

Creating Safer, Stronger Communities
For Over 50 Years



Annual Report 2025

Welcome

Wodda Mooli. Welcome to the 2025 Annual Report of Yumba-Meta Limited, where we celebrate our commitment to creating sustainable communities through secure housing and support services.

For over 50 years, Yumba-Meta has been a strong advocate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, providing affordable and culturally appropriate housing solutions. Our mission is to empower vulnerable individuals and families, helping them overcome barriers to secure a safe and stable home.

This report highlights our diverse programs, including long-term community housing, transitional support, and specialised services for women and children facing domestic violence. We are proud to have established initiatives like Karingal Patient Transition Accommodation, supporting First Nations patients moving between hospital and home, and Uncle Alfred's Legacy Program, helping men change behaviours and reduce domestic and family violence.

At Yumba-Meta, we believe that everyone deserves a place to call home. Our dedicated team works tirelessly to ensure that our clients receive not just housing but also the necessary support to thrive. As we reflect on our achievements and challenges over the past year, we remain steadfast in our commitment to building stronger communities.

Thank you for joining us on this journey. Together, we can create lasting change and improve life outcomes for those who need it most.

Acknowledgement of Country

We respect and honour Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders past, present and future. We acknowledge the stories, traditions and living cultures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples on this land and commit to building a brighter future together.

Warning: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander readers are advised that this publication contains images and names of deceased persons.

Cover artwork by Lillian Willis 2018

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Through Access to Housing and Support Services



302

Patients were supported at Karingal in 2024-2025

282

Accompanying family members were also supported at Karingal in 2024-2025

188

Long-term tenancies managed

13

Transitional Housing managed by YML

16

Crisis Accommodation Rooms managed by YML

8

Tenancies managed through Specialist Disability Accommodation Program

A smoking ceremony, led by Ashley Saltner, welcomed Karingal Patient Transition Accommodation onto Country, cleansing the space and calling for safety, healing and protection for all who stay there. The ceremony honoured the Traditional Owners and affirmed Yumba-Meta's ongoing commitment to culturally safe, community-led care.

Photo: Josephine Carter Photography

Purpose & Achievements

Our Mission:

Advocating for First Nations People and other vulnerable groups.

Our Vision:

Achieving sustainable communities.

Our Values:

CONNECT: Identify needs and opportunities

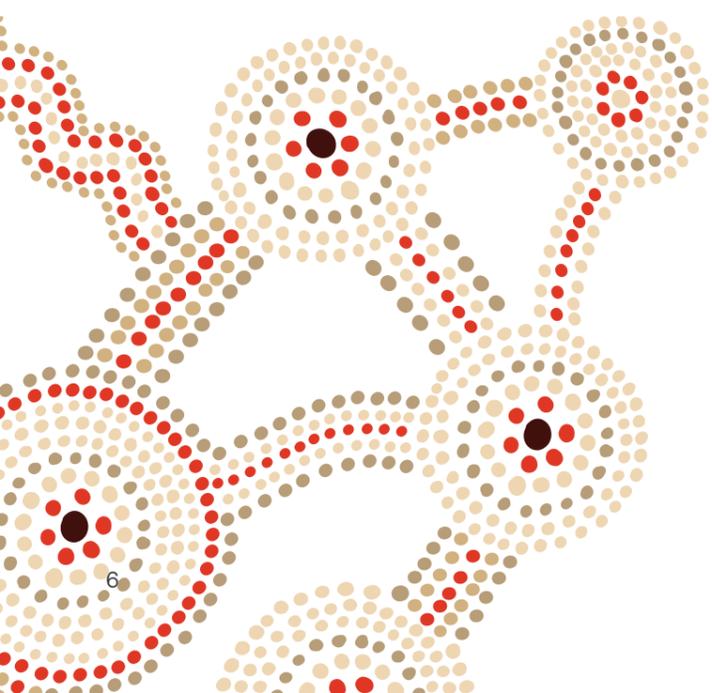
ADAPTABLE: Committed, transparent and innovative

RESPECT: Honest, compassionate, and non-judgmental

EMPOWER: Support and motivate

Awards & Recognition

- Yumba-Meta was the first Indigenous Community Housing Provider in Australia to achieve full accreditation by the National Community Housing Standards and Accreditation Council.
- Human Services Quality Framework Accredited Service Provider.
- Registered Tier 2 Provider with the National Regulatory System for Community Housing (NRSCH).
- Registered Specialist Disability Accommodation (SDA) Provider with the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA).
- 2015 National Australasian Housing Institute Award Winner – Leading Innovation Award for Professional Excellence in Housing for the Ernest and Maud Hoolihan Elders Village.
- 2019 National Australasian Housing Institute Award Winner - Professional Excellence in Social Housing – Continuum Model.
- 2022 National Australasian Housing Institute Award Winner – Executive Excellence – YML CEO Mrs Dushy Thangiah.
- 2022 National Australasian Housing Institute Award Runner-up – Leading Housing Development Project – Hillside Gardens.



Building Futures: The Founding Story of Yumba-Meta Limited

How a vision in 1973 transformed housing for our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community

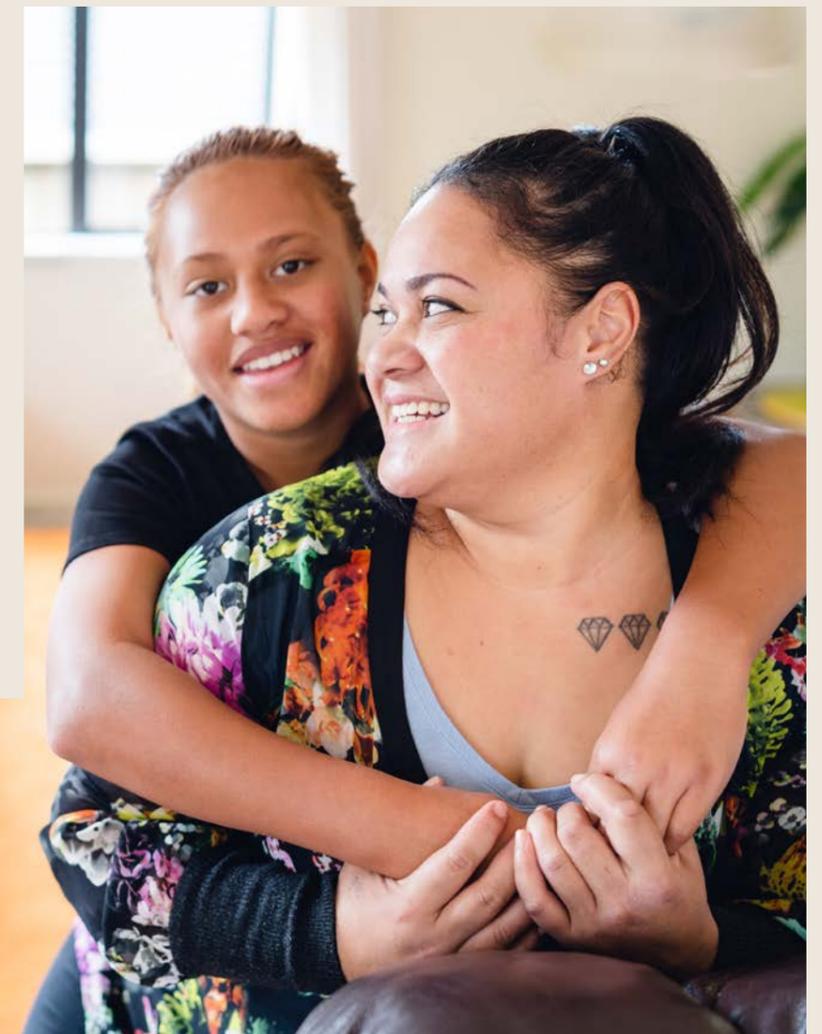
In 1973, a group of local Aboriginal people united with a shared mission: to offer housing for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families in Townsville.

Their vision grew into Yumba-Meta Limited, now at the forefront of addressing housing and homelessness challenges, particularly for First Nations People in Townsville.

Through secure, affordable, and culturally appropriate accommodation and support, Yumba-Meta Limited effectively breaks the cycles of poverty, substance abuse, and domestic and family violence for numerous individuals and families.

For more than 50 years, Yumba-Meta Limited has greatly impacted the lives of vulnerable individuals and families, especially Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

We are committed to remaining a powerful advocate for our community, offering services tailored to diverse personal and cultural requirements, and creating positive change.



Milestones

Our current range of services reflects the vital partnerships Yumba-Meta Limited has built over the years, shaping our commitment to the community.

1973

Yumba-Meta Housing Association Ltd (YMHAL) registered as the first Indigenous community-controlled housing provider in Queensland.

1974

YMHAL purchased its first 8 homes.

1975-1995

Housing stock increased to 33 homes.

1996

Queensland Department of Housing funded YMHAL to construct 5x1 bedroom senior units at 75 Chandler Street Garbutt.

1997-1999

Housing stock increased to 45 homes.

2000

Queensland Department of Housing funded YMHAL to complete a Management Manual (Policies and Procedures) through the Best Practice Program.

2001

YMHAL purchased 6 acres of land at Innes Estate.

2003

YMHAL head office moved into newly constructed premises on 565 Ross River Road Kirwan, officially opened by Dr Ernest Hoolihan in July 2003.

2004

YMHAL became the first Indigenous Community Housing Provider in Australia to achieve full accreditation through the National Community Housing Standards and Accreditation Council.

2005

YMHAL entered into a formal partnership with Australian Red Cross to jointly manage the Homeless Early Intervention Program funded by the Queensland State Government.

2006-2007

Queensland Department of Communities funded YMHAL to manage the Queensland Indigenous Alcohol Diversion Program (QIADP).

2008

YMHAL awarded management of the Reverend Charles Harris Diversionary Centre in July 2008 and the Flora House women's shelter in December 2008.

2009

YMHAL purchased 26 acres of land at Thorn Street Mount Louisa to facilitate pathways for Indigenous home ownership.

2010

YMHAL funded through the Commonwealth Government Nation Building Economic Stimulus Capital Grants Program to construct 7 homes.

YMHAL was awarded 62 tenancies to be managed through the Nation Building Economic Stimulus Tenancy Management program.

2011

Queensland Department of Communities funded the Breaking the Cycle program in December 2010 to operate from the Reverend Charles Harris Diversionary Centre to support up to 10 clients at any given time.

Queensland Department of Housing funded YMHAL to manage the Dale Parker Place supported housing program to manage 20 males and 5 females in 2 locations.

Queensland Department of Communities expanded the diversionary centre to increase bed capacity from 30 beds to 50 beds.

2012-2013

The Queensland Department of Housing funded YMHAL to complete construction of 16x 2-bedroom detached homes at Innes Estate. The project was named Ernest and Maud Hoolihan Village and officially opened in August 2013 by Tim Mander Minister for Housing.

The Queensland Department of Housing funded YMHAL to manage 8 properties through the Employment Related Accommodation Program (ERAP).

2014

YMHAL received 5 more properties under the Employment Related Accommodation Program (ERAP) taking the total number of properties under this program to 13.

2015

YMHAL successfully gained Tier 2 Registration with the National Regulatory System for Community Housing (NRSCH).

2016

YMHAL received Development Approval from the Townsville City Council for the Hillside Gardens residential estate project at Thorn Street, Mount Louisa.



Uncle Alfred Smallwood at the official naming of Alfred Smallwood Place, two new Yumba-Meta duplexes supporting women and children transitioning from crisis accommodation – a tribute to his enduring contribution to community safety and wellbeing.

