



# Gladstone Region engaging in action Together

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Lorna McGinnis & Debbie King, Start-Up Backbone Team

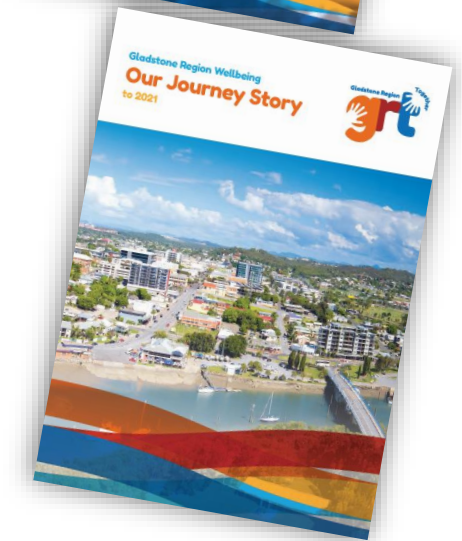
Deputation to Gladstone Regional Council 7 September 2021

*We acknowledge the Byellee, Gooreng Gooreng, Gurang and Taribelang Bunda people,  
the traditional custodians of this land. We pay respect to Elders, past, present and emerging.  
We extend this respect to other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.*

# GRT

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- Gladstone Region engaging in action Together (GRT) is a Stronger Places, Stronger People (SPSP) initiative – one of only 3 in Queensland and one of 10 in Australia
- In June 2021 GRT presented a proposal to the Australian Government and Queensland Government to partner for a 3-year period
- The proposal included two documents as evidence of Gladstone’s eligibility under the SPSP criteria of identified disadvantage and community readiness:
  - Gladstone Region Wellbeing – 2021 Baseline Data Report
  - Gladstone Region Wellbeing – Our Journey Story
- CQUniversity approved a partnership with GRT to auspice the funding agreements and employ the Backbone team



# Government Funding

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- In July 2021 Minister Ruston approved funding of up to \$1.42 million\* from 2021-22 to 2023-24 to resource the work in Gladstone and move from start-up funding to a fully funded Backbone
- CQUniversity and Department of Social Services (DSS) have fully executed the Commonwealth grant agreement and the first instalment of funding has been received by CQUniversity
- The Queensland Government is finalising its own aligned grant agreement of \$1.65 million\* with CQUniversity to resource the work in the Gladstone Region
- A Backbone Team of 5 is being recruited currently and a lease agreement is in place with CQUniversity for office space to house the team

*\* The Australian and Queensland Governments allocated equal contributions of \$1.7M for the 5-year initiative from 2019 totalling \$3.4M with additional \$340,000 Commonwealth funding for capacity building*

# Stakeholder Engagement

Engagement activity has included input from over 200 stakeholders, including:

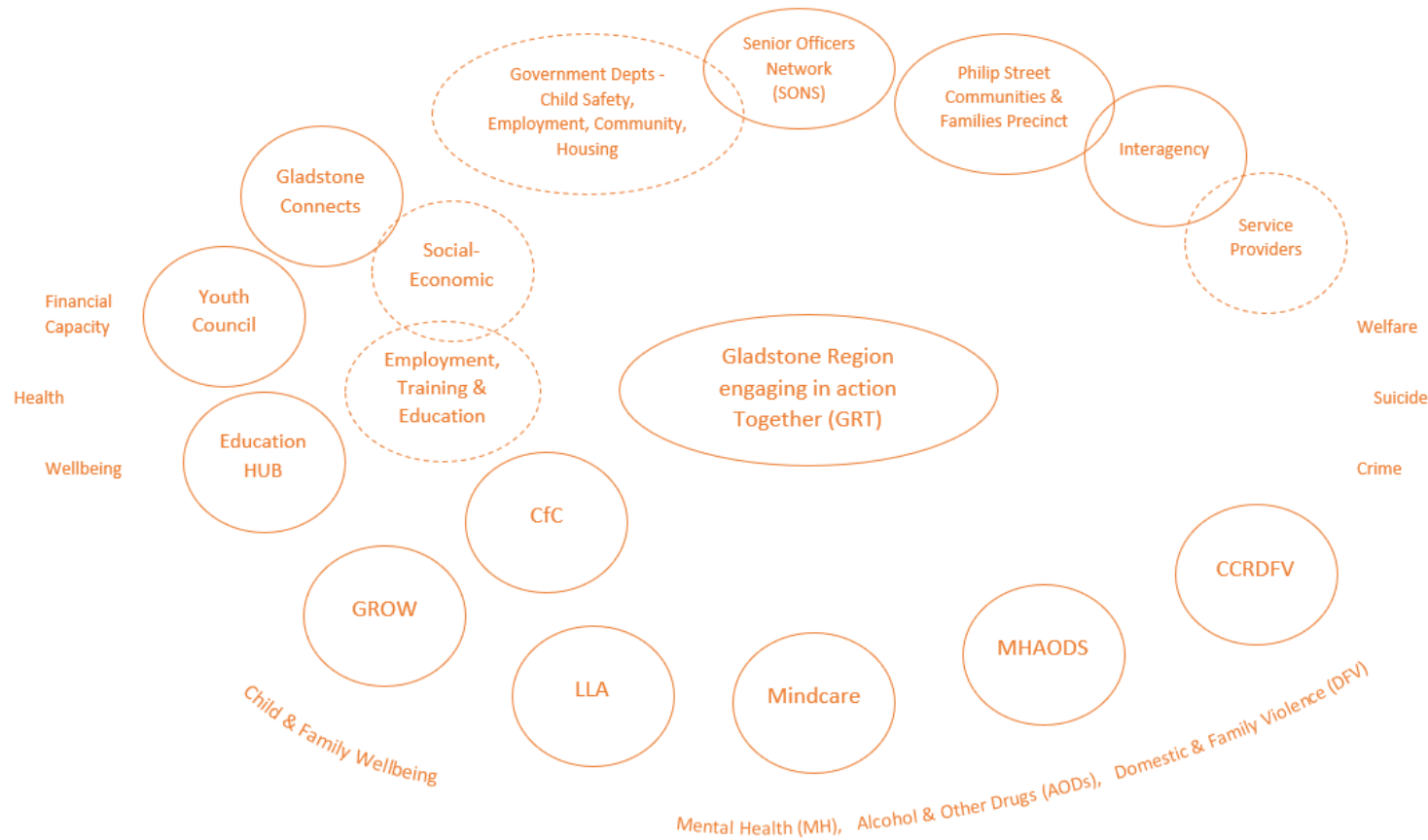
- Community across our geographically diverse region
- Community Leaders (elected and informal)
- Traditional Custodians including Elders
- Government departments, non-government and not-for-profit organisations
- Human service and health sector networks
- Business and Industry



Meetings, briefings and consultations include:

- Elected Members briefings:
  - Federal
  - State
  - Gladstone Regional Council Meeting
- Government Departments
  - Health
  - Education
  - Child Safety
  - Senior Officer's Network
- Rio Tinto, Here for Gladstone Board
- GRC RAP Reference Group
- Gladstone Connect (Economic)
- Start-up Gladstone (Innovator)
- Youth Council

# Sector & Network Engagement



6 workshops and information sessions  
(predominately sector attendance)

Presentations sessions with:

- CCRDFV (DFV)
- Mental Health & AODs (MHAOD)
- Interagency (3)
- Collective Change Gladstone
- Communities for Children
- GROW (Connect for Children)

Multiple meetings with child and family organisations



# Community Engagement

A total of 265 stakeholders have been kept up to date and invited to participate via the GRT email distribution list.



## 14 events – across the Region

- Rosedale
- Baffle Creek
- Agnes Water
- Miriam Vale
- Boyne Valley (2)
- Boyne Island
- Tannum Sands
- Gladstone (4 locations)
- Calliope
- Mt Larcom

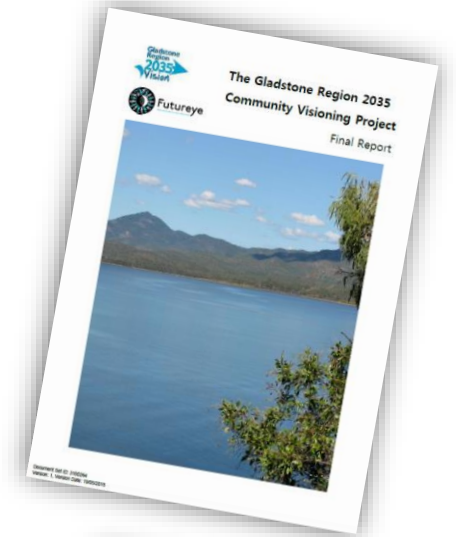


# Vision & Goals

GRTs vision and goals were informed by many voices over time.

