

# Grand Matters

TIME FOR GRANDPARENTS



In recognition of the importance of supporting families where Grandparents are raising grandchildren (full-time), Time for Grandparents partners with the Queensland Government Department of Seniors, Disability Services and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships.

Grandparents who are the primary carers of grandchildren and who are not receiving the fostering allowance and not approved relative/ kinship carers with the Department of Child Safety are eligible for the program.

Time for Grandparents is designed to provide financial support so these families can access fun and interesting activities and grandparents can gain the opportunity to have some well-earned respite. Grandfamily camps are also available.

For all enquiries please contact Time for Grandparents on 1300 135 500 from Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm. All enquiries are welcome and confidential. If grandparents are unsure about eligibility, they are encouraged to contact the Time for Grandparents Program.



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## YOUR NEWSLETTER

We would like to ensure that Grand Matters is discussing topics that are important to you. If there are specific topics or themes that you would like included in your newsletter, please contact **Time for Grandparents** on 1300 135 500, and will we endeavour to address them in future issues.

## Time for Grandparents Program

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Chermside Central QLD 4032  
T 1300 135 500  
E [grandparentsinfo@uccommunity.org.au](mailto:grandparentsinfo@uccommunity.org.au)  
W [www.grandparentsqld.com.au](http://www.grandparentsqld.com.au)

Disclaimer: The materials and information included in this edition of Grandmatters newsletter are provided as a service to you and do not necessarily reflect endorsement by the Time for Grandparents Program. The Time for Grandparents Program is not responsible for the accuracy of information provided from outside sources. Groups and workshops detailed in this flyer are for your information and are not coordinated by or connected to Seniors Enquiry Line or the Time for Grandparents Program in any way unless specified.

## DO YOU KNOW ALL THE WAYS THAT YOU CAN RECEIVE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE TIME FOR GRANDPARENTS PROGRAM?

The Time for Grandparents Program may be able to offer financial assistance to eligible Grandfamilies with:

**Sports and recreational activities for grandchildren** such as dance, Guides, Scouts, football, soccer, netball and more. Ideas for activities can be found on our [Time for Grandparents website](#).

### School camps

**Grandparent's recreational and leisure activities.** This funding can give grandparents the opportunity to pursue activities that they are interested in, while taking some time out from their caring role.

**School holiday care** to help grandparent carers juggle the demands of caring during the school holidays. **To discuss your request for this funding assistance please contact Time for Grandparents on 1300 135 500 with the following information. *Funding limits do apply.***

- 1) Name of the activity provider or club
- 2) Contact person's name and phone number / email
- 3) Sign-on date, or activity start and finish date
- 4) Cost of the activity.

## REIMBURSEMENTS CANNOT BE PROVIDED TO GRANDPARENTS

**Time for Grandparents cannot provide reimbursements to grandparents** as Our Service Agreement and the associated Brokerage Guidelines from the Queensland Government stipulates that **we have to pay activity providers directly.**

*If your grandchild participates in a sport that requires an online registration and payment, please speak to your Club to request alternative booking and payment options so that Time for Grandparents can support you with funding.*

*Please contact us on 1300 135 500 if you require further assistance with this.*



## INVITATIONS TO GRANDFAMILY CAMPS

Please be aware to **check your inbox for emails from Time for Grandparents offering the opportunity to express interest in attending one of our Grandfamily Camps.** Our email addresses are [grandparentsinfo@ucommunity.org.au](mailto:grandparentsinfo@ucommunity.org.au) and [tfg.camps@ucommunity.org.au](mailto:tfg.camps@ucommunity.org.au). Remember to also check your junk/spam mail.

If you do not have an email address, Time for Grandparents will still contact you by telephone.

*Please bear in mind that expressing interest in attending a camp does not guarantee a place.* TFG need to balance a range of considerations when choosing Grandfamilies to participate.

## GRANDPARENTS DAY!

In Queensland, Grandparents Day is celebrated every year on the last Sunday in October. In 2024, it will be Sunday 27 October. This day is a chance for grandchildren, children and the community to thank grandparents for their love and support.

Grandparents Day is extra special for all of our grandparents on the Time for Grandparents Program who provide a safe and loving home for their grandchildren.

### How will you celebrate Grandparents Day?

- read a book, play a game or enjoying a craft project together
- cook or share a favourite meal
- have a yarn together
- talk about your family history
- plan a family picnic or BBQ in the park
- play a game from your childhood
- plant a family garden bed.



Grandparents Day is celebrated during Queensland Seniors Month. For more information about Queensland Seniors Month, visit [Queensland Seniors Month](#).