2017

Hillside Gardens project completed with land being sold in the open market. 1145 Riverway Drive Rasmussen purchased for future development.

2018

Company name change – Yumba-Meta Housing Association Ltd (YMHAL) was changed to Yumba-Meta Ltd (YML) to reflect the current business model.

YML purchased 25 Acheron Avenue Cranbrook to operate programs.

YML became a registered Specialist Disability Accommodation Provider (SDA) with the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA).

The Queensland Department of Housing funded YML through a competitive tender process for the management of the newly constructed Dale Parker Place facility with 40x 1 bedroom studio units.

2019

1145 Riverway Drive Rasmussen granted Development approval by the Townsville City Council.

YML successfully obtained funding through the Building Better Regions Commonwealth Grant towards construction of the Patient Transition Accommodation on 1145 Riverway Drive Rasmussen.

The Queensland Department of Justice and Attorney-General funded the Townsville Family Violence Support Service, increasing YML's position in the Townsville Domestic and Family Violence (DFV) Sector as a specialist DFV service provider.

2020

YML officially opened Townsville's first registered specialist disability accommodation in November 2019.

Construction of the Patient Transition Accommodation commenced in May 2020.

1151 Riverway Drive Rasmussen purchased for future development.

2021

Hillside Gardens Estate sold out in February 2021.

1155 Riverway Drive Rasmussen purchased for future development and the current dwelling transformed into YML's second women's shelter. Elsie House was officially opened by Mrs. Elsie May Thompson in August 2021.

The National Indigenous Australian Agency provided operational funding for Elsie House Women's Shelter.

The Queensland Department of Housing funded YML for the construction of 4 duplexes (8 dwellings) through the Partnering for Growth 1 Program.

202 Ross River Road Aitkenvale purchased for development as YML's headquarters.

2022

The Queensland Department of Housing funded YML for the construction of 4 more duplexes (8 dwellings) through the Partnering for Growth 2 Program. 16 new dwellings through the program.

Karingal Patient Transition Accommodation facility was officially opened by Phillip Thompson OAM, Federal Member for Herbert on 28th July 2021.

Completed construction of the multi-gen home at Hillside Gardens, Mount Louisa.

Completed construction of specialist disability accommodation (shared) at Hillside Gardens, Mount Louisa.

The Riverway Drive, Rasmussen project combining 1145, 1151 and 1155 was granted Development Approval by the Townsville City Council.

Completed construction of the third specialist disability accommodation at Hillside Gardens, Mount Louisa.

Housingwise Realty, not-for-profit real estate established as a subsidiary of Yumba-Meta Limited.

The Queensland Department of Child Safety funded YML to manage 10 young people through the Residential Care Program for Young People.

2023

The Queensland Department of Justice and Attorney-General funded the First Nations Cultural Advisor program to the Townsville High Risk Team (HRT).

YML head office at 202 Ross River Road, Aitkenvale was officially opened on 30th September 2022 by Dr Ernest Hoolihan OAM, founding member and chairperson of YML.

The Queensland Department of Housing funded YML for the construction of 24 one-bedroom homes and 2 duplexes (28 dwellings) through the QuickStart's 1 program.

YML celebrated 50 years of service to the community with a gala dinner held on 9th June 2023.

Completed construction of the fourth specialist disability accommodation at Hillside Gardens, Mount Louisa.

CEO Dushy Thangiah awarded Medal of the Order of Australia.

2024

The Queensland Department of Housing and the Queensland Department of Health jointly provided operational funding to the Karingal Patient Transition Accommodation program. The facility officially opened for intake on 6th November 2023.

Civil Works commenced at 1145 Riverway Drive, Rasmussen in November 2023.

YML successfully obtained funding through the Safe Places Emergency Accommodation Commonwealth Grant towards construction of 5 duplexes and an office building to safely accommodate women and their children escaping violence.

2025

Completion of Stage 2 Civil Works at Riverway Drive Rasmussen.

Construction of two 2 & 3 bedroom duplexes.

Message From Our Chairpersons

Michael Illin

Yumba-Meta Limited Chairperson

Wadda Mooli,

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Yumba-Meta Limited, I feel such a deep sense of privilege, pride and gratefulness for the strategic direction and progress our organisation has made and continues to strive towards.

Being the Chairperson of the Board for Yumba-Meta Limited is one of the greatest rewards in which I hold in the high regard, I am excited and passionate as to what further outcomes our organisation will achieve going forward.

We could possibly not provide the direction and oversight of the organisation without the commitment and dedication of our entire team, being led by our CEO, in which collectively we have shared wisdom and strength as we continue to walk this journey beside one another both as staff and community.

We have successfully delivered a number of key outcomes that provide Yumba-Meta Limited with a strong foundation, underpinned by collaboration with our partners across all sectors, including:

Completion of Stage 2 Civil Works at Riverway Drive Rasmussen

Completion of 2 duplexes for women and their children exiting crisis shelters

Commencement of Stage 3 Civil Works at Riverway Drive Rasmussen

2030 Vision – Set our goals for 2030

Implemented fully automated payroll and HR systems

We are also pleased to report that we remain financially strong and with careful and accountable management of resources with the support of our partners we will ensure that we can continue to invest in our mission and expand our reach.

Yumba-Meta Limited has strengthened its service delivery through change and challenges with positive outcomes made possible through our dedicated staff who maintained strong stakeholder engagement and partnerships, which has positioned our organisation well as we continue building more culturally responsive and effective services for our community, building upon our strengths with innovation.

As we look to the future, we acknowledge the challenges that might lie ahead, however these challenges will also bring opportunities, creating positive sustainable change to further enhance our programs allowing Yumba- Meta Limited with continued success with a commitment to strive towards further excellence.

None of this would be possible without the trust and support of our elders and community, acknowledging the strength, knowledge and connection as we walk together in the next chapter of this journey, we will remain steadfast, committed and dedicated, in creating a more inclusive community for all, working towards building a future where everyone is respected, valued and able to participate fully.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership.

Michael Illin
November 2025

“

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Michael Illin
Chairperson

Michael Illin is a proud Bindal Traditional Owner of the Townsville area with more than 20 years' experience in the health sector across government and non-government agencies.

He holds a Master of Indigenous Business and Leadership, a Diploma of Indigenous Primary Health Care, and a Diploma of Leadership and Management, and is a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Currently Program Manager of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Wellbeing Assessment Engagement Service within the Townsville Hospital Health Service,

A former Director of QAIHC, he has contributed to numerous committees and advisory groups.



Dr Janine Gertz
Director

Dr. Janine Gertz, a Gugu Badhun and NgadjonJi woman, is based in Townsville with strong ties to North and Far North Queensland.

A Lecturer of Indigenous Studies at UNSW and Research Fellow at the Indigenous Law Centre, her research focuses on Indigenous political representation and self-government.

Janine brings extensive experience in public policy, having worked in the Australian Public Service and with Indigenous community organisations.

As the granddaughter and niece of Yumba-Meta's founders, Flora and Ernest Hoolihan, Janine is proud to continue her family's legacy of community service as a valued member of the Yumba-Meta Board.



Troy Kennedy
Director

Troy Kennedy, a proud Gugu Badhun and Gudjala Aboriginal man with strong ties to Charters Towers, Greenvale, and Yarrabah, brings extensive community engagement experience to the Yumba-Meta Limited Board. A qualified plumber with certificates in community services and restorative practice, he has held leadership roles with NRL Cowboys House, the Clontarf Foundation, and Education Queensland.

Troy's work as a Community Engagement Officer with the Department of Children, Youth Justice, and Multicultural Affairs reflects his dedication to supporting Indigenous communities.

A descendant of Yumba-Meta's founding members, he combines cultural knowledge, lived experience, and professional expertise to advocate for youth and vulnerable people.



Hon. Peter Lindsay OAM
Director

The Hon. Peter Lindsay OAM joined Yumba-Meta's Board in 2020, bringing a wealth of experience in lawmaking and governance.

His career began in television and electronics before transitioning to politics. Peter served as a Councillor for Townsville City and then as Federal Member for Herbert for five terms, including roles as Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Defence.

His board experience spans education, IT, mining, and government committees.

Peter is an active community volunteer, a triple past president of the Rotary Club of Townsville Daybreak, and was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia in 2016.



Dr Ernest Hoolihan OAM
Founder and Patron

Dr. Ernest Hoolihan OAM, fondly known as Ernie, founded Yumba-Meta Limited in 1973 under the Whitlam Government.

His achievements extend beyond this, including establishing the Townsville Aboriginal Cultural Centre and TAIHS (Townsville Aboriginal and Islanders Health Services)

Ernie has also supported Aboriginal inmates for over 30 years, worked on educational programs like Headstart Kindergarten, and contributed to the Seniors Safety Group and Leukaemia House.

His dedication has earned him numerous honors, including Queensland Senior Citizen of the Year, a Townsville Grammar Distinguished Alumni award, an Honorary Doctorate, and a Medal of the Order of Australia.

Major Projects Sub-Committee Members

Ensuring every major project reflects our values of culture, care, and long-term community benefit.



Angelo Licciardello
Independent Member



Greg Redington
Independent Member

Board of Directors

Our Board brings together cultural knowledge, leadership experience,

and a commitment to self-determination and community impact.

CEO's Report

Dushy Thangiah

Chief Executive Officer

It is with great pride that I present the 2024 Annual Report to our members and stakeholders. The past year has been one of significant achievements and notable challenges for YML.

Stage 2 Civil Works at the Rasmussen development project was successfully completed after 12 months of delay, and Stage 3 was finalised in November 2025. Stage 4 – the final stage – is scheduled for completion in 2026.

YML is now progressing towards the construction of more than 100 accommodation units over the next two to three years – an outstanding outcome for the Townsville community.

In addition, YML continues to deliver five housing programs and eight support programs, reflecting our ongoing commitment to providing quality housing and community support.

Key milestones achieved during the year include:

Establishment of “Uncle Alfred’s Legacy Program”

YML’s Men’s Behaviour Change Program was officially renamed “Uncle Alfred’s Legacy Program” in honour of Uncle Alfred Smallwood, recognising his lifelong dedication to addressing and reducing the impacts of domestic and family violence in Townsville.

Commemoration of Service to Yumba-Meta Limited

On 8 August 2025, Yumba-Meta Limited celebrated 16 of its team members for their outstanding commitment and more than 10 years of service. It was a heartfelt and emotional occasion, shared with family and colleagues who joined in recognising their achievements.

“Karingal” Patient Transition Accommodation

Fourteen years in the making, the Karingal program has exceeded expectations and has been warmly embraced by members of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community who travel to Townsville for medical treatment. The program aims to improve health outcomes for vulnerable First Nations people from rural and remote communities and to prevent individuals from falling into cycles of homelessness.

Between July 2024 and June 2025, Karingal provided support to 302 patients, 211 escorts and 71 accompanying children. Of these, 81% returned to country; 10% transitioned into other safe accommodation; and 6% continued their stay into the new year.

Safe Places Emergency Accommodation

This initiative provides crisis accommodation for women and their children escaping domestic and/or family violence. YML successfully secured Commonwealth Government funding to construct 10 accommodation units and an administration office. The new facility is designed to remove barriers that often prevent women from leaving unsafe environments, ensuring that women with pets and male children aged 12 and over can also be safely accommodated.

Expansion of Land Holdings

YML expanded land holdings during the year to support future growth and align with the organisation’s long-term aspirations.

