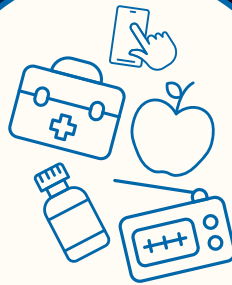


READY, SET, PREPARE!

Emergency preparedness starts with you! **BE PREPARED**



make a plan



build a kit



stay informed

UPCOMING

Bravo Events

EVERY THURSDAY | 9 AM

Bravo Movers Heart Foundation Walking Group

27 SEPTEMBER 2024

Bravo Bowling Night

25 OCTOBER 2024

Bravo AGM

UPCOMING

Community Events & Public Holidays

16 - 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

QLD School Holidays

05 - 13 OCTOBER 2024

Mental Health Week

13 - 19 OCTOBER 2024

Carers Week

Part One

General Manager Update



From the desk of Patricia Wilson

This edition underscores the critical importance of emergency preparedness, urging everyone to actively engage in readiness efforts. Being prepared not only protects people with disabilities but also strengthens our commitment to providing reliable, continuous support.

Bravo has partnered with the Queensland Government through the Disaster Recovery Flexible Funding Grants to launch the Mobile Recovery Connect Service (MRCS). After extensive consultation and planning, we began this service earlier this month. Follow Bravo's Facebook and Community Networker for upcoming MRCS events in the Gympie Region.

"All things are ready, if our mind be so."

- William Shakespeare

Preparedness is a shared responsibility. By staying informed and ready, we can safeguard the well-being of our community. Let's continue to build a resilient and responsive Bravo community.

Office of the Public Advocate

The Office of the Public Advocate has released a pair of Supported Decision-making videos. The videos feature a number of disabled advocates explaining why guardianship should be a last resort and why supported decision making gives disabled people more autonomy and control over important decisions in their lives. The videos are now officially on the OPA website and YouTube: <https://bit.ly/3SYqt2f> and <https://bit.ly/3Av8cTW>

Response to the Disability Royal Commission

After 10 months, the Australian Government responded to the recommendations of the Disability Royal Commission. Of the 222 recommendations, only 13 were accepted in full. Responses to the 172 recommendations within the Australian Government's primary or shared responsibility. It does not include the responses to the 50 recommendations within state and territory governments' primary responsibility. For detailed information check out the information online: <https://bit.ly/4dLEHvo>

NDIS Focus

The Australian Government is investing \$40 million over two years in self-advocacy, and peer support programs, so they can continue to support people with disabilities to engage in our community and to advocate for themselves. <https://bit.ly/3AvDN7U>

The National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) announced changes to National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) pricing, ahead of proposed broader reforms to strengthen the NDIS provider market.

The 2023/24 APR report reflects recent increases to award wages from the Fair Work Commission and ensures those delivering vital services to Australians living with a disability are adequately remunerated. <https://bit.ly/3yyZONT>

Part Two

Community Networker Update

Every Thursday | 9 AM

READY, SET, PREPARE Join the Bravo Movers

Heart Foundation Walking Group for a healthier, connected Community!

Looking for a fun way to stay active and meet new friends? Come along to the Bravo Movers Walking Group every Thursday at 9am! The Bravo movers walking group meet at 37 Tozer Park Road, Gympie.

Ready: Slip on some comfortable shoes, grab your hat, and slather on that sunscreen.

Set: Plan your trip—figure out how you'll get there and consider inviting a family member, friend, or your support person to join you.

Prepare: Make a commitment to improve your mental health with some light exercise and enjoy



the company of new friends.

Community Connections Expo

Cindy attended the Community Connections Expo at Gympie Special School on 16 May 2024. Bravo showcased the diverse roles and pathways in Individual Supports (Disability) sector, focusing on opportunities for young adults.

Cindy emphasised the meaningful and rewarding nature of this work, highlighting how it supports individuals with disabilities and offers fulfilling career paths for dedicated individuals.

If you or someone you know is interested in exploring a career in the Disability sector, don't hesitate to reach out to Bravo for more information.

Go to www.bravo.org.au and make an application.



Bravo's Buzzy Bee Bowling Event

Bravo's Buzzy Bee Bowling Night on 21 June 2024 at Gympie Tenpin Bowling & Entertainment was a tremendous success. The event buzzed with enthusiasm, creating an enjoyable and lively atmosphere. Many Participants embraced the Bee Theme with creative costumes, making the night even more memorable.

A special thanks to Valley Gold Honey for providing the honey used in the lucky door prizes. Gympie Tenpin Bowling & Entertainment offered excellent facilities for the event. Bravo looks forward to more successful bowling nights in the future.



Congratulations to all the winners of the best-dressed and door prizes.

