

2025

ANNUAL REPORT



Presented by:
Parent to Parent Qld



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Acknowledgements

Acknowledging the land and its people

Parent to Parent acknowledges the traditional owners of the land on which we work. We extend our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

Acknowledgement of lived experience

We acknowledge and deeply value the lived experience of people with disability. Their insights guide our work, shape our decisions and strengthen our communities. We commit to codesign, inclusive practice and amplifying the rights, voices and choices of people with disability.

Gratitude for an incredible team

We thank the Parent to Parent staff whose work is represented in this report.



A Message from our CEO



2025, a year of successes and milestones.

This year I celebrated 25 years working at P2P, including 15 years as CEO, a journey that has been deeply rewarding.

It's been 10 years since a lunch with two wonderful women, Veronica and Heather, led to the creation of Loud and Clear Qld, a self-advocacy group that continues to amplify the voices of people with intellectual disabilities across the state. It's been five years since I first asked the members of Loud and Clear Qld if they wanted to host their own conference on the Sunshine Coast, an idea that has grown into an incredible event celebrating its fifth anniversary this year.

To deliver the Board's strategic vision, we've focused on building a workplace where inclusion, respect and belonging are part of everyday life. We've made our workplace more accessible for everyone, including staff with intellectual disabilities. We developed new induction guides, improved our policy and procedure manuals, and introduced new training and wellbeing initiatives and resources.

We also created practical resources to support rights, diversity and respect, including Gender Inclusion information, draft Human Rights and Reconciliation Statements, and Respect in the Workplace and Anti-Harassment guides.

We have supported 1,300 people with disabilities through our Plan Management work. Stand by Me peer groups met in 4 regions, PATH training was delivered in Alice Springs and Darwin, and capacity building workshops took place in the Hinkler region. As part of this work, we welcomed our tenth staff member with an intellectual disability. We also provided access to advocacy clinics, co-designed workshops, and developed resources in partnership with Raising Minds.

This year, we hosted the fifth Annual Loud and Clear Qld Conference. Members led workshops that highlighted the importance of knowing and understanding their rights, voices, and choices. The event brought together hundreds of participants and featured local and state leaders, alongside Our Voice members, MC Wheels, and a range of performers and workshop facilitators. In the afternoons, attendees enjoyed “come and try” activities including Dance, Bocce, Rugby League, Martial Arts, Bongo Drums, Zumba, and Friendship Bracelet Making.

I would like to acknowledge Kathy W, Heather, Veronica, Dot, Riley, Blaze, Jasmine, Gina and Jess, who have each played an essential role in supporting members and keeping Loud and Clear Qld thriving over the last ten years. The members' work continues to guide us, and the conference/concert remains a highlight on our calendar.

While securing media coverage remains a challenge (Win Local News promoted the event beforehand but didn't attend on the days), we successfully reached hundreds of attendees, sharing the vital message of self-advocacy and community engagement. This encourages us to explore new ways to share these stories in the future, including a campaign to build media interest for the 2026 event.

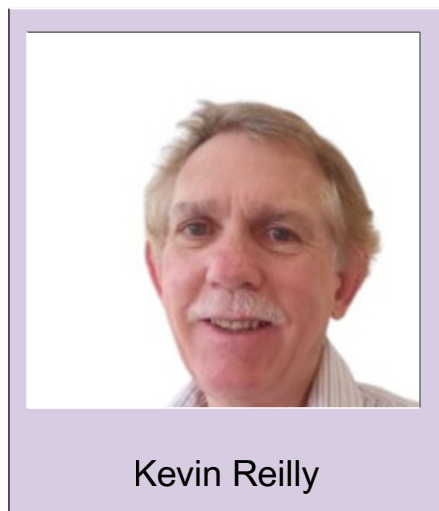
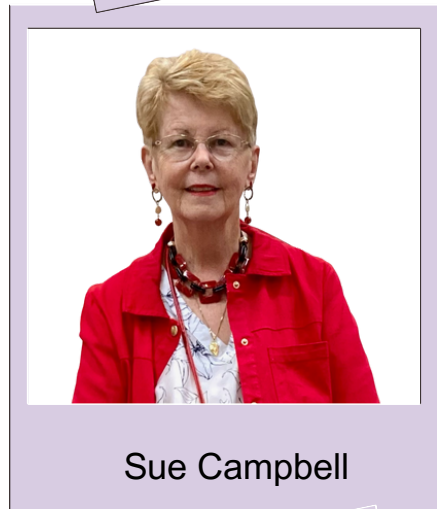
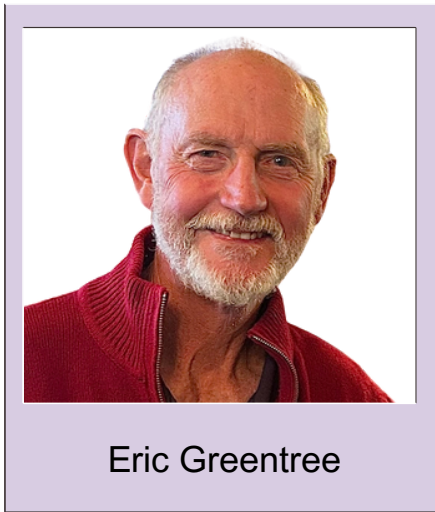
I am deeply grateful to our staff, Board, volunteers, and partners. Special thanks to Erin, Ann, and Laura for their ongoing support and for helping make P2P a team that builds on each other's strengths. Together, we have built a strong foundation and a clear sense of purpose, giving us the confidence to embrace new challenges and opportunities ahead. Our combined efforts continue to strengthen our ability to make a real difference.



Jodi Wolthers
Chief Executive Officer



2025 Board Members



President's Report

Presented at the Annual General Meeting of Parent to Parent Association Qld Inc for 2025.

It is my pleasure to present the President's Report for 2025.

2025 has been a year of strong governance, strategic progress, and continued focus on ensuring people with intellectual disabilities have rights, voices, and choices. As President, I am proud of the Board's commitment to guiding Parent to Parent through a year of growth and opportunity.

This year, our long-term vision to purchase an office building has been achieved. This investment provides P2P with a lasting asset that will give us greater financial security, stability, and independence.

We are very excited to announce that in mid-December, we will move in.

This move will open new opportunities to apply for grants and provide a welcoming and accessible space for staff, clients, and community partners alike.

In 2025

- We farewelled Tony Hunkin and Ron Erasmus, thanking them for their valued contribution.
- We welcomed Mick Hawes, whose expertise strengthens our leadership team.
- We were successful in accessing grant funding until 31 December 2027, which will allow us to plan further ahead than one-year grants.
- Our RICH Values, being Respect, Inclusion, Commitment, and Honesty, continue to underpin our organisational culture, as reflected in staff practices and workplace policies.



Tony Hunkin



Ron Erasmus



The Board remains committed to ensuring that P2P continues to thrive.

In 2026, we will focus on sustainable growth, strong governance, and supporting leadership initiatives that amplify the voices of the people we serve.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to my fellow Board members for the many, many voluntary hours that they provide to P2P.

On behalf of the Board, I sincerely thank our CEO Jodi Wolthers, Head of Client and Community Services Erin Horkings, Head of Business Services Ann Hardcastle and all P2P staff, volunteers, members, and partners for their dedication and commitment to our organisation.

Together, we are building a resilient organisation that serves the community with integrity and impact.



Eric Greentree
President



Treasurer's Report

Presented at the Parent to Parent Association Qld Inc (P2P) Annual General Meeting 2025.