I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank the Board for their outstanding stewardship and unwavering commitment to Yumba-Meta. We are also deeply grateful to the independent expert members of our sub-committees for their professionalism and valuable guidance, which continues to strengthen our decision-making processes.

My heartfelt appreciation goes to the YML Senior Management Team and our dedicated frontline staff – the true heroes of Yumba-Meta. I commend their tireless efforts, passion and commitment to our shared vision of “Achieving Sustainable Communities.” Their work continues to make a meaningful difference every day.

I also wish to acknowledge the invaluable contributions of our consultants, contractors and service providers. Their professionalism, collaboration and continued support play a vital role in helping Yumba-Meta deliver on its mission.

As a dedicated team, we will continue to advocate for access to more appropriate housing and better access to health and other essential services.

YML will continue to work towards elevating the voices of our client community and ensuring services are sustainable, place-based, person-centred and, most importantly, culturally appropriate.

Our unwavering commitment to social justice will continue to guide and inspire everything we do.

Dushy Thangiah
November 2025



“Injustice anywhere is a threat to Justice everywhere.” Dr Martin Luther King Jr.

Our Senior Management Team



Dushy Thangiah

Chief Executive Officer

As CEO of Yumba-Meta Limited, Dushy Thangiah is a seasoned management accountant and graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Boasting 30 years in the community housing and services sector, she is a strong advocate for vulnerable communities, particularly First Nations and culturally diverse peoples. Dushy has completed a Graduate Certificate in Housing Management and Policy from Swinburne University and volunteers on several not-for-profit boards and advisory panels.

Her leadership has been recognised with prestigious awards, including the 2019 Telstra Businesswomen's Award, and the 2022 Australasian Housing Institute Executive Excellence Award.

In 2023, her outstanding achievements were recognised with the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM).

Her expertise, dedication, and community commitment continue to guide Yumba-Meta Limited's growth and impact.



Changyi Liu

Chief Finance Officer

As Chief Finance Officer of Yumba-Meta Limited since 2020, Changyi Liu brings 16 years' experience in accounting, taxation, auditing, and finance to his role.

A qualified Chartered Accountant and member of the Australian Institute of Chartered Accountants, he previously spent seven years with one of North Queensland's largest accounting firms.

Born in China, Changyi holds both a Bachelor of Business majoring in Human Resource Management and a Master of Professional Accounting from James Cook University.

In 2022, he became principal of Housingwise Realty, Townsville's first not-for-profit real estate company and subsidiary of Yumba-Meta Limited.



Brenda Lucas

Manager – Dale Parker Place and Townsville Family Violence Support Service; First Nations Cultural Advisor

Brenda Lucas, a proud Mitakoodi woman from Cloncurry on her mother's side and Gangalidda from the Far North Gulf Country on her father's side, brings more than 25 years of public service experience and five years in the non-government sector to her leadership roles at Yumba-Meta Limited.

Holding a Diploma in Community Services, Brenda joined YML in 2015 as Housing Manager before progressing to lead Flora House Women's Shelter. She now manages both Dale Parker Place and the Townsville Family Violence Support Service, overseeing essential programs that provide safe accommodation and holistic support to individuals and families in need.

Brenda's cultural knowledge, compassion, and strong leadership ensure that every person accessing YML services is treated with dignity and supported on their journey toward safety, stability, and independence.



Dwayne Payne

Manager – Reverend Charles Harris Diversionary Centre

Dwayne Payne began with Yumba-Meta Limited in 2023 as a Youth Worker in residential care, progressing to Case Worker at Dale Parker Place before moving into a Coordinator role.

Today, Dwayne serves as Manager of the Reverend Charles Harris Diversionary Centre, providing strong leadership in service delivery and client support.

Bringing more than 20 years of experience in the mining industry, Dwayne has worked across Queensland and spent five years in Papua New Guinea. This diverse background underpins Dwayne's approach to managing complex community programs.

Through a focus on wellbeing and empowerment, Dwayne is dedicated to supporting YML clients on pathways to stability and continues to make a meaningful contribution to the organisation's mission.



Vicki Miles

Manager – Housing Services

With more than 20 years' experience in public sector housing, Vicki Miles brings extensive expertise to her role as Housing Services Manager at Yumba-Meta Limited. She previously managed Townsville's social housing component of the \$42 billion Nation Building Economic Stimulus Package, overseeing almost 400 properties.

At Yumba-Meta, Vicki co-manages the Specialist Disability Accommodation Program and represents the organisation on the Housing & Homelessness Network, advocating for regional housing solutions.

She also played a key role in establishing Housingwise Realty, Townsville's first not-for-profit real estate agency, while ensuring residents receive the support they need to maintain sustainable tenancies.



Taileah Watson

Program Manager – Flora House and Elsie House

Taileah Watson manages Flora House and Elsie House Women's Shelters at Yumba-Meta Limited, specialising in support for women and children escaping domestic and family violence.

Her journey with YML began as a Case Manager at Dale Parker Place before advancing to the women's shelters team and later Program Coordinator.

With connections to the Gungarri people of Southwest Queensland through her mother, Taileah brings cultural knowledge and lived experience to her role.

She is dedicated to ensuring women and children can transition safely back to community or home life, finding fulfilment in supporting their journeys toward stability and independence.



Jody Chetty

Manager – Karingal Patient Transition Accommodation

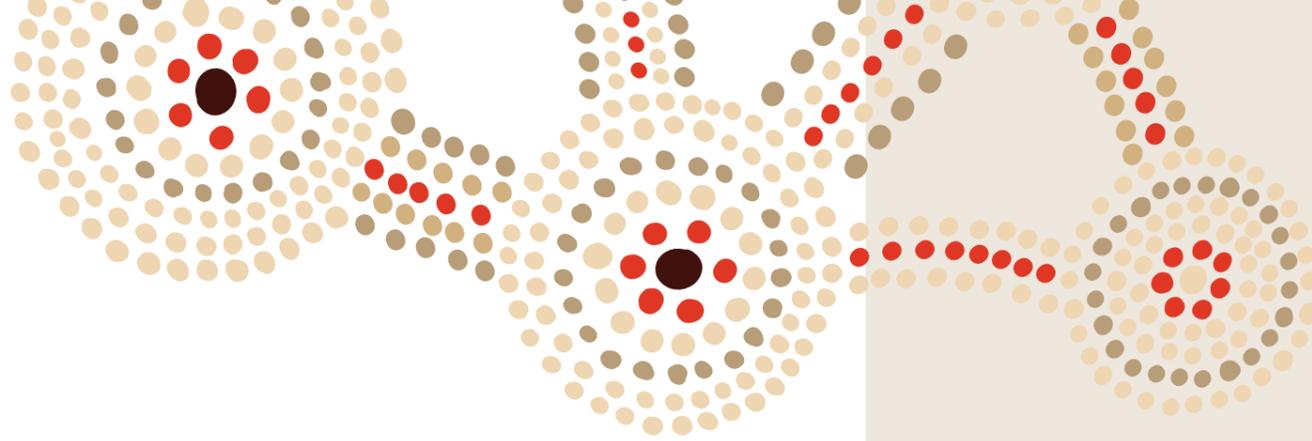
As Manager of Karingal Patient Transition Accommodation, Jody Chetty oversees Yumba-Meta Limited's short-term supported housing service for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people from remote and rural communities accessing Townsville University Hospital and Health Services.

Since joining Yumba-Meta in 2021 as a Case Worker at Dale Parker Place, she progressed through leadership roles, including Coordinator of the Weeburra Thulgarri Tutoring and Mentoring Program and Manager of the Residential Care Service.

Jody brings compassion, leadership, and commitment to ensuring positive outcomes for patients and their families during their transition in Townsville.



Housing & Accommodation



Home Is Where the Heart Is: Discover Yumba-Meta Limited's Housing Services

Every day, we house over 440 people – creating safe spaces for those who need it most



Yumba-Meta Limited (YML) provides housing to over 440 people daily, supporting some of the most vulnerable members of the community who face barriers to accessing private housing.

Managing 188 tenancies under the Long-term Community Housing Program, 8 Specialist Disability Accommodation tenancies, 13 under the Transitional Housing Program, and 16 Crisis Accommodation rooms, YML offers more than just a place to live.

We aim to empower tenants by helping them sustain long-term housing. Our properties cater to individuals and families in need of secure, appropriate, and affordable housing, especially when other options fall short.

YML's comprehensive intake process ensures we understand clients' immediate and long-term needs, allowing us to offer tailored support.

As a leader in North Queensland's housing sector, we advocate for stronger, more sustainable policies, particularly for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

YML provides affordable housing to individuals and families on low to moderate incomes, focusing on those who struggle to find accommodation in the private rental market.

Our housing management approach includes:

- Delivering high-quality housing services
- Offering properties in well-located, mixed-tenure developments
- Reducing tenant occupancy costs through good environmental design and proximity to services
- Ensuring tenancy sustainability through effective management
- Providing an accessible and transparent service
- Encouraging tenant involvement in their housing and the organisation





“ Dale Parker Place helps the community a lot. There should be more Dale Parkers.”

Family Stories

Carl Benn

Long-term Housing Client

Carl Benn is a proud Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander man, born in Bowen and raised in Townsville where his family has always lived. When flooding damaged his private rental in 2019 and he received no help from the owner or real estate, Carl suddenly found himself without a home.

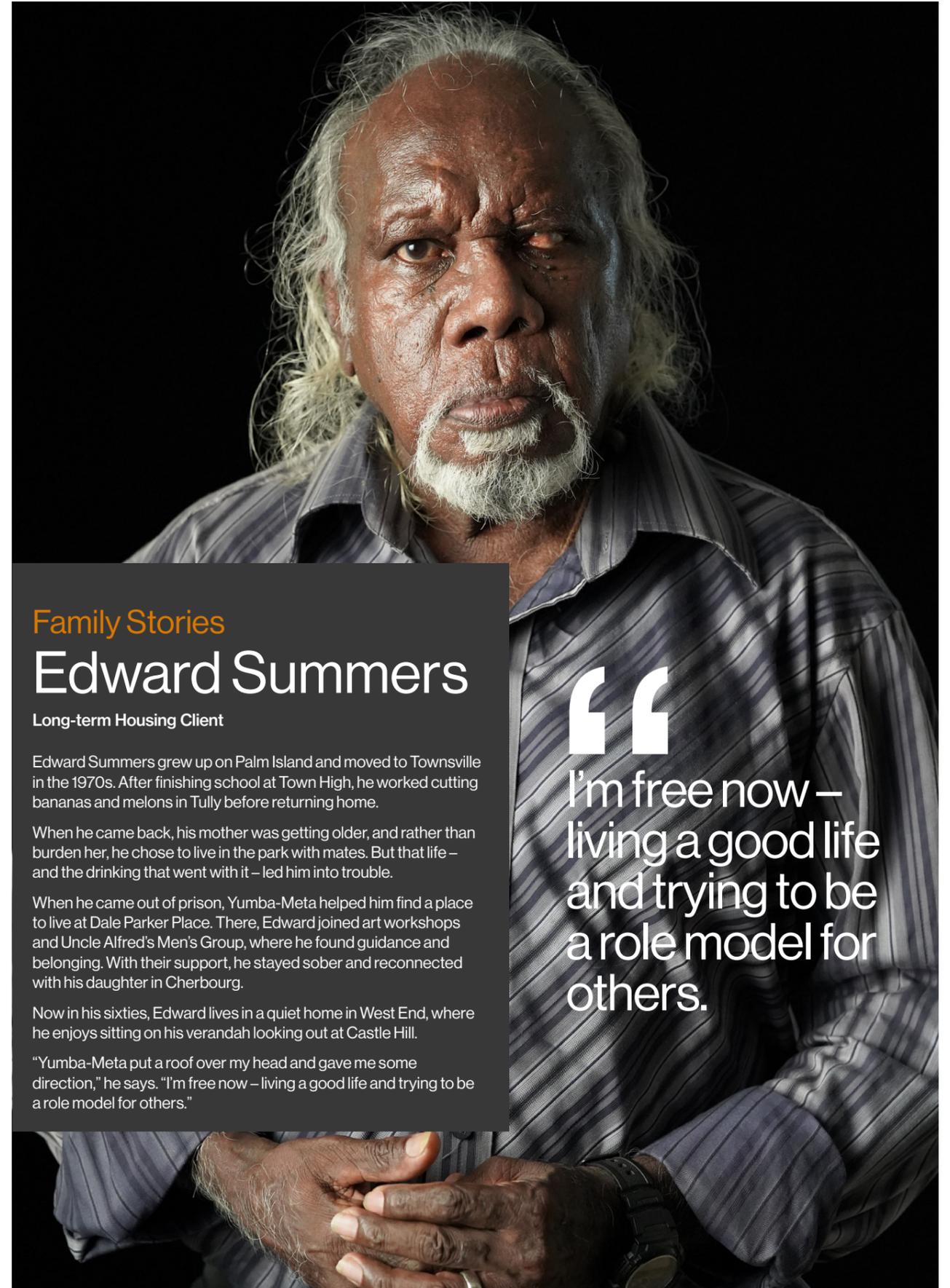
For several months he struggled to find somewhere safe to stay until Townsville Aboriginal and Islander Health Service (TAIHS) connected him with crisis accommodation.

