

# South East Regional Child and Family Committee COMMUNIQUE

- August 2015

\*\*\*\*\* SPECIAL EDITION \*\*\*\*\*



## Important Links:

- [RCFC Yammer Page](#)
- [Stronger Families Website](#)
- [Stronger Families Update: August 2015](#)



## Next SE RCFC meeting:

**Date:** 23 September 2015

**Time:** 9:30am – 12:30pm

**Venue:** PSU Conference Room,  
100 George Street, Beenleigh

## Welcome to a SPECIAL EDITION of the South East Regional Child and Family Committee (RCFC) Communique!

This edition will highlight the critical focus on the development of the **Family Support Service System Plan**, and the work of Local Level Alliances in achieving this by December 2015.

First though, the RCFC have been busy during the month of August and are keen to share updates and developments, following on from their last meeting on 12 August 2015.



August 2015: Telstra Insight Centre Presentation

The Committees' key priority areas were revisited with particular focus on:

## Future Meetings - 2015:

**Time:** 9:30am-12:30pm

**Venue:** PSU Conference Room,  
100 George Street, Beenleigh

## Dates:



4 November

9 December

## Visit NGO RCFC

## Members' websites

below!



[DVPC Gold Coast](#)



[Act for Kids](#)

## Integrated service delivery

**Youth Aspirations** – Gavin Nicholls and Scott Wood from Telstra presented an introduction to the Telstra Insight Centre in Sydney.

The South East Region's Child and Family Committee are currently developing the South East Region Youth Strategy for High Risk Young People. One of the projects within this strategy is the **Youth Aspirations** Initiative in partnership with Telstra, Klyp and Create Foundation. Ten young people in care from the South East Region will travel to Telstra's Customer Insight Centre in Sydney on November 18, 2015 as an opportunity to begin a journey exploring emerging technology and consider the possibilities around how we will work with young people in the future.

Telstra are hosting the event and Senior Executives from across government have committed to share this unique opportunity with the identified young people. The event will include:

- Tour of the Telstra Customer Insight Centre <http://insight.telstra.com.au/t5/Empowering-by-Design/Custom-built-for-customer-insight/ba-p/2424>
- Key note 'Futurist' presenter (Futurists - scientists who attempt to systematically explore predictions and possibilities about the future and how they can emerge from the present)
- Facilitated workshop to explore the possibilities for future technology and how this could assist young people in care into the future

This is an opportunity for young people to be inspired by a different way of thinking. Please consider any young people that you believe would benefit from this experience please contact Gerrie Beaumont on 3884 8828 or [Gerrie.beaumont@communities.qld.gov.au](mailto:Gerrie.beaumont@communities.qld.gov.au). RCFC members have been asked to consider how they can contribute, either financial or in-kind, to join in supporting opportunity.

**South East Region Youth Strategy for High Risk Young People** – The draft strategy was presented and is in final stages of change prior to endorsement.

**DET Presentation** – Sharyn Donald facilitated a presentation on working with early education and care with 0-8 year olds on language and development (Abecedarian program) as well as other DET lead initiatives in the region.

**Project Booyah** – Inspector Stephen Pyne from Queensland Police Service facilitated a presentation on Project Booyah, a 20 week program run by Police for 10 young people, targeting specific behaviours. Griffith University are providing evaluation of the program and results indicate a substantial reduction in recidivism as well as high number of employment following completion of the program.

## Place based planning to inform service delivery

- Progress surrounding the creation of the Family Support Service System Plan was provided (*further information provided below in this special edition Communiqué*).
- Local Level Alliance membership was explored to ensure appropriate representation at these meetings.



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[Uniting Care Community](#)



[WAVSS](#)



[The Benevolent Society](#)



[Kalwun](#)

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[Kurbingui](#)



[YFS Ltd.](#)



[Mercy Community Services](#)



## Driving cultural and behavioural change

- South East Region Family Support Service data was presented, with state-wide comparisons.

## SE RCFC Member Updates

**Domestic Violence Prevention Centre Gold Coast (DVPCGC):** DVPCGC have entered a partnership with Centacare to work across the Men's Perpetrator Program space in the region, and both agencies will work together to develop the Women's Advocate roles, the fundamental aspect of keeping women safe whilst male partners are participating in programming. Centacare and DVPCGC will review the Voluntary Intervention Order process and hope to develop more rigorous and accountable risk assessment and responses that may be considered in the review of the Domestic and Family Violence (DFV) legislation as one of the recommendations of the Bryce DFV Task Force. Act for Kids, The Benevolent Society continue to work collaboratively with DVPCGC to develop good practices responses to DFV in the FaCC and IFS. DVPCGC is reviewing ways to increase referrals from our service to the FaCC and IFS.

