



# Annual Report

## Towards Reconciliation

### Contact Us

**Common Ground Queensland**  
**Phone:** 07 3370 8320  
**Email:** [admin@cgq.org.au](mailto:admin@cgq.org.au)

---

## Our Vision

Ending homelessness a person at a time within the communities in which we operate.

## Our Mission

To create supportive homes that honour local communities, respond to people's needs and improve their wellbeing and connectedness.

## Acknowledgement of Country

Common Ground Queensland acknowledges the Turrbal and Jagera/Yuggera peoples as the Owners and Custodians of the land and waters we live and work upon.

We recognise and respect the historic and continued connection to land and water including the deep spiritual connection and relationship that First Nations peoples have to Country.

We recognise sovereignty was never ceded.

Common Ground Queensland acknowledges the ongoing impacts of colonisation on First Nations peoples and is committed to working in partnership with First Nations people to address the impacts of colonisation.



# Supportive Housing Principles

The Common Ground model of supportive housing is a proven and cost effective solution to ending homelessness. Supportive housing provides safe, affordable and stable housing that is intentionally linked to individualised support services that focus on tenancy sustainment. Supportive housing can be delivered in single site high or low density developments or scattered site housing. Brisbane Common Ground is Queensland's first supportive housing initiative. It has been developed and delivered in line with a set of validated principles.

## Design

At Brisbane Common Ground, there are intentional design measures taken to ensure that the environment is as safe and comfortable as possible for our tenants.

## Permanency and Affordability

Housing is permanent, affordable and self-contained with rent less than 30% of income.

## Tenancy Mix

There is a mix of tenants with a proportion having experienced homelessness and some who have not. This mix ensures a vibrant and diverse building community.

## Safety

A Concierge service is provided 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to ensure a welcoming yet controlled access to the building.

## Support Services for Tenants

An on-site support provider offers a holistic, tenancy-focused service to those who require support to remain housed.

## Social Inclusion

Each element of supportive housing aims to create the greatest possible degree of empowerment and independence for individuals as well as a thriving community for tenants and neighbours.

# Table of Contents

Our Vision and Mission	2
Acknowledgement of Country	3
Supportive Housing Principles	4
Table of Contents	5
From the Chair	6
From the Chief Executive Officer	8
Year in Review	10
Corey's Story	12
Kate's Story	13
Tenant Engagement	14
Building Trust, Reducing Harm: QulHN at Brisbane Common Ground	15
Reconciliation Week 2025	17
Partnerships and Support	18
Our Advocacy	19
Common Ground Gold Coast	21
Our Staff	22
Common Ground Queensland Board of Directors	24
Thank You	30



# From the Chair

Welcome to Common Ground  
Queensland's Annual Report for 2024  
to 2025.

Our primary focus remains always on sustaining tenancies, increasing community and tenants' engagement, and building positive rapport with tenants, local community, service and support agencies.

This year, with the help of our supporter Deloitte, Common Ground Queensland (CGQ) published our Case for Change. Through data collated over the past 13 years, and from the research conducted by Deloitte, we have articulated the economic benefit of Common Ground's model of supportive housing to the community.

Not only is Common Ground making a positive difference to lives of those tenants that we serve, but we have been able to demonstrate that we generate \$203,700 in economic and social benefits per tenant, over the tenant's lifetime. In a period of rising cost of housing and the supply constraints of affordable housing, data and evidence of our organisation's value is critical to ensuring sustainable funding continues.

With the recent change in government, we are focused on keeping the need for sustainable funding, that is flexibly applied, and is clear in the minds of policymakers and political leaders. Thank you to Rebecca Roberts, Claire Ibrahim, and their Deloitte team for their continued support and partnership.



Michael Ryall  
Chairperson

The theme of this year's Annual Report is *Towards Reconciliation*.

With 16% of tenants in Brisbane Common Ground, 60% of tenants in our Supportive Housing for Families program and 8% of our staff identifying as First Nations, it is appropriate for us as an organisation to spend time ensuring we are contributing to better outcomes for First Nations people in our programs and in the community.

In research conducted by the University of Queensland (C Parsell et al., Brisbane Common Ground Analyses of Tenancy Sustainment and Exits, 2023) Common Ground's model of supportive housing has achieved high rates of tenancy sustainment (80%) among First Nation tenants.

The integrated approach of onsite health and support provided by our support partners and CGQ tenancy sustainment plans, delivered in a culturally safe and responsive manner, increase the likelihood of a positive outcome.

To ensure that we do provide a culturally safe and responsive environment, CGQ has developed a Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) over the past year. This process has been led by our Community Development Lead, Corey Walker.

