

SPRING 2021



THE
Yumba Yarn

YUMBA BIMBI SUPPORT SERVICES

CAROL:
Our YB Support
Worker shares
her story

**KINGS COFFEE
HOUSE:**
supporting
diversity in the
workplace

Showcasing our
YB Community
Champions with
the help of
EDGE STUDIO

RISING HIGH
with the
Baking group

Eddy

**& The people of
the Gemfields**

YB UPDATE

DID YOU HEAR?

➔ Containers for change



As part of our commitment to sustainable practices, Yumba Bimbi has set up 'Containers for Change' bins at our Service Sites and Head Office. We would be appreciative to receive containers. Alternatively, you can recycle your containers at the *Containers for Change* site and quote **Yumba Bimbi's ID: C10052122**. The monies received will support children and adults with disability in our community.

➔ Thank you Coffee Connect



Thank you to Coffee Connect for your donation to Yumba Bimbi Support Services. Did you know Coffee Connect exists to serve excellent coffee to raise funds that support young people across areas of QLD? All profits are distributed to local communities where events are being held. Follow them on Facebook to see where they will be next.

➔ The Yumba Yarn



Yumba Bimbi Support Services is a not for profit organisation in Emerald, Qld. It supports children and adults with disability within the Central Highlands and Western Qld region. We are proud to be showcasing our stories through our quarterly magazine, The Yumba Yarn. If you would like to download a copy, please visit our [website](#).



A MESSAGE

from the C.E.O

"I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the water to create many ripples." (Mother Theresa)

As leaders, we are acutely aware that what we throw into the water has a ripple effect. It takes only one stone to make multiple ripples to create a beautiful change in a body of water. The ripples touch the lives of our Participants and families whom we serve, our staff, our organisation, stakeholders, and the wider community. At times our work can feel small and insignificant, but I have come to learn that even the smallest ripple moves out from the centre, gaining momentum and building a current that is insurmountable.

One such leader who has impacted the lives of many people is Katrina Smith. Katrina came to our organisation 14 and half years ago and commenced in her role as Administration Officer. Demonstrating a strong passion for the human rights of people with disabilities and an abiding commitment to the vision, mission, and values of Yumba Bimbi, Katrina progressed into the role of Manager of Respite services. More recently, Katrina has held the position of Manager of Accommodation Services overseeing a portfolio of 24/7 Short Term Accommodation and Supported Living Houses.

Katrina has been a key figure in the life and story of Yumba Bimbi. Her quiet determination, her endless kindness and compassion coupled with her enduring leadership has created multiple ripples positively touching and impacting the lives of many people.

It is with sadness that I inform you that in December we will farewell our much-loved colleague and friend as Katrina and her family relocate to the Capricorn Coast. Katrina has taken up a Support Coordination role with our friends at Access Recreation in Rockhampton.

Katrina, please know that even when the ripples of your leadership and influence has gone from your view, they will continue on in the lives of many people and in many ways after all, "what we do in life..... echoes in eternity." (Maximus, in Gladiator)

**Rachel Freeman
C.E.O**



YB would like to thank **Stadium Premier Fitness** for their generous \$1,000 donation from their first birthday family fun day. The money received will go directly into upgrading facilities for our Baking Program. THANK YOU!



Join us by
subscribing to
our mail list

Our quarterly Yumba Yarn magazine celebrates diversity and inclusion in our community. The Yumba Yarn will keep you up to date with everything that is happening at YB. We'd love you to come on board!



<https://www.yumbabimbi.com/yumba-yarn>



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO COUNTRY

Yumba Bimbi Support Services acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we meet, work and learn.

We pay respect to the First Nation's peoples; their elders, past, present and emerging.

We value cultural diversity in our region and view Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and heritage as integral in a shared national identity.

We have a strong commitment to building inclusive and vibrant communities.

We are committed to providing services and opportunities that are respectful and accessible to all members of the community.



The Sparkle in her eyes

From left: YB Support Worker Heidi, YB Participant Taylor, and YB Support Worker Ava.





The skills and attributes of Ava and Heidi, YB Support Workers demonstrate this. "Their confidence in manual handling and kind and caring nature, as well as being similar in age," comments Amanda, makes Ava and Heidi a great match with Taylor. Amanda says, "Ava and Heidi compliment each other." Ava reflects on the type of experiences she engages in with Taylor,



"We do things together, go out for lunch and go to the movies. We like to do girlie stuff. We paint our nails and go for walks. We also talk about our lives, Taylor laughs about this!"

Taylor travels from her home on a property in Blackall to access our YB Short Term Accommodation. Amanda, a YB Senior Support Worker, along with the Rostering Team at Head Office takes into consideration the staff who will be rostered to best meet Taylor's needs and interests. Amanda explains, "Rostering is great at knowing the skill set of the staff, and also who works well with our clients. With every shift, staff work to each other's strengths." This ensures optimal individualised client-focused care and support.

At YB, our role is to support our participants to reach their life goals, and for Taylor these goals include social participation; being with people her own age; and involving herself in experiences of her choice. We think these photo are a delightful example of this.



POSTCODE 4702

Sapphire Central

Anakie Siding

Bogantungan

The Willows

Rubyvale

YUMBA BIMBI WAS RECENTLY WELCOMED INTO THE HOMES OF SOME OF OUR YB PARTICIPANTS LIVING AT THE GEMFIELDS.

PARTICIPANTS REFLECTED ON HOW THE VARIOUS SUPPORTS OFFERED BY YB, AND OTHER LOCAL SERVICES, ARE CONTRIBUTING TO POSITIVE, LIFE-LONG IMPACTS FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL.

THE GEMFIELDS IS A COMMUNITY THAT IS HAPPILY EMBRACING THE CONTINUAL GROWTH IN SUPPORT AND SERVICES. LET US MEET THE PEOPLE WHO MAKE UP THE GEMFIELDS.

