



Mundubbera Community Development Association Inc

Annual Report 2018



Mundubbera Community Development Association is funded by the

- *Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disabilities Services*
- *Department of Social Services*
- *Department of Education, Training and Employment*
- *Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island and Multicultural Affairs*

Executive Management and Committee Member

Loris Doessel – President

Roslyn Kugel – Treasurer

Mel Bice – Vice President

Maureen Wisnieski – Association Member

Association Members

Noel Thompson

Russell Mills

Keith Renick

Richard Roth

Colleen Whelan

Faye Whelan

Alex O'Neill

Susan Payne

Sue Trott

Jacqueline Laidler

Marion Denholm

Kay Vander Have

Melinda Thorburn

Sherrie Breitkopf

Mary Berthelsen

Natalie Mann

Nicole Briggs

Staff

Bobby-Leigh Redgard – Centre Manager

June Jacobi – Financial Administration Office Manager

Gillian Carr – Mundubbera Family Day Nominated Supervisor

Disability Reference Group Support Workers

Margaret Latza

Heather Edwards

Rebekkah Wengel

Alison Venables

Rhonda Delaware

Michael McWirther

Volunteers

Mary Gordon - Volunteer Bus driver Glenys Janke – Volunteer Bus Driver

Ellen Twemlow Dot Jacobi Denise Edwards Noel Thompson

Beryl Eriksen Lyn Carlyon Marion Larsen Marilyn Elstob

Cameron Zipf

Mundubbera Family Day Care Educators

Michelle Crofts

Hannah Opperman

Margaret Cutler

Rachel May

Paula Hawkins

Theresa Gleeson

Rina Seeds

MUNDUBBERA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION INC
PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2017/2018
TO ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD 8th November 2018.

Mundubbera Community Development Association Inc (MCDA) has continued to provide valuable service, events and activities to Mundubbera and surrounding community members.

Social programs are focussed on keeping people occupied, interested and involved, giving opportunities for community interaction and growth of knowledge and skills as well as enhancing wellbeing.

The continuation of government funding for our operation as a Neighbourhood Centre means these programs can be supported to a reasonable degree. The ongoing funding of the Emergency Relief Program also benefits needy community members. The Kindy bus operation now receives no government funding, but the bus remains a community asset and has continued in service for Kindy or other transport as required dependant on driver and vehicle availability.

Changes to the funding of the Family Day Care Scheme saw our program continue with reduced grant support last year. My sincere thanks to our Family Day Care nominee Roslyn and Scheme Nominated Supervisor Gillian for the many hours of voluntary work done and streamlining initiatives undertaken to ensure the scheme continued and was granted reasonable sustainability funding for another 5 years. The work done by MCDA enables several individuals to run their child-care business in line with government requirements, thereby attracting subsidies for the parents to off-set childcare costs.

The implementation of the National Disability Insurance Scheme which will eventually close our Disability Support activities has been costly to MCDA in time, travel and training expenses with no benefit to our organisation. This work was seen as necessary to support a sector of our community. It has been extremely time-consuming and some clients have had difficulties with the packages designed when consulted by the NDIS providers, meaning they are already awaiting reviews. MCDA has no control over any aspect of NDIS, other than to facilitate carer payments should the client wish for this assistance.

I thank staff for their interest and initiative in operation of the sometimes complex programs delivered by our organisation. Thanks to Bobby, June and Gillian for their support and dedication to continuing the centre operations and services as a developing Neighbourhood Centre. Some very good ideas have been put forward and grants sought to assist with these, not always successfully. We continue to seek opportunities to increase services to help our community members.

Volunteers are the backbone of Mundubbera and this is also the case with our activities, particularly the Kindy Transport and the Talking News which continues to provide a service to those who can no longer read the local paper. Thanks to Mary Gordon and Glenys Janke, the volunteers who have assisted the Kindy kids and to all who read and copy news every Thursday.

We have also enjoyed the volunteer assistance of Natalie Mann in the yoga and relaxation sessions and volunteer drivers for garden group trips as we have been unable to gain enough interest for a bus trip. These too, have been a social and emotional benefit to participants.

Many thanks to Ros Kugel who has been truly dedicated to her roles of treasurer and Family Day Care nominee. Her voluntary work to assist with financial and policy responsibilities of MCDA have been terrific in the face of ever-changing governmental standards.

Mel Bice's support as vice-president has been appreciated as has been the input of other committee members. Without considered and varied discussion we cannot achieve what the community needs. The challenge of brainstorming great ideas is only exceeded by the challenge of finding ways to fund and implement these.

I trust all community members will continue to support MCDA and any new projects that may be implemented and / or successfully funded over the next years.