I am pleased to present the Treasurer's Report for the financial year ending 30.6.2025. This report provides an overview of P2P's financial performance and position.

During the 2024–25 financial year, P2P recorded:

- Total income: \$2,722,008
- Total expenditure: \$2,509,884
- Surplus: \$212,124

Compared with the previous financial year, this represents a 14% increase in total income.

The organisation remains in a strong financial position.

Income for the year came from several key sources, including:

- Government grants and funding
- Plan Management fees
- Donations
- Other income, including interest

Funds were used to support our core services and operations, including:

- Staff wages and related costs
- Project delivery
- Administration and overheads
- Equipment, IT and facilities

At 30/6/2025, P2P held the following:

- Total assets: \$2,113,676
- Total liabilities: \$1,316,235
- Net assets/equity: \$797,441

This represents an increase of 36% compared to last year.

P2P continues to maintain sufficient reserves to meet its financial obligations and future commitments.





Treasurer's Report

The annual financial statements were audited by Andrew Vernon of East West Accounting, who has confirmed that the financial statements present a true and fair view of the P2P's financial position and performance.

Parent to Parent remains financially sound, allowing continued investment in programs, staff, and infrastructure while supporting long-term organisational sustainability.

During the financial year, the association paid a total of \$374,049.41 in remuneration and other benefits to three people covered under section 70D(1)(a)–(c) of the Associations Incorporation Act (office-bearers, senior staff and related persons).

No members received bonuses, dividends, or any other payments beyond reasonable remuneration for work undertaken on behalf of the association.

I thank the finance team, auditors, and management for their commitment to maintaining transparent, accurate, and accountable financial practices.

Based on their thorough and professional work this year, I recommend that East West Accounting be reappointed as P2P's auditor for the next financial year. Their understanding of our organisation and consistent service supports good governance and continuity.



Jan Bell
Treasurer



Finance Report

Balance Sheet



Total Assets

How much money P2P would have if we sold everything we own

\$2,113,676



Total Liabilities

How much money P2P owes or has received in advance to spend on providing services in the future

\$1,316,235



Net Assets

How much money P2P would have if we sold everything and paid back everything we owe

\$ 797,441

Income and Expenditure Statement



Income

How much money P2P received

\$2,722,008



Expenses

How much money P2P spent

\$2,509,884



Surplus

How much money P2P has left over

\$ 212,124

Please email manager@p2pqld.org.au if you would like to request a copy of the whole Audit Report.



Plan Management

2025 Overview

The past year has seen the P2P Plan Management team face one of the most significant periods of change the NDIS sector has ever experienced.

From new legislation to pricing updates and changes to how plans are managed, the environment has shifted rapidly. P2P has remained focused on information sharing, consistency, and strong support for our participants and providers.

Changes to NDIS Pricing Arrangements and Limits

Major updates were issued in July and November. Our Plan Management team completed additional training, and we developed new online resources to help participants and providers understand the changes.

Large-Scale Legislative Changes Continue

The October 2024 legislative update has introduced significant sector-wide changes that continued into 2025. Plan managers must strictly follow the Approved Supports List and other new legislation rules. P2P has created numerous participant resources and completed extensive team training to stay ahead of changes.

You can read many of our resources on our website:
<https://p2pqld.org.au/resources/participant-resources/>

Funding Periods & Stated Supports

New Funding Periods break budgets into smaller blocks released over time. This adds complexity for both participants and plan managers to keep track of the funding throughout the plan. We have quickly adapted to software changes from the NDIA that allow us to help track the availability of funding.

We have introduced specified support tools and simplified plan summary emails to help participants navigate these changes and claim within their plan.

Plan Management

Improving efficiency through automation

We have been investing in tools and systems to help streamline our processes. These tools are helping us:

- Collect invoices more quickly
- Identify plan changes or issues earlier
- Dedicate our team member's time to answering participant questions and claiming invoices

Advocating for fair Plan Management Fees

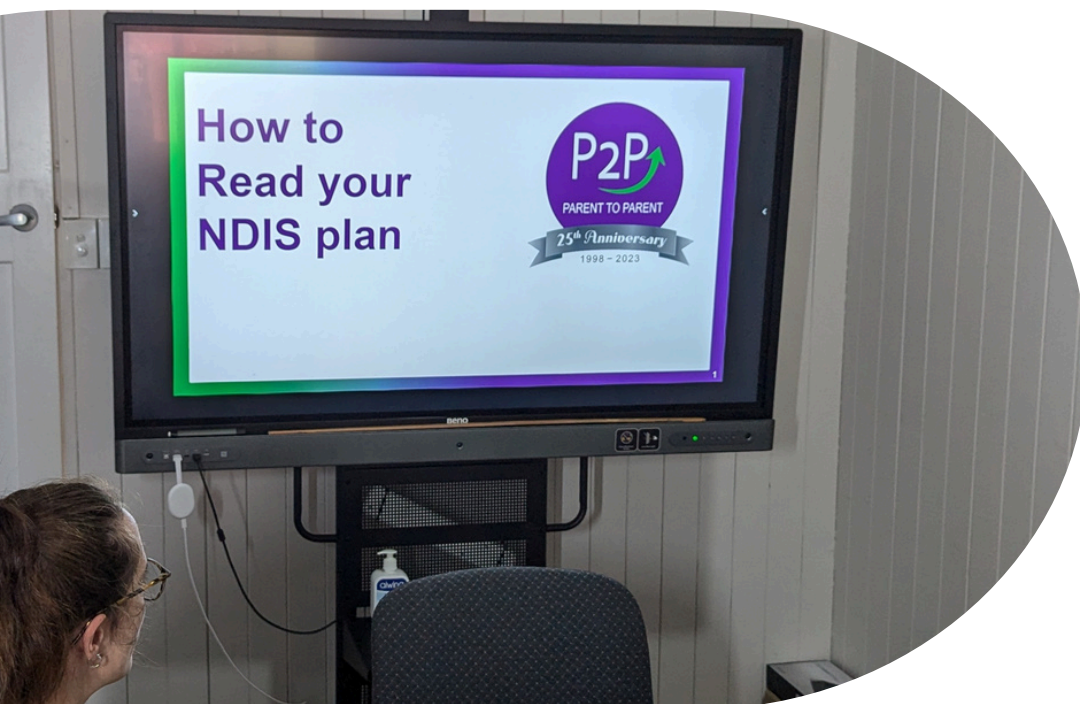
After the 7th consecutive year of no increase to the monthly Plan Management fees, and the newly introduced removal of the set up fee, P2P has participated in the Disability Intermediaries Australia (DIA) nationwide advocacy campaign. This campaign advocates for a fair price to be paid for our work.

What can we expect in 2026?

We know more changes are coming to the NDIS for participants and providers.

The NDIS is continuing to evolve, with several important changes scheduled to begin in 2026. These changes are designed to provide greater clarity around eligibility, streamline the planning process, and ensure children and families receive the right level of support.

The Plan Management team is dedicated to staying ahead of these changes and sharing information with our valued participants and providers.





Plan Management

Claims Processing Data for 2025

\$83,349,242.29	Claimed from NDIS funding. This is equal to approximately \$7,500,000 per month.
131,256	Invoices processed. This is equal to 12,000 per month.

