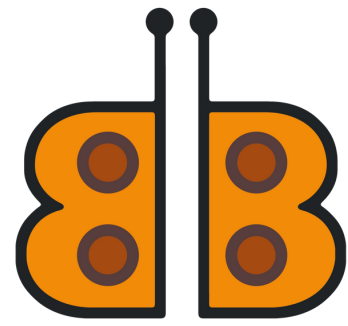




Supporting our community on all sides



Bindi Bindi Place

A Community Initiative

**Our vision for a purpose-built
centre to protect and nurture
vulnerable children**



bindibindiplace.com.au

Child safety is everyone's business.

Right now, more than 170,000 children are in contact with the child protection system in Australia and, for 68% of those children, this is not their first contact.¹

Even more alarmingly, in 2020-21 the Child Death Review Board considered the deaths of 55 children.²

With reports of child abuse up by 7.3% in the past 12 months, government bodies are struggling to cope, while the number of foster carers in Queensland is steadily decreasing. Specifically, **children under 6 years of age are most at risk** of suffering child abuse.²

This is why we need a new model of child protection, to break the cycles of abuse and heal intergenerational trauma.

This is why we need Bindi Bindi Place.

1. Australian Institute of Health and Wellbeing Child Protection 2018-19

2. Australian Institute of Family Studies Child Abuse and Neglect Statistics 2017

What is Bindi Bindi Place?

Based on the Abecedarian model used in the US and Australia, Bindi Bindi Place will be a **purpose-built, multidisciplinary specialist care centre supporting children under 6 years of age that operates up to seven days a week.**

Integral to Bindi Bindi Place will be an attachment-focused, trauma-informed, primary-care model, with every child allocated a key specialist who is that child's primary carer.

The model emphasises early intervention and prevention rather than treatment.

Involvement by parents will be highly encouraged, to work with staff to develop their parenting and caregiving skills.

In consultation with our Indigenous elders, the name Bindi Bindi was chosen for its reference in the local Indigenous language to 'butterfly'. This represents how the centre will help children and their families transform, break free of past behaviours, and evolve to new beginnings.

The Abecedarian Model

Evidence demonstrates that children participating in Abecedarian enriched learning programs have experienced positive, long-term life impacts.

Participant outcomes in the North Carolina Abecedarian Project included:

- a greater proportion in higher education and in skilled jobs
- much lower rates of teenage pregnancy
- reduced criminal activity³

The Child Protection Society in Victoria ran a 10-year controlled trial of the Early Years Education Program (EYEP) targeted towards children who were at increased risk of family stress, abuse and neglect. Early results indicate that children had:

- an increase in IQ
- improved language development
- improved resilience
- better social and emotional development⁴



Creating brighter futures in our community

The first Bindi Bindi Place will be in Brisbane's northside, where Community has identified the most urgent need.

Community is already delivering a range of important services to this community. In operating Bindi Bindi Place, Community will collaborate with local agencies and specialist services to ensure that children's educational, behavioural, developmental and health needs are supported.

The team will also connect families to external organisations to address challenges relating to domestic violence, lifestyle, addiction, income, housing and physical or mental health issues.

3. Loraine Fordham, PhD, Qualitative Study of the Early Years Education Program (EYEP:Q), Charles Sturt University & Children's Protection Society April 2015

4. Jordan, B., Tseng, Y., Coombs, N. et al. Improving lifetime trajectories for vulnerable young children and families living with significant stress and social disadvantage: the early years education program randomised controlled trial. BMC Public Health 14, 965 (2014). <https://doi.org/10.1186/1471-2458-14-965>

We need your help to make this vision a reality.

Communify has set a **\$3 million fundraising goal** to secure land in North Brisbane and build a highly bespoke, purpose-built centre.

For Bindi Bindi Place to be effective, the design is an integral part of the therapy for the children and their families.

There are three ways you can support this project:



Donate much-needed funds – corporate donations, philanthropic donations from family trusts

Provide in-kind support through construction services, building supplies or materials



Support us by donating or **assisting with the purchase of land.**

Return on Investment

In 2017, research on the economic impact of the Abecedarian project in the US showed that high-quality birth-to-five programs for disadvantaged children can deliver a **13% per year return on investment.**

This is a substantially higher rate than the 7 – 10% return previously established for preschool programs serving 3- to 4-year-olds.



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