In late 2022, Carl was referred to Dale Parker Place, one of Yumba-Meta's supported housing programs. There, he found not only a roof over his head but a community that cared. "When you first move in, you don't know anyone," Carl says. "But after a while you make friends and start feeling safe."

With guidance from his case managers, Carl set new goals, updated his resume, applied for jobs, and even completed the Cowboys House Dream, Believe, Achieve program.

His strong work ethic and determination helped him earn permanent employment in hospitality.

In early 2025, Carl was offered his own YML-managed unit—a proud milestone reflecting his resilience and growth. "Dale Parker Place helps the community a lot," he says. "There should be more Dale Parkers."



Family Stories

Edward Summers

Long-term Housing Client

Edward Summers grew up on Palm Island and moved to Townsville in the 1970s. After finishing school at Town High, he worked cutting bananas and melons in Tully before returning home.

When he came back, his mother was getting older, and rather than burden her, he chose to live in the park with mates. But that life – and the drinking that went with it – led him into trouble.

When he came out of prison, Yumba-Meta helped him find a place to live at Dale Parker Place. There, Edward joined art workshops and Uncle Alfred's Men's Group, where he found guidance and belonging. With their support, he stayed sober and reconnected with his daughter in Cherbourg.

Now in his sixties, Edward lives in a quiet home in West End, where he enjoys sitting on his verandah looking out at Castle Hill.

"Yumba-Meta put a roof over my head and gave me some direction," he says. "I'm free now – living a good life and trying to be a role model for others."

“ I'm free now – living a good life and trying to be a role model for others.”

Housing & Accommodation

Building Homes, Empowering Lives: Yumba-Meta's SDA Initiative

Creating accessible spaces for individuals with disabilities –
a commitment to comfort and independence

Yumba-Meta Limited is committed to providing quality homes for individuals living with disabilities.

In November 2019, we proudly delivered Townsville's first newly built and NDIA-accredited Specialist Disability Accommodation (SDA) after two years of development.

Located at Hillside Gardens, these homes are designed to accommodate eight SDA residents. Each property features wide doorways, spacious hallways, and adjustable-height kitchen benchtops with wheelchair accessibility, ensuring they meet the diverse needs of residents.

Despite the successful construction of these properties, connecting suitable tenants to available SDA accommodations remains a challenge due to the requirement for NDIS referrals.

Yumba-Meta actively advocates for individuals needing access to appropriate housing by educating NDIS support coordinators and relevant agencies.

Recognising the ongoing community need for purpose-built tenancies, we are dedicated to expanding our SDA offerings.

Our focus on creating inclusive environments enhances the quality of life for residents while promoting independence and dignity.

Through our efforts in providing Specialist Disability Accommodation, Yumba-Meta aims to empower individuals with disabilities and ensure they have access to safe, supportive housing options.

By continuing to advocate and educate within the community, we strive to bridge the gap between available housing and those in need, fostering a more inclusive society for all.



Housing & Accommodation

Housingwise Realty: Your Partner in Purposeful Renting

Supporting vulnerable lives – your choice of rental manager helps build stronger communities

Housingwise Realty is Townsville's first social enterprise real estate agency, where 100% of profits are directed towards charitable initiatives aimed at improving life outcomes for vulnerable individuals.

As a registered not-for-profit agency and a subsidiary of Yumba-Meta Limited, we provide a personalised, boutique service for those seeking to rent in the private market.

Rather than aiming to be the largest agency in Townsville, Housingwise Realty focuses on managing a select number of properties.

This approach allows us to deliver exceptional personal management for both landlords and tenants, ensuring that each client receives the attention they deserve.

Through our services, we strive to enhance housing options for individuals facing discrimination and challenges in the private housing market.

Our commitment goes beyond traditional real estate practices; we aim to create inclusive communities where everyone has access to safe and affordable housing.

By choosing Housingwise Realty to manage your property, you are not only securing professional management but also contributing to meaningful social change.

Your partnership helps us support vulnerable populations and fosters a sense of belonging within the community. Together, we can make a difference in the lives of those who need it most while ensuring your investment is well cared for.

Join us in our mission to create sustainable communities through responsible property management.



Housing & Accommodation

A New Beginning: Dale Parker Place's Role in Ending Homelessness

From rough sleeping to stability – discover how DPP is changing lives



Dale Parker Place (DPP) provides essential accommodation and support for single males, females, and couples without children who are experiencing homelessness, including those sleeping rough or facing chronic homelessness.

Our goal is to help residents achieve independent, sustainable housing and engage with the community.

Currently, DPP maintains an occupancy rate exceeding 98%, with many clients successfully transitioning into private or community housing. Our dedicated staff offer individualised case management around the clock, ensuring that each client receives the support they need for a smooth transition to appropriate accommodation.

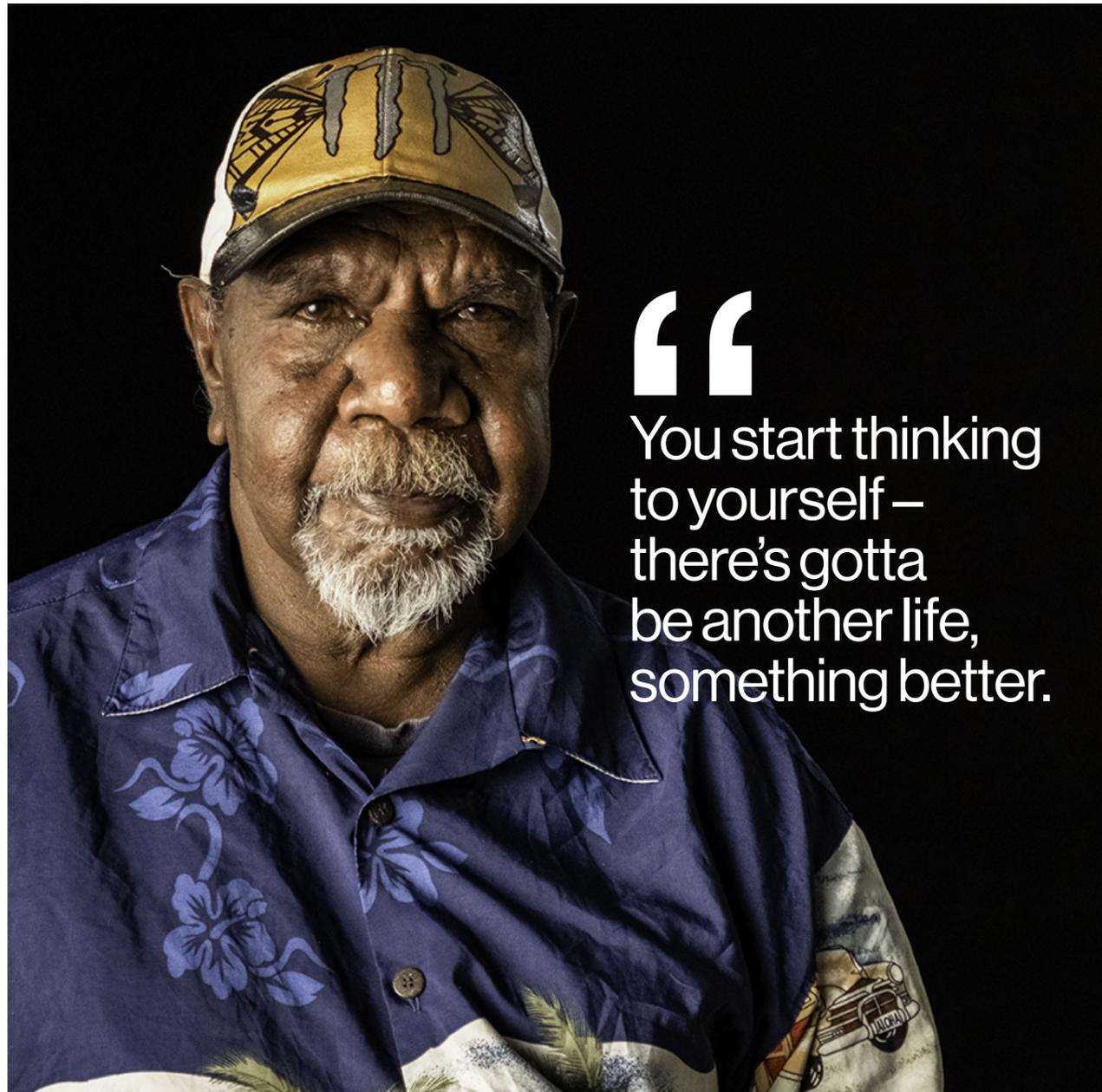
In 2016, Department of Housing replaced the original 25-tenancy building with a modern complex featuring 40 one-bedroom units, which opened in August 2017. This expansion allowed us to provide long-term housing solutions for individuals who may not be able to sustain public or community housing.

DPP's positive influence on Townsville's homeless population is evident, as reflected in the reduced occupancy rates at the Reverend Charles Harris Diversionary Centre.

We receive referrals from various sources, including self-referral, the Reverend Charles Harris Diversionary Centre, Homelessness Health Outreach Team, Residential Rehabilitation Services, Case Coordination Group and other Homelessness Services.

At Dale Parker Place, we are committed to making a difference in the lives of those we serve by fostering a supportive and welcoming environment.





“
You start thinking
to yourself –
there’s gotta
be another life,
something better.”

Family Stories

Nathaniel Walsh

Dale Parker Place Tenant

Born in Brisbane and raised on Palm Island, Nathaniel Walsh grew up surrounded by family and community – but life took a hard turn early on. “Most of my brothers and sisters were down in the park, and I ended up there too,” he recalls.

