

Communities for Children FP Townsville West, QLD Program Overview 2024-2026



Townsville West is an Inclusive and Culturally Safe Community.

Our Priority Areas

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

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

The Townsville West site has been in operation for 19 years, having commenced in 2006. The current CfC FP site consists of seven adjacent suburbs - Currajong, West End, Aitkenvale, Garbutt, Gulliver, Heatley and Vincent. The site is located within the local government area of the City of Townsville. Approximately 8.99% of the site population is of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent and 39.2% are children aged 0-14 years. While the average age of the Townsville West population is 37 years, our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population average age sits at 21 years which has implications for engagement and program delivery. There is also an emerging former refugee population within the catchment with some families requiring intensive support.

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

Play2Learn

The Program has **Supported Playgroups** for families with children ages 0-5 providing high quality play-based learning opportunities.

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

Community Partner: 54 Reasons (Save the Children)

Service delivery area: Townsville West Area

Eligibility: Families with children aged 0-12 years.

Contact: Adam Gooding, 0422 233 501
Adam.gooding@54reasons.org.au

Empower Program

Provides **parent and caregiver workshops** that encourage, educate, and empower them to build independence and resilience in managing their households.

The **school holiday project** will supply engaging woodwork workshops for children and parents/caregivers to build take-home projects during this time, they will work together on deepening their relationship.

Community Partner: Life Skills Queensland

Service delivery area: Townsville West area

Eligibility: Families with children aged 0-12 years.

Contact: Brittany and Matt Hodgson, 0401 388 978
sales@lifeskillsqueensland.com.au

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

Community Partner: Life Education

Eligibility: Selected Primary Schools and Early Years Learning Centres.

Contact: Wendy Flynn, (07) 4772 3391
townsville@lifeeducationqld.org.au

Holding Space: Supporting Our Early Years Educators

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

Community Partner: Pathways to Resilience

Eligibility: Early Years Educators

Contact: Tegan Spalding, 3299 3573
tegan@pathwaystoresilience.org



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Linking to Schools

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

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

Community Partner: Community Gro

Eligibility: Townsville West Primary Schools.

Contact: Colleen Doyle, 0478 754 415

cdoyle@communitygro.org.au

Murma Yallorin

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

Community Partner: Garbutt Bombers Sporting & Cultural Association

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

Contact: Leon Stubbs, (07) 4774 4124
leonmichaelstubbs@gmail.com

Thriving Mums, Thriving Families

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

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

Eligibility: Parents and families from CALD and Refugee Communities.

Contact: Consy Sakaria, 0416 219 392
consysakaria@qpastt.org.au

or

Ishraga Furawi, 0423 822 380

ishragafurawi@qpastt.org.au

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