

## PREPAREDNESS



### UPCOMING

## Bravo Events

**WEEKLY EVENT | 9 AM**

*Bravo Movers Heart Foundation Walking Group*

**SOCIAL EVENT LAUNCH**

**08 MARCH 2024 | 5 - 8 PM**

*Bravo Team Members Bare Foot Bowls*

**22 MARCH 2024 | 5:30 PM**

*Participant Ten Pin Bowling Event (Easter theme)*

**24 MARCH 2024**

*Bunnings Sausage Sizzle Fund Raiser*

**27 MARCH 2024**

*Easter Raffle (Drawn midday)*

**13 APRIL 2024**

*Bravo Day*

**12 May 2024**

*Mother's Day Raffle*

### UPCOMING

## Community Events & Public Holidays

**29 MARCH 2024**

*Good Friday*

**31 MARCH 2024**

*Easter Sunday*

**01 APRIL 2024**

*Easter Monday*

**02 - 14 APRIL 2024**

*School Holidays*

**25 APRIL 2024**

*ANZAC Day*

**06 MAY 2024**

*Labour Day*

**23 MAY 2024 | 4 - 6 PM**

*Community Connections Expo at the Gympie Special School*

## Part One

# General Manager Update



### From the desk of Patricia Wilson

Welcome to 2024! I trust this message finds you all in good spirits and energised for the exciting journey that lies ahead.

Already we are into February, a longer month due to a leap year with an extra day tacked onto the end of the month.

As we delve into the latest edition of our quarterly newsletter, I am delighted to introduce a theme that resonates deeply with our organisational values and objectives - "Preparedness." This theme encapsulates the spirit of readiness, and resilience that defines our approach to challenges and opportunities.

Thank you for your dedication to making Bravo a beacon of preparedness. Together, let's inspire, inform, and empower our community.

### **Bravo Quality Audit 2024**

In the next few months we will be completing some gap audits in preparation for our upcoming full quality audit. When we have confirmed dates we will send out the information about the audit and contacting Participants to be involved.

### **Medicare Urgent Care Clinic (UCC)**

UCCs are intended to provide short term, episodic care for urgent, non-life threatening conditions.

With extended opening hours, the UCC aims to ease pressure on the hospital system and give Australian families more options to see a health professional when they need urgent, but not life threatening, care which is bulk-billed for the patient.

*See information attached*

### **Get ePrepared**

When disaster strikes, legal problems often follow.

Having your documents stored electronically is a great way to get started preplanning for an emergency and to help you navigate any potential legal issues.

Together, its time to Get ePrepared.

Get ePrepared is a new free online self-help tool developed by Justice Connect, in partnership with Telstra. It is designed to coach you through how to store electronic copies of your important documents in case you need them in an emergency.

**Visit Get ePrepared:**

[justiceconnect.org.au/get-eprepared](https://justiceconnect.org.au/get-eprepared)

*See information attached*



## Part Two

# Community Networker Update

## Get Ready, plan ahead Gympie

### Resilience toolkit ([gympie.qld.gov.au](http://gympie.qld.gov.au))

Access your Gympie Get Ready Personal and Household RESILIENCE TOOLKIT through the Gympie Regional Council website.

This toolkit will help you prepare for an emergency and includes various checklists or forms which can be customised to suit each person's circumstances.

There are three sections within the Resilience Toolkit – Personal, Household and Preparing for an Emergency.

Once you have completed all of the checklists and forms, use the Get ePrepared DIY instructions to store all of these documents on your device.

## Bravo and the Heart Foundation walking group

Step into a healthier and more connected community by joining the Bravo Walking Group every Thursday at 9 am!

Take part in a revitalising walk and build stronger community bonds. For more details or to register, contact Cindy Buchan, Bravo's Community

Networker, on 0428 680 465. You can also sign up at the starting point, 37 Tozer Park Road, Gympie.

In collaboration with Gympie ARC, Bravo is dedicated to fostering community support. This is more than just a walk – it's a community initiative that goes beyond steps, creating meaningful connections with your neighbours. Don't miss out on the opportunity to stay active and engaged. Lace up your shoes and join us for a walk that's not just about the stroll, it's a journey towards a stronger, more connected community!