Meeting community needs

A word from

Marg

West of Emerald is a cluster of towns including Rubyvale, Sapphire Central, Anakie Siding, The Willows, and Bogantungan. The area is commonly known as The Gemfields where many people venture to find the ultimate Sapphire from the numerous mining claims. Marg, the Coordinator of the Gemfields Community Support Association (G.C.S.A) is one such person who, after basing herself at the Gemfields to fossick from 2000, decided on a permanent move to the area in 2006.

Living in the area and working for the organisation for 13 years, and 5 years in her current role, Marg has a deep understanding of the needs of the people within the Gemfields. Her role specifically relates to coordinating services to people of all ages including Domestic Assistance, Social Support, a Social Support Group, Transport, Respite, Meals on Wheels, and Personal Assistance.

From left: Marg with YB Support Coordinator Donna.



Marg's relationship with Yumba Bimbi was established in 2018 when YB NDIS Plan Management began supporting clients within the region; Support Coordination soon followed. The additional supports have been welcomed by the people living in the Gemfields. Donna expresses, "Initially, my role was getting the level of support my participants needed, and chose to have. Working in conjunction with the G.C.S.A and Yumba Bimbi Individual Supports, we have filled this void and now participants in the Gemfields are able to obtain their required supports."

"We are a unique community with a strong community spirit."

comments Marg. This ethos expressed by Marg ensures the support offered to the local community is personalised and accommodating which in turn, makes each person feel heard and respected for their choices. Donna elaborates, "Marg continues to be knowledgeable on the ground. She lives and works in her community and has taught me a lot about the way of the Gemfields people in order to get the optimal results for participants. We work together to fill shifts to have consistent services for participants so they are able to continue with their chosen supports. Any issues that arise, we work together to resolve for the best interest of our participants."

There has been a great deal of progress over the last few years with the introduction of NDIS funded YB Plan Management, Support Coordination, and Individual Supports in the region. Donna explains, "Building a local team of Support Workers in the Gemfields has been a huge success. We have 3x Support Workers who not only work in the Gemfields, they also reside there and understand the way in which people in the Gemfields live. Through our Support Coordination team, we have been able to advocate the needs of our participants to allied health teams." This creates greater opportunities for inclusion, safety, and accessibility in participants' own homes and the community.

Whilst there have been advancements with a variety of supports for the people of the Gemfields, Marg says, "Being rural remote, some of the challenges are sourcing new staff, sourcing staff with the qualifications for the job, sourcing allied health services that are able to come to the clients homes to do their assessments, as well as clients waiting weeks for doctor's appointments." Donna comments, "There are still ongoing challenges to bringing therapists to the Gemfields to provide face-to-face appointments to participants. They are either having to come to Emerald 60 Kms away for this or attend via zoom where the internet network is not so fantastic." Marg and Donna celebrate how far the community has come over the last few years; whilst also continuing to be an active voice for the people of the Gemfields in order to keep building on access to services and maintaining high-quality supports.

For Marg, she is comforted knowing there is a presence of two highly experienced organisations supporting people within her community. She elaborates,

“
A HUGE BENEFIT TO NDIS CLIENTS IS
KNOWING THAT THERE ARE TWO
ORGANISATIONS CHECKING ON THEIR CARE,
SUPPORT, AND WELLBEING. THEY CAN BE
CONFIDENT AND REASSURED THAT AS A
TEAM, DONNA AND I HAVE THEIR
WELLBEING ON TOP OF OUR LIST.
”

A word from

PETRA

Petra accesses a range of YB services. Petra says, "My my Support Coordinator assists me to maximise my NDIS funding. Without this funding, I would not be able to access all of these wonderful services and would find myself sitting at home." An application to NDIS for an off-road wheelchair for greater community access has increased Petra's independence as she no longer requires consistent individual supports to assist her in the community. Other home modifications under the NDIS include a new bed that moves level with Petra's wheelchair to minimise falls, and there is anticipation that concrete pathways and a bath will also be approved for her home in the near future. This is to ensure Petra has greater accessibility and safety within her home.

Petra comments on her experiences staying at YB's S.T.A. "Once a fortnight I access the respite house at Park Ave. Depending on what's happening I may choose to stay a night or two...the team is great at squeezing me in for an extra night last minute. Park Ave is a hub of life...never a dull moment, there is always something or someone to keep you entertained. If I am not going to the movies, dining out, shopping, or attending community paint class, you can find me relaxing being waited on hand and foot by the team!"

"I also have a wonderful team who assist me in the home, keeping me as independent as possible," says Petra. Alicia, a YB Senior Support Worker explains the unique position she finds herself in when helping Petra. She says, "One of the special things about helping Petra in her garden is tasting the fresh beans, sweet potatoes and, herbs. Petra taught me how to gently find the sweet potatoes that are ready to be taken from the dirt and together we made a meal with sweet potatoes and other fresh produce from the garden." Lastly, Petra adds,

Thanks to all that make it possible! To all the staff at Yumba Bimbi, thank you for all your dedication in assisting me to live the life that best suits me. You have all shown me how genuinely caring you are.



Top: Petra with her humorous persona, dressing in her unicorn hat specifically for the occasion of a photo.



Below: Petra with Donna.



Paul, a resident of the Gemfields benefits from the supports he receives from Donna, YB Individual Supports and, G.C.S.A. Marg explains, "There is a good mixture of personalities" supporting Paul, he has a community of help around him. This offers Paul diversity in conversation and life experiences. Supports work around the times that best suit Paul, or as he would suggest, "Everything works on Gemfields time."

Paul establishes connections to those who support him by creating nicknames for them. 'Goldilocks', also known as Alicia, a YB Senior Support Worker, and 'GoAnna', Paul's Physiotherapist are two examples. Paul comments on the quality of support he receives from those around him,

*They are
a good bunch!*

Since Paul has had Support Coordination under his NDIS Plan, there have been considerable home modifications approved to help minimise falls, improve safety and increase independence. This includes ramps into his home, a new specialised chair and, bed. "It has made a huge difference," comments Donna.

Paul also receives physiotherapy twice a week under his NDIS Plan. One physiotherapy session a week is within his home with Anna Dyer, (GoAnna). Speech Therapy is also anticipated to commence in the near future. Through these specialised therapies, Paul continues to regain his strength weekly. An arm-wrestling match was proof of this. Paul won!

