

MEMBERSHIP PROSPECTUS



About GAPDL Communities for Children



The Gladstone Area Promotion and Development Limited (GAPDL) was originally founded in 1983 charged with the job of supporting the development of the local business community and promoting the region as a tourist destination.

In 2004 GAPDL were appointed as the Facilitating Partner (FP) for the Department of Social Services (DSS) Communities for Children (CfC) project. These combined projects have enabled GAPDL to take on the task of supporting and promoting the region as a great place to live, as well as a great place to visit.

The CfC FP model means GAPDL are responsible for identifying local needs, and developing an Activity Work Plan (that needs to be approved by DSS) that includes the appointment of contracted organisations or individuals (known as Community Partners) to provide services/supports to meet these needs.

The GAPDL then oversee these Community Partners, being accountable to DSS for the delivery and reporting of programs and services, in line with the approved Activity Work Plan.

As the CfC Facilitating Partner, GAPDL, are required to establish and maintain an Advisory Committee specifically for the CfC project. This committee assists in the development of the Community Strategic Plan, Activity Work Plan, and to guide and support the funded activities.

Committee members are representatives of the local community including clients, parents, local businesses and local service providers. Communities for Children Facilitating Partners aim to build on local strengths to meet the local community needs.

Rob Gibb

Chairperson
Communities for Children
Advisory Committee



As the Manager for Communities and Sustainable Development for ConocoPhillips Australia, actively participating in the Communities for Children (CfC) project with GAPDL allows me to genuinely understand the challenges faced for parents and carers across the region.

Taking on the role of Chairperson for the CfC Advisory Committee I also get the opportunity to see how well this community collaborates with the goal of improving outcomes for everyone.

The Gladstone Region has been built on opportunities for new business and industrial ventures and with this comes a workforce who are able to embrace change but who also look out for their neighbours and friends.

There are new and innovative projects happening across our region and with this come the workforce. If we want a supportive and inclusive community, we must ensure there are opportunities for the whole of the community to be supported and included.

Not only does the GAPDL CfC project deliver supports and services to those living in the Gladstone Region, but it also contracts providers from the region to deliver these supports and services; we are committed to building the capacity in the region.

The GAPDL Tourism team are responsible to showing everyone how great our region is to visit, but the whole of GAPDL are showing everyone how great it is to LIVE in the region.



Families and Children are Safe and Well

Families, children and young people have their needs met and a positive, safe and nurturing environment



Families and Children are Strong and Resilient

Families, children and young people have their ability to develop and maintain good relationships



Families and Children are Ready to Learn

Families, children and young people have the capability to learn and be school ready



Wendy Morris

Communities for Children Executive Officer



The 2021/2022 financial year saw confirmation from the Department of Social Services that funding for the Communities for Children project will be guaranteed for another five years.

While we are very thankful for this commitment from the Federal Government, the level of core funding granted no longer meets the demand for supports and services in the region, and inflationary increases are constantly 'eating' into this funding.

We have seen a steady but sharp increase in parents, carers and professionals looking for support and education specific to improved family functioning and increased community participation. The Gladstone region responded to this increased need and in 2020/2021 we were able to secure one off funding from local sources to offer a few additional parenting programs.

In March 2021 we invited the community to participate in consultation sessions so that we could better understand the needs they identified and how they should be prioritised. The sessions provided us with large quantities of information that clearly identified the needs of the community around education, social services, health, recreation and community lead services and supports. This allowed the GAPDL Communities for Children teams to clearly define the needs when calling for Community Partners to meet the priority areas of Families and Children being Safe and Well, Strong and Resilient, and Ready to Learn.

Now we have a better understanding of the needs and priorities, we just need additional funding to be able to deliver the supports and services to meet the ever increasing community demands. It is such a crucial time, when children are growing and developing, to ensure their needs are supported and no one is left behind. Decades of research have shown that children who don't received adequate and appropriate health and wellbeing supports in the early years, grow to be adults who need significantly more support than the general population.

As a membership-based organisation, we know that more can be achieved together than alone. We are excited to offer this new membership that will allow everyone to contribute to the health and wellbeing of children and their families across the region.