**The Benevolent Society:** Browns Plains Early Years Centre Manager has been active in contributing to the Quality Beginnings Quality Futures work being led by Office of Early Childhood Education and Care. Since negotiating to place Family and Child Connect (FaCC) workers from Logan at the Beenleigh Juvenile Justice and Domestic Violence Courts in June, the Magistrates and Police associated with both courts have welcomed our presence and referred a number of cases to our workers for advice, information and referrals. Agreement has been reached with The Family Place at Woodridge, operated by C & K Queensland for a worker from Logan FaCC to attend each Monday morning during the regular playgroup to provide a 'soft' entry point for local families to obtain information, advice and support.

**WAVSS Logan and WAVSS Across The Redlands:** WAVSS and YFS are working in joint team collaboration and sharing premises with Probation and Parole Redlands and Wynnum to conduct individual assessments and work with each of the men to check for group readiness in entering the new Perpetrator Intervention Program. Bay Islands - WAVSS is in the second round of women's groups for Cooking Classes and Art Therapy (aligned with School Term 3). At WAVSS Logan we are about to start a new open and rolling Women's Group to be held every Tuesday morning, where a series of drop-in and drop-out workshops and support group discussions will be facilitated by WAVSS senior counselling team on an ongoing basis. Children's Counselling - We have an ever-increasing demand and many referrals for our children's counselling program, and we have responded by adding additional staffing and group resources to WAVSS children's counselling work for the next 4-6 months. Extra responses include individual children's workshops and daily responses during the upcoming school holiday program.

**Gold Coast CPIU:** Gold Coast District CPIU has met with staff from ACT for Kids – Family and Child Connect, Gold Coast and discussed domestic and family violence matters and current referral processes.

**Metro South Addiction and Mental Health:** are busy preparing for the Positive Mindset Creative Festival on August 21st. The Positive Mindset Creative Festival is a project focusing on improving Youth Mental Health literacy within the community.

**Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services – Child Safety Services:** Principal Child Protection Practitioners facilitated a workshop surrounding domestic violence at the last FaCC Regional Implementation Group meeting. A trial of Structured Decision Making (SDM) tools within the FaCC organisations has commenced with initial feedback around the tool being positive. There has been a high uptake of, and enthusiasm for, the new practice framework within the region. We are maintaining a focus on strong stakeholder engagement including with CREATE, FaCC providers and Foster Care Queensland. Local Level Alliance meetings continue to occur on a monthly basis and are well attended. The Disability Services stream has been focused on NDIS Readiness and sessions have been held with regional staff. In Community Services there has been a focus on working collaboratively with a range of community and government agencies to develop and implement an engagement strategy aimed at changing social and community attitudes towards domestic and family violence.

**Mercy Community Services:** FaCC – Browns Plains/Beaudesert began operation on 27 July 2015. FaCC staff began employment on 10 July 2015 and undertook a two week process of induction. The staff group have met with both CSSCs and RIS to establish relationships and key points of engagement with families. Engaged with Communities for Children and Logan Together to continue to establish cross links in the Logan area with Browns Plains in relation to the Local Level Alliance. Agency visits and connections have occurred with local services.

**Lift Without Barriers:** 143 young people within the South East Region are attending the Youth Program. Ongoing roll-out of Signs of Safety framework is occurring across all programs, continuing to assist with targeted outcomes for young people. Next Steps After Care have received 35 additional clients in the month of July 2015. 158 young people are accessing the service through Connections brokerage. Outcomes for young people have included linking them back into education, housing, mental health and disability services; assistance to young mother; food and clothing packages, transport and phone credit; household items, rental assistance, transport costs and supporting young people moving between regions with associated costs and emotional support.