A word from PAUL



Donna with Paul in a wrestling match.



A word from

Jasmin

Jasmin has recently joined YB, and despite being nervous to begin her NDIS supports, she has been "excited" says Jasmin, to receive many opportunities offered by YB. Jasmin participates in YB's weekly Baking Program, Women's Group, as well as receiving Individual Supports from local resident and, YB Support Worker Louisa. When she is alongside Louisa receiving Individual Supports, Jasmin enjoys visiting local attractions such as the wetlands, shops, parks, reading, and attending local community events. Jasmin has also started attending YB's Short Term Accommodation where she continues to develop new friendships and learn life skills. Jasmin comments on her experiences at our Short Term Accommodation,

**"It was fun,
I enjoyed it!"**

With the assistance of Support Coordination, Jasmin also sees an Occupational Therapist who is helping her with her emotions and her goal of achieving greater independence.

Louisa expresses her joy in observing the positive changes in Jasmin, "I have known Jasmin for years. Finally, she is on board with YB and has since grown in confidence and has soared in this time." Veikko, Jasmin's father continues,

"Jasmin loves being with YB because she is enjoying meeting new people and has lots of activities to do out and about in the community. I have noticed her being able to communicate with other people with confidence.

Jasmin and I really appreciate everything YB has been doing for her, we love being with YB. I am proud of her and enjoy seeing her grow into being a great young lady."

It is an exciting time for YB Participants and Staff at the Gemfields. As the number of Support Workers continues to grow, so too does the volume of services being offered to our YB participants. This creates sustainable, long-term solutions for the Gemfields community.



YB Support Worker Louisa with YB participant Jasmin.



Lurline with her daughter Nerrida.

Where innovative ideas meet success

A word from

Lurline

Lurline was faced with uncertainty when her regular mode of transport was suspended due to the risk of transporting her newborn. The inability to attend essential appointments such as physiotherapy was impacting Lurline's ability to continue to improve. Donna decided to think outside the box and contacted J-Lo Rides to see if they were interested in providing transport for both Lurline and her baby, Nerrida. Donna was able to organise NDIS to pay for any transport expenses under Lurline's NDIS Plan. The response from JLo was positive, and that is when the relationship between Lurline and JLo rides started. Jay explains, "We were very happy to help."

Jay and Sally are heavily involved in the local football club, and other sporting clubs. The value they place on the community is high; their desire as a local business to support other locals was without question, and has resulted in a genuine connection with Lurline, ensuring days with her are entirely Lurline focused. Lurline comments,

**"THEY HELP ME OUT A LOT.
GOING TO CHILD HEALTH,
PHYSIO, AND SHOPPING."**

From left: Jay & Sally with YB client Lurline holding her baby Nerrida alongside Donna, YB Support Coordinator.



"We currently have the general service in Emerald which provides rides around Emerald and surrounds, but Sally and I get a lot more fulfillment by actually being able to help someone." We know if we do not pick Lurline up, she misses out on medical treatment that she needs to recover," says Jay.

Consistency and reliability with supports are essential for Lurline; it also provides stability of income for the local business which otherwise is quite varied and unpredictable. JLo is open to anyone else in the community who feels they may benefit from this mode of transport through their NDIS funding. "Unfortunately we have heard there are more people around Queensland with the same problem. We would love to be able to help out as many people as we can and assist great organisations like Yumba Bimbi. We can do long or short distance travel. We have also just joined up with a local aged care provider to provide transport for their clients," comments Jay.

As for Donna, she says, "Jay and Sally are amazing. More people with NDIS funding should utilise them." This will in turn enable additional people with limited mobility and transport options, the opportunity to access much needed services and supports.



Eddy at his home.

A word from

Eddy

At home

A few minutes into our visit to Eddy's home, it was evident how Eddy's parents have so well adapted the environment to accommodate his needs. With the use of light-blocking curtains and bright yellow paint surrounding door frames, Helene, Eddy's mother explains the purpose for this. "Eddy, our son was born with Oculocutaneous Albinism Type 1a. His eyes are extremely sensitive to light. Because of his albinism, he is one of 170, 000 live births which has left him with no melanin. This resulted in the retinas and optic nerve not developing which has rendered him legally blind. Eddy does not see people, he sees silhouettes." Lindsay, Eddy's father comments, "Eddy has his own interpretation of colours, yellow is the best contrasting colour to use. Eddy dictates the lighting in the house."

Helene continues, "Eddy also had a cleft palate which rendered him profoundly deaf for the first 3 years of his life. At the age of 3, his hearing started to kick in. At this time he was thought to also have Autism Spectrum Disorder." Having his fidget toys close by as well as a house where every item and object has a specific place, helps Eddy with his need for order. This is particularly important so that he can rely on his memory and sense of touch to search for the item he requires.

Below photos: Eddy on holidays with his Mother and Father.



Above photo: Eddy on holidays with his Mother and Father, visiting his brother.

Photos of Eddy as an infant with his parents Helene and Lindsay.



Supports

"Eddy started an early intervention program at Emerald North State School at the age of 3 1/2 under the care of Linda Lamb. Throughout his education to year 12, our son has had a Teacher Aide to assist him," says Helene. Once school was completed there was a gap in supports for Eddy. Now at 20 years of age, he has received NDIS funding for the first time. This has opened up a new world of opportunities for Eddy. Helene comments,



Edward can now achieve his goals through Yumba Bimbi and their wonderful, caring staff.

”

“ Since being accepted by the NDIS, his life has changed for the better.

Through Eddy's NDIS funding, he is able to access YB's Short Term Accommodation; Group Programs such as Men's Group; Support Coordination, Occupational Therapy and, Speech Therapy sessions. He also has Individual Supports through YB. Eddy is accompanied by a YB Support Worker to the local library where he volunteers and also takes the opportunity to play a game of Hoy with community members.