Both quantitative and qualitative data were considered including:

- Previously identified community aspirations challenges and opportunities (desktop review)
- Statistical data identified in the Baseline Report
- The stories and lived experience of individuals in our community
- Observations and experience of sector practitioners and stakeholders





# Theory of Change

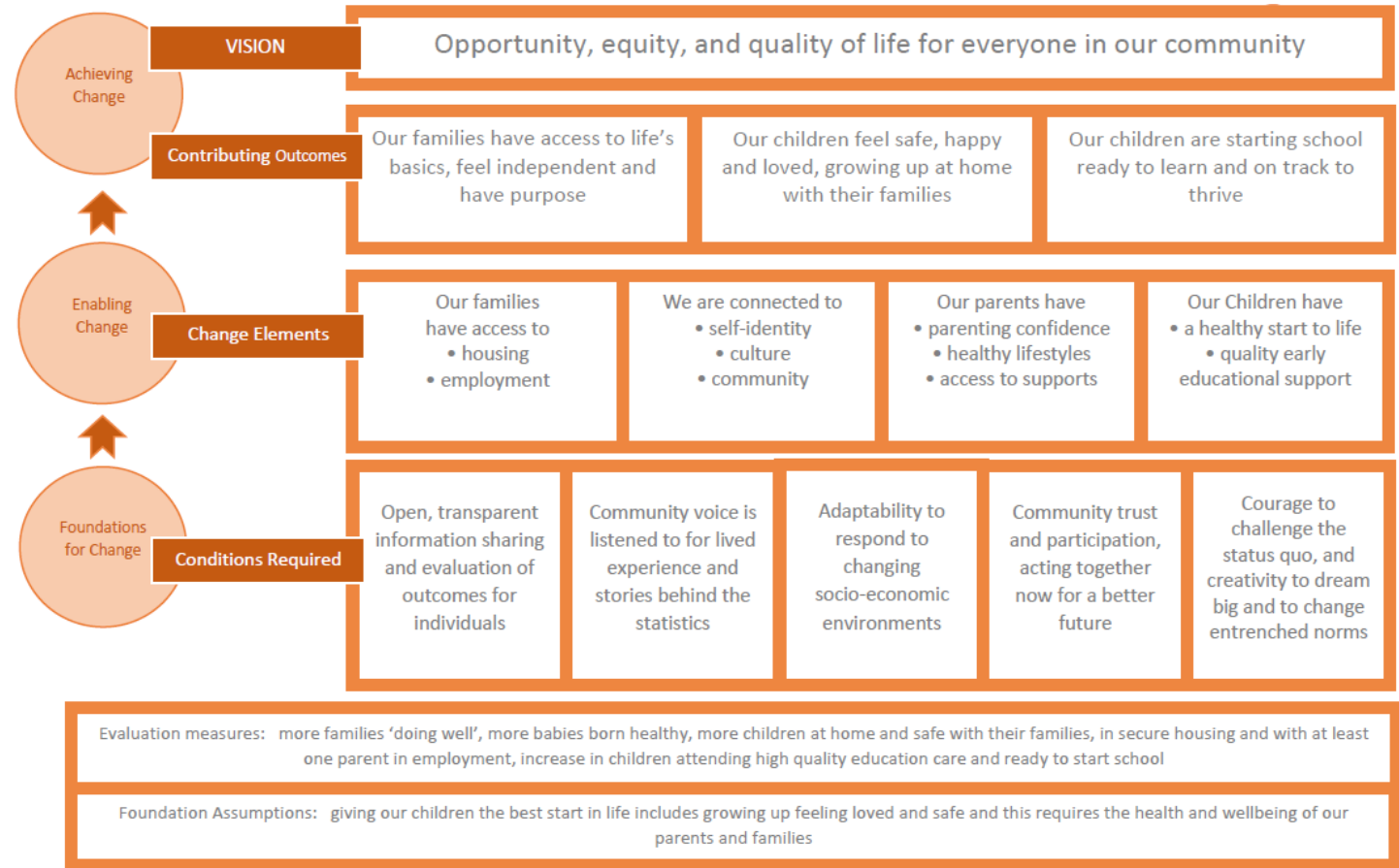
The GRT Theory of Change centres around the vision

opportunity, equity and quality of life for everyone

Priority outcomes:

- Our families have access to life's basics, feel independent and have purpose
- Our children feel safe, happy and loved, growing up at home with their families
- Our children are starting school ready to learn and on track to thrive