Phone calls received	7,446 Equal to 356hrs 33 min on the phone	Phone calls made	8,039 Equal to 353 hrs 16 min on the phone
Emails received	145,801	Emails sent	26,633

Difference from 2024

Funds claimed	Increase of 7.55%	Invoices Processed	Increase of 0.01%
Phone calls received and made		Decrease of 13.50%	
Emails Received	Decrease of 1.01%	Emails Sent	Increase of 22.45%

Loud and Clear Qld

Inspiring Inclusive Communities Through Self Advocacy



All Abilities Conference and Concert

Two incredible days, one unforgettable concert, and countless moments of joy, learning, and connection. Our 10th Anniversary All-Abilities Conference and Concert brought together our wonderful community to celebrate a decade of Rights, Voices and Choices!

From a powerful political panel and inspirational speakers to dance floors, drum circles, and rugby league, followed by an unforgettable concert featuring Redcliffe Peninsula Drum Circle and Jammalong, MC Wheels and Marshall Hamburger Music.

Every moment showed the capability of our Loud and Clear Qld members who, each year, design these amazing and fully accessible events from the ground up.



Loud and Clear Qld

Inspiring Inclusive Communities Through Self Advocacy

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Loud and Clear Qld: Behind the Scenes with our Members

The conference and concert was a powerful reminder of what's possible when people come together to share ideas, celebrate abilities, and make their voices heard.

Organised and led by people with disabilities, the conference showcased confidence, creativity, and collaboration at every turn.

We chatted with Chris, a proud member of Loud and Clear Qld, to hear his reflections on the experience, from the standout conference moments and live performances to the new skills gained along the way. Here's what Chris had to share!

What was the best thing about the conference?

This year's conference was the first I helped organise and run. I loved to get our voices, choices, and rights out to show people what we have created for our 2025 Loud and Clear Qld Conference.

What was the best thing about the concert?

Marshall Hamburger was so good to come and perform for us on the night and afterwards he stayed and let people have photos with him, and he signed autographs. MC Wheels is so good that he comes and performs for us at our concert as well.

What new skills did the members learn when getting ready for the conference?

That we were able to run our Conference this year with the help of our supporters, who were there to assist us if we needed help with anything.

What was the best thing about working with the other members to deliver the conference?

That it was our Conference run by People with Disabilities who had organised the conference for the last 10 months.

What skill did YOU learn to be able to host the conference?

I learnt that I could talk to a group of people about subjects that were close to my heart and show people that people with a disability can get our topics out to show other people what we are about.

What was the best thing about having guest speakers at the conference?

It was interesting to have guest speakers come and talk to us about different topics so that we can learn.

Loud and Clear Qld

Inspiring Inclusive Communities Through Self Advocacy

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What was the best thing about Loud and Clear Qld members delivering their presentations at the conference?

It was good that we were able to get our presentations out to show everyone what we know about our topics.

How did the conference help people with a disability?

It showed them that people with a disability have the rights, choices and voices to express how you feel.

Did anyone at the conference tell you what they liked best about the conference? (Not another member).

I met a lady on the Thursday who had no disabled children in her family, and she loved our conference so much that she went home on Thursday night and booked tickets for Friday's conference.

Do you think people who attended the conference know more about what rights, voices and choices mean?

They should know more about what rights, voices and choices mean, we all talked about it at the conference



Loud and Clear Qld: Behind the scenes with Payge

The recent Loud and Clear Qld Conference was more than just an event, it was a celebration of inclusion, teamwork, and the power of self-advocacy. Planned and delivered by people with disabilities, the conference gave participants the opportunity to share their voices, showcase their skills, and inspire others to stand proud in their rights, choices, and achievements.

We caught up with Payge, a member of Loud and Clear Qld, to hear all about her experience, from the highlights of the event and the exciting concert performances to the skills learned along the way. Here's what Payge had to say!

What was the best thing about the conference?

The best thing about the conference was:

- Hearing from different speakers who did a presentation and games to make it more enjoyable.
- Hearing more about Julian's Key - even while it's in its early stages.
- Having a Politician Panel and having people with disabilities ask important questions.

What was the best thing about the concert?

The best thing about the concert was:

- Seeing all friends and family coming together and just having fun - from dressing up and taking photos in the photobooth, to dancing with MC Wheels and his crew.
- Having Australian Idol winner Marshall Hamburger attend.

What new skills did the members learn when getting ready for the conference?

Skills the members learnt when getting ready was:

- Being filmed for the first time
- Deciding how to present - which slide they will have e.g. 1 slide each or 2 slides each.

What was the best thing about working with the other members to deliver the conference?

The best thing about working together was:

- Understanding the different ways we work together and helping each other when we needed support.
- Seeing how the delivery of the conference helped others.

Loud and Clear Qld

Inspiring Inclusive Communities Through Self Advocacy

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What skills did YOU learn to be able to do the conference?

What skills did I learn:

- Don't hesitate when presenting and practise, practise, practise.
- That I now have the knowledge to help people when they have a Hidden Disability Sunflower lanyard.
- Helping others when it's their first time presenting or when it's their first at a conference.

What was the best thing about having guest speakers at the conference?

- They give important information that can help people with disabilities.
- Guest speakers can inspire others, especially telling stories from their own personal experiences.

What was the best thing about Loud and Clear members delivering their presentations at the conference?

Getting to write, practise and present our own presentations.

How did the conference help people with a disability?

Having an all ability conference means that people with disabilities can learn about important topics that they might have no idea about.

They can take that information back to their families, colleagues or their own states and discuss what they have learnt.

What feedback did you receive from conference attendees? (Not another member).

- Having Julian's Key as one of the presenters at the Loud and Clear Qld conference was insightful.
- More of the presenter's PowerPoints were in easy read, to be more accessible.
- More supported decision-making and advocacy groups.
- Venue was accessible.
- Activities were good.
- More First Aid and CPR training.

Do you think people who attended the conference know more about what rights, voices and choices mean?

I do believe that people who attended know more now about what the theme means and hopefully they know that their disability doesn't define who they are as a person.





2025 Highlights Brisbane & Moreton Bay

2025 has been a fast-paced and rewarding year, filled with meaningful projects and inspiring collaborations. Across the Greater Brisbane Region, our work focused on empowering individuals, strengthening communities, and fostering inclusion.

This year, our team has demonstrated the power of peer support, collaboration, and community engagement.

From Fishing Days to workshops, Walk and Talk sessions, and personalised artistic projects, we've helped people feel included, listened to, and valued.

Key projects in 2025

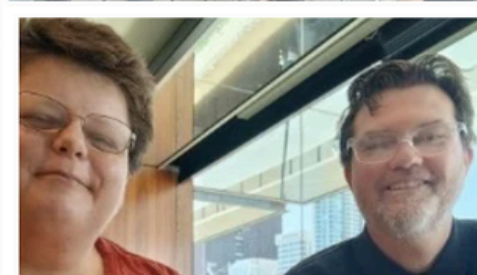
- **Stand by Me** – Moreton Bay and Brisbane
- **Graphic Facilitation Workshops**
- **Personalised Projects**
- **Supported Employment and Advocacy (SEA) Project**

"It (my work at Stand by Me) made me grow, expand, and make decisions for myself." – Taum

Highlights from our Peer Facilitators

Our team – Taum, Shaun, and Magda, are central to the success of our projects.

- **Taum's Fishing Day** – A fun, skill-building community event fostering friendship, learning, and shared experiences. Plan B options like painting at the local coffee shop ensured participation regardless of weather.
- **Shaun's Walk and Talk, Redcliffe** — promoting connection and wellbeing through movement, conversation, and fresh air.
- **Graphic Facilitation - Drawing Pictures to tell stories**, plan for peer-led events and practice using images, key words and exploring different materials. Learning together from each other.