Corey is a First Nation person from the Wakka Wakka and Gubbi Gubbi nations and coordinates the sustaining tenancy plan process for all First Nations tenants.

Corey delivers cultural training regularly to staff to ensure our team understand and respect First Nations cultures, histories and knowledge. He has also established a First Nations advisory committee comprising of local First Nation leaders.

I would like to thank Corey for his achievements in delivering the RAP and for his leadership in our community. I would also like to thank Christine Grose, CGQ Board's First Nations Lead, for her work with the RAP and the CGQ team.

CGQ continues to work towards our strategic objective to increase the supply of supportive housing to meet the growing needs of individuals and families who are at risk of or experiencing homelessness. Our CEO, Sue Pope advocates for more supportive housing in Queensland.

Over the past 12 months, the Department of Housing and Public Works, has published its Supportive Housing Policy. Sue contributed to this policy and it has incorporated many of the key components of CGQ's supportive housing model.

The policy is now being used by the Departments of Housing in New South Wales and Victoria to inform their housing policies. The Department should be congratulated for the development, publication and adoption of this policy.

Sue has also been appointed as a member of the Homelessness Ministerial Advisory Council established by the Housing Minister, Sam O'Connor MP and has been appointed as the Co-Chair of the Supportive Housing Sub-Committee.

These appointments are recognition of Sue's reputation as an expert in supportive housing and of her standing within the housing and homeless sector.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank my fellow Board members for their tireless work and invaluable contribution to the strategic direction of CGQ. I would especially like to thank, my Co-Chair Kate Jones for her contribution whilst as a Board member and Co-Chair over the past 4 years. Kate will step down as a Director at this year's AGM; however, she will continue to advocate for CGQ in the future.

Michael Ryall  
Chairperson

# From the CEO

This year has been one of growth, collaboration, and deepening our commitment to ending homelessness through supportive housing. At Common Ground Queensland (CGQ), we continue to be inspired by the resilience of the people we serve and by the power of partnerships to create lasting change.

Our partnerships are at the heart of what we do, reflected in the strong, long-standing relationships we share with Micah Projects and Communitify. This year, we were proud to deepen our impact by joining the partnership delivering the Asylum Seeker and Refugee Assistance Program (ASRA), formalising our work with refugees and asylum seekers and further strengthening the network of collaborations that drive positive change.

*A key highlight of the year has been beginning our journey toward reconciliation with the development of our first Reconciliation Action Plan.*



**Sue Pope**  
Chief Executive Officer

This important step reflects our commitment to addressing intergenerational disadvantage and trauma experienced by First Nations peoples, and ensuring our work contributes to Closing The Gap in housing, health, and wellbeing.

We also released our Case for Change paper, authored by Deloitte, which sets out a clear pathway for expanding supportive housing in Queensland.

The paper builds on evidence from both here and overseas, demonstrating that supportive housing is not only life-changing for tenants but also cost-effective for government and the wider community.

This year, I had the privilege of visiting world-leading supportive housing models in New Zealand and in the United States, including models in San Francisco, Breaking Ground in Times Square, and programs in Brooklyn and Harlem for families and women escaping domestic and family violence. I was also fortunate to attend the Corporation for Supportive Housing Conference in Chicago, joining over 1,300 professionals from across the globe. These experiences provided invaluable insight into how different communities are tackling homelessness and showed the incredible potential of supportive housing when delivered at scale.

Closer to home, I was honoured to be appointed to the Housing Minister's Homelessness Ministerial Advisory Council and to serve as Co-Chair of the Supportive Housing Sub-Committee. These roles provide an opportunity to advocate for evidence-based solutions and to ensure the voices of our tenants and partners are reflected in policy and practice.

Our CGQ team is the secret ingredient that ensures we deliver a high-quality housing service. Their passion for the work that they do everyday is inspiring and I particularly acknowledge the executive management team Brendan Goebel, Corey Walker and Deep Dassanayake for leading this amazing group of professionals. Thanks also to the CGQ Board of Directors and particularly Chair Michael Ryall for the endless support and guidance provided throughout the year.

Looking ahead, we remain committed to growing supportive housing in Queensland, strengthening partnerships, and embedding cultural safety and reconciliation at the heart of everything we do. Together, with government, the community sector, and our supporters, we are building a future where all Queenslanders live with stability, autonomy and dignity.

