



April 2023

Banana Shire Support Centre

(Banana Shire Emergency Accommodation and Support Centre)

Shop 2B/58 Kariboe St

PO Box 794

BILOELA 4715

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What's happening?

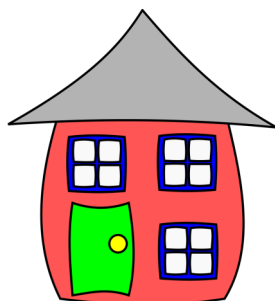
- Quarterly Board Meeting —
Wednesday 3 May 2023
- OzHarvest—
Thursday and Friday
1:30pm—3pm

In this issue—

- BSSC Objectives and Services
- Additional funding
- Donations

Home is where
one starts from.

T.S.Eliot



Our Website ...

[https://
bseasc.weebly.com/](https://bseasc.weebly.com/)

BSSC Objectives...and how we are achieving them

The Banana Shire Support Centre is committed to the supplying of help, aid, education, relief or support to any persons in distress. We aim to facilitate clients' capacity to manage their independence through the provision of social housing, information appropriate to client needs, individual and family support, practical resources, and intervention and prevention services. *How do we do this?*

Homelessness Services

BSSC receives funding from the Qld Government to support homeless individuals and families and those at risk of homelessness. This is provided under three distinct programs -

Specialist Homelessness services - This program aims to reduce the number of people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless in Queensland by assisting them to obtain housing, maintain their housing, maximise their capacity to be independent, self-reliant, and connected to appropriate social and community supports.

Immediate Supported Accommodation (CAP) - Provision of temporary short term supported accommodation to people who are homeless. Supported accommodation is provided with the aim of assisting people to transition to safe, secure, and sustainable housing.

Immediate Homelessness Response Fund - Emergency funding to assist with the housing crisis. The purpose of this funding is to assist families who are experiencing or are at risk of homelessness, to access temporary accommodation and transition to long term accommodation.

NILS

BSSC is the local provider of No Interest Loans (NILS) for essential items. NILS provides individuals and families on low incomes with access to safe, fair and affordable credit. Loans of up to \$2,000 are available for essential goods and services such as fridges, washing machines, car repairs and medical procedures. Repayments are set at an affordable amount over 12 to 24 months. Website—nils.com.au or enquire at biloelanils@gmail.com.

BSSC-owned Affordable Accommodation

BSSC purchased an investment property in Biloela in 2015 to maximise return on accumulated funds and to provide a financial stream to purchase future properties for affordable housing to accommodate low-income individuals and families. A government grant had been
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received to build low-cost housing under the Nation Building project, with initial funds distributed for planning of this project. While the project was unable to be completed, planning funds were able to be retained and these were used as a partial deposit for a loan to purchase a triplex—3 units.

Timeline - Affordable Accommodation Property

Date	Information
1998-2004	Loss of 24 accommodation units suitable for those on low incomes, due to local development projects
2009	Submission successful for Nation Building funding—\$4,025,011 for 10 x one bedroom townhouses and 10 x two bedroom townhouses
2010	Capital assistance agreement signed / Lease agreement signed
2010-2012	Development application process commenced, notices of appeal, court sittings
2012	Dept of Housing terminates agreement
2012	Return of unspent funds to government
2015	Purchase of property by BSSC

The property has been rented on the open market until BSSC was in a financial position to rent the units as affordable accommodation (tenants pay 80% of market rental). Further information regarding this property (history, current financial position etc) is reported on at the AGM.



The storage container that BSSC purchased last year to store furniture, linen and other items is being put to good use. Many of these items have been donated by community members. Items are distributed to clients when needed. Thanks to the Callide Valley Show Society for allowing us to store this container at the showgrounds. The close proximity of this container to our office is allowing our staff to access goods easily and quickly when they are required.

BSSC Immediate Supported Accommodation

Our clients are assisted through the following housing options -

- 1 X 6 room 5-bathroom shared accommodation complex
- 4 x standard 3-bedroom houses

We recently received donations from -

- **Dundee Retirement Units** (Wowan)
- **ZONTA – Biloela**

Both of these organisations have concluded operations. We are very grateful for their support of BSSC .

Thankyou

BSSC has received some additional funding from the Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy, for **Emergency Financial relief.**

This funding is a contribution towards the delivery of emergency relief and food security and is to assist vulnerable Queenslanders experiencing immediate financial hardship.