**#BravoMovers #BeBrave&GoThere #WalkingGroup**



Photo taken by Kaidyen

# Upcoming Bravo Events

## Easter ten pin bowling

Friday 22 March 2024 | 5:30pm bowl off

### **Bravo Participants, Employees & Volunteers Welcome!**

Get ready for an egg-citing evening of strikes and spares at Bravo's upcoming Easter-themed Ten Pin Bowling Night. Hop on over to the lanes at Gympie Ten Pin Bowling for a cracking good time filled with festive fun. It's bound to be an egg-stravaganza of laughter and friendly competition.

**DRESS:** Come dressed to impress

**COST:** \$12 to play

**FOOD & SNACKS:** Available to purchase

**RSVP:** 15 March 2024 - Bravo (5482 5336)

## Bravo's Easter Raffle

Starting 06 March | Drawn 27 March 2024

Starting from March 6, 2024, you can purchase Bravos Easter Raffle tickets for a chance to win fantastic prizes. Check out the photo of the prizes on the Bravo Facebook page. The raffle will be drawn on March 27, 2024. Hop on over to the Bravo office at 7 Alma Street, Gympie, to grab your tickets and be a part of the excitement!

## Mother's Day Raffle

Starting 22 April | Drawn 08 May 2024

Mother's Day is a day of the year that Bravo celebrates by holding a Mother's Day Raffle. The raffle will be drawn and the prize will be shown on the Bravo Facebook page. Tickets will be available at the Bravo office, 7 Alma Street, Gympie. All funds raised from the Bravo raffles will go back into supporting the unmet needs within the Gympie Community.



On 13 December 2023

## Bravo celebrated another year with Participants, Families, Employees and Volunteers

Celebrating the triumph of Bravo's Participant End-of-Year (EOY) gathering was marked by an impressive turnout and an abundance of joy and laughter.

This event serves as the pinnacle of the year, bringing together BRAVO Participants, Families, Employees, and Volunteers to commemorate the various supports and relationships that have flourished throughout the year.

As Bravo bids farewell to this remarkable year, Bravo eagerly anticipates another year of collaboration with Participants, their Families, dedicated Employees, Volunteers, and various Community Groups. Together, let's look forward to building on the connections and successes of the past and creating new milestones in the coming year.

Cheers to the spirit of unity and shared achievements!

Bravo's EOY celebration truly encapsulates the spirit of togetherness.



## Part Three

# News & Community Events



Emma Buhse and Michael Condon

On 26 January 2024

## Gympie Australia Day Awards

The Gympie Australia Day Event, hosted by Gympie Regional Council, was a vibrant showcase of community spirit, smiles, and well-deserved awards.

Bravo extends heartfelt congratulations to the outstanding Individuals recognised at this inaugural occasion.

**Named Citizen of the Year 2024**

*Sean Connolly*

**Honoured with the Resilience Award 2024**

*Michael Condon*

**Recognised as the Young Citizen of the Year 2024**

*Sienna Arthur*

**Co-winners of the Sports Achievement Award 2024**

*Georgia Nugent & Savanna Stey*

**Proud recipient of the Creative Award 2024**

*Mikaela Sima*

Among the attendees was Emma Buhse, a Bravo Governance Board Member, who took the opportunity to capture a moment with resilience award winner Michael Condon.

Saturday 13 April 2024

## Bravo Day

**Bravo Day is an event held annually to commemorate Bravo and what it brings to its Participants, Families, Employees, Volunteers and to the local community.**

Bravo has been in existence since December 2005 and was instigated by a group of local people who were concerned about the extent of unmet needs and the lack of support for people with a disability and their families.

Bravo celebrates this day in memory of receiving its first funding application.

Come along and join us in celebrating Bravo's 18th year:

**WHEN:** Saturday 13 April 2024

**TIME:** 8:30am to 11:30am

**WHERE:** All Abilities Playgrounds, Duckponds,

**RSVP:** By 8th April 2024 to  
admin@bravo.org.au or  
Phone (07) 5482 5336.

## 28 August - 08 September 2024

# XVII Paris Paralympic Games

<https://www.paris2024.org/en/the-paralympic-games-paris-2024/>

Do you know the difference between the Paralympics and the Special Olympics?