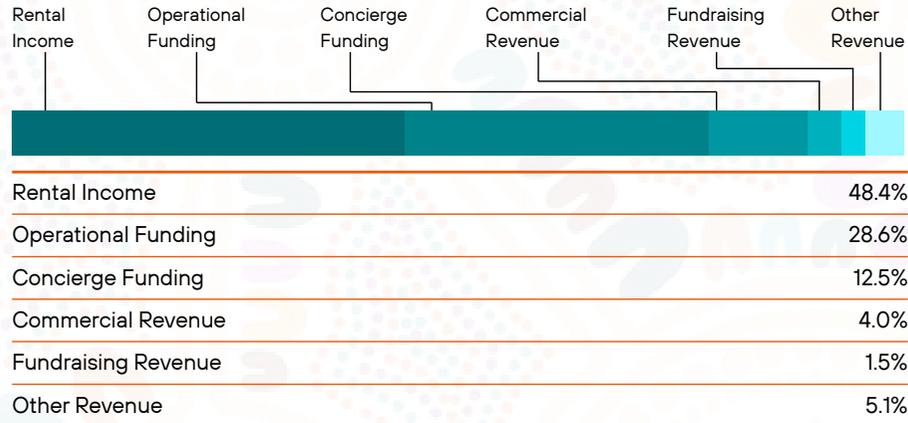
**Sue Pope**  
Chief Executive Officer



# Year in Review

Common Ground Queensland (CGQ) is committed to the Supportive Housing principles. Through regular review of data and key statistics, we remain transparent, accountable, consistent and dedicated towards our vision of mission.

## Revenue



## Brisbane Common Ground (BCG)

Key Performance Indicators - As at 30 June	Target	Actual
Bad Debts	1.5%	0.20%
Vacancy Rate	Less than or equal to 0.83%	0.55%
Eviction Rate	12%	7.1%
Rent Arrears	Less than 4%	3.4%

Tenancy Statistics - As at 30 June	Cohort	Value
Tenancy Mix	Formerly Homeless	77 Tenants
	Low Income	68 Tenants
Gender Mix	Male	70 Tenants
	Female	75 Tenants
Average Tenancy Length	Formerly Homeless	78 Months
	Low Income	87 Months
Tenancies Over 12 Months	Formerly Homeless	88% of Tenants
	Low Income Tenants	85% of Tenants

## Supportive Housing 4 Families (SH4F)

Tenancy Statistics - As at 30 June	Target	Actual
Head Leases vs. Sub Leases	20 : 20	20 : 17
Brisbane North vs. South Properties	10 : 10	7 : 10
Average Weekly Head Lease Rent Paid	\$589	\$666
Eviction Rate	0%	0%
Tenancy Mix		17 Families 17 Adults 46 Children
Tenant Exits		1 Exit 1 Moved into Social Housing
Average Tenancy Length		39 months



## Asylum Seeker and Refugee Assistance (ASRA)

Key Performance Statistics - As at 30 June	Target	Actual
Bad Debts	1.5%	0.20%

Tenancy Statistics - As at 30 June	Value
Number of Head Leases vs Sub Leases	25:46
Top 3 Ethnic Background of Tenants	Iran Iraq Afghanistan
Tenant Exits	10 Exits 7 Moved into Private Rental Market 1 Moved Interstate 1 Relocated Overseas 1 Other Housing

## Corey's Story

Corey Roma is a proud Wakka Wakka man who has been painting for over 20 years. He works with both artefacts and canvas, using traditional colours and dot painting techniques to express culture and story. Art, for Corey, is more than decoration; it's a way to strengthen culture and support wellbeing.

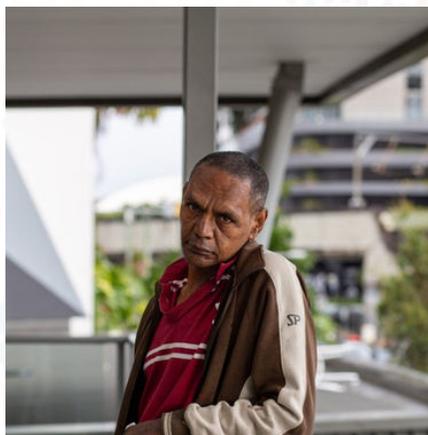
“*Painting helps with my stress and keeps my mentality strong.*”

Corey was encouraged early on by respected artist Regi Knox, who taught him to keep going and share his creativity with others.

Whether he's working on a canvas or painting cultural artefacts, Corey paints what comes to him, guided by intuition and connection to Country.



Kangaroo Dreaming  
Acrylic on Canvas | 2025



Corey  
Tenant at BCG

*Kangaroo Dreaming* is painted in traditional style, using earthy colours and dot work to honour the kangaroo as a powerful and respected being.

For Corey, the kangaroo represents strength, movement and connection to Country. The work carries story and spirit, expressed through technique passed down and refined over decades of practice. Common Ground Queensland (CGQ) commissioned Corey Roma in creating this artwork. This is one element of our first Reconciliation Action Plan.

