

Parent to Parent Association Qld Inc.



20
22

Annual Report

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Message from the CEO

Looking back over 2022 it is hard to believe how much we fit into one year. This report is a chance to think about what we achieved.

Our Board met in August to set our strategic direction and goals for 2022 - 2024. They identified 3 main categories - Brand, values and culture; Governance; and Growth, development, and financial sustainability. As well as 3 sub-categories - Business and workforce; Families and people with a disability; and Community. I worked with our new Executive Management Team to update our Operations Plan.

As part of our brand, values, and culture work we updated our Style Guide and introduced a Voice and Tone Guide. We also introduced our new RICH values statement and an updated Staff Code of Conduct.

We prepared for our NDIS Quality and Safeguards midterm accreditation audit. This included reviewing policies and procedures, and creating Easy Read versions. I am pleased to report that we received great feedback from our participants who took part in audit interviews.

Our plan management team continued to deliver an efficient, high quality service. Next year we will start offering online signup via our website. We will continue our existing face-to-face, over the phone, and Zoom signups.

Our four Stand by Me Peer Facilitators and four Towards Inclusive Practice Inclusive Advisors with an intellectual disability produced great work in their consultation roles. They were well supported by our Coordinators and Family Facilitators.

Our project staff participated in several training workshops. The Community Engagement team were busy facilitating P.A.T.H. throughout the school year. Many as part of Equity Work's Here Now Next project.

This year, in conjunction with Spiral, we supported Loud and Clear Qld self-advocacy group to hold their 2nd conference. My thanks to the Sunshine Coast Regional Council for their grant to organise and deliver a concert. The concert was streamed around Australia, showcasing the abilities of our members to the wider community.

In partnership with the Central Qld, Wide Bay, and Sunshine Coast Primary Health Network we delivered the Primary Care Enhancement Project. This involved workshops for medical practitioners about the benefits to people with an intellectual disability when reasonable adjustments are made to health care delivery.

As we end the year, we prepare for a much needed break over Christmas. Next we look towards 2023 and planning our 25th Anniversary celebration. I wish you all the best for Christmas and the New Year.

Yours sincerely,

Jodi

President report



I am pleased to present my 5th report as President.

As the end of the year approaches, our outlook for P2P for the year ahead is very positive. However, the past 12 months have been some of the most difficult that we have experienced in our 24 years of service.

The Covid pandemic continued to have a major impact on who we are as an organisation, what we do, and how we do it. Like many businesses, we were unable to avoid some of the difficulties that Covid caused. The Board made every attempt to carefully navigate the challenges, seeking advice where necessary, to support our decision making processes.

It is the Board's responsibility to ensure the organisation's financial viability. As we had experienced financial losses for the second year in a row, the Board had to take action. The Board made the very difficult decision to close our Support Coordination and Housing services to ensure the future of the organisation.

The Board understands the decision impacted our Support Coordination and Housing participants and their families. We trust that our work to assist them to connect with another service went some way to reducing the impact. We also appreciated the difficulties experienced by those staff made redundant by the decision. Where possible, we assisted many of them to move to other employment opportunities or supported them to start out on their own. We wish them every success in the future.

Our Plan Management service remains strong and, looking towards 2023, our aim is to develop this as a viable and resilient element of the P2P organisation. We also anticipate that our **Planning Alternative Tomorrows with Hope** (P.A.T.H.) work will be extended further into the wider community, providing valuable assistance to students transitioning from high school.

Our funded projects including Stand by Me, Loud and Clear Queensland, and the Primary Care Enhancement Project enjoyed success this year and will continue to be a major focus for P2P. It is the work in these projects and the successes by the people involved in them that sustains us during difficult times. It reminds us all of our Mission: *To **listen**, with respect, to people with a disability and their families, and **support** them to achieve their goals.*

In August, the Board met to plan for the next two years. This process was guided by Joanne Thornton of Parim Solutions. We thank her for supporting us through this important, ongoing process to preserve the future of P2P. The Board also reviewed the values, which we believe should be the base of everything we do at P2P. After lengthy discussion and feedback, the values of **Respect, Inclusivity, Commitment and Honesty** were approved as the *P2P R.I.C.H. Values* to guide and enhance the Code of Conduct of the organisation.

