



Do you have a business idea, or are you in need of business support? The IJC Community Hub has a free business support drop-in service every Friday from 12-4pm.

Hub launch draws a crowd

Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander, multicultural and wider community, partners and stakeholders celebrated the opening of the new IJC Community Hub on Anderson Street in Manunda earlier this month.

The Community Hub is a one-stop shop for service providers and community to work together in one community-run space.

“Having the Hub there means any member of the community feeling the pressures of financial hardship, of being away from home or even being homeless, can access one place to find the support they need,” CEO Chris Martin said.

“We offer space and facilities to community service providers under one roof in the hope that Hub users will be able to find pathways to the solutions to their problems through the various service providers we have partnered to date and will expand upon in the future.

“We believe one of the most important aspects of the Hub environment is that it’s community-run and friendly, as well as being on neutral ground, which makes it welcoming and easy for our community clients.”

SEE INSIDE FOR MORE!!!

IJC Training

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IJC Hub

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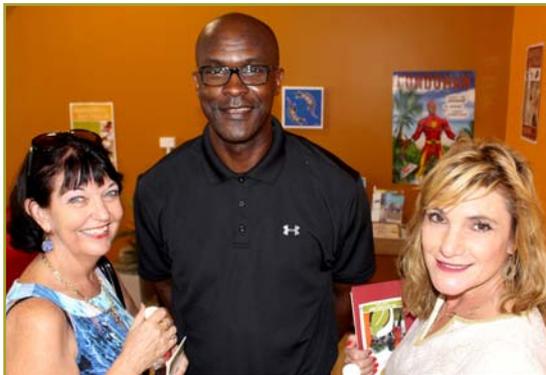
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IJC Community Hub opening 7 March 2016

Partners and friends pictured on these pages include: Allan Ketchell (Port Kennedy Association) & Rebecca Sam (TSRA); Allen Minniecon (Salvation Army), Moses Savage & Lynelle Flinders (Trinity Bay High School), Barbara Head & Nancy Nona (Lulu's Model Management), Lory Smith (TBHS) & Marcus Smith; Anthony Adcock (Crowe Horwath), David Marnock (Centrelink) & Mitch Williams (Crowe Horwath); Brian Morris (Dept Education & Training), Sarah & James Mort (MiHaven); Chris Cavanagh (Partners in Recovery) & Nat Motlop (Apunipima Cape York Health ; Council); Chris Martin, Paula Castle (Playgroup Qld) & Cathy Nixon (Cairns West State School); Chris Palmer (Skytrans), John Conroy (DATSIP), Lacey Remedio & Ray Wallace (Blackstar); David Nicholls (Apunipima Cape York Health Council), Heather & Peter; Elaine Baker & Kirra Kynuna (DHS Medicare); Evan Martin (Anglicare Homelessness Services Hub) & Sue Walker (Homestay); Heidi Turner (MEGT), Maria Richards, Chris Martin, Kathy Martin (Worklink); Jess Sariman (Hub), Morgan Dempsey & Carla Gorton (Cairns Sexual Health); Lyn Jensen (Zinc Radio 4CA), Billy Ross (Cairns Youth Justice) & Bren Barisi (Zinc Radio 4CA); Lynelle Flinders (Artist) & Ruth Wone (Woree State High School); Philomena, Louella & Jess; Snr Cst Kelly Chamberlain (PCYC), Rhonda Duffin, Cassie Geary (PCYC); Theresa Denzin & Jess Jones (Cairns SDE Flexible Learning Campus); Joe Wallace, Luella Wallace, Fred Wallace (Blue Care Hollingsworth Elders Village) & Patsy Lockington (Holy Spirit).



“For our service providers there is the opportunity to save them a lot of time in getting what they need as well as the opportunity to work together,” CEO Chris Martin said.

Royal Flying Doctor Service Mental Health Services Manager Tim Shaw said their clinicians would be an integral part of the support available from the Hub.

“We are delighted to partner IJC on this exciting initiative,” he said.

“RFDS are already providing high quality social emotional wellbeing services to many Cape communities, so it’s great to be contributing to this project.

“Being away from community can bring stresses and challenges, so having access to highly skilled and experienced counsellors can make a real difference.”

Playgroup Queensland Field Support Officer for their Accessible Playgroup Initiative Paula Castle, who will work from the Hub, said they also appreciated the opportunity to be involved.

“Accessible Playgroup Initiative listens to what the community wants and works with them to create a playgroup that meets their needs,” she said.

“As a support officer for the Accessible Playgroup Initiative, I am always available to support the group and facilitator throughout their journey.



“We appreciate this opportunity with working with IJC and are looking forward to launching the Accessible Playgroup Initiative and watching it grow well into the future.”

PCYC’s Project Booyah Cairns Coordinator Snr Constable Kelly Chamberlain said they were also pleased to be a partner in the Hub.

“Project Booyah is a program developed and coordinated by the Queensland Police service for at risk youth in our community,” she said.

“We have been fortunate to partner with IJC.

“The use of the hub will help to build stronger relationships between community members and provide a safe and trusting environment for the

Project Booyah participants to engage in whilst also providing valuable community connections.”

Federal Member for Leichhardt Warren Entsch said he found it saddening to see the alienation that people can experience when they are away from community, for whatever reason.

“That’s why I’m very impressed with the model I’m seeing here today,” he said.

“The Hub is focused on being a welcoming space where people can build their confidence, upskill and access a whole range of support services.

“I congratulate the Hub for the partnerships you’ve formed and the outcomes you’re working towards.”

From the heart... Maria's speech 'wows' crowd

Firstly I'd like to acknowledge and pay my respects to the Traditional Owners of the land we are on, as well as our elders, guests and dignitaries, including the Honorable Warren Entsch Chair Maria Richards said.

Welcome everyone, welcome to the new location for our IJC Community Hub, which as you can all see, has enough space for us to be bigger and better than ever.

What a journey it has been to get here!

And all off our own bat!

We've been rejected in so many ways again and again, but the board and staff here have been resilient and committed all the way.

So here we are, ready to go into bat again for disadvantaged people from here in Cairns and up to the Torres Strait and beyond.

We know for ourselves what a tough gig it is to be forced into the mainstream.

If you have literacy problems, mental health problems and even financial difficulties it can be more stressful than many of us may be able to imagine.



*Board members & the CEO with Renee Wood
from Cape York Welfare Reform*

It's a big learning curve - it certainly was for us - and that's how we know the people we want to help need all the help they can get.

Dealing with all sorts of agencies and paperwork and phone calls and the endless stream of pressures they face on a day to day basis can be difficult enough.

But this is where the Hub truly comes into it's own - a one-stop shop for service providers and community to work together in one community-run space.

We are so proud of what we have to offer and we love what we do.

We hope you will too.

Thank you for joining us today in celebrating our next big step, we look forward to working with you all.



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