This artwork exemplifies our commitment and intention towards reconciliation as an organisation committed to ending homelessness for those most disadvantaged in our communities, including First Nations people. Corey has been a supportive housing tenant at Brisbane Common Ground since 2015.



Kate  
Tenant at BCG

“*Living at Common Ground, it's just, I feel very lucky to live here.*”

Kate was inspired by sending watercolour whale postcards to cheer up an unwell friend. She then created her own designs to brighten her space, and now hopes the exhibition brings a little lift to everyone's day.

*“You don't have to go out and cure everything or be fixed or anything. Just have a nice little moment, have a whale of a time.”*

Some of Kate's favourite pieces come from finding joy in the little things around town; her work 'City Slopes' was inspired from a time when her car broke down, and whilst walking to an appointment, had an 'oh, that's pretty' moment when she found a

## Kate's Story

nice view of some buildings. 'Elevate' is another favourite, as it sums up how she felt at past times, channeling the productive energy from her mental illness into creating a stunning painting.

Kate is grateful for the Brisbane Common Ground (BCG) art program, which helped her during a difficult time. With support from art facilitator Katie, she developed new artistic techniques.

*“[The art program] was just the biggest help for me socially, talking to people because I had been too scared. I'd had to stop working about two years prior and so it was good socially, but then also just artistically, learning new techniques, Katie's helped me learn new things and then putting this [exhibition] on, like, oh my goodness, like, I didn't think I could do that.”*

Kate feels lucky to live at BCG and appreciates the stability provided by the Common Ground Queensland (CGQ) team. Grateful for daily riverside walks, she also thanks Micah Projects, art facilitator Katie, and the United Artists Project for their support and opportunities.

*“The staff are really great, you know, they help you feel safe and they're always nice, and even when I've lost my keys for the thousandth time, they never look annoyed. They just smile and help me get a new one, so everyone's really nice. It's a very good place to live.”*

# Tenant Engagement

Common Ground Queensland (CGQ) continued to expand upon and improve on our Tenant Engagement work in 2024 and 2025. A recent evaluation of this work by the University of Queensland revealed the positive impact on tenant satisfaction, community cohesion, and respectful behaviour, reducing conflict between neighbours and building trust and cooperation between CGQ and our tenants.

Tenant engagement is increasingly identified in literature, policy, and practice as an important means of supporting social housing tenants' contribution to and satisfaction with their housing. This evaluation examines the nature, experience, and relevance of tenant engagement for tenants living at Brisbane Common Ground (BCG), which is a single site model of permanent supportive housing.



In particular, this research investigates what tenant engagement means to tenants, including what, if any, type of engagement tenants know about, participate in, and prefer. Recognising that tenant engagement is embedded within a wider practice context, the research also examines what is done by CGQ to enable tenant engagement, what works well, and the barriers to achieving tenant engagement.

We thank the Queensland Mental Health Commission (QMHC) for supporting and funding the evaluation, and thank the University of Queensland, in particular Professor Cameron Parsell for their continued support.



# Building Trust, Reducing Harm: QuIHN at Brisbane Common Ground

In 2023, Common Ground Queensland (CGQ) utilised fundraising from our generous donors and partnered with the Queensland Injectors Health Network (QuIHN) and Micah Projects to bring peer specialist alcohol and other drug (AOD) support directly to Brisbane Common Ground tenants.

QuIHN is a highly respected, statewide organisation providing evidence-based treatment, primary medical care and harm reduction services. Recognising that trust and relationships are key to supporting people around substance use, QuIHN proposed a soft-entry approach: placing a Harm Reduction Worker on-site three days a week for 12 months to engage with tenants through everyday activities such as weekly community meals.

From these small beginnings, life-changing conversations have started. The worker provides:

- Brief interventions offering information and education about substance use.
- Referrals to residential and outpatient treatment programs.
- Harm reduction strategies, including safe injecting equipment and health promotion.
- Weekly support groups for those contemplating change.

## Impact So Far

While the first year focused on building rapport, the results to date have been significant:

- **484** brief interventions delivered.
- **170** referrals to alcohol and other drug treatment.
- **80** referrals to other support services.
- **282** occasions of needle and syringe access.
- **1,016** total support occasions recorded in just 18 months.

Beyond the numbers, the collaboration is strengthening tenancy stability and improving quality of life for tenants who may otherwise be isolated from accessing specialist services. Importantly, staff report increased confidence and skills in supporting tenants with substance use concerns, thanks to working alongside a dedicated AOD specialist.