Why become a Cfc Sponsor or Member?

When you become a member or sponsor of the GAPDL Cfc project, you are directly contributing to the wellbeing of the Gladstone Region - both now and for the future.

At times, all parents and carers can feel like they're just winging it. We know that being a parent or carer is hard work, but sometimes finding the right services and supports makes it even harder.

GAPDL Communities for Children are here for **ALL** parents and carers. We believe that no matter what your circumstances, if you're looking for support, there should be options.

GAPDL Cfc will ensure 85% of membership and sponsorship funding goes to direct service delivery. This includes supported playgroups, parenting programs and resources specifically to support raising strong and resilient families.

The data below gives you insight into the increase in participation experienced in the region. As we emerge from COVID isolation and lockdowns, the shortage of Childcare has seen large numbers of parents and carers providing children with quality play based learning opportunities through the Supported Playgroups funded under the Cfc project.

Playgroup	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9	Week 10
Term 3, 2021										
Friday	15	14	13	20	13	18	14	16	16	18
Term 4, 2021										
Tuesday	23	16	34	43	37	43	44	44	32	39
Wednesday	22	25	40	40	30	43	51	44	48	40
Thursday	46	25	49	45	47	40	48	47	65	52
Friday	42	42	31	53	49	70	39	22	34	46

Major Sponsors

Platinum
\$55,000

Gold
\$22,000

Silver
\$11,000

Bronze
\$5,500

As a Major Sponsor, we will work with you to identify the programs and supports that meet both the communities needs and your social performance goals.

For example:

- Platinum sponsors could have naming rights to one of the supported playgroup days for a full year. All promotional material will include attribution and you will be provided with data specific to the program you sponsor.
- Gold Sponsors could have sole branding rights to resources distributed to new parents and carers. These resources provide online education modules and access to specialists on topics relevant to babies and toddlers.
- Silver Sponsors can provide 10-12 individuals with the opportunity to attend a 6-10 week intensive parenting/family functioning program.
- A Bronze sponsor could have naming/branding rights for community engagement events such as the Child and Family Expo, Under 8's Week or Children's Week.

Membership

Gladstone Region Not for Profit Community Group

- ✓ Subscription to monthly industry & consumer news
- ✓ Opportunity for discounted Yaralla lifestyle packages*
- ✓ Invitation to attend relevant business & networking events
- ✓ Voting entitlements at annual General meeting
- ✓ Membership certificate
- ✓ Opportunity to provide group collateral in our welcome to Gladstone Region bags
- ✓ Letters of support
- ✓ Invitation to attend relevant development workshops
- ✓ Use of Gladstone Region marquee
- ✓ Access to Gladstone Region Image library
- ✓ Opportunity to submit relevant event marketing material to be displayed in the Visitor centers
- ✓ Opportunity to submit relevant event marketing material to be displayed on our social media platforms
- ✓ Group listing on gladstoneregion.info

\$99

Gladstone Region Communities for Children Supporter

- ✓ Subscription to monthly newsletters
- ✓ Opportunity for discounted Yaralla lifestyle packages*
- ✓ Invitation to attend relevant business & networking events
- ✓ Voting entitlements at annual General meeting
- ✓ Membership certificate to display in your business
- ✓ Opportunity to provide business collateral in our welcome to Gladstone Region bags
- ✓ Invitation to attend relevant development workshops
- ✓ Discounted Communities for Children Fee for Service Programs
- ✓ Business listing on gladstoneregion.info
- ✓ Be offered the opportunity for your business to be listed in the 2022/2023 Gladstone Region Visitor guide
- ✓ Letters of support
- ✓ Access to Gladstone Region Image library

\$310

How it Works

As the Facilitating Partner (FP) for the Department of Social Services (DSS) Communities for Children (CfC) program, the GAPDL staff oversee and support our contracted Community Partners to ensure programs and services are being delivered in line with the community needs.

The GAPDL CfC staff support the community by providing a single location where you can get information on the available supports and services for parents and carers of children pre-birth to 12 years. Where possible, staff will undertake the referral process, reducing the stress for parents and carers who are unsure of what is required.