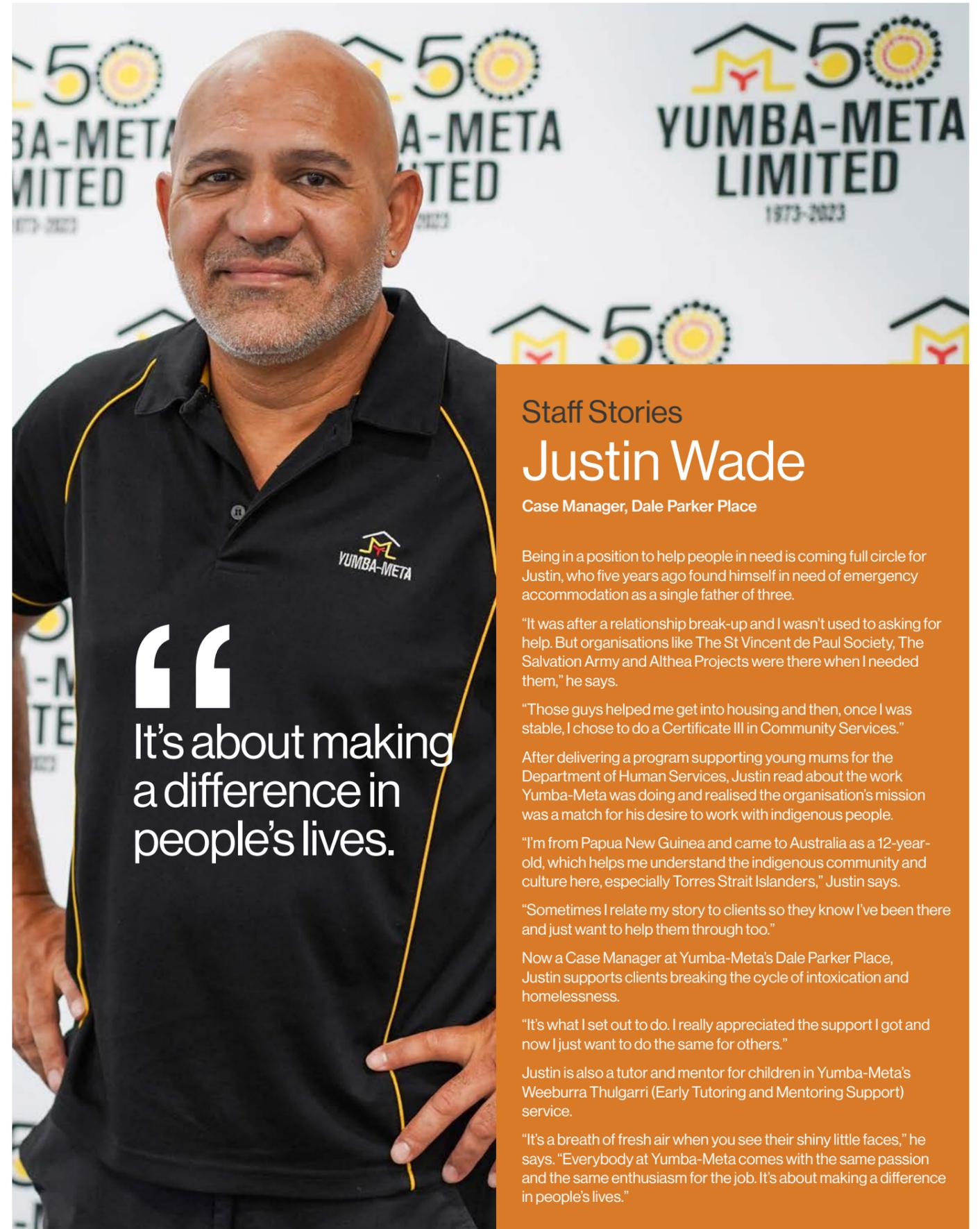
Drinking and fighting became a way of life, leading to nights in the watch house and, eventually, time in prison. Many of his old schoolmates didn’t make it through those years.

“If I’d kept going the way I was,” Nathaniel says quietly, “I’d probably be dead like the rest of my friends. That’s the honest truth.”

It wasn’t until his early fifties that something shifted. “You start thinking to yourself – there’s gotta be another life, something better.” That moment of clarity led him to Gurindal, a Yumba-Meta program that helped him build routine, purpose, and eventually a stable home.

Now, Nathaniel speaks with steady pride about how far he’s come. “I had to put in the hard yards to get myself to where I am today,” he says. “I’m very grateful I got Yumba-Meta – they’re here to guide me.”

Nathaniel’s journey is one of courage, change, and quiet strength.



Staff Stories

Justin Wade

Case Manager, Dale Parker Place

Being in a position to help people in need is coming full circle for Justin, who five years ago found himself in need of emergency accommodation as a single father of three.

“It was after a relationship break-up and I wasn’t used to asking for help. But organisations like The St Vincent de Paul Society, The Salvation Army and Althea Projects were there when I needed them,” he says.

“Those guys helped me get into housing and then, once I was stable, I chose to do a Certificate III in Community Services.”

After delivering a program supporting young mums for the Department of Human Services, Justin read about the work Yumba-Meta was doing and realised the organisation’s mission was a match for his desire to work with indigenous people.

“I’m from Papua New Guinea and came to Australia as a 12-year-old, which helps me understand the indigenous community and culture here, especially Torres Strait Islanders,” Justin says.

“Sometimes I relate my story to clients so they know I’ve been there and just want to help them through too.”

Now a Case Manager at Yumba-Meta’s Dale Parker Place, Justin supports clients breaking the cycle of intoxication and homelessness.

“It’s what I set out to do. I really appreciated the support I got and now I just want to do the same for others.”

Justin is also a tutor and mentor for children in Yumba-Meta’s Weeburra Thulgarri (Early Tutoring and Mentoring Support) service.

“It’s a breath of fresh air when you see their shiny little faces,” he says. “Everybody at Yumba-Meta comes with the same passion and the same enthusiasm for the job. It’s about making a difference in people’s lives.”

“
It’s about making
a difference in
people’s lives.”

Housing & Accommodation



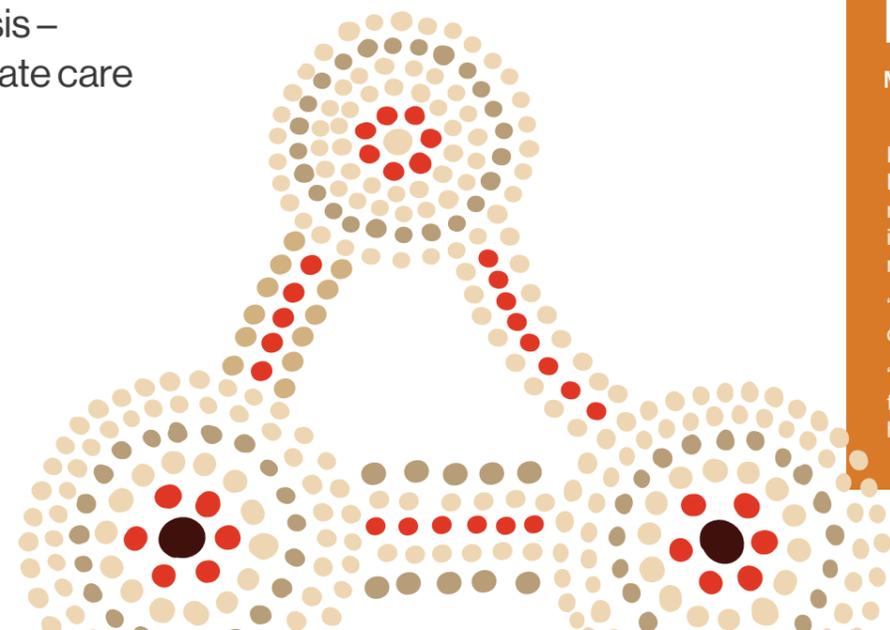
A Safe Harbour: The Reverend Charles Harris Diversionary Centre

Providing 24/7 support for those in crisis –
where sobering up meets compassionate care

The Reverend Charles Harris Diversionary Centre is a sobering-up facility open 24 hours a day, 365 days of the year, designed to support people at risk of self-harm or to others due to public intoxication.

The Centre provides a safe and familiar place to sober up, a clean bed, healthy meal, hygiene and laundry facilities and basic first aid if necessary. Assistance is provided to those who are too intoxicated to meet their basic needs unaided.

The Centre is an alternative to the Townsville Police Watch House. Clients are transported to and from the Centre.



“That’s the joy of this job – helping people who might’ve just made one wrong choice in life get back on their feet..”

Staff Stories

Dwayne Payne

Manager, Reverend Charles Harris Diversionary Centre

Located at Cosgrove, the Reverend Charles Harris Diversionary Centre can accommodate 50, with separate male and female wards. Open 24 hours, every day of the year, it’s a sanctuary for people with substance abuse issues who might otherwise wind up in the Police Watch House.

“We give our clients a culturally safe place to sleep, shower and do their washing,” Dwayne says.

“And they also have the opportunity to complete the Breaking the Cycle program, which makes them eligible for transitional housing options with ongoing support.”

After a 28-year-career in mining, Dwayne says he wishes he’d made the switch to helping people earlier.

“That’s the joy of this job – helping people who might’ve just made one wrong choice in life get back on their feet. I remember one man we helped who was elderly with health issues. After he completed the program and I told him we had a place for him... The smile on that man’s face. He nearly broke a tear.”

That client is now living in residential housing outside of Yumba-Meta Limited but with services, like aged care, in place.

“I popped by to see him two weeks ago, just to make sure he’s okay and still getting all the services we put place,” Dwayne says.

“He was happy and we had a great yarn. Helping people get back to where they want to be is a good feeling.”

Support Services

Rewriting Futures: How Breaking The Cycle Is Changing Lives



A holistic approach to substance abuse and homelessness – helping clients find their way home

The Breaking the Cycle program, managed at the Reverend Charles Harris Diversionary Centre, is a targeted initiative designed to break the cycle of substance abuse and homelessness for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander clients.

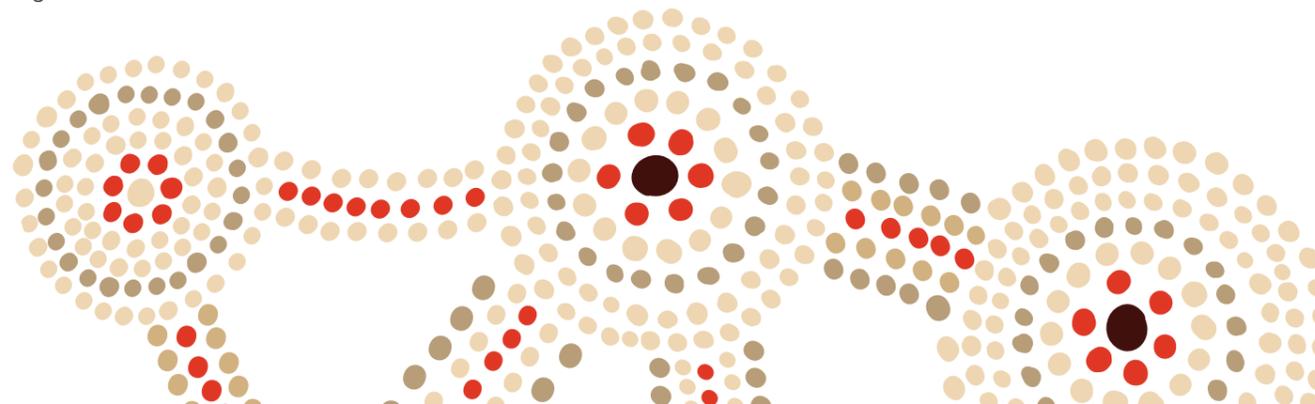
By allowing participants to remain at the centre for an extended period, the program provides the incentive and support needed to engage with the comprehensive services offered.

