

GBNC Newsletter

What's happening at GBNC

Autumn 2023

What's on weekly at GBNC

Mondays

- Kids Korner Childcare
- GBNC Client appointments
- Lego therapy for kids aged 5–8 years, 3:30–4:30 at Corundum Street
- Emergency Relief available from 9am–12noon at Corundum Street

Tuesdays

- Playgroup for kids aged 0-5
- Hippy (Home Interaction Program for Parents and Youngsters) for kids aged 4-5 years
- Happy Chat at Hilton Street
- GBNC Client appointments
- 2nd Tues – Creative Den for 13+ yr olds
- 4th Tues – Creative Den for 17+ yr olds

Wednesdays

- Kids Korner childcare
- Catholic Care kids counselling
- Baby & Me 9:30–11:00 (school terms)
- GBNC Client appointments
- Lego therapy for kids aged 5–8 years, 3:30–4:40

Thursdays

- Foodsupport at Hilton Street by referral through GBNC
- Catholic Care kids counselling
- Sensory playgroup for babies aged 0–5 months
- Tasc National legal appointments
- GBNC Client appointments

Fridays

- Kids Korner childcare
- GBNC Client appointments

Sundays

- 2nd Sunday Quart Pot Quilters
- Every Sunday – Baptist Church

What's on monthly at GBNC

- Rotary Stanthorpe Ageing Well morning tea at Hilton Street every 3rd Friday of the month
- Free technology assistance for personal devices 9:00–11:30. Please check with reception for next available date/s

GBNC Winter food appeal will be happening again in lead up to winter

Following last year's fabulous response by the Granite Belt community to our first ever Winter food appeal, we have decided to do it again in 2023.

SO.... Stay tuned for a post on facebook for when we are calling for donations of long-lasting food items.

Room Rental is available at GBNC

Very pleasingly, GBNC has seen an increase in enquiries about the possibility of renting one of our rooms or office spaces.

We have an increased in the number of agencies who are renting on a regular , frequent basis.

There has also been an increase in the number of groups and agencies wanting to rent our group spaces for their events.

Give Nikki a call to discuss room rentals and to get a quote.



Partner Agencies



CatholicCare
Social Services



**Legal and Social
Justice Services**



Donations

- ✓ Sam's Farm Fresh Fruit & Veg
- ✓ Local farmers
- ✓ Givit
- ✓ Lions Club of Stanthorpe
- ✓ Zonta Club of Stanthorpe
- ✓ Spano's IGA Stanthorpe

Supporters



A vibrant organisation growing, building and nurturing our community

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Organisational news

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Staff Movements

- ✓ Our Youth worker Charlene returns to her role in mid March. Many thanks to Craig for taking on the full role during this time.
- ✓ Craig continues in his highly effective work as Counsellor.
- ✓ Fiona, our PHN program coordinator from January is also our program coordinator for Foodsupport.
- ✓ Maritta our Driving Work Life Opportunities program coordinator from January is now also our Client Intake Officer & Emergency Relief and Sustaining Tenancies program coordinator.
- ✓ We said goodbye end of December 2022 to Josephine and Skye. We wish them well in the next phase of their professional life. Note that Josephine still comes back to GBNC when Baby& Me sessions are on during the school terms.
- ✓ We wish Bee a speedy recovery and to let her know we miss her wonderful volunteer presence at playgroup.

Funding Submissions

Like every other neighbourhood centre, GBNC is constantly keeping an eye on what grants are open and writing submissions.

In the past 3 months we have lodged the following submissions:

- Ergon Energy for training room technical equipment
- Celebrating Multicultural Qld - Multicultural Projects to add to Driving Work Life Opportunities driving orientation for people from other cultures

Funding Submissions

- Dept Communities Innovation Grant small for membership to online directory and diary.
- Dept Communities Innovation Grant large for a new 3-year program to tackle loneliness
- Gambling Community Benefit Fund for funds to hold a Volunteering Expo in 2024.

Fingers are crossed. Stay tuned in the next edition for an update on success or failure.

We also let 3 other Granite Belt agencies know of grants that seemed appropriate to their client base.