During 2022 a lot of work was done by each of the P2P Board members. Of course, all of it done voluntarily. I would like to thank each of them for their hard work and dedication to the obligations for which the Board has been responsible; for the knowledge and skills that they each bring to the organisation, and above all, for their commitment and endurance during the challenges of these past twelve months.

In closing, I would especially like to acknowledge our CEO, Jodi Wolthers, for her drive and absolute commitment to P2P. The Board is deeply grateful to her. Perhaps the words recently provided by several staff, best express this sentiment ...

“Jodi continues to work with integrity, professionalism, and hope, moving the organisation forward in a positive direction she continues to lead and inspire the staff of Parent to Parent.”

The future for P2P looks very promising. I know that with the support and commitment of the staff, volunteers, and the Board, our valued work with people with disability and their families will be undertaken with **Respect, Inclusivity, Commitment and Honesty**.

Eric Greentree
President
Parent to Parent Board

Treasurer report



As Treasurer of Parent to Parent, I present to you my report and our Audited Financial Statements for the year-end 30th June 2022.

In the 2021-2022 financial year, our Support Coordination and Housing cost centres incurred significant losses while our Grant-based projects were cost neutral.

Our Plan Management work remained viable, with a surplus achieved for this cost centre. However, it was not sufficient to cover the losses incurred through our Support Coordination and Housing work.

This resulted in an overall deficit for the organisation of \$418, 746 for the financial year. These two costs centres also made a loss in the 2020/2021 financial year.

To protect the future of the organisation, and having sought the advice of our external Financial Auditors, the decision was made to cease offering Support Coordination and Housing activities.

To do so, the difficult decision was made to make staff from those activities redundant and pay out all entitlements. These payments were made in July this year and will be reflected in the 2022-2023 financial year statements.

As at the end of June 2022, we had total equity of \$970,989, with \$2.26 of assets to cover every dollar of liabilities and enough total assets to cover 4.8 months of expenses in the absence of any income if expenses remained at the current level.

Our financial records were audited by Mr. G Dunn of Greg Dunn and Associates and found to be in order.

I would like to acknowledge and thank Ann for the quality of the information presented to Greg Dunn and Associates and for supporting me in my role as Treasurer.

I would also like to express my appreciation and gratitude to the whole finance team for their hard work and diligence throughout the year.

Jan Bell
Treasurer

Our Board



Eric Greentree
President



Sue Campbell
Vice President



Catherine Seton
Secretary



Jan Bell
Treasurer



Loretta Kreet
Board Member



Mike Peers
Board Member

Our Plan Management team continued to grow over the past year. We focused on professional development and supporting staff to become as knowledgeable as possible to better assist our participants. There have been a number of changes to the NDIS claiming rules and regulations and our team has actively participated in training and information sessions to stay informed. This year we developed resources for our participants and providers to help share this information with everyone.

In 2021 we moved to a new software system for NDIS claims. We have settled well into this system and are working to ensure we process Participant's claims as efficiently as possible.

Currently the team is working on different ways to keep our participants informed of their spending and the claims that we have submitted.

We are excited to be able to introduce new features for participants as part of our ongoing service in the new year.

Keep an eye out in your emails for information from our projects team for ways to help you more easily view your information and invoices.



Plan Management

Some of our Plan Management team taking a break



P.A.T.H.

Planning Alternative Tomorrows with Hope



The P.A.T.H. team have continued to work in schools across the Sunshine Coast and Brisbane regions, creating P.A.T.H. plans for year 10 students. The P.A.T.H. process remains an important part of planning a student's transition to post-school.

We have been fortunate to work beside educators that create the Senior Education and Training (SET) plan while we facilitate the P.A.T.H. plan. Working with the families and educators, students explore their future and create steps from dreams to achievable goals. Having this unique collaboration with educators, P2P, students, and family and/or support is so helpful and contributes to positive outcomes for the student.

