

**Building stronger
communities**

HOPE
Project

HOPE Project Update – August 2017

The communities of Charleville and Cunnamulla work together to provide services, initiatives and programs that support their young people to lead healthy lifestyles and to reach their full potential by:

IMPROVING EDUCATION, TRAINING & EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

1. Beyond the Broncos

Earlier this year the HOPE Project supported a submission to the Australian Government for Charleville and Cunnamulla to be included in the latest tranche of communities to work with the Beyond the Broncos Girls' Academy. The Beyond the Broncos Program works with young women to provide local, in-school support for their success at school and beyond. The aims of the Program include: in-school mentoring and support from the Brisbane Broncos Student Support Officers; regular presentations on culture, lifestyle and careers; developing and supporting career pathways; collaborative relationships with community groups; and exclusive access to Broncos staff, players and facilities. The program will commence in Charleville State High School and Cunnamulla P-12 State School in Term 4 2017.

The existence of the Beyond the Broncos Program in Charleville and Cunnamulla is significant for the HOPE Project as it contributes directly toward the project's goal to improve school performance and employment prospects for young people.

2. Barista Training

The HOPE Project is finalising plans for bringing its third barista training program to Charleville and Cunnamulla in November 2017. Year 11 and 12 students from Charleville State High School and Cunnamulla P-12 State School and local café owners will be invited to participate in the training program where they will learn skills in the art of coffee making.

Since the program's inception in 2015, several students have gone on to find employment in hospitality businesses locally and in other communities across the state. The HOPE Project is eager to provide young people with the same opportunity this year.

3. Fabulous Lemon Drops

HOPE has been working with libraries and kindergartens in Charleville, Cunnamulla and St George to confirm visits from children's educational entertainers, the [Fabulous Lemon Drops](#). This group will bring interactive musical storytelling targeted for children aged 0–8 and their parents that involves a high level of audience interaction. The performers' underlying message is to impart a love of reading to both the parents and children.

These visits are now confirmed for St George: 11 September; Cunnamulla: 12 September; and Charleville: 13 & 14 September

4. Deadly Recruits Camp

While a detailed update was provided in the July 2017 HOPE Project newsletter, the Project wanted to highlight the widespread positive media the 2017 Deadly Recruits camp attracted via local media, including the generous and ongoing support of our friends at 4RR in Charleville, a [Charleville PlusMore article](#), media releases, school newsletters, and many more. Special thanks to all project partners who supported the camp. We're now in the early planning stages for 2018.

IMPROVING PHYSICAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL WELLBEING

5. Bangarra Rekindling Youth Program

In response to the community's requests for more arts and cultural opportunities for young people, the HOPE Project has been researching potential new cultural opportunities. After preliminary discussions with HOPE and support from local community leaders, Bangarra Dance Theatre has confirmed that Charleville has been selected as a site for their [Rekindling Youth Program](#) in 2019. Many thanks to those community members who provided letters of support; these were invaluable in strengthening our application.

While Bangarra has over two decades experience working with indigenous communities, the Rekindling Youth program has been working with communities since 2013 to understand their local stories and traditions and to express this via movement and music. The Program has seen the positive impact on young people's pride and self-worth as they gain a better understanding of their cultural heritage. The Rekindling Program, like the HOPE Project, recognises that the choices and pastimes of young people can impact their entire lives, as well as impact their families and communities, so seeks to provide a program for young people to spend their time in a positive, healthy way.

6. Country Kitchens Cooking programs

The HOPE Project team is currently working with Queensland Country Women's Association's *Country Kitchens* program to explore opportunities for their mobile cooking program to visit Charleville. A CWA community program is scheduled to run on Thursday 21 September, Thursday 19 October and Thursday 23 November and HOPE is in discussions for the Country Kitchens workshops to be extended to the State High School. The focus of the youth workshops will be nutrition and how to modify a recipe to ensure it's healthy (e.g. reducing sugar, salt etc.) and to use what's available in the pantry. HOPE is keen to work with the Country Kitchens to enhance existing messages in the community about healthy eating.

SUPPORTING PLANNED AND INTEGRATED SERVICES IN THE COMMUNITY

7. Local Drug Action Team – Charleville

The Charleville LDAT, led by the Charleville Police Service, was successful in obtaining \$30,000 in the first round of LDAT funding to deliver programs and to complete service mapping of Alcohol and Drug Services for Charleville and surrounding areas. In August, the HOPE Project supported service mapping work to better understand what alcohol and drug support services are available in the community, and how these integrate together.

The Cunnamulla LDAT, led by Paroo Shire Council, has also submitted a successful application for LDAT funding under Round 2. The HOPE team was happy to support PSC in drafting their submission, the final results of which will be announced mid to late September.

Questions, comments, ideas or concerns?

Please feel free to contact the HOPE Team.

Miriam Airey
3708 5428

Miriam.Airey@health.qld.gov.au

Sue Eustace-Earle
3708 5427

Suzanne.Eustace-Earle@health.qld.au