Gympie Region Industry Careers Showcase



Bravo participated in the Careers Expo held at the Gympie Pavilion on 10 July 2024.

The event is sponsored by Workforce Australia, Regional Development Australia Wide Bay Burnett, Gympie Regional Council, and Queensland Hydro, was a tremendous success. Over 1,000 attendees, predominantly students, explored new career pathways.

Bravo is passionate about the work in the Disability Sector, emphasising how it supports those in need while offering a deeply satisfying career path for dedicated individuals. If you or someone you know is interested in exploring a career in this field, please reach out to Bravo for more information.

Bravo

Gympie Monopoly

Monopoly Games are now priced at \$40.00.

Remember to purchase your Monopoly game from the Bravo Office.

Plan ahead for your September School Holidays or even Christmas!



Mobile Recovery Connect Service (MRCS) Update

The MRCS is proudly funded by the Australian Government and the Queensland Government. Working with the community Bravo partnered with a number of stakeholders to provide information through this grant to enhance disaster resilience for people with disabilities through community engagement during July.

These partnerships with Community Recovery specialists included Gympie Regional Council, RSL Gympie, QDN, Heart Foundation, Carer Gateway, Wellways, Footprints Community, Gympie Homeless Assistance Inc. to raise awareness of available services and foster resilience by providing information to help people with disabilities access necessary services in times of emergencies.

Importance of Proactive Preparedness

Emergencies can occur without warning, and their impact can be significant. Whether it's a natural disaster, a health crisis, or an unexpected disruption, having a solid emergency plan in place is essential for minimising risks and ensuring quick, effective responses.

Tips for Personal Preparedness

- **Stay Informed:** Know the types of emergencies that can occur in your area and stay updated on local alerts.
- **Create a Plan:** Develop a family emergency plan and ensure all members know what to do.
- **Build an Emergency Kit:** Keep a kit with essential supplies like water, non-perishable food, medications, and important documents.
- **Stay Connected:** Keep a list of emergency contacts and communication methods.



Developing an Emergency Plan

A comprehensive emergency plan should cover:

- **Risk Assessment:** Identify potential emergencies and assess their impact.
- **Communication Strategy:** Establish clear lines of communication for timely information sharing.
- **Evacuation Procedures:** Outline steps for safe evacuation.
- **Medical Preparedness:** Ensure accessibility to medical supplies and know-how to address health emergencies.
- **Training and Drills:** Regular training sessions and drills to familiarise everyone with emergency procedures.

Next events for MRCS

TBA with flyers on the Bravo Website and Facebook page. More resources are available through:

- **QDN:** <https://bit.ly/3YQQ4Oz>
- **Qld Gov:** <https://bit.ly/3Mc3g8Z>
- **GRC:** <https://bit.ly/3YRhT9f>

Check out the Gympie Regional Council (GRC) Disaster Emergency Dashboard

Part Three

News & Community Events

RSL Masked Ball

On 13th July almost 200 people turned out for this year's Gympie RSL Veterans Masked Ball. The Ball was held to raise much needed funds to help veterans experiencing homelessness.

With the assistance of the Bravo Board funding tickets for people with disabilities to attend the ball, The Bravo crew had an absolute blast attending the RSL Veterans Masked Ball.



Little Kids Day Out

Little Kids Day Out on 10th August was a fantastic event recently enjoyed by families with children under eight, as well as a few big kids. The event offered a variety of activities, performances, and information booths, blending fun with educational experiences for all who attended.

Bravo proudly served as a platinum sponsor, helping to make this event a success. Bravo was thrilled to have contributed to such a wonderful opportunity for families to explore valuable resources and services that support their child's learning and development. Also supported by local schools, early learning centres, and community organisations, the event featured engaging activities that both parents and children enjoyed together.



It was inspiring to see so many families coming together to connect with the community and discover new ways to support their children's growth. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who participated and made Little Kids Day Out, another memorable event!

Paris Paralympics 2024

The Paris Paralympics 2024 on 28th August – 8th September 2024 is a unique time and opportunity for people with disabilities to showcase their achievements in 22 sports on the world stage.

Check out the latest information at: <https://olympics.com/en/paris-2024/paralympic-games/sports>

Part Four

All About Bravo

Bravo Team

Meet Breanna!

I'm excited to introduce myself as one of the newest members of the Bravo community. My name is Bree, and I've recently joined the team as the Business Support Officer. I am thrilled to be here and eager to dive into this new chapter.

Previously, I spent the past six years working in the beef industry with Nolan Meats. Transitioning from the world of beef to disability has been a rewarding change of pace. I'm genuinely enjoying the shift in focus. I'm looking forward to contributing to Bravo's Mission and incredible work in any way I can. If you see me around or have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out.

