

## News Release

Date released: Wednesday 24 April 2024

# Community grants program launched to assist summer storm recoveries

A fresh offering of financial assistance for Gold Coast and Scenic Rim residents affected by the destructive summer storms has been launched.

The *Reconnection for Resilience Community Grants Program* provides community grants of up to \$5000 for local not-for-profit organisations, healthcare organisations, sporting clubs and primary care providers in the storm and flood hit areas.

It's an initiative of the Gold Coast Primary Health Network (GCPHN) to help fund activities that boost recovery and bring the affected communities together.

Areas include Coomera, Clagiraba, Guanaba, Helensvale, Mudgeeraba, Oxenford, Pacific Pines, Paradise Point, Runaway Bay, Tallebudgera Valley, Upper Coomera, Wongawallan, Tamborine and North Tamborine.

GCPHN CEO Matt Carrodus said the focus is on people.

"While the property rebuilds continue, so are the psychological health recoveries of those residents directly affected by the storms," Mr Carrodus said.

"Through the support of initiatives that foster social bounce backs and on-going resilience, we aim to empower people with the resources and support necessary to complete their recovery journeys," he said.

Mr Carrodus said eligible funding activities include programs targeting psychological support, social isolation, sport and exercise classes, art therapy, skills development initiatives, community BBQs, and projects that deliver one-off material aid or emergency relief.

Applications are now open, and funding will be available to successful applicants from May with programs needing to be completed by the 31st of August 2024.

All the details can be found at: [www.gcphn.org.au](http://www.gcphn.org.au)

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**ENDS**

**For further information:**



*"Building one world class health system for the Gold Coast."*

Gold Coast Primary Health Network would like to acknowledge and pay respect to the land and the traditional practices of the families of the Yugambeh Language Region of South East Queensland and their Elders past, present and emerging.

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**Background:**

Gold Coast Primary Health Network (GCPHN) is an independent, not-for-profit organisation - one of 31 Primary Health Networks established by the Australian Government Department of Health in 2015.

We play an instrumental role working with the health sector and Gold Coast community to improve health services for residents by: Who We Are Identifying the health needs of local residents and designing solutions to meet those needs. This includes the assessment, planning and establishment of new health services.

Funding health organisations to provide local health services across a range of areas including mental health, alcohol and other drugs, aged and palliative care, persistent pain, suicide prevention, cancer screening, immunisation, improving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and supporting general practices in quality improvement.

Helping the health system work better together for patients and their families: this includes supporting health professionals, including general practitioners, to improve the quality of patient care.



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