## Looking Ahead

This initiative reflects CGQ's strategic commitment to "do more for those we serve." While only a small number of tenants may directly engage at first, the potential impact is profound—improving health, reducing harm, and creating safer, more stable homes.

“*“We’re already seeing the difference having QulHN on-site makes. It’s about trust, respect, and giving people real options for change.”*  
—Team Leader”

The service continues to be made available to tenants at Brisbane Common Ground, now provided by Micah Projects.



## Reconciliation Week 2025

Towards the end of May, Common Ground Queensland (CGQ) organised a number of events at Brisbane Common Ground as part of National Reconciliation Week 2025. With intention, we hosted three events during the week, welcoming tenants as well as staff. A mixed committee of tenants, CGQ and Micah Projects Staff were responsible for developing the events leading up to the week.

We hosted a yarning circle where vulnerable stories were shared and hosted by Adam Oakhill from Queensland Indigenous Business Network (QIBN). We also attended a tour of the 'Unbroken Spirit of the Kalkadoons' art exhibition at the State Library of Queensland (SLQ), to learn more about the Kalkadoon people and their resilience, survival and strength. To cap off the week, we hosted a gathering lunch in our front foyer, where we had a feed of Roo, Emu and Croc. The event was a great success, and attended by staff, tenants and the local community.

We would also like to thank the following First Nations owned businesses for providing us with their support and goods for our National Reconciliation Week celebrations.

- Dezipna, for providing reconciliation-themed wristbands and lanyards.
- Dreamtime Kullilla-Art, for providing a selection of native bush jams, chutneys and tablecloths with storied artworks.
- Hillman Meat Company, for supplying us with roo, emu and croc meat for our gathering lunch.

We believe that a path to reconciliation is an intentional one, and celebrating with our community is the best way to uplift spirits. Finally, we would like to thank the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Fiona Simpson MP and the Department of Women, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and Multiculturalism for supporting our activities with a 2025 Celebrating Reconciliation Grant.



# Partnerships and Support

## HWL Ebsworth

HWL Ebsworth are an Australian Law Firm that has partnered with Common Ground Queensland (CGQ) to provide pro bono legal assistance. Mark Lightfoot, who was a director at CGQ for a decade, continues to assist us with pro-bono legal services.

## Urbis

Urbis are an Australian urban consultancy company that advises developers, property owners, investors, private firms, NGOs, community groups, industry associations and all levels of government. To date, Urbis has assisted us with work related to producing documents for tender processes, allowing us to be best placed to deliver more Supportive Housing.

## Deloitte

Deloitte are a global consulting company that specialises in audit and assurance, financial and risk advisory. Deloitte has been working with CGQ for a number of years and helping us to solidify, refresh and review our strategic plans. Additionally, Deloitte has assisted us greatly with helping to articulate and advocate for our model to support the expansion of more housing like ours.

## The Calile Hotel

The Calile Hotel continues to advocate and support charitable causes across Queensland. To date, we have received over **\$43,000** in donations from their charitable mission program. We are thankful for their ongoing support.

## Novotel South Bank

Novotel Brisbane South Bank has partnered with us for a range of different fundraising opportunities. We are thankful for their support as a premier accommodation host in the local area.

## Queensland Performing Arts Centre (QPAC)

CGQ have been QPAC's charity of choice for their annual Spirit of Christmas concerts for the last 8 years. In 2025, we were able to raise **\$13,676** at our annual Spirit of Christmas Fundraiser! We would like to also give a huge thank you to our Spirit of Christmas volunteers for donating their time and effort.

## Spyre Group

Spyre is an Australian residential property development specialist, credited as a key player in the creation of luxury and high-end apartments within Queensland and beyond. We would like to thank Spyre Group this year for their support in providing communications and PR expertise to amplify our advocacy for more Supportive Housing.

## Micah Projects

We would like to acknowledge Micah Projects for our ongoing partnership to deliver Brisbane Common Ground and Supportive Housing 4 Families housing programs.

## Communityfy

We would like to thank Communityfy for our ongoing partnership to deliver the Asylum Seeker and Refugee Assistance (ASRA) program.

## ASRA Governance Group

We would like to thank Communityfy, Red Cross, Multicultural Australia, RAILS, World Wellness Group, QPASTT, ACCESS Community Services and Indooroopilly Uniting Church for their partnership in delivering the ASRA program.

# Our Advocacy

## Case for Change



On **February 13, 2025**, Common Ground Queensland (CGQ) launched the groundbreaking report, titled *Supportive Housing: A Case for Change* in partnership with Deloitte at Brisbane Common Ground (BCG).

