



**Building stronger
communities**

HOPE
Project

HOPE Project Update – October / November 2017

Much of October focused on finalising plans for several end-of-year programs. We've also been setting dates for programs and events next year, in line with the HOPE Project's four goals.

The HOPE Team also attended a training course on developmental evaluation. We want to refine the way we measure the impact of our work, and ensure the programs we support in Charleville and Cunnamulla are actually meeting project goals, as well as young people's needs and community expectations.

We also spent a lot of time applying for funding. The HOPE Team wrote several grant applications and funding submissions for various organisations in Charleville and Cunnamulla and we're delighted to report that we've had some very good news in relation to our efforts.

November was a busy month with visiting specialists and training programs. Young people across our communities were encouraged to have a go and learn new skills through hands-on participation.

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

IMPROVING EDUCATION, TRAINING & EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

1. Barista Training

Brisbane-based baristas Rhiannon Redmond and Amy Holdaway ran a comprehensive week-long Barista Training Course for school leavers and other secondary students in Cunnamulla and Charleville. Fifteen students in Cunnamulla worked hands-on over two days, and in Charleville 45 students worked in small groups and learned that there's more to good coffee than beans, milk and hot water.

This program's success is due to our dedicated and skilled baristas, highly motivated kids, supportive principals and teachers, and the schools' excellent commercial coffee machines and kitchen facilities.

Now in its third year, this barista program is a HOPE initiative; the 2017 program has been generously supported by RAPAD and both Cunnamulla P-12 SS and Charleville SHS.

2. Country Kitchens Cooking Workshop

Earlier this year, HOPE met with the Queensland branch of the Country Women's Association (QCWA) about the possibility of QCWA extending their *Country Kitchens* workshops to Charleville State High School.

Negotiations resulted in the QCWA running a 'Back to Basics' workshop in November for Home Economics students from Years 8 and 9. Country Kitchens dietician Alice Cameron worked with local CWA facilitator Susann Ranson to deliver a highly successful workshop.

Feedback from students, teachers and facilitators has been very positive and all involved have expressed their willingness to participate in similar workshops next year.

IMPROVING PHYSICAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL WELLBEING

3. Game On Queensland – Commonwealth Games Legacy Program

The HOPE team drafted a successful submission to Game On Queensland on behalf of Murweh Shire Council (MSC), requesting funds to support a multi-sport and fitness program in the Shire, aptly titled *Move-it Murweh*.

Game On Queensland grants are part of the Embracing 2018 Commonwealth Games Legacy Program, and MSC's *Move-it Murweh* has been awarded \$36,000 to fund nine sports and activities aimed at getting people active and connected.

4. QRL and NRL Returning to Charleville and Cunnamulla

Dates have been confirmed (late February) for games development and welfare officers from the QRL and NRL to visit Charleville and Cunnamulla where they'll run a series of sporting, fitness and welfare sessions.

The program is being developed in consultation with HOPE and relevant community members, and will also include community events. More to come ...

5. Bangarra Rekindling Youth Program

Rekindling's Artistic Director Sidney Saltner and Community Engagement Coordinator Libby Collins visited Charleville mid November. Sidney and Libby met with several local Bidjara Elders, Mayor Annie Liston, High School Principal Matt Samson, the HOPE Team and other community members, all of whom expressed willingness to support the Rekindling program.

The program will kick-off in Charleville with the first of three 'gatherings' scheduled for April 2018.

[Rekindling](#) is an intensive dance-based program with a vision to cultivate pride, kinship and a sense of custodianship in Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander secondary students. The participants research and gather stories with guidance from Elders within their communities, developing skills to produce thought-provoking dance theatre and community events.

SUPPORTING PLANNED AND INTEGRATED SERVICES IN THE COMMUNITY

6. Local Drug Action Team – Cunnamulla

HOPE has contributed to Cunnamulla's two successful LDAT submissions, which are led by the Paroo Shire Council (PSC). Round 2 resulted in a \$10,000 award and we have recently received the good news that PSC has been awarded a further \$15,000 to support a proposed youth mentoring program for Cunnamulla.

7. Local Drug Action Team – Charleville

Charleville's successful LDAT submission has contributed towards comprehensive mapping of alcohol and drug services for Charleville and surrounding areas. As part of this ongoing initiative, HOPE co-presented at an extensive scoping initiative that was attended by around 50 community members. Congratulations to Senior Constable Sarah Grayson for her tireless efforts towards this worthwhile initiative.

8. Western Queensland Primary Health Network

The HOPE Project's Steering Committee was delighted to welcome the CEO of the WQPHN, Stuart Gordon, and his colleagues Dr Hugh Burke and Barbara Schmidt at our November meeting. Stuart, Hugh and Barbara presented on their recent work to develop a child and maternal health model of care targeting children aged 0–8 years.

This presentation was especially relevant to the HOPE project and we're looking at ways of working with the PHN in the future.

Questions or comments?

Please feel free to contact the HOPE Team.

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