4a.org.au/">https://www.t4a.org.au/</a>  <a href="mailto:turbans4australia@gmail.com">turbans4australia@gmail.com</a></p>
<p><b>Main partners:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mid-Richmond Neighbourhood Centre</li> <li>• GIVEIT</li> <li>• Hub 2484</li> <li>• Resilient Lismore</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Other Services:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing furniture and household items to people impacted by the floods.</li> </ul>	
	<p><b>Good News Story:</b>          Thelma* and her beautiful son Charlie* who has special needs, lost everything in the Lismore Floods. We first met them at a caravan park in Casino where they were temporarily accommodated and stayed for several months post floods awaiting to know their next move. During this time Charlie really missed he's guitar 🎸. Thelma reached our looking for one, we were so excited we were able to connect him with a guitar which really made his day.</p> <p>In December Thelma and Charlie's prayers were answered when they were placed in an apartment in Tweed Heads which was built to support and accommodate flood affected community members.</p>
<p>During the Christmas drive we were able to connect Charlie with a new keyboard along with a food hamper as well as help furnish their new apartment.</p> <p>The family were so grateful for all we had done for them during the time they were displaced. Seeing them now have some stability makes my heart full. It's because of stories like this why the minions and I continue our journey for the cause.</p> <p>*Names changed to protect their privacy</p>	

## Uniting

Northern NSW

### Flood Recovery Services:



Premiers Youth Initiative (PYI) program supports young people transitioning from out of home care (OOHC) into independent living by supporting the young person to access independent housing, develop living skills, access education and employment and support implementation of the young person's leaving care plan with a focus on supporting the young person's autonomy.

### Contact details:

<https://www.uniting.org/home>

65 Rous Road Goonellabah, NSW 2480

### Main Partners:

- Basketball Australia, Ballina High School, Recovery Support Services

### Other Services:

- Support in POD village at Wardell.

### Good News Story:

As part of the outreach and consultation with youth in the community, the PYI team put out a flyer together with a QR code asking young people 'what they'd like to see in the community?' We weren't sure what the response would be or whether our crew and other young people would respond.

The youth in our community really came to the table, with over 250 young people choosing to get involved and respond. I think this is an excellent 'good news story' – it shows that our young people are interested in what happens in their community and do want to participate. As a result, Uniting have heard 'their' voice and will be hosting a photography competition, a local basketball tournament and a gathering/celebration with local youth at the forefront of these events. We've also held smaller events in the local POD villages where engagement has been just as encouraging – if our team has been reminded of anything, it's that young people do want to get involved, we just need to give them the opportunity.

## Wardell CORE

Wardell and surrounding communities	
<p><b>Flood Recovery Services:</b></p>  <p>The image shows two logos. On the left is the 'Wardell CORE' logo, which features the word 'Wardell' in a cursive font above 'CORE' in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. A blue circle with a white dot is positioned between the 'O' and 'R' of 'CORE', and a blue arc is below it. On the right is the 'COMMUNITY HUB &amp; RECOVERY CENTRE' logo, which consists of a blue rectangle with a red triangle pointing left on its left side. The text 'COMMUNITY HUB &amp; RECOVERY CENTRE' is written in white, bold, sans-serif font inside the blue rectangle.</p>	<p>WardellCORE is a community owned and run space providing supplies, services &amp; support. The hub has a dedicated mental health and wellbeing team and facilitates access and referrals to service providers and case management.</p> <p><b>Contact details:</b> <a href="https://www.wardellcore.community/">https://www.wardellcore.community/</a> <a href="mailto:wardellCORE@gmail.com">wardellCORE@gmail.com</a> The Old Bank 3 Sinclair Street, Wardell 0431 716 457 <a href="http://www.facebook.com/wardellcore">www.facebook.com/wardellcore</a> <a href="http://www.facebook.com/groups/wardellcore">www.facebook.com/groups/wardellcore</a></p>
<p><b>Main Partners:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Healthy North Coast, DCJ, Northern Rivers Community Foundation, Rotary Club Ballina on Richmond, OzHarvest, Orange Sky</li></ul>	
<p><b>Other Services:</b></p> <p>Workshops, information, social activities, community events, volunteering</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Food pantry</li><li>• Tea room</li><li>• Internet access</li><li>• Social services</li><li>• Community showers/ laundry</li><li>• Recovery support services</li><li>• Mental Health Support</li><li>• Resources and information</li></ul> <p><i>MISSION STATEMENT: "To improve people's lives beyond the point of disaster recovery and to support the community to create a shared vision for the future"</i></p>	
<p><b>Good News Story:</b></p> <p>Wardell CORE recently held an amazing anniversary event "Wardell District - One Year On". This healing and buoyant opportunity brought the community together for reflection and to uplift community spirit.</p> <p>This event featured a Welcome to Country, smoking ceremony and lantern parade on the Richmond River, live music and a community feast provided by WardellCORE and the Rotary Club of Ballina on Richmond.</p> <p>It was a powerful and positive event attended by 500+ community members from Wardell and surrounding areas, including Ballina, Broadwater and further afield and was supported by Ballina Shire Council, recovery support services, Red Cross, Lifeline and RFS Wardell.</p>	