## HAVE YOU BEEN A VICTIM OF NON-VIOLENT PROPERTY CRIME?

Being impacted by a non-violent property crime such as a burglary whilst not at home at the time of the incident, or a motor vehicle theft, can be very challenging for the entire household. ConnectCare can support you through that time by providing you with initial support, linking you in with a local service to best fit your needs or offering counselling services.

**ConnectCare**, operated by UnitingCare, will operate from Townsville but is **available to victims of property crime without violence living in all areas of Queensland.**

More information can be found on the [ConnectCare website](#) or by calling **1800 574 066.**

## TAKE AN EXCITING JOURNEY INTO THREE FIRST NATIONS COMMUNITIES

**Indigenous Literacy Day** is a celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples' Stories, Cultures, and Languages. It is held on the first Wednesday of September - this year **Wednesday 4 September.**

This year, the theme is **'Be a Proud Voice for Country'** and the Indigenous Literacy Foundation will be celebrating online with Dreaming stories from the riverbank in Cunnamulla; joining teenagers as they explore culture through poetry and art in Vincentia; and hearing incredible stories and songs from children and Elders on the Tiwi Islands.

Do you know what a Moondagutta is? Ever heard of Booglies? You can join the celebration and watch the film and livestream happening on the day, or watch it on-demand afterwards.

There will also be **three beautiful books available to purchase** after the event:

*ngayawanj bagan-nggul, ngayawanj barra barra-nggul - We belong to the land, We belong to the sea*

*bagan, barra barra, mirriwarr - The Boys Who Found Their Way*

*Yaltji Ngayuku Papa? - Where's My Dog?*

For more information, visit the [Indigenous Literacy Foundation website](#).

## DO YOU HAVE A GRANDCHILD WITH A DISABILITY IN YEARS 9 – 12 AT HIGH SCHOOL?

Carers Queensland is working with parents and carers of young people with disability attending Years 9 to 12 at high school to identify positive pathways as these students transition from school to adult life.

Carers Queensland **Hot Topic sessions** are **one-hour online/virtual sessions exploring specific topics of interest to parents and carers as they navigate the transition path from school to adult life.**

- Hear from guest presenters who are subject matter experts.
- Explore key challenges that young people face and understand how you can support your young person.
- Connect and learn from other families and carers.

Upcoming Hot Topic sessions include topics surrounding disclosing disability when exploring employment, self-advocacy with mental health services, tenancy skills and customised employment.

Carers Queensland also offers **Family Connect Forums, which are half-day face-to-face events that bring together parents and carers** to help you:

- connect and learn from other families and carers
- engage in a welcoming space to discuss the experiences of your young person's transition to date
- increase your knowledge about successful transitions from school to adult life

- feel empowered to set and achieve transition-related goals with your young person.

For more information visit the [Carers Queensland School to Adult Life Transition website](#) or call **1300 999 636**.



## FAIRPLAY VOUCHERS TO HELP WITH THE COST OF GRANDCHILDRENS' SPORTS

Aside from financial support from Time for Grandparents, eligible grandparent carers can also apply through the Queensland Government for a voucher valued up to \$200 for their grandchild, which can be used towards sport and active recreation membership, registration or participation fees with registered activity providers. There is a limit of one voucher per child per calendar year.

For more information visit the [FairPlay Voucher website](#) or call 13 74 68.

## SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

### The **Time for Grandparents**

Program may be able to help with ideas to keep your grandchildren engaged over the school holidays.

The Queensland Government has a wealth of information and ideas for the school holidays at their [School Holiday Activities website](#).

Your local library will offer free activities for children of all ages.

PCYC - [Police Citizens Youth Club Qld have vacation care](#) programs at various locations in Queensland.

[YMCA provide vacation care](#) at various locations in Queensland.

[Scripture Union Camps Qld](#) run close to 100 camps across Queensland for primary and high school students.

[Queensland Government School Holiday Program](#) hosts daily activities throughout the Queensland school holidays including high ropes, surfing, rock climbing and canoeing on the Gold and Sunshine Coasts.

[PGL Holiday Camps and Day Camps](#) are the perfect way for your 8-14 year old to have fun, make new friends and learn new skills during their school holidays!

[Outdoors Queensland](#) has a directory of organisations that run tours and camps.