We were notified that GBNC was *unsuccessful* in its application to the Investing in Qld Women Grant Program.

However, we were *successful* in securing funds to hold 3 specific disaster related workshops from the Flexible Funding Grants Program small grants.

Other benefits to our community by GBNC

Fair Play vouchers. GBNC sourced 75 vouchers from the Dept which provides \$175 per voucher support with the costs of youth participating in some form of sport. The vouchers are per person NOT per family. This means that GBNC's enlisting for this program has saved a total of \$13,125 to residents of the Granite Belt.

Foodsupport boxes. This is an entirely volunteer funded service from GBNC. From 1st July until 30th Dec 2022, Foodsupport provided 243 boxes at average cost of \$50 per box. This means the Granite Belt community & volunteers have provided a total of \$ 12,150 in social capital within the past 6 months alone.

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Community Development

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Stanthorpe Hospital's Consumer Consultative Committee (SCCC)—update

Update on the work being done on the 3 priority areas the SCCC focuses on are:

1. Information sharing on services and visiting clinics via the AccessMyHealth online platform. The subcommittee reviewed this platform and the existing service directory on the Darling Downs Hospital website. A decision was reached that the DD Hospital site was preferred as its up-to-dateness is maintained by them.

What was agreed was that GBNC would on a monthly basis, via its fb page, 'remind' residents of where to go and how to search for information about what services are available at the hospital and what are visiting clinics. GBNC also undertook to post any notifications received from the hospital regarding dates of visiting clinics. Since these postings began mid-January there has been nothing but positive comments on these posts.

2. Transport to Warwick and Toowoomba for medical treatment/appointments – see page 4 for information on STAR community services
3. Reimbursement for Chairperson role – no longer an issue.
4. Mental Health - on 25th Feb there was a garden party and ceremony to launch the new murals on the entrance walls to the Boulders. This was an initiative of Rotary Club of Stanthorpe. Well done, it looks fabulous.



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UPDATE - The service gaps GBNC is working on to bring onsite at the Granite Belt

GBNC team members are actively working on two known service-gap issues, especially onsite in the Granite Belt:

1.Face-to-face counselling for victims of a) sexual abuse or b) domestic family violence. This work is with the Toowoomba- based DVAC.

Update: This did not progress further as the demand for this service did not mean onsite was a viable service option.

2.Community transport both local and longer-haul to Warwick and Toowoomba, provided by STAR Community Services.

Update: STAR Community Services have established an office in Warwick and appointed Natalie Perritt , District Coordinator 0448895642. They cover the entire Southern Downs. GBNC will be setting up a meeting with Natalie to discuss how the Granite Belt transport needs can be progressed. Remember we are keen to link this work into the Stanthorpe Hospital Community Consultative Committee. So stay tuned for further developments.

Stanthorpe Hospital's Consumer Consultative Committee (SCCC)—update

As the end of the yearly term for the members of the SCCC approaches rapidly work continues on continuing to progress the greater engagement being achieved currently between the Stanthorpe hospital and the Granite Belt Community.

Emergency Relief in the Granite Belt update

On the 20th January, the planned 6-month review of the new way Emergency Relief is delivered in the Granite Belt occurred

All three agencies and the funding Department representative attended and each agency took it in turn to report on how things have gone for the first 6-months.

All three agencies reported increased demand for assistance of up to 25% increase for one agency.

Each of the agencies indicated the new way of working seemed to have no detrimental issues.

The only issue GBNC raised was its learning that having ER and Foodsupport 'on' at exactly the same time and day meant that people getting a referral at ER were not able to get their food box until a week later.

SO... the only change to the new way of working that was agreed was that GBNC from the 6th March 2023 would change its day from the Thursday of the week to the Monday of the week.

It was agreed by all parties that we would review our partnership way of working in another 6 months.

Stay tuned for updates.



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Our services

Autumn 2023



Early Years

Activities for parents and their children (prenatal to 8 years) for example, weekly Lego therapy and two Playgroups (Tuesdays and Thursdays).

Youth

Activities aimed at working with youth who are at risk of disengaging from school, family and/or the community.