## Wesley Mission

Northern NSW	
<b>Flood Recovery Services:</b> 	<p>Focus is on an outcomes approach with young people at the pointy end of homelessness.</p> <p>Social enterprise coffee shop – will soon have a commercial kitchen and be able to offer Hospitality training.</p> <p><b>Contact details:</b> <a href="http://wesleymission.org.au">wesleymission.org.au</a> Suite 5, 79 Tamar Street, Ballina NSW 2478 (02) 5646 5777 1800 021 82</p>
<b>Main Partners:</b>	
<b>Other Services:</b> Farm outside of Ballina for residential and provision of agriculture training and ventures.	
<b>Good News Story:</b> <p>Through The Dove, Ballina (social enterprise training, employment and life-skills café) we have been able to offer permanent employment to a member of the Woodburn community who lost his home and place of employment to the floods. He is a father and husband with a young family who had chef training and related skills able to be utilised in the everyday running of the café. He now provides mentorship to young people who are looking to gain employment skills in hospitality through the café's social initiative. Through his employment at The Dove he has been able to secure ongoing, permanent housing for his family.</p> <p>The Dove is now beginning to offer hospitality training and work-experience opportunities to young people in care within the local community who were impacted by the floods or seeking to gain skills for employment beyond care.</p> <p>Treehouse Farm is a social initiative located outside Ballina for the purpose of providing opportunities for young people in foster care who are at risk of placement disruption. Residents engage in a range of life-skill development activities as part of their care experience. In response to the floods, Wesley Mission tendered for funding through a LendLease grant initiative for the purpose of securing funds to build a series of interconnected pod-like tiny homes. The tender was recently acknowledged as successful. The vision is to provide semi and fully independent housing options to young people transitioning from out of home care (OOHC) into the general community. This was a direct response to the existing housing crisis further emphasised by the floods.</p>	

## Women Up North Housing

Lismore LGA	
<p><b>Flood Recovery Services:</b></p> 	<p>First Nations Women’s refuge providing emergency accommodation.</p> <p>Community women’s centre providing: Advocacy, support and casework for women children and young people experiencing domestic family and sexual violence.</p> <p><b>Contact details:</b>  <a href="https://wunh.org.au/">https://wunh.org.au/</a>            (02) 6621 7730            40 Wyrallah Road, East Lismore  <a href="mailto:online@wunh.org.au">online@wunh.org.au</a></p>
<p><b>Main Partners</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Women’s Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Service</li> <li>• Northern NSW Specialist Homelessness Services</li> <li>• NSW Department of Communities and Justice</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Other Services:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Education</li> <li>• Love Bites Healthy Relationships workshops: Lismore Kyogle Richmond LGAs</li> <li>• Auspice Northern Rivers Multicultural program “In Plain Language”.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Good News Story:</b></p> <p>Women Up North has been highly challenged with the level and complexity of increased demands for our services since the floods. We believe that we will have supported a minimum of 645 clients requiring case management and further number of clients receiving one off support, referral and / or brokerage. WUN have found that all aspects of need such as safety planning, brokerage, trauma support, and advocacy to access services such as income and housing has been greatly increased. Clients are dealing with a combination of PTSD from Domestic Violence as well as the flood, resulting in many people incapable of articulating their needs or managing normal day to day tasks.</p> <p>Niki is a First Nations woman with 2 children. Niki’s children both manage a disability and Niki manages PTSD that exacerbated an existing mental health diagnosis. Niki was in temporary housing due to Domestic /Family Violence when the family was evacuated in the flood. Once again Niki and her children lost all their possessions. Niki and her family have experienced bush fires, COVID, flood evacuation and family violence. Niki’s wellness and capacity to manage simple tasks or communicate her needs was severely impacted by PTSD, homelessness and domestic and family violence. Flood funding enabled WUN to provide extra brokerage and intensive case management. These supports have enabled Niki and her family to remain together and be free of a past rental debt that was hindering Niki from accessing housing. Niki and family are now engaging with community and have maintained and registered a vehicle. The children are attending education. Niki is now actively planning her exit from high support with Bugalma Bihyn, she is rebuilding her family safety, engaging with local community, utilising health resources and actively applying for housing.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>*names have been changed to protect people’s identity.</i></p>	