The report outlines how critical social housing infrastructure is within Australia – creating genuine impact on lives of the most vulnerable in our community. In particular, the report focused on BCG and how it generates benefits across the system and for individual tenants. Improvements to an individual's health, safety and social cohesion outcomes due to BCG generates \$203,700 in economic and social benefits per tenant, over their lifetime.

Furthermore, BCG's provision of supportive and permanent housing reduces the risk of return to homelessness for its tenants, resulting in a \$455,800 fiscal benefit to Queensland over a ten-year period. The cost savings to government are based on a standard cohort of previously chronically homeless tenants and the reduced likelihood of that cohort's return to homelessness, compared to social housing.

In our overflowing Gambaro room, the team from Deloitte, alongside Prof. Cameron Parsell from The University of Queensland, delivered the case for what we hope to be a change in the way we see Supportive Housing.

## Queensland Government Supportive Housing Policy

On September 23, 2024, the Queensland Government released their first-ever Supportive Housing Policy as part of their Homes for Queenslanders housing plan.

This Supportive Housing Policy is an extremely important body of work that will inform future supportive housing projects and is a key housing solution for the most disadvantaged in our community. It is a targeted and specific response for people who have experienced chronic homelessness, and people who are often not eligible for other types of social housing that might have preconditions for entry.

Common Ground Queensland (CGQ) would like to congratulate the Queensland Government Department of Housing and Public Works for leading and consulting with us and many other housing and homelessness organisations in the sector for the development of this policy.

## Homelessness Ministerial Advisory Council

In May of 2025, the Queensland Government Department of Housing and Public Works' Homelessness Ministerial Advisory Council (HMAC) met for the first time.

The formation of the Council came from the need to link key stakeholders in the

housing and homelessness sector through coordinating evidence-based, expert-informed advice on reducing homelessness and improving housing outcomes in Queensland.

As part of the HMAC, two subcommittees were developed – one to support collaboration between local governments within Queensland, and another focused solely on Supportive Housing outcomes.

As part of this Supportive Housing subcommittee, our Chief Executive Officer Sue Pope was appointed Co-Chair alongside Pam Barker, Chief Executive Officer of Brisbane Youth Service.

With our extensive experience in delivering best practice Supportive Housing in Queensland for over 14 years, we look forward to working with the subcommittee to deliver positive supportive housing outcomes for the future.

We would like to thank the Honourable Sam O'Connor MP, Minister for Housing & Public Works and Minister for Youth for the HMAC and Sue's appointment.



## Gold Coast – Southport Supportive Housing

This past financial year has seen major progress in the Southport Supportive Housing development in the Gold Coast.

After many years of advocacy by Common Ground Queensland, the Common Ground Gold Coast board, local organisations on the Gold Coast and the local community, the first sod was turned on Wednesday 18 June 2025. The Southport Supportive Housing Project will consist of 200 units and is due for completion in mid-2027.

We congratulate the Queensland Government on their commitment to supportive housing on the Gold Coast.

We would also like to highlight the work of the Gold Coast Homelessness Network (GCHN) and all their member organisations for their tireless advocacy efforts throughout the years.

## Common Ground Gold Coast Board of Directors



Matt Jutsum  
Chairperson



Rob Molhoek MP  
Board Director



Barry Lee  
Board Director



Dianne Kozik  
Board Director



Jackson Hills  
Board Director



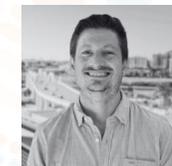
Michael Ryall  
Board Director



Sheila Ponting  
Board Director



Tony Cosser  
Board Director



Ryan O'Leary  
Secretary



## Leadership Team



Sue Pope  
Chief Executive  
Officer



Brendan Goebel  
Chief Finance  
Officer



Deep Dassanayake  
Chief Operations  
Officer



Corey Walker  
Community  
Development Lead

## Our Staff



Alamir  
Concierge Officer



Fury  
Tenancy Manager



Jimima  
Tenancy Manager  
(Cross Programs)



Joseph  
Maintenance  
Person



Kathleen  
Cleaning Team  
Supervisor



Kelvin  
Senior Maintenance  
Person



Ketan  
Concierge Officer



Kurtis  
Cleaning Team



Ilham  
Communications &  
Engagement Officer



Maria  
Executive  
Assistant



Mario  
Concierge Officer



Michelle  
Tenancy Team Lead



Mikayla  
Cleaning Team



Mohammad  
Cleaning Team



Muhammad  
Concierge Officer



Neil  
Concierge Officer



Nicki  
Property &  
Tenancy Officer



Renay  
Finance Officer



Sayed  
Maintenance  
Person



Shabeg  
Concierge Officer

## Our People



Not pictured: Derek, Senior Tenancy Manager | Erin, Administration Manager | Janice, Rental & Reporting Manager | Morne, Concierge Officer | Noush, Finance Manager | Plony, SH4F Tenancy Manager | Serena, Property & Tenancy Officer | Paul, Maintenance Person | Raechelle, Property & Tenancy Officer

## The Common Ground Queensland Board of Directors



**Michael Ryall**  
Co-Chairperson

Michael is the Chief Financial Officer of the property development company Spyre Group. He is a Chartered Accountant and CA Risk Specialist with over 20 years' experience in property, hospitality and professional services in Australia and the Middle East.