2025 Highlights Brisbane & Moreton Bay

Personalised Projects: Jenny Duperouzel

Collaborating with Strathpine artist Jenny Duperouzel, who specialises in acrylics on canvas was a highlight. Mentored by Moreton Bay artist Louise Taylor, Jenny has developed a vibrant style inspired by nature, colour, and emotion.

- Exhibitions – Jenny’s work has been shown locally and at state-level exhibitions, including the notable “Reasonable and Necessary” group exhibition at Artel Studio.
- Workshops – Jenny facilitated a “Back to Basics” painting workshop at Artel Studio and her Group Art Exhibition at Richard Randall Art Studio.
- Community Engagement – Jenny’s work continues to inspire and connect people, reflecting her significant presence in the art community.

See more of Jenny’s work here:
Instagram: [@jenny_d_creative](https://www.instagram.com/jenny_d_creative)

Supported Employment and Advocacy Project

Introducing – Magda

Magda joined the SEA Project at The Edge, South Brisbane, after attending our Your Service, Your Rights Workshops and Taum’s Fishing Day.

As a professional photographer with over thirty exhibitions and seven commissions, Magda brings creative expertise and a passion for community engagement.

A special thank you to all our facilitators and community partners for their dedication and commitment. The smiles, connections, and positive feedback we’ve witnessed are the best indicators of our impact.

Season’s Greetings from the Greater Brisbane Region Team!



2025 Fraser Coast EPPID Project

Emergency Preparedness with People with an Intellectual Disability (EPPID)

In 2025, the EPPID project launched in the Fraser Coast region to create accessible emergency preparedness tools shaped directly by people with intellectual disabilities. Four months in, the project has built strong foundations, key partnerships, and a meaningful co-production process.

Project Highlights

Co-production at the Centre

A major achievement was forming a Co-production Emergency Planning Group of 10 people with intellectual disabilities. Their insights guide the design and testing of all processes and resources.

Favourite project moment

Working with the co-production group and seeing participants confidently share ideas has been the most rewarding part of the year. Participants report feeling valued, heard, and excited to influence real emergency planning tools.

Achievements to date

Growing momentum and Community reach

The project has quickly gained strong traction across the region.

- 2 co-production sessions (16 participants)
- 8 networking meetings attended
- 120 stakeholders engaged across disability, health, emergency services and council
- Featured at Festable – Disability Showcase Day

New Skills and Facilitator Growth

PATH Planning was a key skill gained this year, improving facilitation and planning. Delivering meaningful activities to the community has been a major highlight.

Participant Growth

One participant showed clear improvement in confidently speaking in front of peers.



2025 Fraser Coast EPPID Project

Impact and Feedback

While outcomes are still emerging, initial feedback is positive.

Co-production members say they are excited to help create resources and feel their contribution is important.

Partnerships and Collaboration

Key collaborators include:

- Fraser Coast Regional Council
- Emergency Services
- Wide Bay Hospital
- Disability providers
- Primary health care professionals
- Community stakeholders
- Co-production participants

These partnerships support resource development and increase project awareness across the region.

This project is funded by Country to Coast Queensland through the PHN program and is supported by the Resilient CARE program.

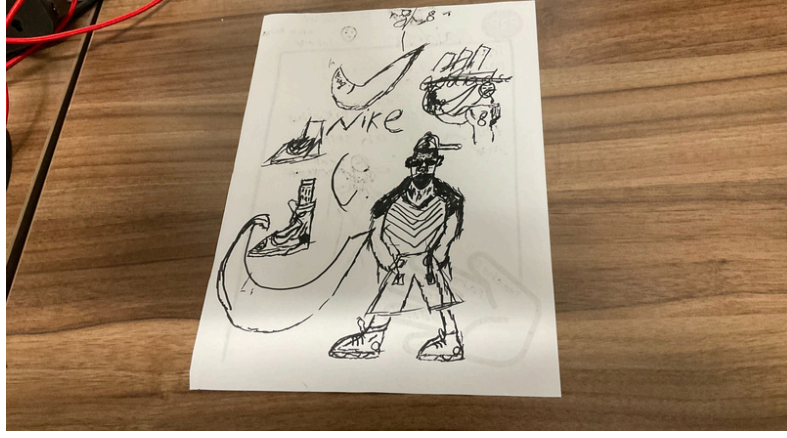
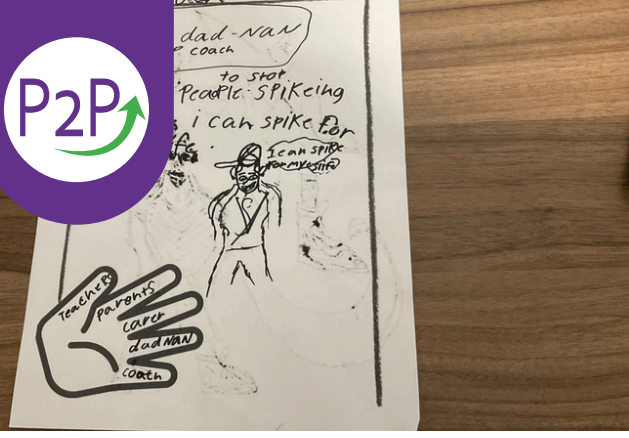
Looking ahead

The focus for 2026 will be:

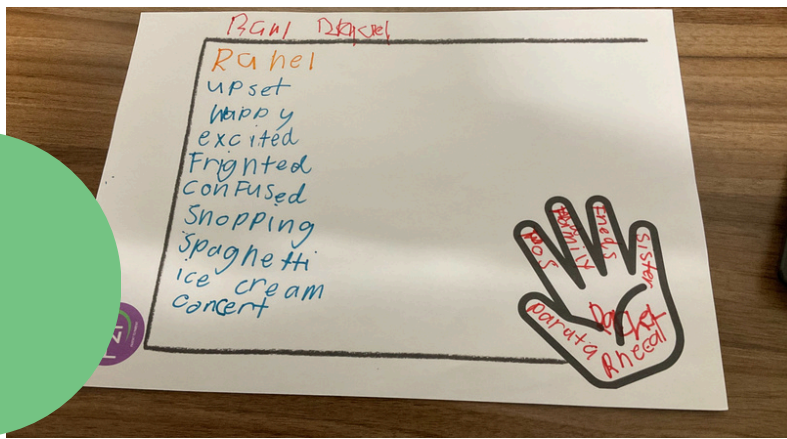
- Continued consultation with stakeholders and co-production members.
- Developing accessible emergency planning tools.
- Testing and refining resources with participants and emergency responders.

The project will continue promoting inclusive emergency preparedness and strengthening local partnerships.

Though early in development, the project has built strong momentum, meaningful collaborations, and a committed co-production group. These foundations set the stage for impactful, inclusive emergency planning tools in the coming year.



2025 Fraser Coast Your Life, Your Rights



Strengthening Safety, Confidence, and Voice

In 2025, Your Life, Your Rights made significant progress in empowering people with intellectual disability, their families, supporters, and service providers. Through free, co-facilitated workshops, the project helps participants understand their rights, identify safe and fair services, and build confidence to speak up.

The Project Delivers

Workshops for People with Disability

Attendees learn about rights, advocacy, and what to do if a service feels unsafe or unfair. The sessions help people use their voice and make informed choices.

Workshops for Supporters and Services

These sessions strengthen rights-based practice for carers and providers, helping create environments where people with disability are respected and heard. Together, the workshops build shared understanding and improve safety and inclusion across the community.