I look forward to seeing further expansion of our Neighbourhood Centre activities to meet community needs, working collaboratively with other like-minded community groups to achieve our goals.

Although currently only funded to deliver services to Mundubbera and Eidsvold, there have been opportunities to network and assist with services throughout the North Burnett and for this reason, the proposed new trading name of North Burnett Community Hub is seen, not as an invasion of others' spaces, but as a step towards further development should the opportunity arise.

Thank you for your support and interest.

- Loris Doessel, President. 8/11/18

Centre Manager
Mundubbera Community Development Association
Annual Report 2018

If you had of told me this time last year MCDA would have had the year we had this year I am not sure if I would have believed you. This year we have had some small successes with grants for example the Reconciliation Grant in which we were able to purchase the outdoor theatre, Seniors Week Grant to assist with putting the week of activities on and FRRR Grant to have Solar Panels put on the building. I am also pleased to advise here tonight we were successful in receiving the Thriving Communities Grant from Queensland Families and Communities Association Inc. This grant was received on our application to deliver a week of events to the community for Women's Health Week. Unfortunately, due to the delay in the process we missed Women's Health Week for this year but we will endeavour to deliver the program which was aimed at families of the community by the due date. We are still awaiting to see if our Emergency Relief funding grant is successful. I am very pleased to report as you are all aware we were also successful in the PHN Suicide Prevention Tender and I have a meeting on Monday with Kirsten Smith from PHN to go over the details regarding the tender.

This year we invited the community to have a reinvention discussion with staff and committee, we aimed for the discussion to assist MCDA with its Strategic Plan and to provide the community with a voice of what they would like from their community centre. I will admit, personally I felt I had let everyone down in the beginning of the conversation because it was clear to me our community didn't know what we were about. Instead of dwelling in my own self-pity I decided to make this my mission. My mission since the meeting has been instead of people asking what MCDA does, they be able to state proudly "MCDA is our Neighbourhood Centre and they do the following for the community". I am happy to report we are getting there, we are not completely there but slowly we are making people aware of what we do, we are able to achieve and what we might assist them with. I have invited community members to come forward with ideas they wish to see happen from the community centre. Our Yoga4Dignity event was brought to me by a local who felt the cause was a beneficial one for our community to support. I have had families request family friendly and children events, which we have been working towards.

This year we have collaborated with other organisations to bring positive, quality events and programs to the area such as the Children's Week Paper Planes Movie night in which we worked with the Kindergarten and Save the Children. We received great feedback from the evening from the families involved as they felt the communities needed more family orientated events. Another project we collaborated with was the Mundubbera Suicide Prevention Network for RUOK? Day in the Park. This was a very important collaboration for

Mundubbera as the SP Network is only new and MCDA was able to assist in introducing the SP Network to the community. I would like to thank the organisations which we have been able to collaborate with throughout the year and I hope for more collaborations in the years to come.

This year our volunteers have continued to be dedicated to their roles within MCDA. Unfortunately, we have not been able to attract other volunteers but our small group have always shown great pride in their volunteering and some programs would not have been able to continue without their efforts. This year we tried something new to show our appreciation to our volunteers by putting on a lunch. It was a small, simple gesture which the volunteers were truly grateful. I would like to thank each and every one of our volunteer, we are truly blessed for your dedication.

The communities' health and wellbeing have been a major priority for all services providers in the North Burnett. MCDA has been one of the service providers offering different activities and events for all ages. I would like to thank Natalie Mann for assisting MCDA to deliver programs such as Yoga including a men's only class, Girls Night In and An Introduction to Aromatherapy. These programs have taught community members to take time for themselves and how simple household items can be made in to inexpensive tools to assist mind body and spirit. This year was our first Carers Week celebrations which I am hoping to grow and be able to encourage carers to take time for themselves and to also build friendships within the carer community. These friendships and skills will help fill their cups as we all know a person cannot give from an empty cup. These programs are vital in our small communities for many reasons and we will continue to deliver these due to the importance as well as improve on them with the assistance of the community.

I would like to thank the staff of MCDA for their amazing work and assistance throughout the year. The Centre doesn't run because of one person, we run because of a team. I believe our team is one of the most dedicated to their position, community and centre. So, June, Gillian and Glenys I thank you for everything you have done throughout the year.

I would like to thank all the committee members for your assistance and guidance throughout the year. There would have been many events which could not have gone ahead without your assistance. I would especially like to make special mention of Roslyn and Maureen who provided culinary assistance with many events such as our Beyond Blue Golf Day, RUOK? Day and Eidsvold's Elder Abuse Awareness Diversity Café.