Here's to new beginnings and making a positive impact together!



Got something to share?

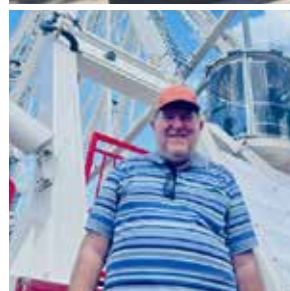
Whether it's an idea, artwork, or a personal story, we'd love to hear it! Bravo wants its community to share their stories, so send your thoughts to breanna.franks@bravo.org.au or drop by the office.

Your creativity could be the star of the next Bravo Brief and inspire others to share as well!

Living life

Lorelle had a great day at the Special Olympics, winning the 100m and 400m walk races and placing second in the standing long jump. Stephen enjoyed a day at the EKKA, checking out the sights and taking a country drive home. KD's hard work paid off with a new car, marking a big step towards his independence.

Just a few snapshots of life being lived.



Part Five

Bravo Services

Plan Management

What is Bravo Plan Management?

Plan Management oversees the financial and administrative aspects of a Participant's Support Plan, including budgeting, tracking expenses, and ensuring services are delivered as outlined. Effective plan management ensures efficient use of funds and compliance with administrative requirements, allowing Participants to focus on their personal goals and well-being.

Why is Plan Management Important?

- **Maximising Resources:** Ensures effective and efficient use of allocated funding.
- **Streamlined Administration:** Simplifies complex paperwork, claims, and administrative tasks, reducing stress and ensuring regulatory compliance.
- **Customised Support:** Tailors services to meet individual needs and preferences for a more personalised approach.
- **Transparency and Accountability:** Maintains clear and accurate tracking of expenses and services, ensuring alignment with individual goals and needs.

How Bravo Supports NDIS Participants with Plan Management?

Bravo's experienced team provides comprehensive plan management services, working closely with Participants to understand their unique needs, assist with budgeting, handle administrative tasks, and ensure effective management of all plan aspects. Bravo aims to provide peace of mind and empower individuals to focus on what truly matters to them.

If you have any questions about plan management or need assistance with your support plan, please reach out to Bravo's Plan Management Team. We are here to help you navigate your plan with confidence and ease.

Contact Plan Management

Phone Plan Management directly
(07) 5482 3899

Email Plan Management
planmanagement@bravo.org.au

Bravo Plan Management has capacity for New Referrals!

Bravo

Plan Management

Team Member Tracey

Tracey, from Bravo's Plan Management team, ensures Participants get top-notch plan management support.

Tracey processes everything through Planability, making plan management easier and allowing individuals to focus on what matters most.



Part Six

From Bravo Governance Board

Hello everyone,

Brrrr, feeling cold with this crazy weather called 'Winter'! We hope you keep warm, stay away from the viruses, and enjoy reading the Bravo Brief in your spare time.

Bravo's Strategic Plan

After many meetings and lots of discussions the Board has finally approved the Strategic Plan 2024 – 2027. Bravo is moving forward strongly and will continue to be part of the Disability Community in Gympie for many more years to come. **BRAVO!!**

Meetings at the Library / JobMatch

The Board would like to express their gratitude to the Gympie Library and Jobmatch Employment Service for generously providing Bravo to use their Meeting Rooms while repairs were being carried out at the Alma Street, Office. Your assistance is greatly appreciated. **BRAVO!!**

National Volunteer Week 2024

Bravo celebrated 'National Volunteer Week' with a Morning Tea on Friday, 24 May. Thank you to Bravo's dedicated Volunteers for their invaluable contributions, unwavering commitment, and selfless participation. **BRAVO!!**

Bravo invites more people to join the celebration of National Volunteer Week next year in 2025.

Qld Mental Health Week

To be held on 5th – 13th October. Please give your support to any events that are happening in your community and support the people who experience Mental Illness.

Carer's Week

To be held on 13th – 19th October. Please give your support to any events that are happening in your community and support Carers by recognising their dedication and the valuable role they play in providing care.

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

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

Membership

You will receive your Membership renewal information by email or post. The Board values Life Members and kindly requests you submit an updated form this year to ensure your details are current. You can complete the renewal form on Bravo's website, email to the Secretary, or drop off at the Bravo office.

New Members

Interested in becoming a Bravo Member or know someone who is? Bravo offers Ordinary and Associated Membership. To join, visit the Bravo website, email the Secretary, or stop by the Bravo office.

Annual General Meeting

Bravo's Annual General Meeting is on Friday, 25th October at 10:00 am at the Albert Bowls Club. Please mark your calendar. Your invitation will arrive by email or post, and we look forward to seeing you there!

Email the Secretary:
gail.brown@bravo.org.au

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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