All regular clients of the Reverend Charles Harris Diversionary Centre are encouraged to join Breaking the Cycle.

The program aims to help participants transition to more stable accommodation, such as Dale Parker Place, community housing, or private rental, based on their individual capacity to maintain a tenancy.

Through this holistic approach, Breaking the Cycle empowers participants to address the underlying issues contributing to their substance abuse and homelessness.

By fostering a supportive environment and connecting clients with tailored services, the program facilitates long-term, sustainable change in the lives of those it serves.



Housing & Accommodation

A Fresh Start: Yumba-Meta's Employment And Education Housing Program

More than just housing – a pathway to success for Indigenous residents

Yumba-Meta's Employment and Education Housing Program (EEHP) provides 13 specialised tenancies for Indigenous individuals relocating to Townsville from remote communities. This initiative supports those seeking employment, education, or training opportunities, playing a crucial role in fostering self-sufficiency and community integration.

The program offers transitional accommodation that is not only safe but also designed to meet the unique needs of its residents. By providing a stable living environment, we empower individuals to focus on their personal and professional development without the added stress of housing insecurity.

Residents benefit from tailored support services, including access to job training, educational resources, and career counselling. This holistic approach encourages participants to build skills necessary for long-term success in the workforce. Moreover, the program promotes cultural connections, helping individuals maintain ties to their heritage while navigating urban life.

The EEHP is more than just housing; it is a pathway to independence and empowerment. By facilitating access to essential resources, we aim to break the cycle of disadvantage faced by many Indigenous individuals.

Through this program, Yumba-Meta is committed to creating opportunities that lead to sustainable employment and educational attainment, ultimately contributing to stronger communities. Our focus on transitional support ensures that each participant can thrive as they embark on their journey toward a brighter future.

Housing & Accommodation

Our Women's Shelters: Providing A Safe Place To Start Over

Yumba-Meta's Flora House and Elsie House are more than just shelters – they're stepping stones to brighter futures.

Yumba-Meta operates two vital Women's Shelters, Flora House and Elsie House, providing essential support for women and their children escaping domestic and family violence.

Elsie House is federally funded to support First Nations women and children, while Flora House is a mainstream service available to any woman and child experiencing domestic and family violence.

These shelters offer a safe, welcoming, and non-judgmental environment, with Flora House featuring ten bedrooms and Elsie House accommodating six.

The benefits of these shelters extend far beyond providing immediate refuge. They serve as crucial lifelines for women seeking to break free from abusive situations, allowing them to regain control over their lives.



Elsie House Women's Shelter

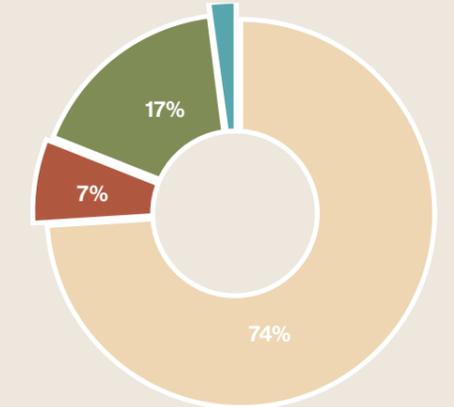


Elsie House 2024-2025



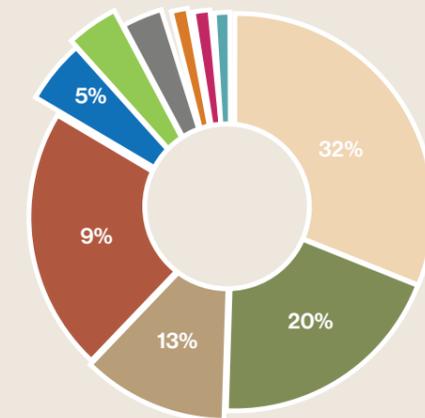
Total Clients 121

- Women 61 | 50%
- Children 60 | 50%
- Children Under 18 years old: 60



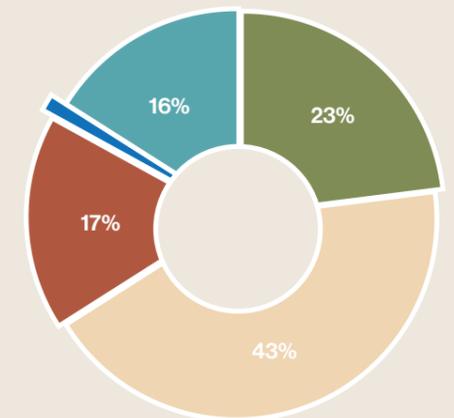
Client Cultural Identity

- Aboriginal 44 | 74%
 - Torres Strait 4 | 7%
 - Aboriginal & Torres Strait 10 | 17%
 - Neither 1 | 1%
- VPU misidentified client, moved to Flora House the next day



Referral Sources

- DV Connect 24 | 32%
- Women's Centre 15 | 20%
- DVNQ 17 | 13%
- VPU 9 | 9%
- Flora House 4 | 5%
- TAIHS 2 | 2%
- PICC 2 | 2%
- TFWSS 2 | 2%
- NQWLS 1 | 1%
- TUHL 1 | 1%



Exit Pathways

- Evicted 30 | 43%
 - Returned Home 16 | 23%
 - Shelter Transfer 12 | 17%
 - Unknown / Disengaged 11 | 16%
 - FEAT 1 | 1%
- Did not notify, exposed shelter, unsafe behaviour



Flora House Women's Shelter



By offering round-the-clock support, we ensure that residents have access to essential services such as crisis counselling, safety planning, and legal advocacy.

This holistic approach empowers women to heal from trauma and develop the skills necessary for independent living.

Both Elsie House and Flora House foster a sense of community among residents, which is vital for emotional recovery.

Children living in these shelters also benefit significantly; they receive counselling and support that helps them process their experiences, reducing the likelihood of perpetuating cycles of violence in the future.

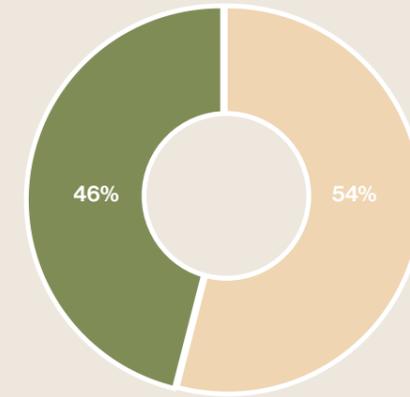
Yumba-Meta's commitment to these services is rooted in the belief that every woman deserves a life free from violence.

By providing safe accommodation and comprehensive support, Flora House and Elsie House not only enhance individual well-being but also contribute to healthier communities.

Through our efforts, we aim to create lasting change for women and children affected by domestic and family violence, helping them build brighter futures.

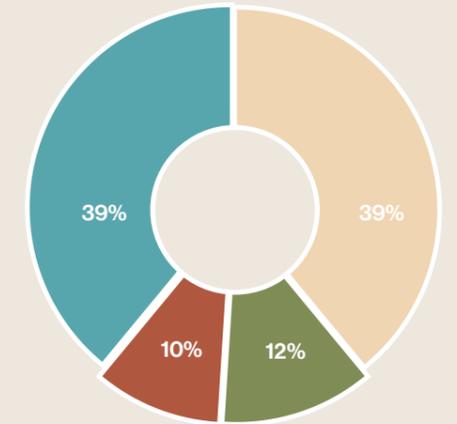


Flora House 2024-2025



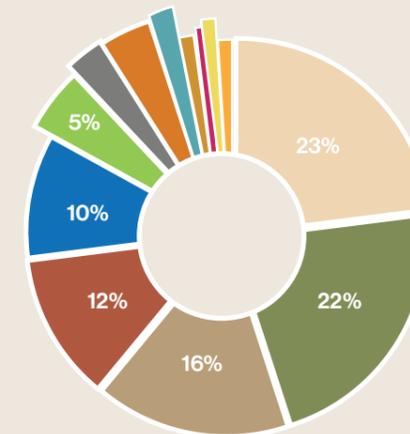
Total Clients 168

- Women 91 | 54%
- Children 77 | 46%
- Children Under 18 years old: 77



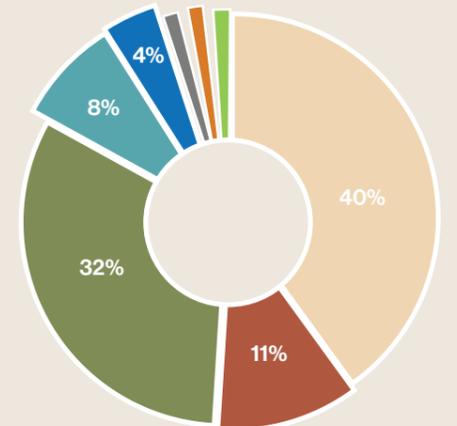
Client Cultural Identity

- Aboriginal 65 | 39%
- Torres Strait Islander 21 | 12%
- Both Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander 17 | 10%
- Neither Aboriginal nor Torres Strait Islander 65 | 39%



Referral Sources

- DV Connect 20 | 23%
- DVNQ 19 | 22%
- Women's Centre 14 | 16%
- VPU 10 | 12%
- Police/NQDVRS 9 | 10%
- TFWSS 4 | 5%
- Elsie House 3 | 4%
- DVPC 2 | 3%
- TAIHS 1 | 1%
- DVRS-Mackay 1 | 1%
- Red Cross 1 | 1%
- Prospect Charters Towers 1 | 1%
- EVP Uniting Care 1 | 1%



Exit Pathways

- Family & Friends 31 | 40%
- Evicted 25 | 32%
- Returned Home 9 | 11%
- Sometimes with safety upgrades
- Private Rental 6 | 8%
- Community Housing 3 | 4%
- DVC/WC Motel 2 | 3%
- Youth Share Hostel 1 | 1%
- FEAT 1 | 1%



Housing & Accommodation

Welcome To Our Elders' Oasis: A Home Where Legacy Meets Community

The Ernest & Maud Hoolihan Elders Village is a tranquil retreat designed to enhance the lives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander seniors.

Yumba-Meta Limited proudly opened the Ernest & Maud Hoolihan Elders Village in 2012, fulfilling our commitment to provide retirement village-style housing for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander residents aged 55 and over.

The village features 16 two-bedroom units nestled among trees, offering a serene environment where residents can enjoy modern, low-maintenance homes. Since its inception, the village has consistently maintained high occupancy levels.

In 2018, we initiated a solar project to alleviate the burden of high electricity costs for our tenants. The first eight units received solar panels in late 2019, funded by Yumba-Meta, while the remaining eight units were equipped with solar panels through the Queensland Government's Solar for Rentals Rebate, completed in 2020.

Named in honour of Dr. Ernest Hoolihan OAM and his late wife Maud – founders of Yumba-Meta – the village embodies their long-held vision for an elders' community. Located on six acres in Deeragun, this project took 11 years to realise and was officially opened by the Hon. Minister for Housing and Public Works, Tim Mander.

The Ernest & Maud Hoolihan Elders Village exemplifies community-driven solutions that cater to the physical, social, and emotional well-being of its residents, enriching their lives in a supportive environment.