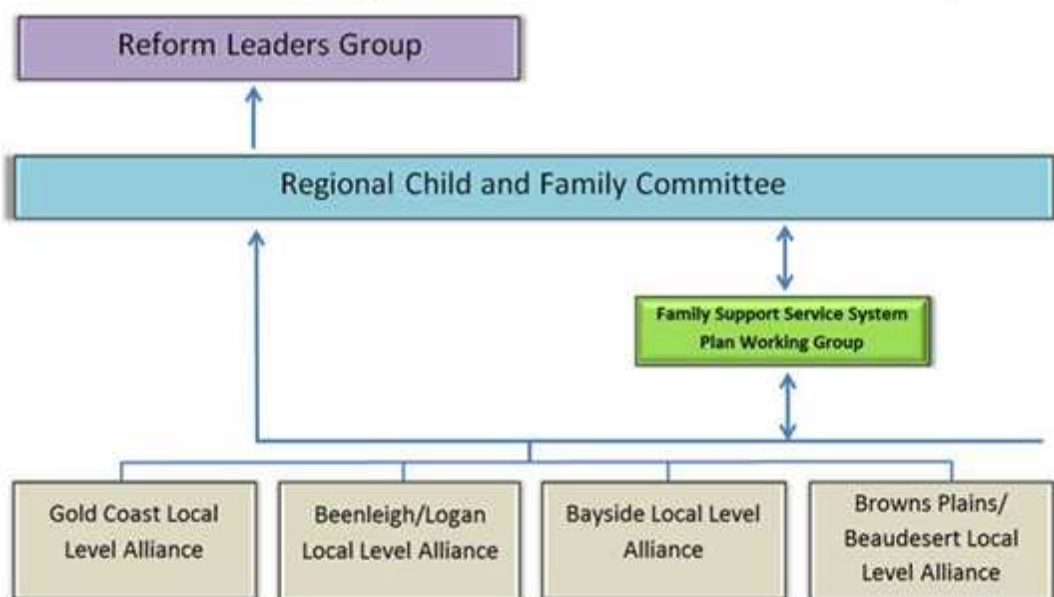
**YFS Ltd.:** Browns Plains/Beaudesert’s Intensive Family Support service office opened in Browns Plains on 27 July 2015. In the next month YFS will explore how other YFS services can operate from the Browns Plains office. These include legal advice, financial counselling and emergency relief. **R4Respect Ambassadors:** The youth led domestic violence prevention strategy is progressing. Its focus is on young people influencing other youth people with positive messages about respectful relationships through digital communication and peer activities. To date there are nine ambassadors. A launch is scheduled for the 4<sup>th</sup> September at St Francis College, Crestmead.

**\*\*\*\*\* Family Support Service Systems Plan \*\*\*\*\***

**Purpose:** The aim of the Family Support Service System Plan (FSSSP) is to describe the characteristics of a local community, analyse response to community need and inform local planning around service delivery to vulnerable children and families.

The South East Regional Child and Family Committee appreciate the value and importance of a collaborative approach to develop a solid FSSSP with which to consider future service delivery and investment for our region. Given the knowledge and expertise of the members of the Local Level Alliances (LLA) in the South East Region, the Regional Child and Family Committee has determined that the LLAs will be instrumental in the development of the plans locally. The significant involvement of LLAs will ensure the FSSSP is evidence-based and meaningful to the members of the Regional Child and Family Committee and the community of the South East region. The South East Regional Child and Family Committee will support the development of the FSSSP alongside a FSSSP Working Group made up of participants nominated by members of the Regional Child and Family Committee.