2025 Successes

The project exceeded expectations from day one. The first four workshops drew over 20 attendees each, double the projected number. With only one-third of sessions delivered, we have already reached 90 participants.

Feedback shows participants feel more confident, informed, and better prepared to challenge unsafe practices or ask for help.

A major achievement was delivering workshops through Senior School leaver programs at Hervey Bay, Maryborough, and Bundaberg Special Schools. These sessions supported students preparing to enter adult life and engage with new services, including NDIS providers.

Students gained tools to:

- Navigate services safely
- Make informed decisions
- Speak up when something isn't right

Teachers and families praised the sessions as practical and empowering.



2025 Fraser Coast Your Life, Your Rights

Your Life, Your Rights (YLYR): Behind the scenes with Hayley

Hayley shares her reflections about Your Life, Your Rights from the perspective of a Peer Facilitator.

What is the workshop about?

The workshop is to educate people about how to identify what rights are and how to speak up if they feel they're rights are not being recognised and/or acknowledged. The workshop also helps people identify the people they can trust when they need to talk to someone if they have questions, issues, or just want to get something off their chest.

What has been a good surprise in the workshop when presenting?

On a personal note, I've found that despite having a lot of nervousness before, during and after presenting, there's also a feeling of exhilaration, satisfaction, and the feeling that I've been part of something where people are being helped.

Secondly, it's a lovely feeling when someone approaches you after the workshop and thank you for giving them information, or just thanking us for coming.

Thirdly, each group is different, but it's wonderful when there's some creativity involved. For example, when people colour in the hands on the 'Hands of Trust' sheet and the colours they use to write down their answers. Finally, meeting people from all walks of life (and there's more to come) has been fascinating and rewarding as each story and/or experience is different.

What has been a good surprise in the workshop when presenting?

It's always amazing when the question of who remembers the phrase that was repeated in the videos is asked (the incentive is first dibs at the Subway cookie platter) and someone remembers 'When you make it known, you make it better'.

From what I've observed, the majority of the people that attend the 'Your Life, Your Rights' workshops have learned the benefits of self-advocacy.



2025 Fraser Coast safeTALK Workshops

Building life-saving skills in the Hinkler Region

This year, we proudly delivered free suicide prevention workshops across the Hinkler region, supporting people with disabilities, and their families with vital, life-saving skills.

Funded by the Australia Government Department of Social Services and Social Shift, the project provided a supportive space for parents, carers, and professionals to learn how to recognise when someone is struggling, respond with confidence and care, and connect them to the right support.

Project Highlights

safeTALK has seen sessions delivered in Hervey Bay, Maryborough and Bundaberg, with positive reviews at each location.

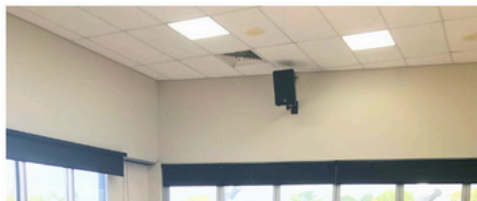
Our largest session was with 16 participants in Bundaberg and provided support to members of the disability community and their supporters and providers. Participants reported feeling more prepared to support their loved ones and community members.

2025 Successes

"... I took away so much from this training, it was really good to revisit skills from university and put some into practice with the role plays."

"... I got so much from the session, lots of skills that will help me in the future. It was a great program to also better understand my own relationships and how to see the signals and invitations of those doing it tough."





2025 Hervey Bay & Maryborough Peer Group

Highlights & favourite moments

Jane (Project Coordinator)

A highlight for me this year was chatting with families who said the Peer Groups helped them discover things they never would've known otherwise. Seeing people walk out feeling clearer, more confident, and supported has honestly been the best part.

Carol (Peer Facilitator)

A highlight for me has been the guest speakers. They've helped me grow my own confidence too, especially when it comes to speaking up and asking the questions that matter.

Achievements & Growth

Jane - We launched and maintained monthly Peer Groups in Hervey Bay and Maryborough, with steady growth and tailored topics for each community.

Carol - I'm proud of finding my voice this year and becoming more confident during sessions.

Skills and Learning

- Improved facilitation and coordination skills.
- Increased confidence in public speaking and guiding discussions.
- Stronger understanding of NDIS pathways and service navigation.
- Better collaboration with local services and community partners.
- Learning from guest speakers about transport, finance, and local support.
- Increased community presence through 'The Festable'.
- Business cards with QR codes supporting accessible communication.





2025 Hervey Bay & Maryborough Peer Group

Collaboration and Partnerships

- Ongoing work with the Disability Action Plan (Wide Bay Health)
- Connections with NDIA Local Area Coordinator and Community Engagement Team
- Networking with service providers across the Wide Bay region
 - St John’s Transport
 - Good Shepherd Financial
 - Local Hospitals & Health Services
 - The Advocacy and Support Centre (TASC)
 - Bush Kids
 - 54 Reasons Early Years
- Held a Stall at the ‘Festable’ (all inclusive community event)

Community Outcomes

Members consistently tell us they feel more informed, supported, and connected. The “Let’s Talk” Peer Groups have become a safe, inclusive space to learn, share concerns, and build confidence in navigating systems and supports. Strong relationships have continued to grow, with increased parent and carer attendance this year.

Looking ahead we aim to:

- Strengthen partnerships and guest speaker engagement.
- Increase collaboration between both groups.
- Grow outreach to welcome new members.
- Develop easy-read and accessible resources.
- Plan a forum on future planning (housing, legal, Services Australia)
- Survey interest in bi-monthly after-hours Zoom sessions.
- Offer further facilitator training and co-facilitation opportunities.

This year highlighted the importance of connection and shared learning. Both groups have nurtured confidence, advocacy, and belonging, creating places where people feel heard and supported.

2025 Gladstone Stand by Me Peer Group

Peer Group Highlights

Stand By Me Gladstone continues to provide an inclusive, peer-led space for people with intellectual disability to build skills, confidence, and community connections.

Through 20 workshops, members learned, socialised, and explored new opportunities thanks to guest speakers and hands-on activities.

A key highlight was travelling together to the Loud and Clear Qld conference, an enjoyable learning experience outside the usual sessions.

Key Achievements

- Members developed new skills and enjoyed being part of a peer group.
- Members increased confidence in speaking up and asking questions.
- Strong community connections and improved accessibility approach through partner organisations.
- Developing creative promotional strategies to encourage new members.
- Peer group growth.

Impact and Stories

Facilitators valued being part of the personal growth of members.

Supporting growth

A member reported their confidence increased as his father learned more about local opportunities. He is now trying new things and expressing himself more openly.

Real outcomes

After a volunteering session, one member followed up with the guest speaker and now volunteers regularly in the community.





2025 Gladstone Stand by Me Peer Group

Participant Feedback

Members appreciated:

- Making new friends.
- Learning practical skills (e.g. identifying scams, personal safety, budgeting).
- Guest speakers and weekly routine.
- A friendly space where everyone listens and participates.

One member described it simply:

“You go every Tuesday, have afternoon tea, and hear from a guest speaker about our community.”

Workshops, topics & Partnerships

Topics included emergency services, volunteering, cyber safety, budgeting, respectful relationships and consent, developmental education, and NDIS information.

Katrina worked closely with the team and community guest speakers to deliver relevant, accessible sessions.

What we’re most proud of:

- A group culture built on kindness, teamwork, and acceptance.
- Members willingness to try new things and share openly.
- A safe space where everyone feels comfortable to “have a go”.