Over this time, Michael developed an expertise in financial management and reporting, governance, corporate finance, strategic planning and business management. His financial and commercial experience provides a detailed understanding of the property industry, real estate practices and financial reporting within the industry.

Michael is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and holds qualifications in Strata Management and Hotel Management, he has a Master of Professional Accounting and post graduate qualifications in Applied Finance. Michael is an active member of the UDIA, through membership of the Finance and Tax Policy Committee, and has Non-executive Director experience in the Not-For-Profit, Property and Education sectors.



**Kate Jones**  
Co-Chairperson

Kate has more than 20 years experience in senior government and leadership positions.

Kate served as a Minister in the Queensland Government for more than eight years in a range of portfolios including State Development, Education, Tourism and Major Events and Innovation and Climate Change.

Throughout her career Kate has also served on a number of government and non-government boards at both a state and national level.

Kate has strong skills in strategy development and partnerships, crisis management, media relations and communications.



**Christine Grose**  
Director

Christine Grose has over three decades of direct service delivery and management experience in the community sector – in particular in the areas of homelessness and youth at risk.

Christine has served on numerous community and homelessness service Management Committees throughout her career.

Christine currently works as a Project Consultant for a number of organisations in SEQ. Her focus for her voluntary and paid work is on implementing structural change and supporting community capacity-building, in the service of social justice.



**Jackson Hills**  
Director

Jackson has spent more than 15 years working in non-for-profit and community organisations. This includes 12.5 years with Tennis Australia, three years with the Australian Football League (AFL) and time with the Australian Sports Commission. He has also been actively involved with the Trish MS Research Foundation, The Salvation Army, Set Free Care, and several other charities.

After sport, Jackson moved into local and state government roles, supporting several state politicians and local councillors in their community work and media engagement. More recently, Jackson has been leading the policy and strategic engagement efforts at Q Shelter, Queensland's peak body for housing and homelessness services.

Jackson has a Master's in Business Administration (SCU), several accreditations from the Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD) and studied politics and policy at Deakin University.

In addition to sitting on the Common Ground Queensland Board, he is an executive committee member of National Shelter, advisory board member at Collective Leisure, a mentor to young people at the Gold Coast Youth Service and a member of the Board of Advisors for the Property Industry Foundation – Queensland branch.



**Joanna Spanjaard**  
Director

Joanna is the Director of Governance and Risk at the University of Queensland and has over 25 years' experience in governance and risk management across a range of sectors including energy, health, higher education, not for profits and mining.

Joanna was formerly a partner at Deloitte providing risk and internal audit advice and prior to that worked in asset intensive industries such as electricity and defence.

She is a mechanical engineer with a Masters of Science in Aerospace.



**Justin Hogg**  
Director

Justin Hogg, owner and founder of Right Source, is a governance professional who specialises in the Not-for-Profit sector. This has provided the opportunity for Justin and the Right Source team to work with and support hundreds of organisations with their governance in support of their own unique purposes.

The focus on the Not-for-Profit sector has provided the opportunity to find solutions that fit with the NFP sector, and to have built a team that understands that when you set out to change the world you see problems as possibilities; and you need partners that set out to overcome challenges with a positive mindset.

As part of Right Source, Justin holds Company Secretary positions with various not-for-profit organisations.



**Kate Francis-Mulder**  
Director

Kate is a Chartered Engineer with over a decade of experience in construction, engineering and professional services in Australia and Europe. Kate has extensive experience in managing large scale projects across a variety of industries including social infrastructure, energy, education, defence and commercial developments.

She also has expertise in business case development to support investment decisions for capital spend.

Kate also has experience working with at risk homeless youth through her volunteering work in the United Kingdom.

She is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and holds a First Class degree in Engineering (QUT). She also has a Masters of Business (UQ) and is a Chartered Engineer through Engineers Australia.



**Kate Grimley**  
Director

Kate is a Chartered Accountant, having been admitted to the Chartered Accountants of Australian and New Zealand in 2000, with a specialist designation in Forensic Accounting.