Housing & Accommodation

Karingal: Providing Short-Term Accommodation With Culturally Sensitive Care

Karingal is a vital patient transition accommodation developed by Yumba-Meta Limited to provide short-term accommodation for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples travelling from rural and remote areas to access healthcare at Townsville University Hospital. As a key link in Townsville's health system, Karingal supports patients requiring hospitalisation and intensive treatment.

Constructed on Yumba-Meta-owned land at a cost of \$5 million, the project received \$2.89 million from the Commonwealth Building Better Regions fund, with Yumba-Meta covering the remaining expenses.

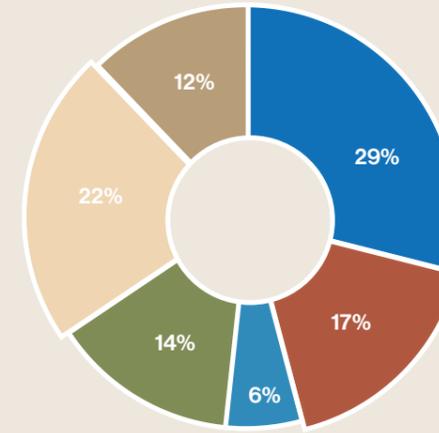
The Queensland Department of Housing and Queensland Health jointly fund the project, with operations having commenced in 2023.

Karingal's culturally appropriate, trauma-informed care model includes intensive case management to help patients navigate the healthcare system, regain independence, and reduce their reliance on long-term care.

The facility features 16 male beds, 8 female beds, 4 self-contained family units, 3 clinic rooms for visiting specialists, and a fully equipped administration centre. With 24/7 staffing, Karingal ensures continuous care year-round, providing a safe and supportive environment for its occupants.

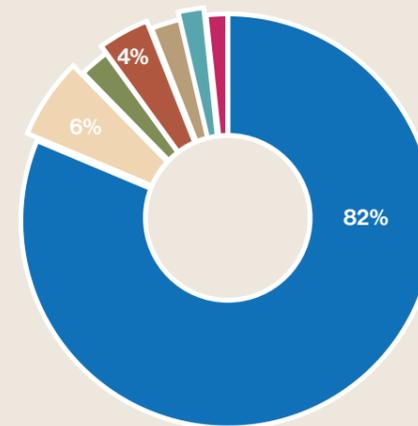


Karingal 2024-2025



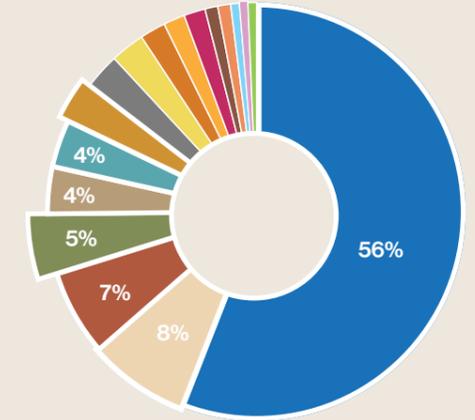
Total Occupancy 584

- Female (Patient) 169 | 29%
- Female (Escort) 130 | 22%
- Male (Patient) 99 | 17%
- Male (Escort) 81 | 14%
- Children (Accompanying) 71 | 12%
- Children/Minors (Patient) 34 | 6%



Exit Pathways

- Returned Home 245 | 82%
- Exited to other Accommodation 19 | 6%
- Staying with Family 12 | 4%
- Continuing Stay 7 | 3%
- Admitted back to TUHHS 7 | 3%
- Transferred to other Hospital 7 | 3%
- Deceased (at THHS) 5 | 1%

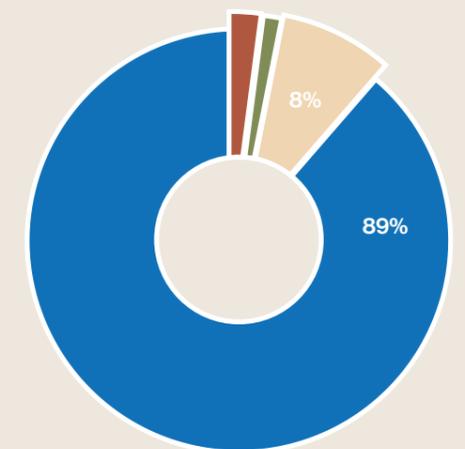


Referring Hospitals

- Mt Isa Hospital 267 | 56%
- Mornington Island 23 | 8%
- Cairns 20 | 7%
- Hughenden 11 | 4%
- Joyce Palmer Health Service 11 | 4%
- Carry forward patients from previous year 10 | 3%
- Normanton 8 | 3%
- Doomadgee 8 | 3%
- Ingham 6 | 2%
- Mackay 5 | 2%
- Charters Towers 5 | 2%
- Richmond 3 | 1%
- Innisfail 3 | 1%
- Ayr 2 | 1%
- Bowen 2 | 1%
- Boulia 2 | 1%

Hospitals with 1 referral 14 | 5%

- Napranum
- Yarrabah
- Proserpine
- Winton
- Mossman
- Dajarra
- Tully
- Rockhampton
- Camooweal
- Burketown
- Babinda
- Atherton
- Kowanyama
- Mareeba



Client Cultural Identity

- Aboriginal 267 | 89%
- Others 24 | 8%
- Torres Strait Islander 8 | 2%
- Both Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander 3 | 1%



Staff Stories Betty Lloyd-Jones

Case Manager, Karingal Patient Transition Accommodation

Imagine how you'd feel being unwell, in need of hospital care, a long, long way from home. That's the reality faced by clients of Karingal Patient Transition Accommodation, who come from rural and remote regions for care at the Townsville University Hospital.

"We have clients from as far away as Tennant Creek in the Northern Territory, Doomadgee in the Gulf of Carpentaria, and Aramac in the Barcardine," Betty says.

From broken ankles to clients requiring dialysis and cancer treatment, the facility might be 'home' for just a night or a month or two.

As one of three Karingal case managers, Betty is a friendly face when it's needed most.

"Part of my job is just listening and being for there for clients as they're going through treatment," she says.

"And we serve as a safety measure, making sure they have their medications, get to appointments and have regular observational checks. It takes the pressure off them worrying about logistics while they're trying to get well.

"For many people, this is the first time they've come to what they consider the big smoke. So it can be a bit alarming for them. I find indigenous people have a wonderful, wacky sense of humour. So, if I can get them laughing, it helps ease the tension."



For many people, this is the first time they've come to what they consider the big smoke.



Staff Stories Naomi Cross

Dale Parker Place Client, YML Team Member

When Naomi Cross moved to Townsville from Darwin in 2022, she was escaping family and domestic violence and didn't know where to turn.

With support from police, she was connected to the Townsville Family Violence Support Service (TFVSS) – a Yumba-Meta program helping women and children to rebuild their lives in safety.

Through TFVSS, Naomi received practical help and emotional support to start again – from finding housing and financial assistance to accessing counselling and making a plan for her future.



They helped me heal and get back on my feet.

When her safety became a concern, she was offered secure accommodation at Dale Parker Place, where staff helped her regain stability and confidence. "They helped me heal and get back on my feet," Naomi says.

As Naomi grew stronger, she set new goals and applied for jobs with guidance from her case managers. Her compassion and determination led her to join Yumba-Meta as a support worker, helping other women and families through similar challenges.

Now living independently in her own home, Naomi feels proud of how far she's come. "Everything that's close to my heart came from what I went through," she says. "I'm grateful to Yumba-Meta for helping me find my path forward."



Impressive Results:

From July 2024 to June 2025, the Townsville Family Violence Support Service counselled **117** females and **94** males, and case managed **347** females and **100** males.

The Men's Behaviour Change Program received **63** new referrals in the same period.

Support Services

Empowering Families: Long-term Solutions To End Domestic And Family Violence

Townsville Family Violence Support Service helps both survivors and offenders create change, fostering safety and healing within families.

Townsville Family Violence Support Service is a domestic and family violence support service assisting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people experiencing and/or using violence.

This service is trauma informed and delivered within a healing framework, prioritising victim safety and working to reduce violence and abusive behaviour.

Ultimately, the program's goal is to achieve best outcomes for families by keeping families safe.

Best outcomes can mean many things – from working with persons using violence to proactively changing entrenched behaviours, to supporting clients to access and understand protection orders, court support, counselling, case management, information or referrals.

The issue of family violence is often ingrained within families across many generations, and this is where the early intervention piece is critical to the long-term solution. This program is unique in that it deals with both persons using violence and victim survivors to attempt to break the cycle of family violence.

At the core of this service, is education. From YML's experience working with domestic and family violence victim survivors, there is a misconception that a protection order is 'only a piece of paper'. At the same time, persons using violence sometimes don't understand the conditions of their court order to avoid violating the order.

The Townsville Family Violence Support Service works closely with victim survivors and persons using violence to understand court orders.



That combination of lived experience and professional development helps me connect with clients

Staff Stories

Lucy Kite

Case Manager, Townsville Family Violence Support Services

Assisting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are experiencing or using violence, Townsville Family Violence Support Services helps break the cycle. In her role as a case manager, Lucy provides holistic, client-centred support to people on their healing journey.

"That might involve safety planning, helping clients understand protection orders, supporting them through court, connecting them with counselling, or simply being a safe person they can turn to," she says.

"My biggest strength comes from my personal experiences with domestic and family violence, which gives me a deep understanding, empathy and drive to help others going through similar situations. That combination of lived experience and professional development helps me connect with clients."

In Lucy's five years with the organisation, she's completed a Bachelor of Psychological Science and, with Yumba-Meta's support, is now moving into postgraduate studies to become an accredited psychologist.

"That ongoing support for my education and development means so much to me and reflects how much Yumba-Meta values growth and empowerment," Lucy says.

"Our focus is always on safety, empowerment and helping families find long-term healing and stability. I've supported many women through the process of applying for private protection orders, helping them navigate the legal system and understand their rights.

"Seeing their confidence grow as their orders are approved and watching them rebuild their lives with pride and independence is incredibly rewarding. Those moments remind me why this work matters so much and how powerful our support can be in helping women take back their power.

"Our work is not just about crisis response; it's about education, healing and long-term change. And Yumba-Meta isn't just an organisation; it's a community."

Support Services

Uncle Alfred's Legacy Program: Strengthening Relationships, Changing Behaviour, Healing Community



Uncle Alfred Smallwood

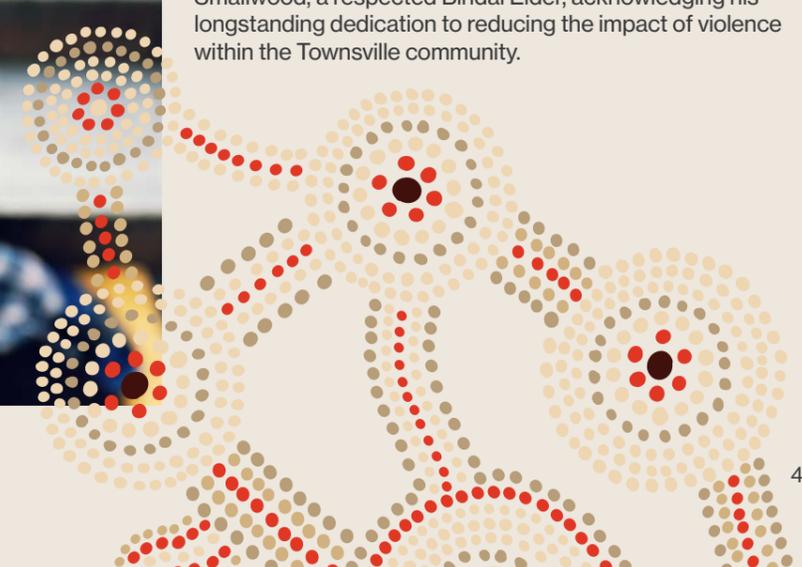
Bringing men together in a culturally grounded space for honest change and growth.