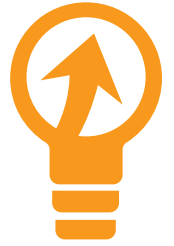
We also have been very busy facilitating P.A.T.H. for participants with an NDIS plan review. A P.A.T.H. can be used as evidence during an NDIS review to communicate a Participant's needs, goals, and future support needs.

In particular, the graphing of goals and the steps to reach the goals, assists Participants to receive funding for their NDIS plans.

If you would like to know more about P.A.T.H., please contact our friendly team at path@p2pqld.org.au. You can also call 1800 777 723 and leave a message asking for more information and to book your P.A.T.H.



P2P Projects



It has been an exciting year for projects.
This year we have been working on:

Stand by Me: Establishing peer groups for people with intellectual disabilities and their families/carers in Brisbane, Sunshine Coast, Fraser Coast, and Gladstone regions.

Loud and Clear Qld: Inspiring inclusive communities through self-advocacy.

Primary Care Enhancement Project: working to create reasonable adjustments within the health care sector for people with intellectual disability.

Towards Inclusive Practice: providing feedback to the Government on how to be more inclusive of people with intellectual disabilities.

Here Now Next: providing P.A.T.H. for students aged 14-24 who may be looking for employment/supported employment and who have not had the means to have a P.A.T.H. done previously.

We have also been working on a range of Organisational Capacity Building Projects as part of our Dept Social Services Information Linkage and Capacity Building Grant.



Loud and Clear Qld

Inspire inclusive communities through self-advocacy



Loud and Clear Qld welcomed Leanne Hollis as the new coordinator in 2022.

The meetings moved to a new location in Nambour and we now offer Zoom as another way of being involved.

Meetings are held every 3 weeks on a Wednesday afternoon from 2.30pm to 4.30pm.

Members have achieved some great results this year including building on their skills to plan a conference and concert, give feedback to Local Council on access and inclusion and increase their involvement in activities happening in the community.

Members helped in the writing of Easy Read documents and worked with Aesop Media to create photos for documents, brochures, and flyers.

Rob Skelton was invited as a guest speaker so that members could meet their local politician and talk about inclusion in the community. See more at [Nicklin E-News](#)

This all ties into their newly created commitment to ***inspire inclusive communities through self-advocacy.***



Loud and Clear Qld

Inspire inclusive communities through self-advocacy

Spring Conference & Concert



Loud and Clear Qld successfully hosted their second annual Conference from the 12th-14th October, 2022 including the Loud and Clear Qld “Got Talent” concert. All members were active in the planning and running of the event across the three days which was held at the Alexandra Surf Life Saving Club.

Day 1 was a fun filled day where we met conference participants from Brisbane, Gladstone, Hervey Bay, and the Sunshine Coast. We had AESOP Media deliver a “green screen magic” session, and the Gubbi Gubbi First Nations people delivered a “Cultural Conversation” session.

The evening was our SPRING Concert. Loud and Clear members, alongside other performers, put on an amazing concert for more than 350 guests. We wanted to go bigger and better this year - and we achieved it!

Day 2 was our learning day. We had sessions from Rob Brough “Journey to Success”, Office of Fair Trading “Keeping Safe in the Virtual World”, MC Wheels’ “My life so far”, and we learnt our own Loud and Clear rap. Catherine McAlpine spoke to us about Inclusion Australia and systemic advocacy, and how the work that we do helps with this. Inclusion Australia also presented “Making Decisions Real”. We heard from the project teams at P2P about their achievements - Stand by Me, Primary Care Enhancement Project, and Towards Inclusive Practice project.

Day 3 was our art and Tai Chi day, where we relaxed and enjoyed spending time together.

The conference was a great event that showed the community the abilities of all Loud and Clear Qld members. We can’t wait for 2023 to further develop the skills, confidence, and abilities of the amazing team.

We are grateful for the ongoing support that we receive from Parent to Parent and Spiral.

The Loud and Clear Qld Spring Conference



Chelsea, Callum, Taum, and Ethan present their Towards Inclusive Practice project work.



Loud and Clear members learnt about communicating using imagery



Loud and Clear members learnt about Indigenous culture and what Spring represents.



