

Tendered
11/6/09
R McLean



Our Mission

Northern Rivers Social Development Council (NRSDC) is a community-based not-for-profit organisation that promotes fairness and social inclusion in the Northern Rivers region of NSW.

We represent and strengthen communities and services by:

- Providing opportunities and services to alleviate disadvantage
- Engaging in advocacy and promotion
- Informing and educating people, organisations and government
- Encouraging partnerships
- Undertaking research and planning for future needs.

Our Vision

'together in a fair community'

Our Values

We apply the following values when we work with our community, clients, partners, stakeholders and staff:

Integrity – we will act honestly, openly, consistently and in accordance with the aims of NRSDC

Respect – we will value the expertise, knowledge and opinions of others

Empowerment – we will work to increase the capacity of individuals, communities and organisations to become more self-reliant

Fairness – we will promote equity and justice in our dealings with each other and others

Collaboration – we will work in partnership to promote the best result for everyone

Inclusion – we value diversity and will work to ensure that the benefits of prosperity are shared by all.

Acknowledgment of Indigenous Custodians

NRSDC acknowledges the Bundjalung, Arakwal, Yaegel and Gambaingirr peoples who are the traditional custodians of the land which comprises the Northern Rivers.

Our History

NRSDC was formed in 1976 when a strong group of local people come together to identify ways of improving and developing the communities on the far north coast of NSW; the Northern Rivers region.

NRSDC was incorporated in 1985 and with a dedicated and committed management committee has, over 20 years, built the services and programs that make up our organisation today.

Our work is grounded in our community and seeks to identify and strengthen the many community resources of our region.

Current NRSDC Programs

Youth Programs

Northern Rivers Reconnect

Reconnect aims to provide opportunities, choice and support to young people and their families to prevent youth homelessness. Reconnect operates across the Northern Rivers with caseworkers located in the Clarence, Richmond Valley, Lismore, Ballina and Tweed.

Reconnect works closely with related agencies including the Department of Community Services (DoCS); Child and Adolescent Mental Health, schools, Juvenile Justice, ACON, Centrelink, SAAP services and other accommodation providers, other youth agencies, family support services and therapists to provide integrated case management and support to young people and their carers.

Getting it Together (GIT)

The Getting it Together program provides intensive support to 12-18 year olds with alcohol and/or other drug misuse issues. The program aims to reduce alcohol and other drug misuse and to build self-esteem, person growth and life skills.

Rock and Water

The Rock and Water program is an anti-violence strategy for young people in the Ballina area. Rock and Water works with schools to help young people build resilience and to prevent anti-social behaviour.

Youth Planning

The NRSDC Youth Planning project aims to build capacity amongst youth services across the Northern Rivers Region to help them work together to better support clients.

Lismore/Kyogle Family Planning Service

Lismore/Kyogle Family Planning Service provides a range of high quality, confidential and professional reproductive and sexual health services to low income and disadvantaged people in Lismore and Kyogle. The service works closely with North Coast Area Health community health services, ACON, Women's Health, and specialist sexual health services and is a key sexual health provider to young people in the Lismore and Kyogle area.

Aboriginal Employment Strategy

This project aims to increase the employment of Aboriginal people as trainees within community services agencies in the Northern Rivers.

Transport Development Project

The Transport Development Project is a regional initiative to reduce transport disadvantage and to improve access and opportunities for all residents of the Northern Rivers region by developing relevant, effective and publicly available and accessible transport services and infrastructure.

Regional Community Services Development

The Regional Community Services Development (RCSD) Project aims to build strong communities that are informed, resourced and connected. Within these communities equity and diversity will be embraced. The Project attempts to achieve this by assisting to build and sustain the capacity of the community services sector through advocacy and policy development.

Home and Community Care Development

Home and Community Care (HACC) Services provide supports such as domestic assistance, meals, and personal care to support older Australians, younger people with a disability and their carers to be more independent at home and in the community. The NRSDC HACC program supports HACC services in the region to deliver support to our community.

North Coast Service to Service (S2S) Projects

These projects are working with HACC services, North Coast Area Health Service, DADHC, and disability respite services to conduct a series of electronic service referral and coordination trials. These trials aim to improve service coordination and simplify pathways to service for clients.

Affordable Housing Development Project

This project is working with stakeholders including local government, North Coast Community Housing, Housing NSW and land owners to encourage affordable housing development within the region.

Lismore Community Farm

The project will establish a large scale community garden in the Northern Rivers Region of NSW. The project will promote healthy eating and active lifestyles within the region, strengthen the capacity of local communities to access healthy eating options and will be developed in collaboration with community organisations and business. The project will target all community members within the region, including children and young people, older people, recently arrived refugee communities and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders.

Training

NRSDC provides a range of training to meet the needs of workers involved in the community services sector. Training includes Aboriginal Cross Cultural Awareness, Case Management Strategies for Aboriginal People, Identifying and Responding to Elder Abuse, Governance and Community Based Management.

Please visit our web site at www.nrsdc.org.au for more information about NRSDC programs.