Eddy comments on his time with YB and what he has most enjoyed, "I get to meet new people, I get to do new things." Helene states, "He enjoys his overnight stays at Park Avenue (S.T.A)." Helene adds, "Edward has become more outgoing with the help of Louisa, a YB Support Worker, the Men's Group and, through his case manager Donna Oliver. Donna also helped us through the nightmare of government paperwork. Eddy has now received his disability pension due to his blindness." Helene continues,

Eddy is learning to cook meals independently; these opportunities to increase life skills are offered at YB's Short Term Accommodation. This year, it was Eddy's first time staying overnight away from his family. Pairing Eddy with Jasmin, his long-time friend in overnights stays helps both Jasmin and Eddy with familiarity in what can be a big step. "Edward's long-term goal is to have assisted independent living through Yumba Bimbi. He told us just recently that he doesn't want to leave home yet but is preparing a future of his own one day," comments Helene.

Eddy with Jasmin learning to cook meals at YB's Short Term Accommodation.

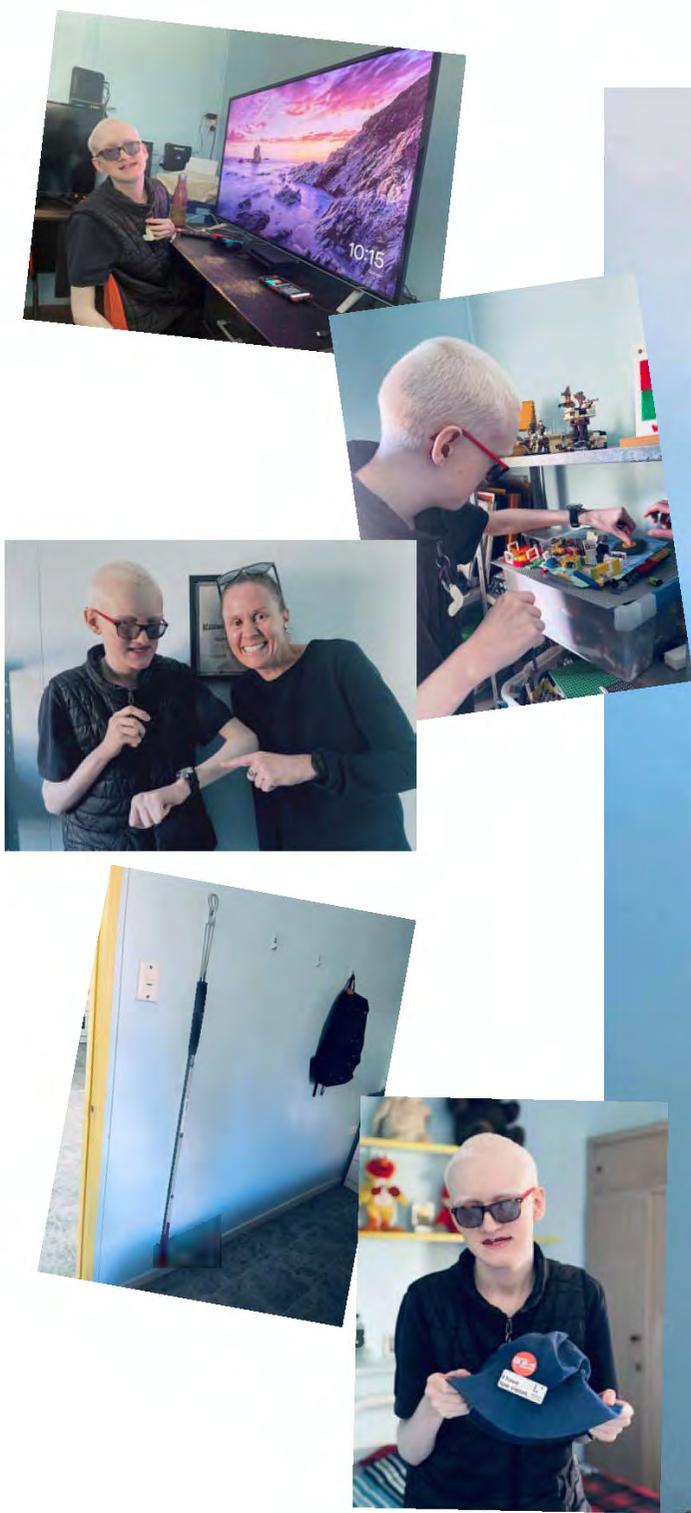


Helene explains Eddy's interests and we learn about the importance of his TV. "Our son loves computer games. His monitor is a 55 inch TV," says Helene. Helene and Lindsay use the large screen to place photos of people and places Eddy has visited so that he can gain the best visual possible. This can only be achieved by Eddy seeing the image on the screen, section by section until he pieces the image together in his mind. Helene gives an example of a family holiday where Eddy was at the water's edge. It is not until Eddy's parents place the photograph on his TV screen that he can put into context where exactly he was. Eddy's parents take all effort to ensure his experiences with the world around him are maximised through the implementation of various processes.

As Eddy's Support Coordinator, Donna was successful in placing an application for a new watch on behalf of Eddy to NDIS. This is a unique watch in that it speaks. Donna has also arranged a functional capacity assessment for Eddy which will further help identify his specific needs. Eddy is hoping NDIS funding will purchase a new cane that has an in-built sensor that identifies any low-hanging objects such as low branches. This will enhance Eddy's sense of safety when out in the community.

From top left: Eddy with his T.V.
 Eddy pointing to his fidget toys which help keep him relaxed.
 Eddy with Donna, pointing to his new watch.
 Eddy's cane is always kept in the same place.
 Eddy with his vision impaired sign on his hat.

Below right: Helene (L), Eddy (M), Donna (R) standing in the yellow door frame.



Future aspirations

During the time spent with Eddy in his home, there was an enormous amount of support, nurturing, devotion and humour. Helene and Lindsay have provided him with all the necessary resources and support to ensure Eddy has a fulfilled and rich life. At YB, we are grateful to be able to share in the next chapter of Eddy's life, supporting him to reach his goals. We cannot wait to see the months and years ahead unfold.