**Time for Grandparents can offer eligible grandparent carers financial assistance with the costs of holiday care. Please call Time for Grandparents on 1300 135 500 to discuss further. *Funding limits apply.***



# Grandparent Useful Contacts

Time for Grandparents		1300 135 500	
13 Yarn	13 92 76	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Service (Qld)	1800 012 255
ADIS Alcohol and Drug Support	1800 177 833	ARAFMI	1300 554 660
		Autism Connect	1300 308 699
Beyond Blue	1300 224 636	Blue Knot	1300 657 380
Bravehearts	1800 272 831	Brother to Brother – Crisis Line for Aboriginal Men	1800 435 799
Carer Gateway	1800 422 737	Carers Qld	1300 747 363
Centrelink Grandparent Advisor	1800 245 965	Centrelink Social Workers	132 850
Child Health Phone Support	13 43 25 84	ConnectCare	1800 574 066
Disability Gateway	1800 643 787	DV & Sexual Assault National Helpline	1800 737 732
DVConnect Womensline	1800 811 811	Elder Abuse Prevention Unit	1300 651 192
Family Drug Support	1300 386 186	Family Relationship Advice Line	1800 050 321
Financial First Aid	1800 007 007	Headspace	1800 650 890
Kids Helpline	1800 551 800	Legal Aid Advice Line	1300 651 188
Lifeline Crisis Line	13 11 14	MensLine Australia	1800 737 732
Mob Strong Debt Help	1800 808 488	My Aged Care	1800 200 422
NDIS – National Disability Insurance Scheme	1800 800 110	NILS – No Interest Loan Scheme	136 457
Parentline	1300 301 300	Qlife – LGBTIQ+ peer support & referral	<b>1800 184 527</b>
Relationships Australia	1300 364 277	Salvation Army	3001 6288
Seniors Enquiry Line	1300 135 500	St Vincent de Paul	1800 846 643
Suicide Call Back Service	1300 659 467		

# Grandparent Support Groups in QLD

*In an effort to keep information current, if you find any of these details to be incorrect or if you know of any additional support groups that are not listed, please phone us on **1300 135 500** or email us at:*

[grandparentsinfo@ucommunity.org.au](mailto:grandparentsinfo@ucommunity.org.au)

## Statewide

### **Queensland - Time for Grandparents Online Information Sessions with Guest Speakers**

Phone: Time for Grandparents on 1300 135 500

Email:

[grandparentsinfo@ucommunity.org.au](mailto:grandparentsinfo@ucommunity.org.au)

Meet with fellow grandparent carers for coffee, conversation and information sessions with guest speakers. Pour a coffee or tea and participate from the comfort of your own home. Coming soon.

## Brisbane and West Moreton

### **Caboolture - Time for Grandparents Social Support Group**

Phone: Time for Grandparents on 1300 135 500

Email:

[grandparentsinfo@ucommunity.org.au](mailto:grandparentsinfo@ucommunity.org.au)

A social support group created to bring together eligible grandparent carers who are the full time carers of their grandchildren in order to share lived experience and practical advice about their caring role, as well as receiving information, encouragement, peer support and connection.

Held monthly on a Wednesday

morning from 10am - 12 midday.

Cake, tea and coffee will be provided.

However, you could shout yourself something nice from the local cafe too.

### **Caboolture - Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Chat Group**

Phone: 5495 3818

This group has been created as a safe place to meet, socialise with others and allow people to share experiences, feelings, coping strategies and solutions with each other. This group will also provide an opportunity for participants to learn new skills in their areas of interest, such as crafts, story writing or herb gardens.

### **Hendra - Grandparents Playgroup**

Phone: Susanna 0404 176 726

Ages 0-5 years. \$5 per session.

Monday 9.30am. Come along to our Grandparents Playgroup. Playgroup is a wonderful way for you to socialise with other Grandparents and for your Grandchildren to enjoy spending time with other children.



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Susanna is the first point of contact but if you do not get a response please call Barbara: 0420 617 274.

## Central QLD & Wide Bay

### **Urangan - Grandparents Support Group**

Phone: Anglicare 1300 114 397

Come join us for a cuppa and a chat. We can discuss issues you may be having with your grandkids. Some topics we cover are safe internet use, behavioural issues, diet, and any suggestions and concerns welcome.

## Sunshine Coast

### **Buderim – Sunshine Coast Intergenerational Playgroup**

Phone: (07) 5453 4938

Email: [schub@playmatters.org.au](mailto:schub@playmatters.org.au)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/playmatterssc>

Website: <https://playmatters.org.au/>

Playgroup for Grandparents, Carers, Mums and Dads with children under school age, birth to 5 years. Playgroup meets each Wednesday 9.30am to 11.30am during school terms. Come along for a fun, friendly, relaxed morning together.

Our venue, Play Matters Sunshine Coast Hub is set on 1 acre of gorgeous, magical grounds.

It is safely fenced with plenty of car parking and easy access. Children engage in a range of play experiences. It is a perfect environment to make new friends, play, and become part of a community. Tea and coffee are available but please bring your own snacks. We look forward to making you welcome!

### **Caloundra - GAP Peer Support Program**

Phone: (07) 5491 4000

The GAP peer support program encourages grandparents who are the primary carer of their grandchildren to meet regularly for peer support activities including guest speakers, coffee catch ups, monthly BBQs and school holiday activities for the grandparent families. All activities are attended and supported by a Family Worker.