



Kilkivan & District Community Care Assn Inc.

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ABN: 76 639 140 711

ACNC number: 76639140711; DGR endorsement from 28.7.2022

Advocating for & providing care services and facilities on behalf of aged & disabled people in Kilkivan & districts.

9.3.2023

Value statement by Kilkivan & District Community Care Association Inc

K&DCCAI, a volunteer-based, community organization, offers partners some exceptional, carefully-integrated attributes to underpin its ambitious Rise & Shine Ageing-in-place project:

- Key personnel work very well as a cohesive team and have very complimentary & apt skills and experience. We have a **committed, high-profile President** who has already undertaken 4 years' voluntary work on this project alone, supported by a passionate Treasurer and Secretary. (**President** has 25 years' experience of volunteering while living in the Kilkivan community, is a former high school English teacher, cares for a Level 4 aged care package holder, & runs a small accommodation business; **Acting Secretary** has a wide range of relevant skills, including in hospital administration; **Treasurer** has worked in both aged care and medical contexts in Bundaberg & Gin Gin, has a Certificate 111 in Aged & Community Care, and Community Services, and has established very positive connections with many local seniors. Both the President & Treasurer were born & bred in the local area, so know many locals. (They both spent decades working/living elsewhere!) These three roles are voluntary.
- In May 2022 we launched a **Kilkivan Care-Trilogy Care-Mable partnership** which is delivering better value in-home care support while also stimulating the local economy by providing local paid work.
- In mid-July, 2022 a **paid Coordinator** commenced –that role is to oversee the self-managed in-home care packages from Trilogy Care, which is supported by the Mable platform workers. We were very fortunate to have secured the services of an experienced, well-qualified Registered Nurse in this role, and her appointment led to an expansion of services and income in the last 8 months. She established the processes and procedures to ensure that our service offers professional, accountable local coordination of in-home care packages. For 5 weeks, an Assistant Coordinator shadowed her to learn from this excellent role model and has now assumed the Coordinator role.
- Due to a surge in demand, we have just appointed a **part-time administrator** to assist the management team and the Coordinator with what is a heavy workload.
- The **level of trust in our management team and organization generally is very high across the whole target area**. For example, the organization was proactive early in 2021 when

Covid vaccines became available and advocated with Sunshine Coast PHN to have pop-up vaccination clinics come to Kilkivan. The President then acted as the local facilitator to take bookings, schedule vaccines and keep the operation as efficient as possible. This was a role that had to be implemented by a trusted/recognisable local and was a successful venture because of the ability to leverage existing relationships to deliver a smooth operation. This inadvertently lifted our profile with the entire target area of our overall project: Woolooga, Goomeri & Tansey residents as well as Kilkivan locals were able to be vaccinated much earlier than otherwise would have been the case.