*The future is
completely open
and we are
writing it moment
to moment.*

PEMA CHODRON

From left: Eddy with YB Support Worker Sam.



OUR SERVICES

Yumba Bimbi provides supports for people with an NDIS plan

Phone us on 4987 7933 to see how we can help you.

CENTRE BASED GROUPS
IMPROVED LIFE CHOICE

TRANSPORT

PLAN MANAGEMENT

SUPPORT COORDINATION

IMPROVED DAILY LIVING SKILLS

IMPROVED HEALTH AND WELLBEING

ASSISTANCE TO ACCESS THE COMMUNITY

INCREASED SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

24 HOUR SUPPORTED ACCOMMODATION

SHORT-TERM ACCOMMODATION

ASSISTANCE WITH DAILY LIVING

ASSISTANCE WITH SELF CARE

GROUP BASED COMMUNITY SUPPORT

High Expectations

when part of a team

Mica surrounded by her work colleagues.

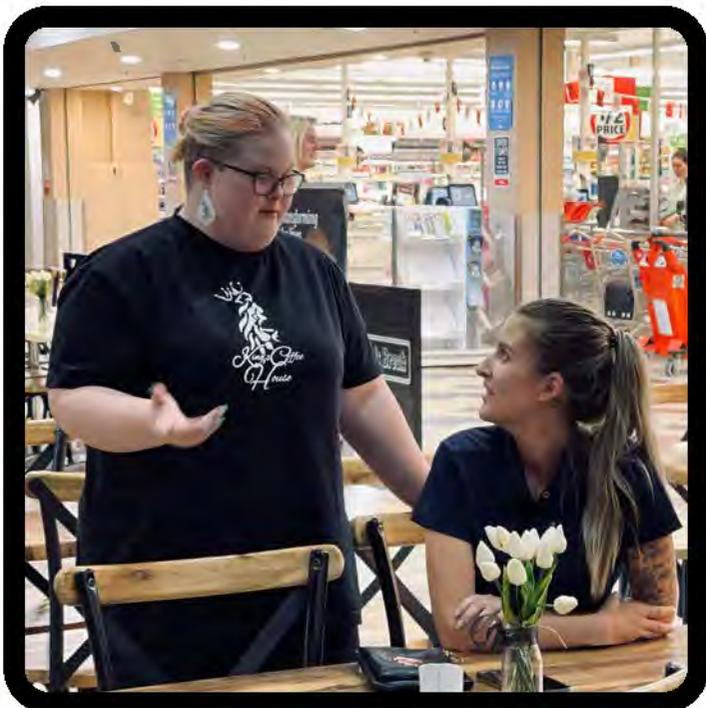


Hanky and Jeff have owned the Kings Coffee House for just over a year. In this time, they have shown their inclusive practices through employment opportunities within their business. Hanky explains how she welcomed the opportunity for Mica, who had been a regular customer, to potentially be employed by Kings Coffee House. "Mica approached me requesting a job. I didn't want to treat Mica any differently to anyone else in search of work so I asked Mica to bring in a resume, and then she had an interview."

Mica has been employed by Kings Coffee House for approximately 3 months. In that time Mica has learned to "Clear the tables, serve customers at the register, and make milkshakes and juices," says Hanky. Hanky will shortly be bringing Mica into the Kitchen as she is aware one of Mica's NDIS goals is to cook meals. "The kitchen is fast pace so we will see how she goes," comments Hanky. She continues,

“ I want Mica to keep learning more just like all staff. She is part of a team.

Mica speaking with Maddy, a Kings Coffee House customer.



Top: Mica taking a milkshake to a customer. Below left: Mica being guided to use the register to take orders. Below right: Mica being supported to make a milkshake.



When employing diversity in the workplace, strengthening one's own character is often an outcome. Hanky reflects, "Mica has taught me to be specific with what I ask. To slow down. To be gentle."

Hanky is pleased to have Mica on board, explaining the qualities she brings to the workplace. "Mica is very polite and friendly. She always asks the customer how their meal is. She communicates well and she is easy to get along with. Feedback from customers has been positive," says Hanky.

Hanky expresses, "Giving opportunities to people costs nothing. If I can do something to help someone, I'd love to help."



Top: Mica with Hanky.
Below: Hanky helping to put on tailor made Kings Coffee House earrings to her staff.



Q&A WITH Brad



Our Yumba Bimbi Board Treasurer

About Brad

What is your main occupation?

Agribusiness Banking Manager for Westpac.

How long have you been part of the YB board?

3 years, time flies when you're having fun!

What brought you to YB?

I was invited to assist the board with corporate governance and financial management, initially as a board member and then as Treasurer for the past 2 years.

What skills/ experience/ knowledge do you bring?

Corporate governance and financial management, I have been involved in community organisations for more than 25 years.

What do you look forward to in terms of YB's future?

Continual growth and support to provide services to the communities of the Central Highlands and Central West. With growth comes growing pains, I am keen to ensure that we remain client-focused and not organisationally driven.

About the board

Since the very early days, Yumba Bimbi has enjoyed outstanding board leadership. The Yumba Bimbi board play a strategic role, and make major decisions on policy, strategic goals, legal matters, and finance. The board holds fast the vision and mission of building inclusive communities through strengthening choice and life opportunities in an open inclusive community.

The Yumba Bimbi board is made up of eight elected members who work in a voluntary capacity. The roles include: chair, treasurer, secretary, and five additional members. These members bring to the board a diverse range of skills and experience that strengthen the organisation's governance and standards of practice and quality.

“
**Stephen
Hawking**
”

Disability need
not be an
obstacle to
success



Join us!

Multiple Support Worker Positions Available

Do you want to be part of a dynamic, creative and committed team?
We want to hear from you.

Yumba Bimbi Support Services is an NDIS registered organisation in Central QLD. Due to exponential growth, the organisation currently has multiple Disability Support Worker positions available.

MULTIPLE DISABILITY SUPPORT WORKERS NEEDED IN EMERALD AND THE GEMFIELDS

Yumba Bimbi Support Services has several new positions available across a range of services such as Short-Term Accommodation, Community Access, Centre-based Programs, and Individual Support (in-home and in the community).