Funding from the Department of Social Services for the financial years 2021/2022 to 2026/2027 is \$499,700 per year with no provision for inflation, so we know that this funding will be severely stretched. The GAPDL are contributing an additional \$143,630 for the 2022/2023 financial year, with this expected to increase each financial year of the remaining contract with DSS. For the current reporting period (2022/2023) our contracted partners receive \$390,500 in financial and in kind support for the purpose of direct service delivery.

Programs and Resources funded for the 2022/2023 Financial Year

Circle of Security

An evidence based program around attachment. The eight (8) session program aims to help parents to:

- Understand their child's emotional world by learning to read emotional needs,
- Support their child's ability to successfully manage emotions,
- Enhance the development of their child's self esteem, and
- Honour the innate wisdom and desire for their child to be secure.

Circle of Security is facilitated by staff from Strong Communities

Tuning in To Kids

Tuning in to Kids® is an emotion-focused parenting program. It provides parents and carers with skills in emotion coaching, which is about recognising, understanding and managing their own and their children's emotions. When children develop these emotional skills they are better able to negotiate the ups and downs of life.

Tuning in to Kids is facilitated by staff from Strong Communities

Little Steps Multicultural Play Group

A community playgroup supported by a qualified educator. Little Steps encourages inclusion and diversity and to celebrate our differences.

Little Steps provides an opportunity to reduce social isolation sometimes experienced by our migrant and refugee families while also offering the chance to engage in conversational English and to experience play based activities from a range of cultures.

Little Steps is facilitated by staff from Integreat Queensland

Nurture and Nutrition Supported Playgroup

Nurture & Nutrition (NaN) playgroup is a free supportive playgroup facilitated by Circle of Security trained caregivers to increase parenting confidence, develop social skills and family support networks whilst creating nutritional morning teas together to be shared.

NaN is also the mathematical symbol for: Not a Number. This encompasses the meaning of this playgroup; that each individual and family is unique and deserves every opportunity to learn, connect and support the growth of their children.

We welcome children of all ages and each week we offer a different activity and theme for our families to enjoy.

NaN is only partly funded by DSS Communities for Children grant as the current demand exceeds the funding available. NaN is facilitated by staff from Strong Communities

Safe Sleep Space & Nourish Resource

Safe Sleep Space offers a number of services and resources to assist with sleep and settling of newborns, infants and toddlers. GAPDL provide local parents and caregivers with 12 months' access to resources including videos guides to sleep and settling. Video segments include understanding your baby or toddler's needs, cues and capabilities, step-by-step, age specific settling strategies, and safe wrapping and sleeping recommendations.

The Safe Sleep Space and Nourish resource is distributed via CfC Community Partners as well as local services who work specifically with parents and carers of newborns and toddlers.

Our Facilities

The Nutchee Building within the Gladstone Regional Council's Philip Street Communities and Families Precinct is the base location for the GAPDL Communities for Children staff and many of our Community Partners. Construction on the facility was completed in August 2021 with the team moving into the premises in September 2021.



The CfC staff provide reception and greeting services ensuring those visiting the facility see a familiar face no matter what program or support service they are attending or what day of the week they are on site.

There are several spaces within the building that can be hired by the community to facilitate meetings, programs and family based activities.



The facility includes:

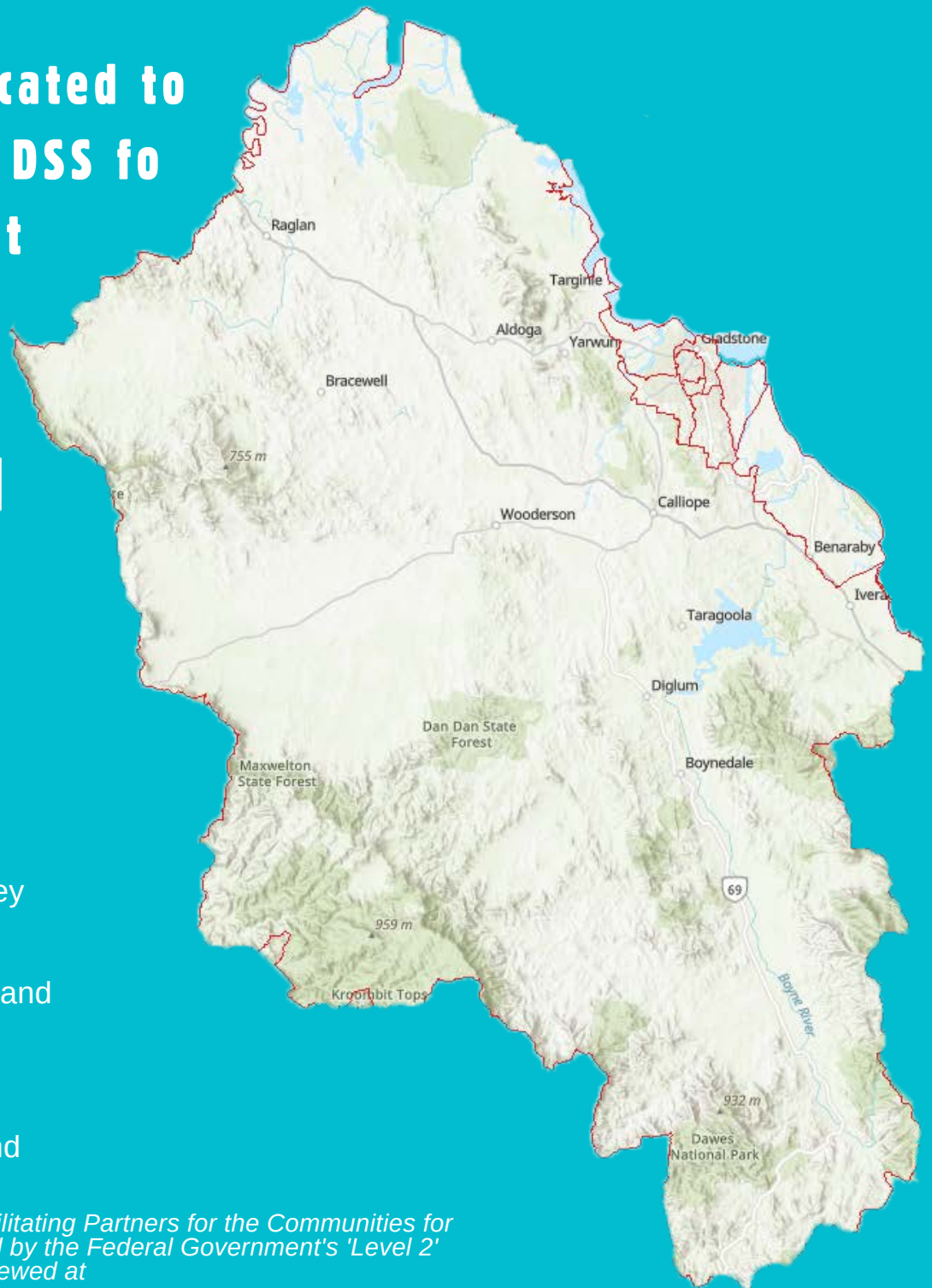
- community kitchen
- 8-10 person meeting room
- consultation room with hand basin (suitable for primary and allied health service provision)
- 100sqm of indoor open plan 'play' space
- 52sqm of covered outdoor space (directly off the indoor play space)
- baby change room
- 320sqm of outdoor play space
- disability accessible toilets

Geographical Territory Allocated to GAPDL by the DSS for the CfC Project

Statistical Level 2 Area's

- Gladstone
- West Gladstone
- Kin Kora - Sun Valley
- South Trees
- Clinton - New Auckland
- Telina - Toolooa
- Callemondah
- Gladstone Hinterland

The area's allocated to Facilitating Partners for the Communities for Children project are defined by the Federal Government's 'Level 2' boundaries which can be viewed at <https://maps.abs.gov.au/>



**THANK YOU, AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO
WORKING WITH YOU.**

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