Carol, as part of the Primary Care Enhancement Project team, talking about the difference that reasonable adjustments can make to health care outcomes for people with a disability.

The Loud and Clear Qld Spring Conference



Getting our hands dirty.



Making and renewing friendships.



Channel 7's Rob Brough joined us to talk about his journey to reading the local news.



Enjoying lunch on the last day.

The Loud and Clear Qld Spring Conference



Loud and Clear Conference October 2022



Guest speaker MC Wheels at the Loud and Clear Conference.



Tai Chi

Taking a break during a busy day.



Showcasing Abilities

The Concert

Supported by Sunshine Coast Council's Grants program



Officially opening the concert.

*Our MCs for the night.
Mitch, Payge, and Tim.*



Getting our moves on at the Concert.



Spiral Theatre Band



Loud and Clear member Allycia



Loud and Clear member Connie

Showcasing Abilities

The Concert

Supported by Sunshine Coast Council's Grants program



MC Wheels rapping



Dame Queen came to share her wisdom



Allycia leads the Sunshine Troupe dancers



Chelsea fulfilling her dream to be a performer

Towards Inclusive Practice



Meet the Project Team



Chelsea



Callum



Taum



Ethan



Robbie

This national project employed four people in each State with an intellectual disability in the role of Inclusive Advisors. Their job was to help in co-designing resources to give government departments insight and information on what is required to create an effective and inclusive resource. This work contributes to creating the *Towards Inclusive Practice Guide*.

The Inclusive Advisors were an important part of the development of the resources and participated in creating two videos. In Queensland's video, the Inclusive Advisors wanted to show how they receive and process information using the format of "You Can't Ask That". The other video was on a national level and outlined the project produced by Inclusion Australia.

P2P Qld, the State member for Inclusion Australia for the Towards Inclusive Practice project, delivered outstanding results thanks to the work of Inclusive Advisors.

This project has now finished and we thank and congratulate all that were involved in this project for their hard work and commitment, with special mention to the Inclusive Advisors and Robbie.

Primary Care Enhancement Project



The Primary Care Enhancement Project (PCEP) is a partnership between the Centre for Intellectual Disability (CID), Primary Health Networks (PHN), and Parent to Parent (P2P) in Queensland. The aim of the project is to improve the health and health care of people with an intellectual disability. “PCEP will increase the understanding of healthcare professionals to better support people with intellectual disabilities before, during, and after appointments”.

PCEP is in the ‘pilot phase’ across four PHN’s; Central and Eastern Sydney PHN, Tasmania PHN, Central Qld Wide Bay and Sunshine Coast PHN, and Western Victoria PHN.

Through this project, P2P employed three co-facilitators (Payge, Carol, and Katrina) to talk with health professionals about their experiences and what ‘reasonable adjustments’ can be made to improve health results for people with intellectual disabilities.

Payge from Parent to Parent very successfully co-facilitated and shared her story at four dinner meetings with health care professionals across the Sunshine Coast and Wide Bay in August/September 2022, with very positive feedback and participation from the people attending.

This is the start of great things to come for 2023 and beyond.



Payge



Carol



Katrina

Stand by Me

Written by: Sharon



I am a parent of a young adult with Intellectual Disability. I began my engagement with Stand By Me Project in early 2022, by supporting my daughter attending Focus Group meetings. It was very interesting to hear about these meetings and the issues raised by our community members. Later I also attended the Focus Group and joined in the discussion about issues and topics of concern to people with intellectual disabilities, parents and carers in our local community.

I was glad to support the Gladstone Stand By Me Project on the trade stand at our local Gladstone Show, where we spoke with community members to find out their opinions on a peer support group and what topics and issues they believed relevant and important to them and our community.

When the Stand By Me Peer Support Groups commenced I decided to attend as often as I possibly could. I enjoy my time at the Peer Group meetings as a social interactive time with also the opportunity to learn about issues and gain knowledge of services and activities in our community. I have found the connection with other parents and carers to be supportive

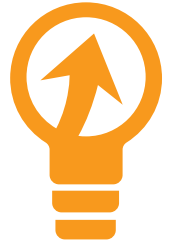
I support the meetings by assisting with the set up and pack up as well as preparing the table of refreshments.