- **One younger member is also very involved in the ageing-in-place project:** she formats the monthly newsletter & developed/maintains the website (kilkivancare.com.au).
- We have a growing **membership base**.
- Our organisation has **excellent links with the local GP, Nurse Practitioner, Nurse Navigator and pharmacy** (President was involved in a PHN-facilitated review of the Kilkivan Health Centre operations and provided survey data that was otherwise unavailable to that process.) (We continue to advocate and liaise with all the health practitioners attending the Kilkivan Health Centre; most importantly, we ensure that timely, relevant information is made available to local patients through Facebook & notices at the Post Office & Pharmacy, as well as via our free monthly newsletter.)
- 20-minute **documentary *A Future in Kilkivan*** filmed Feb 2020 (link available on our website: kilkivancare.com.au)
- **Solid research** i) KDCCAI survey results verified & interpreted independently Nov 2020
ii) QUT qualitative research (47 interviews late 2020) on attachment to place
iii) graphs/tables re demographics, etc up to 2020
- **Verified community support:** from the very beginning of our campaign, we have had strong support: well-attended Feb 2020 community meeting, petition to GRC and documented in KDCCAI survey (question 16); President has been invited to be a guest speaker at relevant functions. Fund-raising initiatives organized by K&DCCAI are well-supported and a recent donation of \$30,000 from the Kilkivan Masonic Lodge was greatly appreciated.
- Broad **media coverage** throughout the almost 3 years of our project (Landline, House of Wellness (twice), many articles in South Burnett Today, Gympie Times, Gympie Today since early 2020 (sometimes “syndicated” to the CM & SSCD). Our May 2022 launch event has been viewed more than 80,000 times on the Trilogy Care Facebook page.
- **KilkiVAN – a 12-seater community bus** (no public transport exists in any of the target areas of Kilkivan-Goomeri-Woolooga-Tansey) (purchased - and acquitted - with a \$35,000 grant). Kilkivan Hotel has made regular donations to ensure the viability of the KilkiVAN so we reciprocate with some Friday night courtesy bus services. Daytime shopping, cultural, tourist & movie trips have proved popular.
- **Incorporated association (since March 2020)**
- **Public Liability Insurance - \$20 mill.**
- **Charity status from 1.1.2022**
- **DGR endorsement from 28.7.2022**
- **Logo – appears on the community bus, all stationery, office bearers’ clothing at official events, etc**
- **Website – Kilkivan Care**
- **Facebook page** (new page from Jan, 2022 to build a more accessible presence)
- **Free monthly newsletter *Kilkivan & District Kickstart* with paid advertising** since April 2021 – now has a hard copy print run of 350 x 6 (3 colour) sides plus online distribution

- **Well-connected seniors' cohort** ← twice-monthly Seniors' Social Hub (activities range from social to educational – we have sponsored/convened information sessions, Memory Lounge events, visits to movies, kindly, etc.)
- **Actively connected to the Goomeri Over 50s group** – our President has twice been invited to brief them on organizational initiatives. Woolooga also recently became more aware of & engaged in our community role.
- President spoke at a **UniSC, Gympie Campus symposium on Healthy Ageing & Community Care** in December 2022 – outlined the Rise & Shine Project.
- **Partnered with a Griffith Uni academic** to host two Memory Lounge events in association with The Qld State Archives & Griffith Uni students
- Facilitated activities which connected Griffith Uni students to individual seniors for a **Biography Project** (two seniors of 91 years & 89 years were interviewed remotely over 3 months by a student who then compiled their life story in hard copy form.)
- **Connected three seniors with 3 Griffith Uni students** who chatted by phone to them on a weekly basis for 2 months to ease social isolation in 2020 and enhance understandings of different locales
- President worked (via Zoom) with **4th year QUT Business School students in 2020** to explain our vision for ageing-in-place (*The Rise & Shine Project*) – 10 groups of students then produced (over 3 months) papers/reports on a particular aspect of the concept (one of these reports inspired the acquisition & naming of the community bus) while others remain ready to support our future endeavours).
- President was an invited member of the 2020-2021 **Gympie Regional Council Working Party into Ageing-in-place – Western Sector** (report recommendations were unanimously endorsed by Council in 2022)
- **Council support** for our organization – management lease on building on the main street of Kilkivan to house our Kilkivan; Council has made two offices available to us in their administration building at 26 Bligh Street, Kilkivan – this is where the coordinator of our in-home care project is based; verbal, public assurances from the current Mayor & Deputy Mayor that the **parcel of land** owned by Council in Kilkivan for the purpose of ageing-in-place will be available to this organization to realise the balance of the overall concept.
- **University of the Sunshine Coast** has successfully applied for a grant to fund a pilot study in Kilkivan in 2023 to investigate preventative strategies with dementia. UniSC is partnering with K&DCCAI as we help to facilitate that study.
- Our community-coordinated in-home care packages rely heavily on the Mable platform for support workers, so we were very pleased to support/facilitate a **training initiative sponsored by Mable** in mid-December 2022 – we are keen to have well-trained support workers assisting our precious seniors in their homes.

Rosie Fitzgerald, President, K&DCCAI