Mental Wellbeing (PHN)

Focuses on initiatives to improve individual and community response to mental health needs of any aged residents.

Family Support Services

Assists vulnerable families to develop family/household management skills, improve life skills and provide information, advice and referral. During school terms Baby & Me runs for 5 weeks and is aimed at new parents.

Emergency Relief

Available to assist on a time-limited basis with basic life needs and is available to any person/resident in the area including backpackers

Community Support Services

Assists vulnerable individuals in an integrated way by increasing life skills, connecting people to the community, events, projects and resources to benefit the whole community.

Kids Korner

Limited hours childcare for children aged 15 months to 5 years. Days of operation are Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Casual use is encouraged.

Driving Work Life Opportunities

Aims to expand life options & employment through addressing the barriers that prevent persons aged 16-25 years from obtaining a drivers licence. This program works with the PCYC's Braking the Cycle Stanthorpe program.

Sustaining Tenancies

Available through GBNC for clients with tenancy-related issues. A realistic payment plan will be set up to come out of your Centrelink payments

Foodsupport

Available weekly on a Thursday morning via a referral from GBNC staff. Clients are to attend our Food Support at 15 Hilton St 8.45am-9.45am only.

If you would like to be notified of GBNC's upcoming events, please email, admin@communityds.org.au

A vibrant organisation growing, building and nurturing our community

GBNC Newsletter

Our upcoming workshops

Autumn 2023

A look at some of our programs



REGULAR EVENTS *March 2023*

2nd Tuesday Creative Den - for 13+
Technology help appts **7th**

Tuesdays Weekly Playgroup 0-5yr old's

Wednesdays Weekly Brick Club

Thursdays Weekly Sensory playgroup 0-15mths
Technology help appts **21st**

4th Tuesday Creative Den - for 17+ yrs

Visit our Facebook page for more upcoming Events
@granitebeltneighbourhoodcentre

Supporting your child's transition to

HIGH SCHOOL 2023

WHEN
Wednesday, 22nd March 2023
6pm - 7:30pm

WHERE
Granite Belt Neighbourhood Centre
9 Coromund Street, Stanthorpe

OPEN TO ALL INTERESTED ADULTS AND CAREGIVERS.

FREE EVENT
Hosted by The Granite Belt Neighbourhood Centre, PHN Program.

ABOUT THE FACILITATOR
Craig is a Counsellor employed at GBNC. He has extensive social services experience focussed on enhancing wellbeing for children and families.

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL
Please call 4681 3777 to register for this event.
Light refreshments provided.

phn DARLING DOWNS AND WEST MORETON
An Australian Government initiative

FEATURES - Facilitated by Craig Nevin - Workshop suitable for any adult supporting a child that has started high school in 2023 or will be starting in 2024 - Covering the transition and beyond - Tools to better connect with your child - Services available within the community to support both adults and children.

Yoga for Youth

4 FREE Sessions

Starting: Monday, 6th March 2023
Venue: Yoga Tree, Victoria St Stanthorpe
Time: 5:00pm

Monday, 6th March Week 1: Calm your fears with yoga.
Monday, 13th March Week 2: Growing our Dreams.
Monday, 20th March Week 3: My Body - My Temple.
Monday, 27th March Week 4: I am Free to be ME!

Open to all youth 12-17 year and their care givers.
To register for this FREE activity please call The Granite Belt Neighbourhood Centre on 4681 3777 or email admin@communityds.org.au
LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE

Proudly brought to you by: **HealthWISE**, **phn** DARLING DOWNS AND WEST MORETON An Australian Government initiative

MARCH 2023 SPECIAL EVENTS

6th Yoga for Youth @ Yoga Tree

11th Free Movie Night in Weeroona Park

Mondays until 10th April Parenting by Connection

Baby & Me **Wednesdays**

22nd Supporting your Child's Transition to High School

International Women's Day Breakfast **24th**

Visit our Facebook page for more upcoming Events
@granitebeltneighbourhoodcentre

FOLLOW US!



A vibrant organisation growing, building and nurturing our community