Kate has over 25 years of experience in professional services across various fields of accounting and in different jurisdictions throughout Australia and Canada. Her specialism in Forensic Accounting provides a broad spectrum of experience across commercial, risk and legal matters.

Kate is currently a Partner at Deloitte, leading the Strategy, Risk and Transactions business in QLD. In addition to this role, Kate is a member of the Deloitte QLD Executive and is the Executive Sponsor for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in Queensland. Throughout her career, Kate has also served on a number of not-for-profit boards/committees in a variety of sectors.

Kate has a Graduate Diploma in Forensic Accounting (University of Toronto) and Bachelor of Arts (Economics and Indonesian)/Bachelor of Commerce (University of Queensland).



**Mark Neave**  
Director

Mark has over 46 years' experience working within the Health and Welfare sectors as a frontline worker ranging from direct clinical work as a social worker in mental health, child safety and acute care and in Executive positions within Government and Non-Government organisations.

He holds a unique understanding of the myriad of services and associated complexities that are often faced within community and acute responses.

Mark has played an active part in developing both National and State health responses as a Queensland Health Parliamentary Witness addressing a myriad of considerations in how to progress the State's development of chronic disease and mental health service responses as well as being a state delegate in the National Research Project for development of Transition Care Program (TCP) Quality Indicators.

Mark holds a Masters of Business Communication Studies, Graduate Diploma in Communication, and Bachelor of Social Work, Double Certificates in Social Welfare.



**Stephen Wockner**  
Director

Stephen brings extensive experience in executive, information, technology, risk and organisational management to our organisation.

He is certified in Program and Project Management and has over 40 years of achievements in the IT industry, specialising in Project Management and Business Process reengineering.

He brings wide-ranging knowledge, professional experience and involvement in community groups as a non-executive director for multiple not-for-profits.

Qualifications: BSc, Master of Technology Management, GAICD.



**Michele Gallagher**  
Company Secretary

Michele has over 25 years of experience in Finance and Accounting roles, including over 10 years as a Company Secretary for companies limited by guarantee.

Michele holds a range of Company Secretary appointments in organisations that support First Nations People, rural and remote communities and vulnerable populations.

Michele has a Master of Business Administration (Finance), Master of Commerce (UQ), completed the Company Directors Course at the Australian Institute of Company Directors, a Fellow at Governance Institute of Australia, and a Fellow at CPA Australia.

# Thank You

Common Ground Queensland would like to thank and recognise the following individuals and organisations who have invested in our initiatives and outcomes throughout the year.

## Volunteers

Amanda Chuback  
Amelie Grimley  
Andy Currey  
Annie Clunn  
Ava Cirino  
Brendon Donohue  
Cathy Stephens  
Carter Mauro  
Corey Lum  
Dan Harradine  
David Hill  
Gracey Grant  
Ines d'Arces  
Janelle Blatchly-Read  
Jessica Whiteing  
Justin Hogg  
Kate Grimley  
Krystalynn Coombes  
Lachie Jamieson  
Liz Devine  
Mark Neave  
Mary Crombie  
Marilla Currey  
Nilima Harjal  
Olivia Mendonca  
Prudence Hunt  
Sofia Cirino  
Stacey Currey  
Will Treacy

## Donors

Andrew Kilgour  
Janette Moore  
Lasanthi Weerasekara  
E'Dayla Henrickson  
Brian Wallace  
Megan Andrew

Janette McLeod  
Anna Morrissey  
Neil Mannix  
Caitlin Dallas  
Russell O'Reilly  
Jenny Thomson  
Sharon Beattie  
Sharni Wright  
James Hoy  
Helen Jones  
Amanda Mundy  
Jordan Hohua  
Robert Stork  
Tiffany Szabo  
Sue Fergus  
Zeglar Fergus  
David Coster  
Kylie Jane  
Darren Cavanagh  
Kim Young  
Milaan Latten

## In-Kind Contributions

Deloitte  
HWL Ebsworth  
MacComms  
Power Hub  
Urbis  
Spyre Group

## Grants and Funding

Department of Housing, Local Government, Planning and Public Works  
Department of Women, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and Multiculturalism  
Lord Mayor's Charitable Trust  
Multicultural Queensland (Sub-Contract with Community)

# Funded By



**Queensland  
Government**

# Supported By

HWL  
EBSWORTH  
LAWYERS

**SPYRE**  
**Deloitte.**

**NOVOTEL**  
BRISBANE SOUTH BANK

MICAH PROJECTS   
Breaking Social Isolation  
Building Community

**Qpac**  
QUEENSLAND  
PERFORMING  
ARTS CENTRE

**URBIS**

THE  
**CALILE**  
HOTEL

 **community**

Supporting our community on all sides