Paralympics focuses on Individuals with a physical disabilities, while Special Olympics specifically showcases those with intellectual disabilities.

The Paralympic Games offer a unique opportunity to shine a spotlight on sport and disability, inspire Individuals, bring about social change, and promote inclusive professional and sports opportunities for people with disabilities.

24 March 2024

## *The next Bunnings Sausage Sizzle Fund Raiser*

If you would like to Volunteer at this fund raiser contact Cindy on 0428 680 465 or come along, purchase a sausage and support Bravo.

Bravo and Bunnings teamed up for another successful fundraising event, featuring sizzling sausages and incredible community support. Huge thanks to our dedicated Volunteers for their time and energy, and to the Community for rallying behind Bravo's cause. Together, we're making a difference.





## Part Four

# All About Bravo

## What is Bravo's Charitable Purpose?

Bravo is a Registered Charity whose main beneficiaries are people with disabilities and their families. Bravo partners with GIVIT for relief of their one-off circumstances of people with disabilities as identified by them.

How can you partner with Bravo and its charitable purpose:

1. **Donate directly to Bravo** via the Bravo Website.  
<http://www.bravo.org.au>
2. **Shop at Drakes** and register your community dollars to Bravo. <https://drakes.com.au/>



**Friday 08 March 2024**

## Social Event Launch

### For Bravo team members

Mark your calendars for this fun Team Members Social Event!

This is the perfect opportunity to enjoy a get-together with your awesome colleagues and connect with Bravo Team Members who you may not always have the chance to get to know

**EVENT:** Bare Foot Bowls & Dinner  
**WHEN:** Friday 08 March 2024, till 8PM  
**WHERE:** Gympie Bowls Club, 16 Bowlers Drive  
**RSVP:** By 4th March 2024 to  
[admin@bravo.org.au](mailto:admin@bravo.org.au) or  
Phone (07) 5482 5336.

## QMS Group

### Team Spotlight

The (QMS) Quality Management System Group meets monthly to prepare for Bravo's upcoming external audit. The QMS Group is about continuous improvement, collaboration across teams and maintaining high standards.

The key components of a Quality Management System include:

Quality policies, documented procedures, quality objectives, risk management, monitoring and measurement, continuous improvement, Employee training and Customer focus.

If you would like to provide feedback on how Bravo can ensure continuous improvement within its Quality Management System, email [lynn.boyd@bravo.org.au](mailto:lynn.boyd@bravo.org.au)

31 March 2024

## Getting ready for the end of Fringe Benefit Tax (FBT) Year

<https://accesspay.com.au/end-of-fbt-year/>

The end of the Fringe Benefit Tax (FBT) year

(31 March 2024) falls on Easter Sunday. So, with multiple public holidays occurring right before the deadline, it's more important than ever to make sure you're prepared to make the most of your tax savings for this FBT year.

For Employees who enjoy the benefits of SALARY SACRIFICING, SPEND YOUR BLANCE by 31 March 2024. Any balance in accounts and on cards must be \$0 by this date.

## Bravo's Hyundai i30 fleet is complete!

Bravo has received the third and final Hyundai i30 from Pacific Hyundai Gympie. Bravo would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the Gambling Community Benefit Fund for providing the necessary funds to purchase these much-needed vehicles. Bravo is now placed for greater access within the community. A special mention should also be said about the great service Bravo received from Pacific Hyundai, Gympie.



Queensland  
Government



Our project was  
made possible by

GAMBLING

COMMUNITY  
BENEFIT FUND





## Part Five

# Bravo Services

## Capacity for new referrals with Bravo Plan Management

Bravo's Plan Management Team, possesses decades of experience in customer service, administration, and finance. Their expertise ensures effective management of NDIS Plans for Participants, allowing them to focus on their goals. Key Services offered are:

**Personalised Support** from your own Plan Management Assistant, that way you know who you need to speak with.

**Efficient Plan Administration.** The team handles day-to-day administration of NDIS Plans by receiving invoices from providers, checking them for accuracy, confirming your approval and making daily payments to providers.