The successful candidates will:

- Be employed on a Permanent or Casual basis,
- Have the ability and be willing to work in a diverse range of settings including, but not limited to, a person's residence, YBSS service sites, community groups and, other community settings,
- Undertake shift work, including overnight sleepover shifts and weekend work on a rotational roster,
- Hold a current Qld driver's licence,
- Have a roadworthy vehicle to transport clients,
- Have a current first aid and CPR (or ability to obtain),
- Have a current Criminal History Screening (yellow card) (or ability to obtain),
- Have a current Working with Children check (blue card) (or ability to obtain), and
- A Certificate III or IV in Disability or Individual Support, or a qualification similar in the community services sector is highly desirable.
-

Successful candidates will be provided with:

- A Samsung tablet
- A flexible, supportive workplace
- Continuous professional development opportunities

Only applicants who have a strong focus on quality service delivery and a genuine interest in supporting people with disability are encouraged to apply.

Please email your cover letter and resume through to tayla.brown@yumbabimbi.com.au



It takes a village to raise a child

What is Centre for Play Therapy?

Centre for Play Therapy (C4PT) is a local organisation providing child-centred, non-directive play-based therapy for children from 2-18 years of age, and occasionally adults depending on their specific needs. C4PT works alongside children who are experiencing social, emotional, behavioural difficulties and/or challenges in learning. The environment offers a space for any child who has experienced adversity to immerse themselves in play, accompanied by a qualified Play Therapist. C4PT is NDIS registered and accept a number of funding types. They also have a fee schedule for private paying clients.

Gabby, a registered Play Therapist says, "At C4PT, we follow a theoretically based approach to counselling that builds on the normal communication and learning processes of children. We strive to provide an environment that allows children the freedom to be themselves and express themselves at their own pace and in a safe environment."



From left: Gabby with Cara and Finnleigh.

Knowledge about child development and disability matters

With a Bachelor's Degree in Psychological Science, a Certificate III in Disability, and 13 years in the disability sector as a former YB team member, Gabby is well suited to the role of Play Therapist. She comments, "I have specific knowledge around children with disabilities and experience working with children with complex behaviours and support needs. I feel this experience has assisted me in developing patience and understanding towards the needs of the children in our community and their families." In addition, Gabby's training in psychoeducation and psychosexual education compliments her ability to guide and educate all children and their families.

Gabby's unique connection with YB

"I am a very passionate advocate for Yumba Bimbi and still consider myself a YB family member, even after my resignation earlier this year. I had worked for Yumba Bimbi for 13 years, beginning my traineeship with them during high school. However, my unique connection with YB begins with my Mum being the founding Manager. I have been raised in a family where the rights of people with disabilities are equal to ours and where those around me are not seen as less than or different from us. I have had the privilege of having Yumba Bimbi in my life since I was a young girl, and have been a part of many incredible people's lives. Now with my work at C4PT, I am able to work with YB participants in a different aspect. I am able to support them in a therapeutic manner, working with their Support Coordinators, Jose and Donna; liaising with YB Plan Manager, Nikki; and/ or seeing YB Support Workers in the waiting room. I still feel as though I am connected to the YB team," states Gabby.

How C4PT helps the individual child, and the family

Finnleigh began attending C4PT in January through his NDIS Plan. Cara, Finnleigh's mother says Finn is "Very funny, who cracks lots of jokes, loves bugs, mud, spiders, and Lego." He also has what Cara describes as "Extra Spicy Autism and ADHD," which is why the family decided to explore specialised support options for Finnleigh. "Coming to C4PT has made such a huge difference. Finn is now able to regulate his emotions in a much more healthy way. Previously when he was overwhelmed he would do laps around the house and couldn't vocalise what he was feeling and why he was running. He didn't have the coping mechanisms. I tried to help him with this but he wasn't taking it in. Now he stops and thinks," states Cara. Gabby has also supported Finn and the family with transitioning to school by writing a letter to Finn's future school about him, his triggers, and what helps him stay calm to ensure a successful transition.

Cara continues to explain the influence Gabby has had towards supporting not only Finn but the family as a whole. Going the extra mile to ensure Finn's emotional wellbeing is maintained is Gabby's priority. Cara comments, "Gabby is amazing. When our Dog passed away, she phoned to see if Finn needed an extra session that week to process his feelings. Also, when Gabby was first aware that my husband had cancer, she messaged me to check in to see if Finn needed to come in. That is above and beyond. That is so beautiful." We all need supports and services to help navigate parenthood in order to successfully nurture our children throughout their childhoods and beyond. Gabby's actions epitomise what it means to be part of a caring and supportive community.

I am a local, born and bred. I feel that has played a very important role in the networking and the community involvement aspect of my role.

Cara accesses YB Plan Manager Nikki to help navigate NDIS invoicing and hopes that Finn's NDIS Plan review will allow him greater funding and therefore access to other supports and therapies such as physio, as well as much needed equipment and resources to meet Finn's sensory and developmental needs. In the meantime, Cara appreciates the existing supports which has made significant changes to Finn. Aferalll, it does take a village to raise a child.

Finnleigh engaging in a therapy session with Gabby.



Recognising those who help to create and shape our community.

Yumba Bimbi collaborated with [Edge Studio](#) to create material to highlight the contribution our YB COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS have made to building inclusive communities for people living with disability.

We heard the words of our participants and their families describe how each person's life has been influenced as a result of inclusive opportunities presented by local businesses.

Our YB employees shared their stories on what it means to work alongside an individual reaching their goals and, we heard from our YB Community Champions explaining the role they play.

Thank you to our YB Community Champions for your commitment to our community. Please visit our FB page or Yube Tube 'Yumba Bimbi -Stories of Champions' to view these inspiring clips.

If you think your workplace could open opportunities for people living with disability, please contact Yumba Bimbi on 07 4987 7933 to find out more.





