

Stronger Together



CAPABILITY STATEMENT

Trusted in Communities since 1974

Our history

Founded in 1974, **Greater Whitsunday Communities** is a strategic regional social and community development organisation in the Mackay, Isaac and Whitsunday region.



We work with communities to enhance their capacity and quality of life as part of their broader community, which in turn enhances the **resilience and sustainability of the Mackay, Isaac and Whitsunday region**. Our work is primarily underpinned by participatory community development practice, a concept that supports communities to have a voice in the development of sustainable practices. These sustainable practices include social responsibility, environmental stewardship, political participation and economic stability.

As a trusted, independent voice, we work with individuals, community, businesses, industry, and government to create positive social change. This work has the following community and regional benefits:

1

Enhances the foundation for economic development

2

Supports people to exercise their rights and responsibilities

3

Improves access to resources for our communities

4

Strengthens the capacity of local businesses and institutions

5

Gives everyone the chance to contribute to a better society

6

Enables Community Leadership

Our impact



OUR PURPOSE

is to work with people to enrich and develop their capacity and improve their quality of life within their community.



OUR FOUNDATION MISSION

an independent, trusted voice, working with individuals, community, industry and government to create positive social change.



OUR VISION

is a future where communities in the regions achieve and enjoy a high standard of social wellbeing and the social sector is embraced as a contributor to sustainable economic growth and prosperity for our region.

Our operational pillars



Collaborative Partnerships



Community Leadership Skills



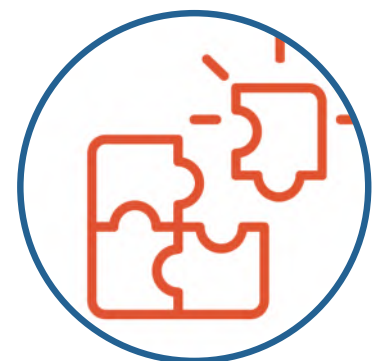
Community Governance and Management Capability



Regional Voice and Connectedness



Regional Socio-Economic Practice



Peak Body Representations

CAPABILITY STATEMENT

Why Choose Us?



Our Ethos

Greater Whitsunday Communities' years of practice has proven that when communities are empowered to contribute, true transformation occurs. We encourage an Indigenous epistemological approach (the triangulation of the Physical, Human and Sacred worlds) to knowledge gathering.

Our experience in participatory transformational change and co-design of projects, is that communities instinctively, regardless of ethnicity, respond to this approach.

Greater Whitsunday Communities Commitment to the United Nations 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

We live in a beautiful region, which is home to the magnificent Great Barrier Reef, one of the natural wonders of the world. Our region is shaped with regional centres, and natural ecosystems.



The Greater Whitsundays region is the place we so thankfully call our home, our region is a sub-system of a national and international system that that is becoming increasingly complex and is challenged by political, economic and environmental instability.

These are daily issues that affect individuals, communities, governments, business, and industries (Mining, METS, Agriculture Healthcare to name a few) in our regions. By ingraining the 17 SDGs in our strategic plan, the way we operate and the way we do our work, Greater Whitsunday Communities through our business and personal endeavours, will impact the sustainable development of our planet. Greater Whitsunday Communities' participatory community development approach can enable grassroots transformative change which is led by local communities and businesses and can offer a promising approach to achieve sustainability tailored to the unique conditions of each of the 17 goals.

Our community development methodology

Six steps to community development



I have a concern
You are concerned about something and not sure what to do about it

*If you want to go fast
go alone
If you want to go far
go together*

Our Team



Carol Norris

Executive Officer



Dorne Wallace

Senior Project Coordinator



Tonia Wilson

Senior Project Coordinator



Antoinette DuToit

Senior Project Coordinator



Lauren Pattie

Project Worker



Courtney Wilson

Project Worker



Sam Bowden

Admin Assistant

With humility, we enable, empower, include and drive collective action within communities

Our Work

Together, the Greater Whitsunday Communities team has significant experience and brings the following skills

Community advocacy and problem solving

Empower and engage the community to advocate for positive social change through:

- Community consultation and mediation
- Public meetings and community surveys
- Identify key regional community issues for housing, suicide prevention, youth empowerment, and initiate projects to facilitate and enable positive change,

Community Development

Facilitate community driven collective action and solutions to drive:

- Economic wellbeing
- Social wellbeing
- Environmental wellbeing
- Cultural wellbeing

Community Engagement Programs

- Facilitate community visioning and solutions co-design workshops
- Enablers of inclusivity, creativity and collaboration through impactful co-design
- Facilitating collective action to identify and create solutions to common problem
- Develop collaborative community partnerships that enables shared leadership through strong bidirectional relationships

Leadership and Change Management

We work with Business and Community Leaders to assist them in:

- Transforming mindsets
- Refining personal and organisational purpose, values and mission statements

Methodologies to create:

- The awareness for the need for change
- The desire to participate and support the change
- The knowledge on how to change
- The ability to implement desired skills and behaviours

Our Work

Project Management (including Agile Project Management)

- Experts in managing a wide range of community development, social impact, and community engagement projects using a wide range of best practice community development approaches and methodologies

Research and Analysis

- Our community research and analysis capability centres on discerning valuable qualitative data from co-design processes to ensure collective and sustainable community solutions.
- Data Collection and Survey Research
- Data Analytics
- Data interpretation and recommendations aligned to co-design solutions

Communications Outreach

- Integrated marketing campaign
- Information visualisation
- Conferences and Events
- Education and Training
- Virtual Events



Thankyou

We are in a trusted and independent position in this region. We have the support of local, state and federal funding, private partnerships, commercial project earnings and volunteer work. We coordinate and advocate for inclusive, supportive, and participatory social development practice.

For further information please contact

CAROL NORRIS

Executive Officer

E: executive@gwcommunities.org.au

M: 0408 772 375

The Old Town Hall, Sydney St Mackay,
PO BOX 984, Mackay QLD 4740

www.greaterwhitsundaycommunities.org.au