I am very excited about 2019 and what it may bring.

MUNDUBBERA FAMILY DAY CARE ANNUAL REPORT - 2018

This year Family Day Care has moved forward achieving " MEETING NATIONAL QUALITY STANDARD " from our accreditation, which took place early in the year.

May I thank the department for giving me the opportunity to complete a leadership course (focusing on Family Day Care), which gave me knowledge and the opportunity to network with other like-minded people in the wide bay region. Also may I take this opportunity to thank Roz for all her volunteer hours to support the educators and myself to reach these goals.

We currently have 7 educators - 3 Mundubbera; 2 Gayndah - with the possibility of another coming on shortly; 2 Monto with the possibility of 2 new educators coming on board by 2019.

We now conduct a Monkey Survey every 3 months for the families, who have the opportunity to have input into our service.

Part of our Quality Improvement involves I.H.S. (Inclusion Support), where we have availability to speak to them during office hours. They have visited us twice within the last 6 months. (one night they did an information night for the Educators) and last week they visited me to bring information and a general catch up. This organisation specialises with children who have special needs.

May I take this opportunity to thank Loris and Roz, along with all the committee members, June and Bobby for all their support throughout the year and I wish everyone all the best for 2019.

Thank you Gillian Carr Nominated Supervisor

Disability Reference Group 2018 Report

The rollout of the National Disability Insurance Scheme made 2018 a very busy year for DRG staff and clients. In the lead up to the rollout we endeavoured to learn as much as we could to assist clients for the plan meetings and transitioning over. MCDA was a part of the National Disabilities Services Workability Group, the group was to put a plan in place for the impact the NDIS may have on the communities in the Wide Bay area. As we were the only representative for the North Burnett on the working group MCDA was able to express concerns which might affect the North Burnett region and we were seen as a great advocate for the area.

The rollout in June came with many hiccups for our clients due to the fact the area was lacking in a Local Area Coordinator which wasn't announced later than anticipated. As a Neighbourhood Centre we assisted clients with their options due to unsatisfactory plans they received and enlisted the assistance of professionals to assist in areas we were not experts in with the review process. Currently we have 2 clients who are under the NDIS and are currently in the process of having their plans reviewed.

Our reputation for assisting and working with our clients has been very positive and the hard work as well as travel to meetings around the area for NDIS has been worth it to assist the clients to be heard in this transitional process.



Financial Management Program

The Financial Management Program delivers emergency financial assistance to persons in financial difficulty. The program assists clients from throughout most of the North Burnett region, providing assistance for food, fuel, travel costs, rent assistance, vehicle registration, school fees, medical expenses, electricity, phone, clothing and bedding and debt consolidation.

The program also provides advocacy and referral service, linking clients to agencies that may be able to assist them. The program is able to provide a budget planning and referral service to assist clients. During the past year more than 400 persons have accessed the program seeking assistance to meet their needs.

This program is the only funded Emergency Relief service for most of the North Burnett and adjacent areas and is supporting clients from throughout a large area.

Conference Centre

Mundubbera Community Development Association Conference Centre has great facilities to use for any conference or events. The room is fully air-conditioned, and has a remote control projector and screen with surround sound.

The conference centre has been used by many organisations that offer different training as well as being used by external service providers as a secure and confidential venue to provide an outreach service to their clients. The room is also utilised by different group meetings and other special events.



Be Connected

The Association provides a Be Connected Kiosk, supported by funding from the Department of Social Services.

The Program encourages senior community members to become more familiar with computers and their functions and to assist senior community member's access banking and health related services on the internet and also the social media functions.

The program is delivered by staff and the Association is always seeking volunteer tutors to assist with this program.



Windows 8.1 Tutorial Videos



Welcome to our Windows 8.1 Tutorial Videos page. We have compiled some of the most comprehensive video tutorials to walk you through some of the critical functions in Windows 8.1.

Mundubbera Diabetes Group

The group meets the first Wednesday of each month. The group is supported by Mundubbera Community Development Association. The group receives information on ways to better manage their condition or to assist family members who may have the condition. Guest speakers deliver a diverse range of information and distribute resources to increase people's awareness of the condition. This year we enjoyed a day trip to Woodgate Beach and enjoyed the health benefits of getting out in the fresh air with great friends.

Group members include persons with the condition, extended family members of persons with the condition and interested persons who wish to gain increased awareness of the condition to assist them to make informed lifestyle choices to manage their health.

The Group encourages all community members to engage.

Eidsvold Garden Group

The Eidsvold Garden Group meets at 3.00pm on the first Tuesday of each month at the RM Williams Bush Learning Centre Eidsvold.