2025 Gladstone Speak up in the Bush

Peer Group Highlights

The Speak Up in the Bush (SuiB) project supports people with intellectual disabilities to have the skills, confidence, and opportunities to speak up for themselves

Across 6 sessions with approximately 18 attendees, the program provided workshops and activities to show people how to speak up, make choices, and connect with their community.

A highlight for facilitators was witnessing participants confidently share their opinions and passions and seeing their enthusiasm and willingness to contribute.

Key Achievements

- Increasing participation of people with disabilities in the program.
- Delivering meaningful, engaging workshops that develop self-advocacy skills.
- Encouraging participants to use and retain the skills they learn in their daily lives.
- Supporting peer encouragement and collaboration within the group.

Impact and Stories

Peer facilitators are proud to provide sessions that equip attendees with practical advocacy skills.

A teaching background and active listening helped ensure activities were relevant, enjoyable, and meaningful for the community.

Finding their Voice

We observed a member, who previously allowed others to speak for her, develop confidence in making decisions and expressing herself. Through encouragement and skill-building exercises, she is now actively participating in sessions and enjoying her newfound independence.

Another attendee shared:

“I like learning how to speak with a confident voice and practicing my stance, movements, and facial expressions.”



2025 Gladstone Speak up in the Bush

Attendee Feedback

Attendees highlighted:

- Learning to represent themselves and asserting their rights.
- Enjoying collaborative learning with peers.
- Fun, hands-on activities that taught practical advocacy skills, such as using different voices to convey meaning
- Feeling supported and welcomed by the group.

One attendee described the group as:
“Powerful, supportive, welcoming.”

Workshops and Topics

- Topics included rights in the community, self-expression, advocacy skills, and practical communication strategies.
- Activities were designed to be interactive and engaging, reinforcing key learning outcomes.

What we’re most proud of:

- Attendees consistently applying the skills learnt to new situations.
- Building a culture of mutual support and encouragement.
- Starting a new program with strong engagement and exciting potential for future growth.

Looking ahead, we aim to:

- Deliver additional skills workshops and advocacy training.
- Engage further with the local community.
- Continue providing creative, meaningful outcomes for participants.



Gladstone



Peer Group

Project Overview

MyTime is a fortnightly support group for parents and carers of children (18 & under) with additional needs, learning delays, or disabilities. MyTime is a collaboration with Down Syndrome & Intellectual Disability Queensland (DSIDQ).

Peer Group Highlights

20 workshops with 25 Participants. A standout moment this year was hosting guest speaker Eliza for a music therapy session, and offering parents a fun, relaxing space to prioritise self-care.

Key Achievements

- Connecting members with services to support their children's development.
- Building a unique, supportive community for parents and carers.
- Strengthening community networks through guest speakers and collaboration with other MyTime facilitators.
- Facilitators enhancing skills in technology, group communication, and online engagement.

Impact and Stories

Facilitators valued being able to share stories and lived experience.

Finding Support

A member, who moved to the region in September 2024, found vital support through MyTime. She accessed services for her son via the group and received guidance during the birth of her third child in June 2025.

She shared:

"I feel like I have really found my village."

Reducing Isolation

Another member joined the group after feeling isolated in her caring role.

Through MyTime, she accessed new opportunities for herself and her son, gaining confidence and a sense of community connection.



Gladstone



Peer Group

Participant Feedback

Members appreciated:

- A non-judgmental, safe space to relax and share experiences.
- Access to information about services they previously didn't know.
- Opportunities for self-care, such as music therapy and Self-Care Bingo.

One member described the group as:

"Welcoming like a warm hug," and highlighted that it helped them feel seen, heard, and reassured they are doing the best they can for their child.

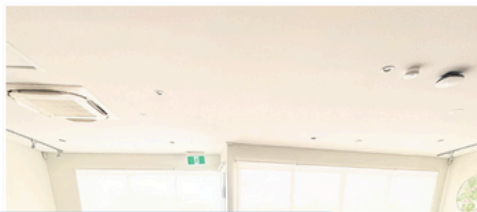
What we are most proud of:

- Creating a safe, accepting, and supportive space for parents and carers.
- Seeing members practice self-care and prioritise their own wellbeing.
- Facilitating connections that empower both parents and children.

Workshops, Topics and Partnerships

- Developmental education
- Diet and nutrition
- Legal considerations for children turning 18
- Music therapy
- Carer Gateway, ECDP, NDIS
- Behaviour support and therapy services (speech, OT, physio)

The group collaborated with local service providers and shared ideas with MyTime facilitators nationally, strengthening community networks and resource access.



2025 Sunshine Coast Planning for the Future

Planning for the future is challenging at any age, but when you need to consider legal, financial and government services - it can be very confusing.

To address this issue, the team delivered Planning for the Future - an interactive workshop that provides practical guidance and access to professional advice.

The event also marked the launch of the “Now I’m preparing for the future support guide”, created to help people understand the essential steps in planning later in life.

Expert and Community Insight

The event featured an expert panel including:

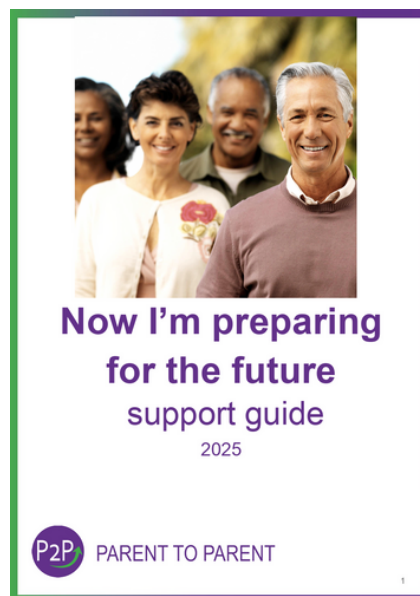
- Lawyers – wills, estates, and disability-related legal planning.
- Financial experts – retirement, pensions, and long-term financial decisions.
- Support services – to navigate government systems eg. Carers Qld

- Community members – sharing real-life experiences and advice.

Attendee Outcomes

Attendees left equipped to:

- Make informed financial and legal decisions.
- Plan for future care, housing, and support needs.
- Understand their rights and responsibilities.
- Navigate government and community services confidently.





2025 Sunshine Coast Planning for the Future

Interactive Q and A

Attendees engaged in a lively Q&A, asking detailed questions about superannuation, aged care services, and government entitlements.

The session was widely praised for providing personalised, practical advice.

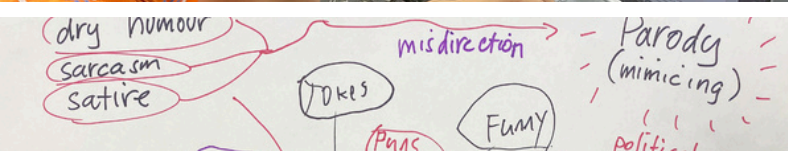
Event Feedback

Attendees reported having a clearer understanding of retirement requirements.

- **Relevance:** Attendees appreciated the simplified explanations of complex financial and legal issues.
- **Expert Access:** The Q&A discussion was highlighted as the most useful component due to real-time, tailored guidance.
- **Resource Value:** The Support Guide was considered an essential tool for ongoing planning.

Successes

- Over 80% of registered attendees reported that the workshop exceeded their expectations.
- More than 30 questions were submitted during the Q&A discussion, showing a strong interest in personalised advice.
- Post event surveys showed that 95% of attendees found the event valuable, and 85% expressed interest in future workshops.