**Flowchart: Family Support Service System Plans - South East Region**





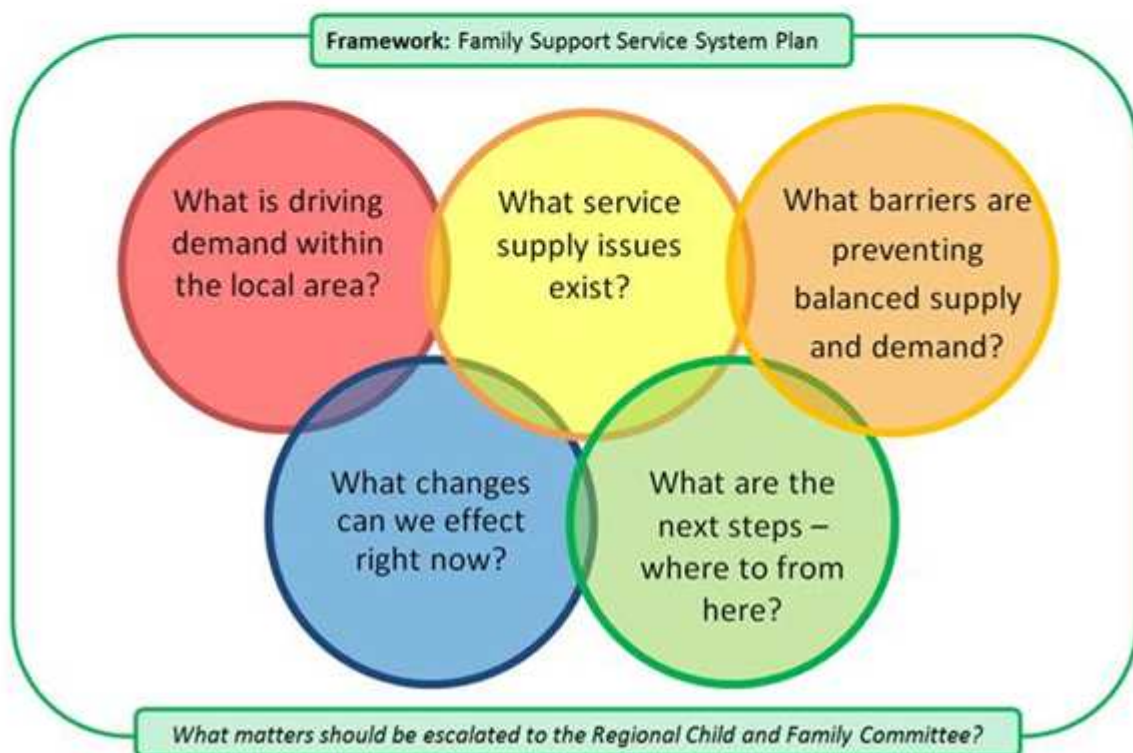
## Data, Analysis and Timeframe for completion:

Multiple sources of data will be utilised throughout this project. In addition to the information provided through Needs and Service Analysis (NASA - vulnerability maps overlaid by investment data to represent the need and supply for each Local Level Alliance area), Child Safety Services will compile demographic data to support the Local Level Alliances to undertake catchment analysis.

The LLA will be supported by their respective coordinators, the Child and Family Reform Project Team and the FSSSP Working Group to undertake the analysis of the data against the identified knowledge of the service system for each FaCC catchment.

Although the Reform Leaders Group has recommended that the FSSSP be made available to the group by 30 September 2015, the extensive consultation process that the South East Region is undertaking through the LLA will increase the timeframe until December 2015.

A **Framework** and **Key Messages** for analysis sessions were developed by the FSSSP Working Group and Child and Family Reform Project Team to support the LLAs during the analysis phase of the project:



<p>We are asking you to share your knowledge, experience and expertise to lead change in the South East Region.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Family Support Service System Plan Development</b></p>	<p>We are asking that you are prepared to share brave ideas and conversations about how to improve the existing service system. The process will also aim to identify opportunities where reallocation of funding or joined investment approaches may be beneficial.</p>
<p>This is our collective opportunity to interpret and analyse what we know about vulnerable children and families, our catchment and our service system.</p>		<p>By taking this approach we will endeavour to complement existing place based planning activities and ultimately contribute to the creation of an improved, collaborative and integrated service delivery approach for children and families.</p>
<p>Your involvement in the development of the Family Support Service System Plan for your local community and for the wider SE region is crucial to planning for the future of vulnerable families.</p>		

\*\*\*\*\* August – September 2015 Progress \*\*\*\*\*



In August 2015 the Child and Family Reform Team will be providing packs of regional and catchment-specific data to members of each of the LLA sites within the South East region (excluding Browns Plains-Beaudesert Local Level Alliance, which has not yet commenced). An information session surrounding September's data analysis workshops will be presented, outlining the desired goals and outcomes of this process.

In September 2015, each of the LLAs will be participating in a day-long data analysis workshop designed to gain an understanding of the local service systems that exist within each catchment. Analysis surrounding service supply and demand will occur, and following the collection of all information catchment-specific FSSSPs will be created.

These plans will be collated by the FSSSP Data Working Group, who will combine all information into the South East Region Family Support Service System Plan, to be endorsed and owned by the South East Regional Child and Family Committee.



**Please keep in touch...** With Yammer, phone, email and face-to-face meetings, the possibilities for connection are endless!

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