The group discuss gardening and also a wide range of social issues related to gardening and growing plants in a challenging environment.

Talking News

This service of having the local newspaper read into an audio format for persons with sight impairment has been delivered by volunteers each week for more than twenty years.

The project is always seeking additional volunteers to read and copy to ensure the project continues to provide the service to clients.

Mundubbera Garden Group

The Mundubbera Garden Group meets at 9.30am on the second Thursday of each month at either MCDA or a nominated member garden.

The group discuss gardening and also a wide range of social issues not just related to gardening and growing plants in a challenging environment.

Mature Grandparents Group

The Mature Grandparent's Group meet on the first Monday of each month at 9.30am in the Conference Room of the Mundubbera Community Development Centre.

The Grandparents come and socialise with each other over morning tea, to share stories and reflect on memories they have.

The Group's members encourage more Grandparents to join this social group to discuss issues important to them.

Seniors Week 2018

MCDA Active Seniors, Happy Seniors Week was a celebration for all Seniors to have the opportunity to interact with not only people of their own age but from all generations. Monday morning was to be our River Walk and Morning Tea but unfortunately mother nature had her own plans dropping our temperature to the negatives—making it not great walking weather. Tuesday was chair yoga and once again no one came out to join us and our feedback received was due to the weather no one was leaving their nice warm homes.

Luckily, Eidsvold residents decided to brave the cold to join us for lunch on Wednesday at the Bowls Club for a nice warm soup, laughs and lots of reminiscing on old times. It was a lovely morning in which everyone talked about old times and shared stories of yesteryear. I was privileged to hear about past characters of the beautiful little town of Eidsvold and pretty happy I wasn't around to see the dentist back then. Thank you to committee members Richard Roth and Noel Thompson for coming along to support the Eidsvold event.

Thursday it was finally Mundubbera's turn for the big event! It was lovely to see the interaction of the school students and participants as the music students walked around answering questions regarding their instruments. The lovely Mrs Surtees and her Hospitality Students did an amazing job of serving out the lunch and drinks. I think some of the students could be Game Show hosts after our big raffle draw as they did a wonderful job calling numbers and distributing the prizes. Thank you to Faye Whelan, Melinda Thorburn, Greg Watkins from Council for coming to assist with the lunch. Melinda, your jokes were my highlight. A big thank you to our committee members Loris Doessel, Colleen Whelan & Ros Kugel for providing the raffle prizes and Keith Rennick for supporting the event. A huge thank you to Mrs McGovern, Mrs Surtees and the Mundubbera P10 School Students for coming along and entertaining the group with music and serving of the meal. It was greatly appreciated by everyone. Last but never least thanks to COTA for their assistance in helping us bring the community of the North Burnett an eventful Seniors Week. Hope to see you all next year!



Hervey Bay Jumpin Fun Bus Trip

On the 18th February we set out on an adventure full of jumping, laughs and fun! It was a bright and early start but was well worth it once we got to the Jump Park, where we had a bouncing great time for 2 whole hours. I would like to extend a huge thank you to the staff at Jump Park Hervey Bay for their amazing hospitality. The Jump Park was enjoyed by young and old, at one stage I walked through not knowing who had the bigger smiles the kids or the parents who decided to give it ago.

Our next stop on our adventure was the Hervey Bay Wetside Water Park for lunch and a splash to cool down. This was exactly what everyone needed after working up an appetite and a sweat at the Jump Park. Cooled down and ready for home we stopped at Macca's for afternoon tea as a treat before the quiet drive home as everyone was exhausted after such an amazing day.

I would like to say a huge thank you to Mel Bice for attending on behalf of the Committee as well as helping me keep check of who was who. I would also like to thank the mums who came along Kate Landrigan, Sarah Cupitt and Rachel Thorburn and the Grandmothers Estelle Prendergest and Ellen Twemlow. It truly was a great day!

MCDA's Volunteers Appreciation Luncheon

Wednesday 9th May 2018 MCDA had the wonderful opportunity to thank their volunteers by hosting a luncheon for all volunteers to attend. It was a lovely morning filled with many laughs and gratitude for the people who give their precious time to assist in our organisation.

I would like to take the time for thanking our lovely Associate Committee Member Maureen Wisniewski for taking the time to attend the lunch on behalf of the committee and June Jacobi for assisting me with the event today.

I would also like to personally thank each and every volunteer who assists MCDA. Individually, we are one drop. Together we are an ocean.



MCDA WONDAI GARDEN EXPO BUS TRIP

On Saturday 21st April 2018 MCDA had the pleasure of taking a small bus load of community members to the Wondai Garden Expo.