L - R: Jo, Sam, Tracey & Tonya

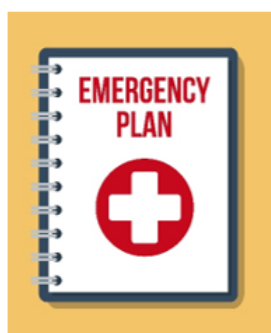
**Experienced and Passionate Team** with over 70 years of combined experience, the team is passionate about assisting Participants and creating a positive impact.

**Bravo's Plan Management Team** can be reached directly on (07) 5482 3899 or via email at [planmanagement@bravo.org.au](mailto:planmanagement@bravo.org.au), ensuring accessible and prompt communication.

## Bravo Direct Support

The Bravo Direct Support Team are working with Participants and Support Workers around Emergency and Disaster Management Plans.

The Plan will focus on emergency situations such as floods, fires and disease outbreaks. The Bravo Direct Support Team will work with Participants and Support Workers to ensure everyone has access to help from their formal and informal supports in the event of a disaster.



### What is an Emergency and Disaster Management Plan?

This is your Emergency and Disaster Management Plan.

We will call it the Plan.

The Plan helps you and Bravo prepare for an emergency, like COVID-19.

Everyone should be prepared for an emergency.

Having a plan can help you feel less worried or scared.

Bravo is committed to ensuring continuity of supports for all our Participants during a disaster. We look forward to working through these plans with our teams. Please reach out to a Facilitator if you have any questions.

## Part Six

# From Bravo Governance Board

*Hello everyone,*

Welcome back, we hope everyone survived the summer holidays, had lots of fun and made lots of special memories.

**Strategic Planning – 5 to 7 March.** The Governance Board in conjunction with the Management Team is holding the Bravo Strategic Planning Event in March to create a 3-year plan for the future direction of Bravo. The strong Vision and Values the Board holds on behalf of Members will underpin positive outcomes for a successful, quality service. We encourage everyone to have a say, and if you haven't already completed the Survey, please complete, and assist this planning process. If you need help, please ask the Business Support Officers. Bravo!!

The Governance Board wishes everyone a very Happy Easter. Take care everyone! We'll see you soon on Bravo Day. Look after yourselves over the Easter Holiday break! BRAVO!!

## Another Good News Story

*We've done it again. Another Successful Grant!!*

Bravo has been awarded a Grant under Category C Flexible Funding Grant – Round Two for the Mobile Recovery Connect Service. This Grant will provide Bravo with the ability to expand the current service and develop this new project "Mobile Recovery Connect Service (MRCS)" around connections, resilience, and recovery. Bravo's Community Networker will be a presence within the Gympie Region and the surrounding communities when providing this service (MRCS).

## Donation Boxes

Thanks to the Gympie Woodworkers Group for their expertise in carpentry and support of Bravo. We now have 4 Boxes to put out in the Community.

We will let you know where the Donation Boxes are in the next edition of the Bravo Brief.



**Board Meetings are held on the third Friday of each month.**

President:	Dianne Melnyk
Treasurer:	Dave Cohen
Member:	Jackie Harding
Member:	Lesley Nissen
Member:	Rebecca Tulle
Member:	Barbara Berwick
Member:	Emma Buhse
Secretary:	Gail Brown

## Did you know?

On 13th April 2006, Bravo Disability Support Network became a funded service, only 6 months after the first information gathering forum was held. BRAVO!!

## Bravo Day

*Saturday, 13th April, 9:00 am.*

Come and celebrate Bravo's 18th Birthday on 'Bravo Day' Lake Alford Duckponds (All Abilities Playground). Brunch, Fun & Activities!

## Australia Day

Friday, 26 January, we reflect on what it means to be Australian. We hope you had a successful Australia Day. BRAVO!!



**Be brave and go there! Bravo will partner with you to provide respectful, responsive, reliable, high-quality, safe disability supports.**



### Disclaimer

The inclusion of information contained in this newsletter or attached about services provided by any organisation does not imply a recommendation by Bravo Disability Support Network Inc.



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