Since 2020 Yumba-Meta Ltd has been facilitating a "Mens Behaviour Change Program for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander males.

The program supports both Victims of Violence and individuals who use violence, aiming to raise awareness about the long-term impacts of violence and to emphasise that safety, behaviour change, and healing are interconnected.

In 2024, the program was recognised by the Department of Justice and Attorney-General and approved as a condition of bail.

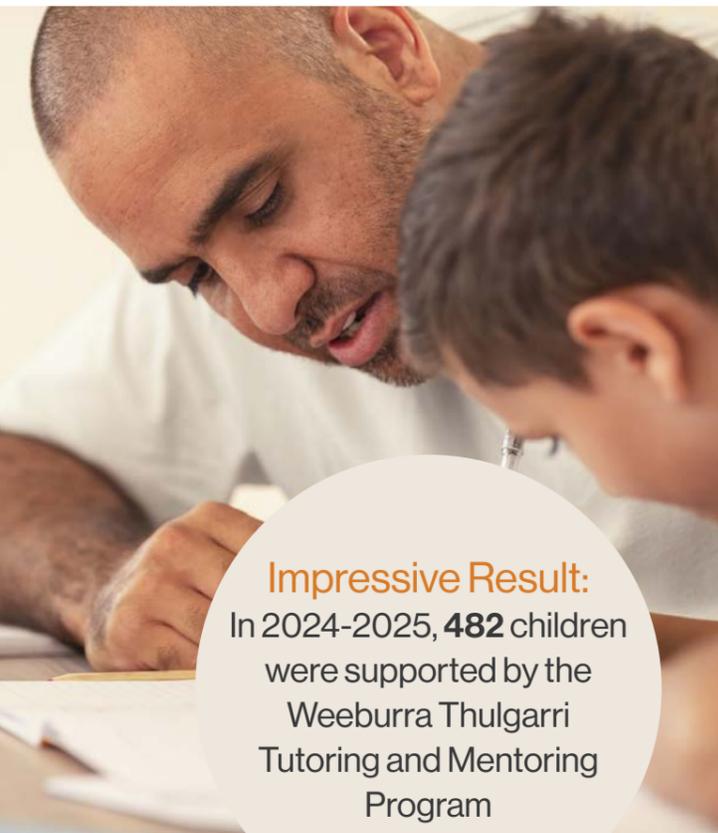
On 4 July 2025, the program was officially named "Uncle Alfred's Legacy Program" in honour of Uncle Alfred Smallwood, a respected Bindal Elder, acknowledging his longstanding dedication to reducing the impact of violence within the Townsville community.



Support Services

A Bright Future Awaits: Discover the Weeburra Thulgarri Tutoring and Mentoring Program

Supporting Indigenous kids with learning, culture, and community
– because We're All One Big Family!



Impressive Result:
In 2024-2025, **482** children
were supported by the
Weeburra Thulgarri
Tutoring and Mentoring
Program

Yumba-Meta Limited is dedicated to enhancing the physical, social, and emotional well-being of Indigenous children while strengthening their cultural connections and resilience.

In 2018, we acquired 25 Acheron Avenue, Cranbrook, with the vision of establishing a community centre to facilitate an early intervention tutoring and mentoring support program for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.

Launched in July 2021, the Weeburra Thulgarri program – meaning “One Big Family” – targets children aged 7-8 years (Year 2) to improve school attendance, classroom engagement, literacy, numeracy skills, and overall confidence. By fostering self-esteem and a sense of belonging, we aim to increase the likelihood of these children completing high school and pursuing further education.

Partnering with three local primary schools – Rasmussen State School, Kelso State School, and Aitkenvale State School – Yumba-Meta conducts two sessions per day, four days a week. Students travel to the community centre via the Yumba-Meta bus, supervised by a teacher's aide and staff. They are provided with healthy lunches before starting their activities.

The program is deeply rooted in cultural and spiritual values, ensuring that young children receive support that resonates with their identity.

By focusing on holistic development, Yumba-Meta is committed to nurturing the next generation of Indigenous leaders.

Through initiatives like Weeburra Thulgarri, we strive to create a brighter future for Indigenous children in our community.

Major Projects

Hillside Gardens: Yumba-Meta's Landmark Estate Paved the Way to Home Ownership for Indigenous Families

Out of 41 land lots, 34 were successfully sold to private buyers, with the remaining lots retained by Yumba-Meta. The final lots were sold during the 2020-21 financial year, culminating in total land sales of \$2.2 million. This financial success has enabled Yumba-Meta to reinvest in the community, fostering sustainable housing solutions.

Dr. Ernest Hoolihan OAM, Chairman and Founder of Yumba-Meta, describes Hillside Gardens as a “game-changer” for the local Indigenous community. He highlights the multiple barriers Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples face in achieving home ownership, including inter-generational poverty and insecure employment.

The staged development approach allowed Yumba-Meta to progressively fund the subdivision. As blocks were sold, the proceeds financed the construction of rental housing and supported three young Indigenous families on their journey toward home ownership.

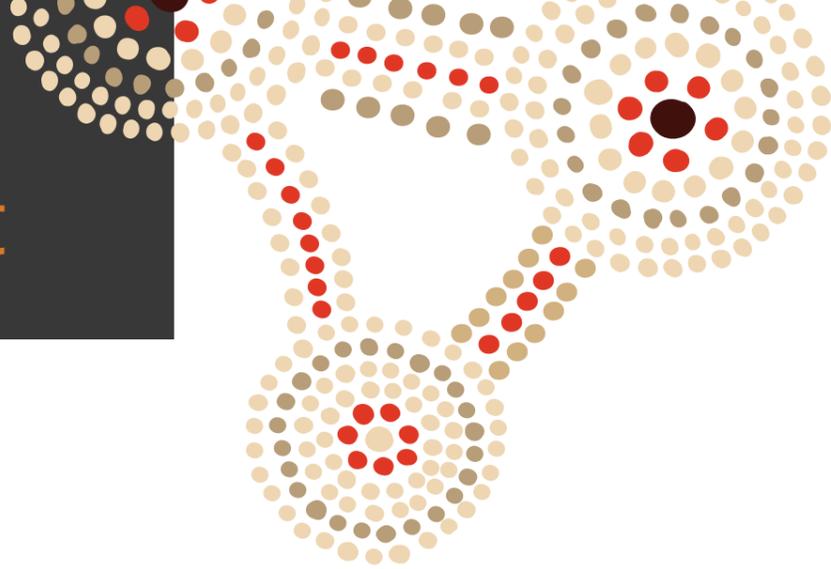
Hillside Gardens not only offers well-designed homes but also cultivates a village-like atmosphere in an enviable location close to essential amenities.

By facilitating access to home ownership, Yumba-Meta is making a lasting impact on the lives of Indigenous families, promoting stability and fostering community resilience for generations to come.

Hillside Gardens Residential Estate stands out as a remarkable achievement in Yumba-Meta Limited's property development portfolio.

Nestled on 50 acres at the foothills of Mt Louisa, this estate was specifically designed to create pathways to home ownership for Indigenous individuals and families.



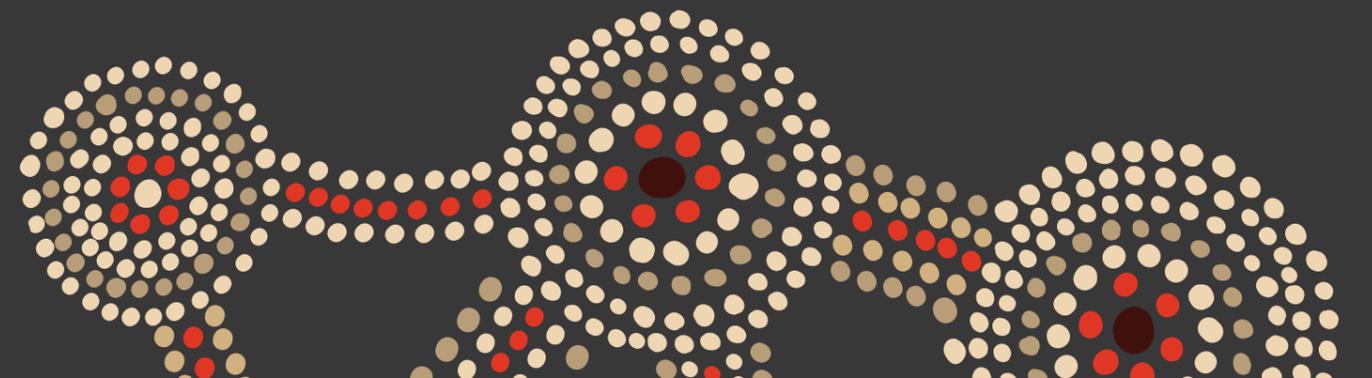


Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2025

	2025	2024	2023
Current Assets	5,955,295	6,090,692	3,254,773
Non-current Assets	61,818,422	52,990,663	41,657,396
Total Assets	67,773,717	59,081,355	44,912,169
Current Liabilities	7,416,410	6,406,027	4,541,187
Non-current Liabilities	319,422	542,797	374,935
Total Liabilities	7,735,832	6,948,824	4,916,122
Nett Assets	60,037,885	52,132,531	39,996,047
Equity	60,037,885	52,132,531	39,996,047

A big thank you to our business consultants, partners, and stakeholders for their continuous professionalism and commitment to supporting Yumba-Meta Limited.

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| Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders Legal Services | National Disability Insurance Agency |
| Aitkenvale State School | National Indigenous Australian Agency- NIAA |
| Anglicare | DV NQ |
| Australia CEO Challenge | OZHarvest |
| Australian Red Cross | Q-Shelter |
| Cathedral School | Queensland Health |
| Community Housing Industry Association (CHIA) | Queensland Police Service |
| Department of Housing | Rasmussen State School |
| Department of Industry, Innovation and Science | Rosel Sherwood |
| Department of Child Safety, Seniors and Disability Services | RSL Women's Auxiliary |
| Department of Justice and Attorney-General | Ryan Catholic College |
| Department of Social Services- Commonwealth | Scott Morrison Design |
| Department of Youth Justice | SDA Services |
| Djambul | Sera's Women Shelter |
| DV Connect | StreetSmart Australia |
| First Nations Women's Legal Service | Supergreen Solutions |
| Gambling Benefit Fund | The Alannah and Madeline Foundation |
| Martin Locke Homes | The Womens Centre |
| Jessup's Audit Partners | Townsville Aboriginal and Islanders Health Services |
| Kelso State School | Townsville City Council - Mayor's Christmas Tree Appeal |
| Mara Services | Townsville Grammar School |
| Margin Media | Wilson Ryan Grose Lawyers |
| Mike Carney Toyota | Wulguru Health & Wellbeing |
| Mr. Angelo Licciardello (Consultant) | Zephyr Foundation |
| Moray & Agnew Lawyers | Zonta Club of Townsville Metro Inc. |
| Murri Watch - Community Patrol | And consultants, contractors and individuals who have helped us through the year. |
| National Australia Bank | |





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