Unfortunately, due to other events in the area numbers were lower than anticipated but instead of cancelling it was decided to utilise the Kindy Bus to insure the people who had paid would not miss out. The weather was glorious and the expo did not disappoint with plenty of stalls to look at.

I would like to thank the ladies for making the day full of laughs and entertainment. It truly was a pleasure to be able to join you all on a lovely day out in the big smoke of Wondai.



Harmony Day

Harmony Day is a day to celebrate Australian multiculturalism, based on the successful integration of migrants into our community.

Australia is the most successful multicultural country on earth and we should celebrate this and work to maintain it.

Harmony Day is about inclusiveness, respect and belonging for all Australians, regardless of cultural or linguistic background, united by a set of core Australian values.

Held every year on 21 March. The Day coincides with the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

Since 1999, more than 70,000 Harmony Day events have been held in childcare centres, schools, community groups, churches, businesses and federal, state and local government agencies across Australia.

MCDA held its first Diversity Café for 2018 with Harmony Day.

In partnership with Carers Qld and Diversicare, each quarter holds a Diversity Café where everyone from all backgrounds and cultures come together to recognize and embrace the different foods. These cafes are also a chance for Maria – Carers Qld to reach to attendees who may be needing some assistance in their homes. Maria is full of life, and passionate about her role. Thana – Diversicare can assist community members with My Aged Care from home support to aged care homes; how to get started. Thana is passionate about her role and always has a bag of information for everyone. Thana often wears outfits in her cultural dress.

Harmony Day 21-March-2018 was a great one for the year. Everyone brought along a dish to share. Along with the guest speakers, each of the attendees gave a little background knowledge of themselves. Some stories brought laughter and applause and conversations from everyone. These little insights are interesting and for some, sharing for the first time is intense.

The tables were set up with a certificates on thanking everyone for being a part of the day as well as a jigsaw; which had many concentrating on putting it together. Hand prints were also cut out - 1. For their name and 2 – What Harmony means to them. These handprints were pinned onto a heart which was drawn a wall divider.

After all the guests spoke, lunch was enjoyed and more conversations and stories were shared. Everyone assisted with the cleanup, washing dishes and sharing of food.

MUNDUBBERA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION INC.



BLUE DAY

3 Ball Ambrose 9 holes



MCDA's Blue Golf Day supporting men's health week and raising money for Beyondblue. We had a beautiful Saturday celebrating and bringing awareness to Men's Health Week. Beyondblue are able to make a real difference to the lives of people affected by anxiety, depression and suicide with funds raised by community events such as ours. The community really supported the event with 51 players registering to play and I am happy to say we were able to raise \$2184 in the day. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Mundubbera Golf Club for their assistance in putting on the event, they made the day truly amazing and easy for someone with no idea about golf supporting me through the whole event. I honestly recommend to anyone in the community wanting to put on a fundraising event to go and chat to the golf club to see how they can help as they truly make it easy. I would like to make special mention and big thank to all the staff of MCDA – for assisting in the lead up to the event. Ros Kugel, Maureen & Bob Wisniewski for the great job handling the BBQ and food preparation. Councilor Faye Whelan for judging the best-dressed team. Peter Hunsley, David Zipf, Amanda & Kerry Beutel for their assistance on the day. Most of all thank you to the community for supporting the event.

EIDSVOLD'S WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DIVERSITY CAFE



MCDA hosted a small Diversity café in Eidsvold on the 14th June 2018 at the CWA Hall in support of World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, which is the 15th June 2018. We were able to discuss what elder abuse is, what to do if you see elder abuse and who to contact if you see elder abuse. Unfortunately, elder abuse is something, which happens in all communities. We need to make people aware of this and destigmatise elder abuse so people feel safe to step forward and ask for assistance if it is happening to them. I would like to thank everyone who attended the event in Eidsvold with a special mention of Maureen & Bob Wisniewski with the event.



Kindergarten Transport Initiative

Mundubbera Community Development Association continues to provide a transport service for Kindergarten students to attend Mundubbera Kindergarten under the Queensland Government's Kindergarten Transport initiative.

The objective of the program is to provide access to transport for children who families may have difficulty in transporting children to Kindergarten.

Mundubbera Community Development Association has a vehicle to transport the children and have volunteer drivers ready to drive. The volunteers can be parents of children who are travelling to kindergarten or any community member who has or can quickly acquire a Blue Card for Child Related Employment.

The Associations thanks the commitment of the volunteers in general and Glenys Janke and Mary Gordon in particular who give their time to provide families with this valuable service.

Volunteers are always needed to assist this and many other projects.