2025 Sunshine Coast Brainstorm

Successes

It has been a big year for members of Brainstorm. The group have supported each other through some amazing life events including:

- Callum finished university and his third novel, which is currently in production.
- Payge is doing an incredible job for disability advocacy through Loud and Clear Qld and P2P.
- Jathniel is finishing the first draft of his comic.
- Jonathan starting university.
- Connie being part of an exhibition at Equity Works.
- Jackson has almost completed an internship at ABC local radio where he has a segment called 'Extraordinary Ordinaries'. He worked on a film and was in several acting roles and worked behind the camera for The Assembly season 3.
- Jackson also interviewed Payge as part of his radio segment, and they spoke about disability advocacy and Brainstorm.

Member Outcomes

Everyone is working on their writing and improving their skills through workshops, sharing ideas and drafts. Caitlyn joined the group for several months and Erin joined the group recently. The core members of Callum, Jackson, Jathniel, Connie, Jonathan and Payge meet fortnightly for Brainstorm and catch up regularly for movies and social events.

Lily organises social events every fortnight which are attended by most of the group. Jackson, Callum and Jathniel also attended SupaNova in Brisbane.

The support the group gives each other professionally as writers is excellent and the support they give each other as they build and maintain friendships is incredible. This was demonstrated recently when Jonathan lost his father and the group were able to support him.



PATH

A new, meaningful tradition

Each session now ends with the PATHFINDER, teacher, and parent placing their hands on the completed PATH and signing it.

This symbolic moment reflects a shared commitment to supporting the student as they work to achieve their goals.



PATH Training – Nambour Community Centre

The PATH team delivered a two-day training for Nambour Community Centre staff, strengthening facilitation skills and confidence. Trainees engaged in hands-on practice and left with practical tools and renewed purpose.

“A heartfelt thank you to Robbie, Matt, and Beth for your time and expertise in guiding us through the PATH training. We truly appreciated the experience and are excited to share it with our community members.”



PATH

Sunshine Coast University Hospital (SCUH) Adolescent Day Program & Community Partnerships

PATH Planning was fully integrated into the Sunshine Coast Adolescent Day Program, offering a structured, person-centred way for students to set goals and re-engage with learning. Facilitators Beth and Matt worked with Allied Health, Educators, Guidance Officers, families, and students to support transitions back to school, alternative education, training, or employment. Families said PATH provided a clear roadmap and increased confidence in planning for their child's future.

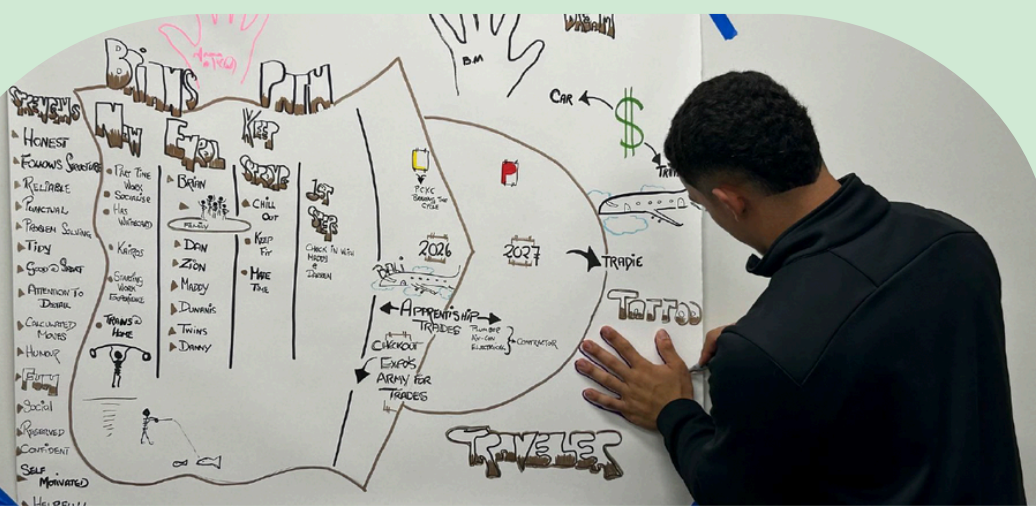
Student Feedback

"It was nice to see what could be possible for my future... it was supportive and gave me focus and strength."

Parent Feedback

"The PATH session uncovered our daughter's goals and clarified her direction after school. The facilitators helped her recognise strengths we hadn't seen before. We now have a clear pathway forward."

Families consistently described PATH as empowering, helping young people uncover their strengths, direction, and "hidden gems."





P.A.T.H.

PATH 2025

PATH Training with Inclusion Northern Territory (INT) and Disability Advocacy Service (DAS)

The team worked with INT and DAS, delivering training in Alice Springs and Darwin. Both programs were enthusiastically received and strengthened self-advocacy and community support efforts. These organisations have since expanded their teams, including employing people with disability, and now run their own PATH plans.

Their commitment to person-centred practice highlights the positive ripple effect across the Northern Territory.

In 2026, the PATH team will continue strengthening partnerships, expanding training, and supporting young people, families, and organisations to build hopeful, actionable visions for the future.





Resilience in Reach AN INITIATIVE OF



Project Overview

In 2025, Parent to Parent and Raising Minds launched Resilience in Reach (RiR), a 100% peer-led project that supports parents, carers, families and kin of children and young people with complex mental health challenges.

Every workshop and resource is shaped and delivered by those with lived/living experience, ensuring support that is practical, relatable, and grounded in genuine understanding.

RiR was created to bridge the gap between crisis and confidence, giving families tools, knowledge, and a community when navigating distress. RiR combines evidence-informed guidance with the compassion of lived/living experience.

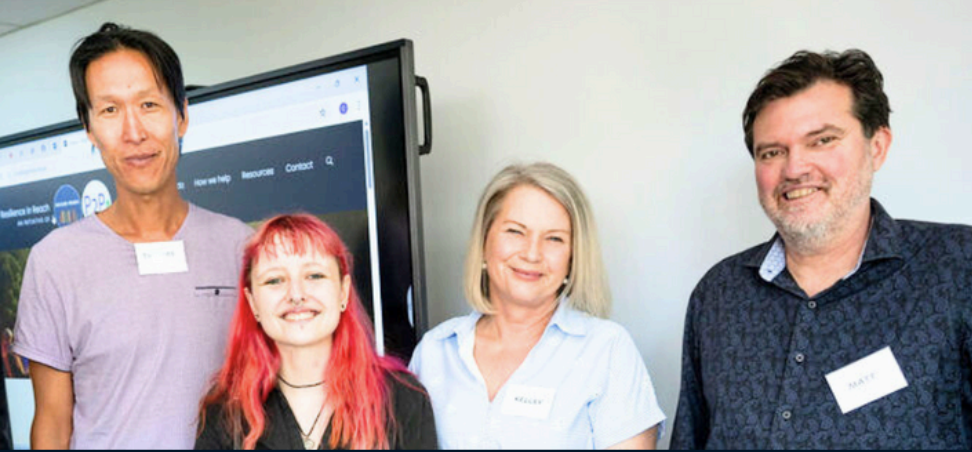
A defining feature of RiR is its co-design approach. Parents, carers, families, and kin with lived/living experience influence every aspect of the project, ensuring the content is accessible, relevant, and real. Delivered online and through place-based community engagement, RiR offers support across Queensland, including hard-to-reach regional areas.

2025 Progress: Co-Design Completion & Pilot Workshops

This year, RiR completed its co-design phase and delivered 6 pilot workshops.