## Women's Village Collective

Mullumbimby Byron LGA	
	<p><b>Flood Recovery Services:</b></p> <p>WVC have supported flood affected women and their children with housing in medium term accommodation and supported the transition to these homes. WVC has provided these women with financial and practical assistance such as food vouchers, grants and links to services.</p> <p>WVC provides links and assistance to help women connect with other helpful services such as Mullumbimby Neighbourhood Centre, Social Futures, North Coast Community Housing and Fletcher Street Cottage.</p> <p>WVC holds workshops and community gatherings with stakeholders and will run a workshop series to assist women with financial preparedness to help obtain and maintain long term housing solutions.</p> <p><b>Contact details:</b>  <a href="https://www.womensvillagecollective.org.au/">https://www.womensvillagecollective.org.au/</a>  Mullumbimby NSW  <a href="mailto:admin@womensvillagecollective.org.au">admin@womensvillagecollective.org.au</a></p>
<p><b>Main Partners:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mullumbimby Neighbourhood Centre,</li> <li>• Social Futures,</li> <li>• North Coast Community Housing and Fletcher Street Cottage</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Other Services:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WVC directly supports women and children in housing distress arising from an inability to obtain and maintain secure affordable housing.</li> <li>• WVC provides access to housing and assists with the associated costs of insecure housing, such as storage and removals.</li> <li>• WVC advocates for social justice and the implementation of systemic change to bring an inclusive system that takes care of women and children, with a focus on affordable and sustainable housing.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Good News Story:</b></p> <p>WVC have housed four flood affected women and seven children in mid-term accommodation since the floods. The women and children have had the opportunity to create a small village type atmosphere, helping them feel safe and connected, whilst creating the space to focus on obtaining long term accommodation with assistance of our Flood Recovery Officer.</p> <p>Testimonial from one of the Women:</p> <p><i>“Our house was flooded and uninhabitable after the floods and my children and I were moving around for months after. The WVC housing support has enabled me to have a place to rest, recoup and address my health and well-being as well as enroll my son into school and plan for future housing.”</i> Rosalee, mother of three.</p>	

## Yahweh House

Tweed LGA, Chinderah, Murwillumbah, Tumbulgum, Coraki.	
<b>Flood Recovery Services:</b> 	Outreach support for ongoing flood affected community members, mainly to those unable to access hubs. Meals, food, clothing, water, hygiene products, household goods and vouchers.  <b>Contact details:</b> <a href="https://www.yahwehhouse.com.au/">https://www.yahwehhouse.com.au/</a> <a href="mailto:corinneboys@optusnet.com.au">corinneboys@optusnet.com.au</a> 5, 5 Wyuna Road, Tweed Heads West NSW 2485 0434 671 101
<b>Main Partners:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Foodbank</li><li>• Lions Club</li><li>• Fred's Place</li><li>• PFD</li></ul>	
<b>Other Services:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Community lunches</li><li>• Support for pregnant women and babies</li></ul>	
<b>Good News Story:</b> <p>Throughout the past 12 months on a regular basis, we have been providing food vouchers, food hampers, lunches etc to one particular caravan park which has mainly male residents. We have formed such a bond with these residents that they now call us family.</p> <p>We are still getting many donations, providing supplies to Tumbulgum, Coraki, Chinderah and surrounding communities. We are continuing to provide vouchers to community members impacted by the floods.</p> <p>After last forum, Yahweh assisted Bundjalung Tribal Society to help a young mother with baby items, including bassinet, cot, nappies and clothes. We provided lots of hampers over Christmas period as well as a toy drive for families in need.</p> <p>Yahweh organised a Christmas fun day at Jack Evans boat harbour, in partnership with 12 organisations. Over 150 community members attended. Community have requested this be an ongoing annual event to be held the last Saturday in November. We also held a high-tea event for kinship and foster carers at Hope Shed (Tweed), this was a highly successful event, all the carers we so grateful and enjoyed connecting with others.</p>	