Living
with

dyslexia

It took 48 years before Carol, a YB Support Worker finally had answers to her life long concerns around the way she learned. It was a trip back to Scotland in 2016 where she engaged in formal testing with the results returning a diagnosis - dyslexia.

People with dyslexia often have trouble with written language yet no two people living with dyslexia are the same. The brain is very complex, life experiences and severity of dyslexia determine how much a person is impacted throughout their day to day functions. Carol explained the relief of having this diagnosis so that she was able to implement specific strategies to help her throughout her life.

Today, Carol uses her personal experiences of overcoming her feelings of isolation, challenges, and her difference as a means to support and encourage the participants she works alongside. Carol says she explains to participants that she has found ways of overcoming challenges that are typical with having dyslexia and hopes that YB participants can see this as motivation to continue to achieve all they would like to in their lives.

Carol is passionate about her role as a Support Worker for YB. "I relate to some of our participants because I have had the same struggles as they have." Carol's intentions in her role is to be "The person I would want in my life. Someone to say what do you need me to help you with today," says Carol.

Carol is also appreciative of how YB accommodates to her specific needs, from offering more time to process new learning material and online courses, as well as ensuring there are colleagues working alongside Carol to explain new concepts. At YB, we stand for our vision and mission of building inclusive communities.

The serenity of a genuine friendship

Carey and Jonno first met almost 10 years ago through YB. When Covid required the delivery of supports for our participants to be modified, YB Support Workers, in agreement with Jonno and Carey came up with a plan to keep achieving their NDIS goals.

Together and in adherence with Covid measures, Carey welcomed Jonno into his home where they continued to expand on their cooking skills through the YB Baking Program. This created further opportunities for Carey and Jonno to strengthen their friendship. Since that time, they now meet up each week at the Botanic Gardens, followed by a coffee in town for morning tea.

Carey and Jonno look forward to Tuesdays. They talk about football, the weather, and winning the lotto. Both are quick-witted so there is balance in their banter. They discuss their hopes for a camping trip together, and as Carey states, "He is my mate." Stacey, a YB Senior Support Worker says, "The friendship between Carey and Jonno has been uplifting to see."

From left: Jonno and Carey.



Congratulations!



Our YB C.E.O

Rachel Freeman

has been nominated and elected by industry peers across Qld to a position on the

National Disability Services State Advisory Committee

Committee members influence policy and decision-making in the disability sector.

I hope to be a strong voice for people living with disability and NDIS providers in rural and remote communities.



IN PARTNERSHIP WE LEARN

Top: Monique Evans, RTO Manager
Middle: Tayla Brown, YB Human Resources Officer
Below: Rosemary Dale Classroom Teacher

Yumba Bimbi welcomed the opportunity to mentor Marist College students for the practical component of their Certificate III in Health Services Assistance. Conversations around the number of hours dedicated to the practical placement, the number of students involved and, the overall expected outcome was discussed between Marist College Teachers Rosemary Dale and Monique Evans, alongside YB Human Resources Officer Tayla Brown.

Tayla comments on the initial steps involved with introducing the Marist College students to Yumba Bimbi. "Vas our Senior Support Worker and I visited Marist College to conduct a formal induction with the students. It was important the students had an understanding of YB's vision and mission, code of conduct and, NDIS code of conduct prior to starting with us." It was also an opportunity for Tayla and Vas to answer any questions from the students.

Rosemary Dale explains, "The placement focus is on providing people-centred care, and identifying and respecting individual needs of clients. The students were fortunate to be experiencing a range of learning opportunities under the guidance of the Yumba Bimbi staff. They have thoroughly enjoyed their placements. The students enjoyed their interactions with the clients and staff, and appreciate the range of activities they were able to be involved in. Despite some initial nerves and apprehension, they all settled in well."

Rosemary continues, "Marist College cannot express enough how valuable this partnership has been to our students. In addition to practical skills, the placement has assisted several of the students when making decisions regarding future career pathways. A massive thank you to everyone involved in making this happen for our students!"

YB has enjoyed having the Marist College students join our team and look forward to further collaboration in the future. It is a privilege to highlight the important role we play in building inclusive communities.



Above from left: Marist student Hannah with YB Participant Courtney.
Middle from left: YB Participant Martin is being supported by Marist students Heath (C) and Lachlan (R) to apply for a job online.
Below from left: YB Participant Kane with Marist student Adam enjoying a common interest- drawing, whilst waiting for a BBQ lunch at the Botanic Gardens.

BAKED FRESH

The Yumba Bimbi Baking Program started 3 years ago with our Senior Support Worker Steph as the facilitator. Steph, who is also a qualified Pastry Chef introduced our YB Participants to basic elements of cooking. As our YB participant's skills increased with weekly guidance and practice, so too did their desire to create more complex and technical recipes; with this came the need to purchase more equipment.

The Baking Group decided to raise funds by selling their baked goods at their cake stall. Over \$600 was raised which was used to purchase baking trays, cupcake trays, cake tins, food processors, hand-held mixers, mixing bowls, storage containers, baking mats, scales, and a benchtop mixer. A Christmas Hamper raffle shortly after raised over \$300 which also contributed to the purchasing of more items. Courtney, our YB participant comments,

**Baking for the
community felt amazing.**

Steph elaborates, "All items were purchased locally, supporting local businesses." The introduction of the new equipment allowed for every participant to work independently, further increasing their confidence and skills.

More recently, the idea for the Baking group to learn how to cater for functions came into fruition with the group catering for our YB Professional Development Day. "It was an opportunity to showcase our diversity of skills," states Steph. The Professional Development day not only demonstrated to our participants what they can achieve but also show everyone else how amazing they are," says Steph.

There is much more to accomplish within the Baking group. Courtney wishes "To learn how to do more gluten-free foods to include YB participant Kajal." They also hope to continue to develop their repertoire of skills which include bringing an expert or two into the program for a Master Class. Kirra and Courtney have expressed their interest in learning how to make objects and animals out of fondant.

