



April 2024

Banana Shire Support Centre

(Banana Shire Emergency Accommodation and Support Centre)

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What's happening?

- Quarterly Board Meeting — Wednesday 1 May 2024
- OzHarvest— Thursday and Friday from 1:30pm

In this issue—

- Housing shortages
- Additional funding
- NILs
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- Board and Staff profiles

Housing shortages

If you are a reader or watcher of news, you will be aware that hardly a day goes by without a news report related to the housing issues we are experiencing in Queensland and Australia. Properties to buy or rent are few and far between. These housing issues are certainly being experienced in our local area. If you check our local real estate agents for available rental and 'for sale' properties, you will see the limited number of properties available.

Banana Shire Council and Banana Shire Support Centre are currently working together on a Housing Needs Assessment. Consultants *Urban Economics* have been engaged and will provide their report at the end of June. This report will provide valuable information about the housing needs in our community and will assist council and service providers such as BSSC as we move forward.

PLEASE SEE THE ATTACHED FLYER ABOUT THE LOCAL HOUSING SURVEY—WE WOULD VALUE YOUR INPUT

Additional Funding

BSSC has received additional funds under the *Homes for Queenslanders* housing plan. These funds were delivered in line with our current Homelessness Services Service Agreement. ..

'The Queensland Government has announced an additional \$390 million to help end homelessness as part of a landmark Homes for Queenslanders housing plan. The first pillar of the housing plan includes a 20 per cent increase for the 17 months to funded Specialist Homelessness Services organisations to meet service demand for Queenslanders experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness.'

(included in correspondence to BSSC received from Housing and Homelessness Services Central Queensland North Coast Region, March 2024)



There is nothing more important than a good, safe, secure home.

Rosalynn Carter
(Brainyquote.com)

Our Website ...

bssc.org.au



No Interest Loans (NILs)

No Interest Loans (NILs) are a safe and affordable way to pay for essentials (loans up to \$2,000) and for items like bond and rent in advance and if you've been affected by a natural disaster (loans up to \$3,000). Loans not available for cash. Good Shepherd administers No Interest Loans in partnership with not-for-profit community organisations across Australia.

(quoted directly from - <https://goodshep.org.au/nils-provider-finder/>)

BSSC is a NILs provider

If you know of someone who could benefit from a no interest loan, have a look at the information provided at -

goodshep.org.au/services/nils/ OR email our office biloelanils@bssc.org.au OR visit or phone our friendly BSSC office staff



BSSC is a not-for-profit incorporated organisation. We have a Board and we have Staff...so what's the difference between the two?

'What the board does is known as **governance**; what the staff does is **management**. The functions are separate and different but they should operate as a partnership.'

(Quoted from—www.communitydirectors.com.au/help-sheets/board-and-staff-relationships; bolding added)



Board Member Profile

MARION MEISSNER, *President*

Marion has been President for the past 8 years. Prior to that she had been involved in BSSC as an Association Member and then as Secretary and Treasurer for over 12 years. Marion has lived in Biloela for 58 years, having married Ron Meissner in 1968. As a retired high school teacher, Marion has a deep interest in social justice and community involvement and is active in the Anglican Parish of Callide Valley and the Community Resource Centre Support Group. As the Meissner family came to Biloela in 1924, she is currently involved in the Biloela Centenary Celebration planning.



Thankyou



The staff from Moore put together a collection of ladies items and some cash in support of International Woman's Day for BSSC staff to distribute.

Staff Member Profile

MARK WARNICK, *Manager*

Mark has been living in Biloela for 25 years. He commenced work with Banana Shire Support Centre in October 2010, after working for 26 years with SunWater, working around Queensland.

Mark enjoys golfing and easy hiking walks. He is Secretary of Biloela Golf Club—a role he has been volunteering in for about 9 years. He plans on remaining in Biloela long-term.

And what does Mark enjoy about working for BSSC? He says, 'Problem-solving for the variety of people and situations that come through our doors, and working with other likeminded people.'

Who contacts BSSC?

Why do people contact our service?

Do we provide the services expected?

Our Staff recently kept records of contacts during the month of March. This info has been collated and will be discussed at our Board Meeting in May. We look forward to sharing some of this information with you in the future.