Out of the Peer Support Groups & focus group I have gotten more of an understanding of the support and resources out in the wider community to help both myself and my daughter in getting the help we both need.

Particularly from attending the Staying Safe session with Matt Armstrong, Jodi Wolthers, and Robbie Murray I have become empowered to stand up for myself. I have learnt to say no when things aren't the way they should be. I have also learnt the different ways people abuse you for their own gain and now I have the ability to speak up when I know it is wrong.

I have met other people and organisations both with similar life experiences and ways to assist me with moving forward. I have also learnt different strategies and information from the guest speakers.

SbM Sunshine Coast



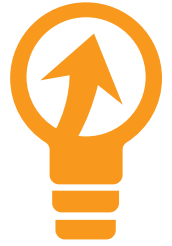
Drew and the Stand by Me peer group

Louise, Drew, and Beth



Stand by Me members luncheon

SbM Hervey Bay



Karen, Carol, and Jane



Stand by Me meeting



Hervey Bay Stand by Me peer group



Carol presenting at the Stand by Me workshop

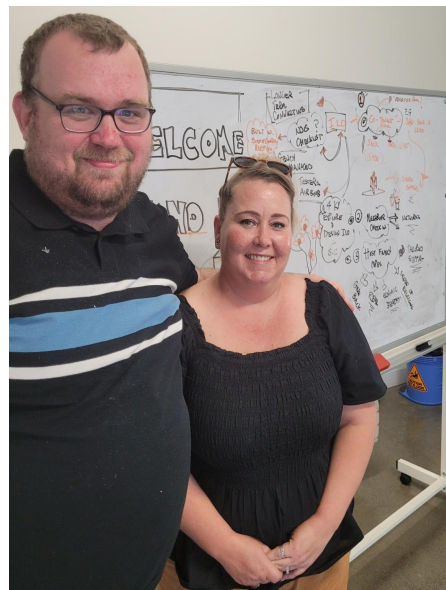


Karen and Carol

SbM Brisbane



Abby, Matt, Emma



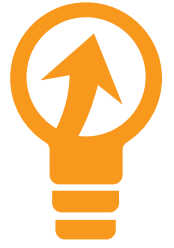
**Stand by Me Brisbane:
Thomas and Kristen**



**Stand by Me Brisbane:
Matt, Meriel, Jodi, and Taum**



Stand by Me Brisbane



The last meeting of a very successful Focus Group , gathering information to direct our Peer Support Groups



Jodi and Anita



Katrina and Gaye



Trade site at local annual show



Staying Safe - Gets the 'Thumbs Up'

Thanks to our Supporters



Neil Barringham for delivering a workshop on co-design methods.



Spiral for their ongoing support and partnership with Loud and Clear.



Gary from Century 21 Woombye for his support.



For their partnership in the Primary Care Enhancement Project.

Thanks to our Supporters

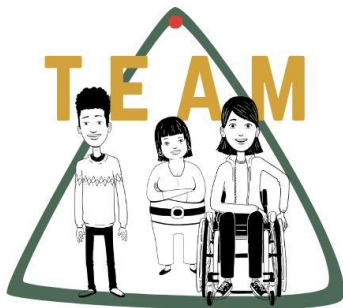


Sunshine Coast Council for the grant for the Loud and Clear Concert.



Everyday. **Opportunities.**
For individuals with a disability.

Equity Works for their ongoing support and the Here Now Next project work.



Kevin Stone from The Empowering Advocacy Method (TEAM) for delivering training to our staff.

TEAM is a capacity building support which improves a person's ability to take meaningful steps towards a more independent life.



Tony and Annelie from Insight Disability Law for delivering training to our staff.

"Are you wondering how to plan for the care of your child with a disability as you are getting older? Insight Disability Law, can help. They understand the concerns of families with a person with a disability. Contact them for a FREE consultation to review your existing documents, or help you get started." Ph 5450 9880 or email annelie@insightlaw.com.au



Parent to Parent acknowledges the traditional owners of the lands on which we live,
work, and play.

We pay our respects to Elders past, present, and emerging.



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