

25 October 2022

NCACCH Expanding Services into Early Years Family Hub in Gympie

On behalf of the Board of Directors, we are extremely excited to announce NCACCH successful in attaining the lease for a well-known Gympie facility at 2 O'Connell Street – for many years known as Gympie Early Years Family Hub. This has been achieved through a Gympie Regional Council Expression of Interest process.

This expansion will complement the NCACCH Gympie Aboriginal Medical Service (AMS) to offer a culturally safe space for our children, families and Elders to access health and other community services.

In addition to the lease, we have also been able to apply for and receive Federal Government funds to support the update and refit of this much loved and well used space. We are expecting to commence the refit in December 2022 and hope to have services up and running again in March 2022.

For the past 13 years, 2 O'Connell Street has been a space for parenting support programs, playgroups, child health checks, counselling, allied health services, sharing information, resources, and group work. To support the refit and return of services, NCACCH have commenced a community consultation process which will continue through to November 2022. We are committed to improving outcomes for all children and families in our region by partnering with Elders, community members, government departments, health and community services to develop place-based responses and align our efforts.

Key feedback to this point has reinforced the importance of the hub as a local connector and information hub; embracing a life span approach; extending opening hours from 7am-7pm, including weekends, and integrating effectively with Gympie health services and community sectors is a priority.

The NCACCH Directors are very excited to provide the community with the identified service needs provided during our annual community survey and the Gympie AMS consultations. NCACCH has contracted Robb Major as Project Manager. Robb is very experienced in project management, disaster recovery and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander policy and program delivery. He has well established relationships across the Sunshine Coast and Gympie region and has worked with NCACCH across many years within his role at the Central Qld, Wide bay, Sunshine Coast PHN.

We thank our valued clients, community, partners and stakeholders for their continued support, commitment and enthusiasm and look forward to keeping you updated on the progress.

To receive updates, follow us on our NCACCH Facebook or check in on our webpage, www.ncacch.org.au to follow the project. We welcome any questions or feedback at robb@ncacch.org.au or 5346 9800.

Yours Sincerely

Helen Felstead

On Behalf of the NCACCH Board