These sessions provided practical strategies and a powerful sense of connection for families who often feel unseen within traditional systems.





Resilience in Reach

AN INITIATIVE OF



Pilot Workshops Overview

Setting out: Helping young people in distress

How to support young people in difficult moments, start sensitive conversations, work with professionals, and recognise strengths.

Resourcing your Journey: Self-Care for Carers

Practical self-care. Families identified stressors and built habits to protect their well-being while supporting their young person.

Finding your way: Navigating systems and services

Understanding health and education systems, improved communication with professionals, and strengthened advocacy.

Speaking their language: Communicating with young people

Communication tools and neurodivergent-friendly strategies to help families connect with young people.

Impact and next steps

The early impact of Resilience in Reach is clear: parents, carers, families and kin are gaining confidence, improving communication with their children and young people, and feeling more connected to a supportive community.

Parents, carers, families and kin have expressed that for the first time, they feel genuinely understood and equipped with tools that reflect their lived realities.

In 2026, RiR will continue to grow, expanding its workshop delivery across Queensland, strengthening its resources, and deepening its commitment to peer-led support.

The project is already transforming the way families navigate complex mental health challenges, and our vision remains steadfast: parents, families, carers and kin of children and young people with complex mental health conditions being able to access the right support, in the right place in the right way with the right person (s).

Visit our website: rir.raisingminds.org.au

ASID Conference 2025

Shaun and Jodi represented us at the 2025 Australasian Society for Intellectual Disability (ASID) Conference. Their participation strengthened P2P's engagement with national conversations on inclusion, rights, and best practise for people with intellectual disability.

Shaun presented as part of his role on the Inclusion Australia Policy Reference Group.

His session highlighted the value of volunteering as both a meaningful contribution to community and a pathway that can lead to employment opportunities.

His lived-experience perspective was well-received and added an important voice to discussions on inclusive employment.

Throughout the conference, Shaun and Jodi attended multiple sessions, including those delivered by members of Inclusion Australia.

These sessions offered insights into current policy priorities, national advocacy directions, and emerging issues affecting people with intellectual disability and their families.

In addition to attending formal sessions, Shaun and Jodi networked with people with intellectual disability, researchers, advocates, and sector representatives.

These connections continue to inform P2P's work and support ongoing collaboration across the disability sector.

Their participation ensured that the perspectives and experiences of P2P's community remained visible within broader sector conversations and contributed to strengthening our organisation's practise, partnerships, and advocacy focus.



IA report for P2P Annual Report for 2025

Inclusion Australia is the national peak body for people with an intellectual disability and their families.

In 2025 we continued to celebrate our 70th year. We introduced a fresh new look as part of our birthday. The Inclusion Australia website and eNews got an update, and the Our Voice committee got a great new logo too!

Our 'It's Doctor Time' campaign encouraged more people with an intellectual disability to see their GP for a yearly health check. It's Doctor Time! includes information and resources for people with intellectual disability, families, GPs and clinic staff, service providers and others.

We had fun presenting the It's Doctor Time! campaign at the Loud and Clear Conference with Our Voice in QLD.

The federal election was held in May 2025. Inclusion Australia asked politicians to commit to a new working group. This group will help make sure people with an intellectual disability get paid a fair wage. This group is called the Ministerial Implementation Working Group. We want this group to give advice to the government on how to make the Disability Royal Commission Recommendation 7.31 happen. This Recommendation is about stopping the sub-minimum wages that are paid to people with an intellectual disability.



Inclusion Australia Policy Officer, Luke Nelson went to The Conference of State Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) at the UN in New York. Inclusion Australia CEO Catherine McAlpine was there too. Luke talked about artificial intelligence (AI) and how it impacts people with an intellectual disability.

Luke said, "I would have never thought I would speak at the UN. I have ticked a huge career moment off my bucket list! I will encourage people to speak up for the rest of my life. That is my job. That is what I will always do".



Inclusion Australia CEO Catherine McAlpine and Policy Officer, Luke Nelson at the UN

Hear From Our Volunteers

“Volunteering for P2P has been a deeply motivating experience for me. It has been good to use the skills that I have gained in my own working life to benefit Jodi and her team. P2P volunteering has provided me with a real sense of satisfaction, knowing that my efforts are appreciated.

P2P brings me a new perspective in life with my own personal challenges, knowing that I have been supported greatly and it has given me a deeper appreciation of others. I am truly grateful for that.

I have met some amazing people and feel like I am forming lasting bonds and contributing to the community.

Ultimately I enjoy volunteering for P2P, it has helped me personally and I enjoy giving back to others and the community. I find it very rewarding in many ways.”

- Carol Anne
P2P Volunteer

At Parent to Parent, our volunteers are at the heart of everything we do. Your generosity, compassion, and commitment make it possible for us to support people with disability and their families in meaningful, person-centred ways. Whether you are sharing lived experience, offering a helping hand, or strengthening our community connections, our volunteers bring richness, humanity, and hope to our work.

We are deeply grateful for every volunteer who chooses to stand with us. Your time and dedication ensure that families feel supported, empowered, and never alone.

Together, we make a difference.

P2P is a member of Volunteering Sunshine Coast.

Parent to Parent Advocacy Clinic

In partnership with People with Disability Australia, Parent to Parent continues to provide a vital free advocacy clinic facilitated by Miia Tolvanen.

Monthly appointments are available either in person, online or phone. Appointments are for anyone residing in Queensland and can be booked either via our website or by calling the office

The clinic offers guidance on a wide range of matters, including guardianship and administration, external NDIS plan reviews (ART), supported decision-making, complaints processes, and issues relating to child protection.

In 2025, we delivered approximately 50 free advocacy sessions, demonstrating the strong community need for this service and our commitment to empowering people with disability, their families, and their supporters.





P2P is proudly supported by

We extend our sincere appreciation to our supporters, partners, and funding providers whose commitment has made our work possible this year.

Your trust and collaboration strengthen our capacity to deliver meaningful services and to champion the rights, voices, and choices of people with disabilities across our communities.

We are proud to share this year's achievements with you, and we remain grateful for the vital role you play in our continued progress. Thank you for being an part of our shared achievements.

Community Bank
Woombye

 Bendigo Bank


Sunshine Coast
COUNCIL

 **JASPER**
DENTAL CENTRE



Australian Government
Department of Health, Disability and Ageing



 **RESILIENT CARE** | Community-led
Action for
Resilient Health
Eco-Systems

 **CCQ**
COUNTRY TO
COAST, QLD
Healthy, connected communities

 **phn**
CENTRAL QUEENSLAND,
WIDE BAY, SUNSHINE COAST
An Australian Government Initiative

 **SOCIAL
SHIFT
INSTITUTE**

Funded by

**Queensland
Government**


**GLADSTONE
REGIONAL COUNCIL**


**HINTERLAND
PHYSIO GROUP**

 **Inclusion Australia**



Thank you and looking ahead

As we close out 2025, Parent to Parent extends our heartfelt thanks to our dedicated staff, peer facilitators, volunteers, board members, and supporting organisations. Your commitment, collaboration, and belief in our mission have been the driving force behind every achievement this year.

To our community, thank you for trusting us, walking alongside us, and helping shape the work we do.

We look forward to carrying this momentum into 2026 and continuing to deliver work that is impactful, meaningful and community driven.

Here's to another year of growth, collaboration, and shared success.

Queensland's Trusted Voice For People with Disability and their Families



Peer Support



Advocacy



Information & Referral



Capacity Building

*Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of information in this report. We apologise for any unintentional errors or omissions.



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