

Rockhampton Youth Pathways Project

Purpose & Benefits Paper

Project Outline

The Rockhampton Youth Pathways Project involves researching and sharing widely services and activities available to young people in Rockhampton. The goal is to inform people of options / choices / pathways / potential referrals. This information, shown graphically, will be co-designed by creative people working in this space. The outcome will be distributed among service providers, policy makers and funders.

Project Purpose

To give young people and the people who live and work with them a clear picture of programs and services available to young people in the community of Rockhampton – addressing individual development, engagement, aspirational opportunities and interventions. Services and activities will be clustered by need into ‘service pathways’ with links to detailed online information; as a static PDF and limited-run hard copy wallcharts.

The long-term purpose (beyond this project) is to have comprehensive, real-time up-to-date pathways available online and in an app for young people, supports and service providers.

Anticipated Project Benefits

Given the amount of activity in support of youth in Rockhampton, it will be difficult to pin specific improvements to this initiative.

This project should contribute to:

- Informing young people and their families and friends about services and activities in our community.
- Informing people seeking to divert young people away from the criminal justice system.
- Providing supported pathways for personal development to 25 years of age.
- Case managers and referral officers being able to find potential referral partners.
- Encouraging more (and more appropriate) referrals.
- Service providers’ programs and services being accessed by a wider audience.
- Demonstrating the value of a comprehensive pathways map, to encourage investment in a responsive, dynamic, online service map in the future.

The data collected will also assist in identifying service overlaps and gaps for future policy planning.

Next Steps

- Partner with data holders, including service providers.
- Begin capturing the required data.
- Bring together a small group of co-designers.

Example

A Youth Justice Case Worker is working with a 14 year old. He has committed some minor crimes and is not attending school. The worker sees that he does not have social connections, and wants to see him doing something to fill his time and give him purpose.

The YJ Worker checks the wallchart and sees that Darumbal Community Youth Service provides social support; that the teenager meets the age-criteria for the local Edmund Rice school. They also see that a local cricket club welcomes troubled youth.

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Project Partners

Funding Partner: Rockhampton Community Based Crime Action Committee
Auspicing Partner: Rockhampton Rotary
Systems & Data Partners: My Community Directory & CQ Youth Connect (CQHHS)