Following on from these Master Classes, the Baking Group hopes to develop a YB lunch service to the township of Emerald by selling freshly baked pies and tarts. Kirra explains,

**I would be happy serving our
local community. It feels
good to give back to others,
it is important to me.**

As a long-term goal, the ambitious group would also like to offer classes to the public where the participants become the support staff for those attending the sessions. Mica states she would love the opportunity to become a facilitator and help others who come in for a class. The icing on the cake would be for the participants to be paid for their efforts, all of which Bec, Nan, Kirra, and other YB participants have openly expressed.

At YB, we are all about providing choice and life opportunities to our participants. To reach their NDIS goals with the guidance of our Support Workers with a strengths-based approach. Watch this space!

What do some of our YB participants think about being part of the Baking Group?



I like cooking, making biscuits and cakes.

Lou



I feel happy. I have learned to decorate.

Jasmin



I feel very good, it makes me happy. I feel very proud.

Nan



I love being here with my friends.

Tina



I am gaining confidence.

Kirra



It's fun. I measure by myself and cook by myself.

Bec



JOHNS BOTH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

When Lockdown impacted John's family from visiting for his 60th Birthday, friends of John from YB had no hesitations in throwing a party for him. Thank you to YB participants for creating a great day for everyone to join in and celebrate this milestone. John had a wonderful time.



From left: Helen, John and Tony.



From left: Jess, YB Support Worker with her daughter Memphis and John.

#EMPOWERED



From left: Courtney and Lou painting the bollards.

Recently, Senior Support Worker Niamh introduced the Creative Minds Group to YB's meeting agenda template. Within the template are actionable agenda items, one included is Workplace Health & Safety. Channy, a YB Senior Support Worker then led the group into further discussion. Bec, a YB participant explained she would feel more comfortable if the parking bollards had a contrasting colour such as yellow to help with her vision.

The group immediately decided they need not look any further and were proactive in their decisions. They purchased the paint and brushes; and painted the bollards.

This is decision making. This is choice and control. This is team work. This is YB.

Advertise with us!



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When you are part of our Yumba Yarn, the monies received through advertising is directed back into our programs and initiatives. Therefore you are directly supporting an individual with disability in our community.

Contact Head Office for further information on 07 4987 7933 or admin@yumbabimbi.com.au



A MINUTE WITH

Melissa

HERE ARE 5 FUN FACTS FROM OUR FOREVER INQUISITIVE & INFORMATIVE MELISSA!

Did you know?

1.

...Your heart beats about 100,000 times a day.

2.

...Your body has more than 600 muscles.

3.

...Your ears never stop growing.

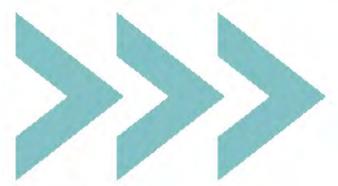
4.

...Your fingernails grow faster than your toenails.

5.

...You are taller in the morning because the cartilage in your bones compresses during the day due to gravity.

Pay it forward



There are many reasons to smile knowing good deeds are happening around the world and within our local communities. We now have another 'feel good' initiative to keep our hearts happy. Introduced by our YB Support Worker Nicky McKey, and partnering with Kings Coffee House, the pay-it-forward scheme here in Emerald will undoubtedly be popular.

Approaching Kings Coffee House to be part of the initiative was an easy decision. As Nicky suggests, "Kings Coffee House is a lovely community-minded business whom we consider to be YB Community Champions. They provide employment opportunities for people with disabilities in our local community and have a community spirit. They are an asset to the Central Highlands." YB appreciates their support in being part of the cause. Hanky, owner of Kings Coffee House is excited to be taking part in the initiative. She says, "There are a lot of people who will be happy to help out."

The process involves paying for coffee in advance to anyone who feels they do not have the money to buy one. It is an anonymous contribution; an anonymous exchange of goodwill.

Nicky says, "I felt like during Covid, people's mental health could be at risk so I thought it would be a positive way to spread kindness amongst the community. Even the smallest deed can make someone smile." Nicky continues,



The pay-it-forward concept tells us that we can make a difference in the lives of others. It tells us that when someone is kind to us, it's a good idea to repay mankind several times over by doing good things for others. We've got such a strong community here. The initiative empowers and enriches community morale and goes the extra mile to help others.



From left: YB Support Worker Nicky with Hanky, owner of Kings Coffee House.

[Kings Coffee House](#) is located in The Plaza, Emerald. Feel free to contribute to the cause!



NDIS Practice Standards

What are the NDIS Practice Standards?

The NDIS Practice Standards create an important benchmark for providers to assess their performance, and to demonstrate how they provide high quality and safe supports and services to NDIS participants. Together with the NDIS Code of Conduct, the NDIS Practice Standards will assist NDIS participants to be aware of what quality service provision they should expect from NDIS providers.

The outcomes of the NDIS Practice Standards are included within the National Disability Insurance Scheme (Provider Registration and Practice Standards) Rules 2018. The National Disability Insurance Scheme (Quality Indicators) Guidelines 2018 list the outcomes of the NDIS Practice Standards and also the associated quality indicators NDIS providers can use to demonstrate conformity with the outcomes.

The NDIS Practice Standards consist of a core module and several supplementary modules that apply according to the types of supports and services NDIS providers deliver.

Below is a section from the **Rights and Responsibilities** under the Core Module.

These NDIS Practice Standards set out the rights of participants and the responsibilities of providers that deliver supports and services to them.

Person – centred supports

Outcome: Each participant accesses supports that promote, uphold and respect their legal and human rights and is enabled to exercise informed choice and control. The provision of supports promotes, upholds and respects individual rights to freedom of expression, self-determination and decision-making.

To achieve this outcome, the following indicators should be demonstrated:

- 1. Each participant's legal and human rights are understood and incorporated into everyday practice.
- 2. Communication with each participant about the provision of supports is responsive to their needs and is provided in the language, mode of communication and terms that the participant is most likely to understand.
- 3. Each participant is supported to engage with their family, friends and chosen community as directed by the participant.

YUMBA BIMBI SUPPORT SERVICES

Providing supports for individuals with disability across
the Central Highlands and Western Qld Region
for over 20 years. Ph: 07 4987 7933

