

CONNECTING WITH FAMILIES 'WHAT WORKS' TO ENRICH CHILDREN'S DEVELOPMENT AND LEARNING?

Presenters

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Drawing on experiences from major family and community engagement events in Central Queensland, this presentation demonstrates the value of partnering with families and other stakeholders to deliver key educational messages, to create awareness of particular educational issues and/or to support children's development and learning in an early childhood setting. The presentation highlights 'what works' in running community events, engaging with community and partnering with families to build positive views of early education, to promote specific educational messages and to enrich children's development and learning. It provides suggestions for connecting with families in the most vulnerable circumstances. The presentation concludes with 'tried and true' strategies for successful community events and for partnering with families within an early childhood setting.

Relationships



Our service



Long Engagement







Welcomes



Connections





Sharing Learning





Families have Opportunities to Play like we do.

- Sharing Pedagogical Documentation.
- Building Relationship.
- Building Understanding.



Children's Festival



Parent organized.

Making cultural connections.

Building Relationships.

Positioning ourselves alongside.

New opportunities.





Extending Network Opportunities.



Thinking
Like an Artist.





“The time taken, is the time needed.”

ALIGNING THE EVENT (Romp in the Park) TO COMMUNITIES FOR CHILDREN OBJECTIVES & Course Outcomes – Leadership & Advocacy

Priorities that this Project contributes to (Community Strategic Plan 2015-2019)

- **Priority 2: Parents and Carers are better able to support their child's development**
- **Priority 1: Children and their families lead healthier lifestyles**
- **Priority 5: Community Connectedness**

Project specific Outcome/s:

- Families have increased awareness and access to available community support services that enhance early years child development.
- Children and their families have increased access to quality, child friendly, positive, stimulating experiences
- Community organisations have increased effective partnerships.



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THE PROCESS

Outcomes – Aligned to the Process

Families have increased awareness and access to available community support services that enhance early years child development.

Children and their families have increased access to quality, child friendly, positive, stimulating experiences

Community organisations have increased effective partnerships.

- Grant Application - Contract with The Smith Family – CQU Community Partner
- 12 Early Childhood Students completing final year subject “Advocacy & Leadership in Early Childhood” & Third Year The Arts Students (focus on performance)
- Memorandum of Understanding – (formal and less formal)
- Steering Committee – Early Childhood Practitioner Reps, Councillor, Early Childhood Education and Care: Department of Education and Training, Community, People from the Arts, Library, Musicians, Author, Smith Family
- Business – Stanwell Corporation , Lane 4 Acquatics, KindySport
- Artists – Capricornia Printmakers Inc, Arts Central Queensland

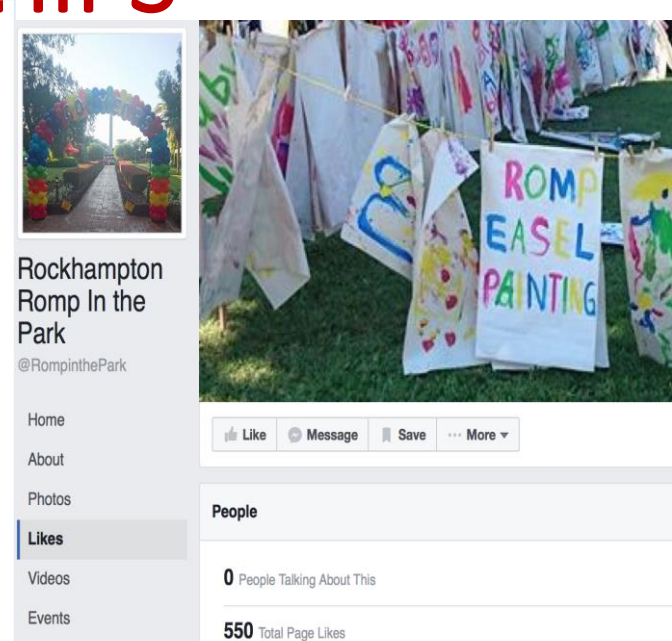


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COMMUNICATING – MOBILIZING NETWORKS AND DEVELOPING NEW PARTNERSHIPS

- Social Media
- Steering Committee
- Students – Friends in the Media, Work Places
- Links to MOU's – ABC, Rockhampton Regional Council.
- The unexpected



The Welcome Tent group with the prizes on offer for surveys



Shantelle – interactive box maize



Music Performances



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REPRESENTATION FROM 96 DIFFERENT GROUPS COMMITTED TO WORKING FOR AND WITH CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Expected Attendance is up to 5000 children, parents, teachers and educators

539 people liking and following Facebook page Rockhampton Romp In the Park

Collection of 350 email addresses for prize draw and survey contact



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- ✓ Families have increased awareness and access to available community support services that enhance early years child development.
- ✓ Children and their families have increased access to quality, child friendly, positive, stimulating experiences
- ✓ Community organisations have increased effective partnerships.

EARLY LEARNING, EVERYONE DOES BENEFIT!!



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Strategies for successful community events and for partnering with families within an early childhood setting



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