# Theory of Change

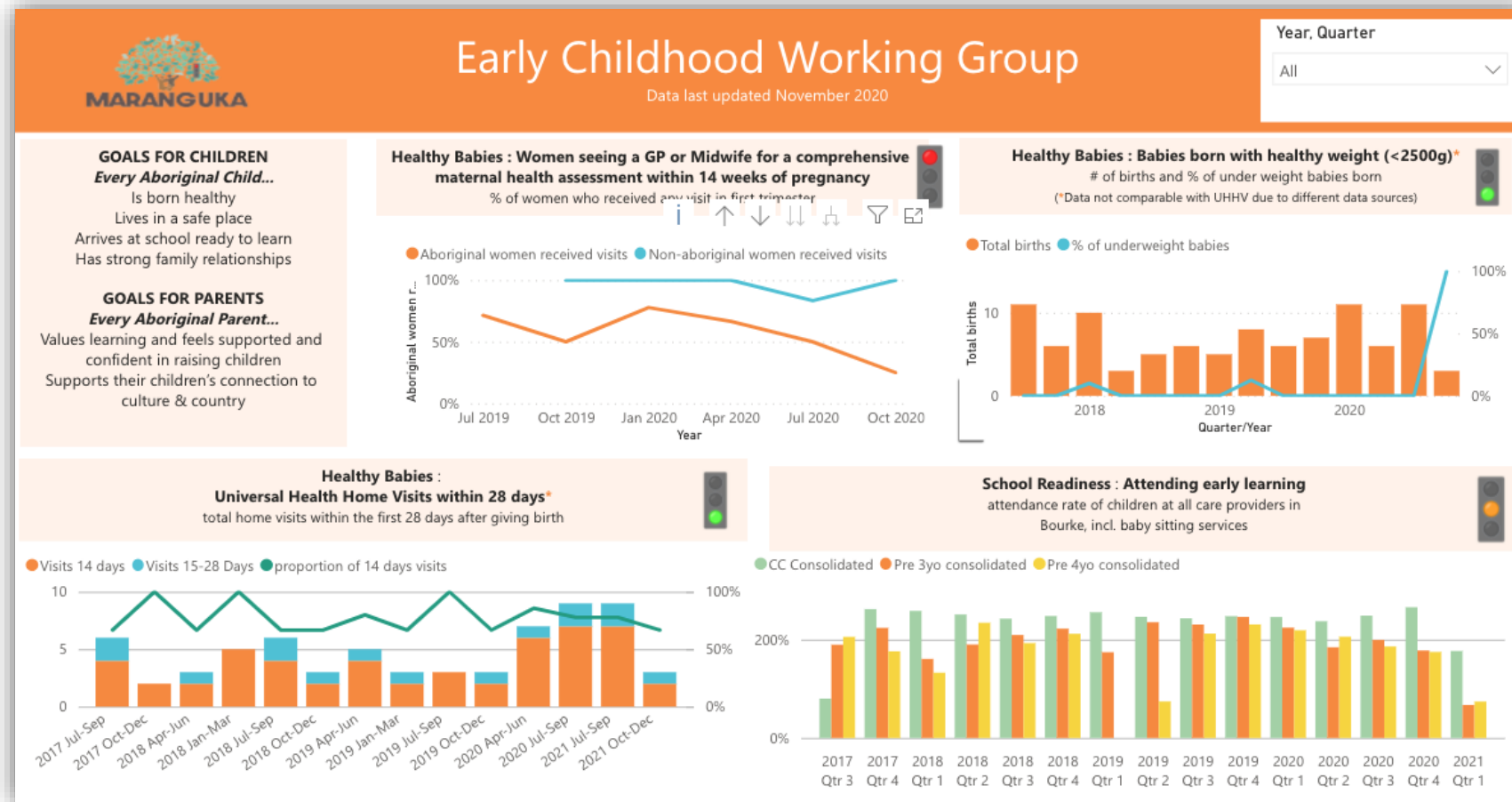


# Next Steps

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- Recruit and induct GRT Backbone Team
- **Gladstone Region Wellbeing Action Plan**
  - Bring together wellbeing efforts into one action plan for visibility of **Strategy**
  - Collate existing and support development of **Measurement Indicators** to track outcomes
  - Collate existing and support development of **Targets** to monitor progress
- **Gladstone Region Community Engagement Calendar**
  - Ongoing opportunity for community to tell us what they are experiencing and co-design improvements
  - Reduce consultation fatigue and survey duplication and create aligned data
  - Enable equity amongst stakeholders to effectively create and influence change
- **Gladstone Region Wellbeing Data Hub**
  - Establish a **Centralised Data Source** for data presentation, measurement, monitoring and evaluation
  - Form contributor agreements for **Data Sharing** of local data for local context alongside population data
  - Develop data **Dashboards** to provide transparency of how we are tracking towards our goals

# Progress Dashboard example



# 2022 onwards



- **Optimised Efforts**
  - An aligned action plan
  - Measurement and monitoring of progress - to check that we are going in the right direction
  - Visibility of what is working - to scale up effective efforts allowing us to work smarter not harder
- **Increased Capacity**
  - Ongoing opportunity for community to tell us what they are experiencing for real time early intervention
  - Improved collective problem solving as a result of clearer articulation of the issues
  - Increased understanding of data to provide evidence-based investment in priority areas
- **Return on Investment**
  - Targeted investment in initiatives that are getting results - achieving more with what we have
- **Improved Wellbeing**

opportunity, equity and quality of life for everyone

Thank you

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