

Having trouble reading this email? [View it in your browser](#)

# A United Way Forward

For the common good

[VISIT WEBSITE](#)

[SEND TO A FRIEND](#)

[CONTACT US](#)

## CONTENTS:

- [From the General manager](#)
- [Local Eyes Photography Competition](#)
- [Corporate Giving](#)
- [Corporate Connect](#)
- [United Way 2010 Snapshot](#)



---

## United Way Welcomes General Manager Michael McDade



Toni Brearley was farewelled by United Way at the end of her contract period and returned to work in the area of mental health. Thank you to Toni for her significant contribution during her time at United Way. Michael Mc Dade joined the team as General Manager bringing his wealth of knowledge and experience in the not for profit sector. Read Michael's introduction and vision for United Way in Queensland.....

Friends, well firstly I would like to say welcome to 2011 - what a beginning it was! The floods certainly have interrupted our normal activities with our offices being flooded. We have come a long way with the renovations. The floors in our office space are being repaired and new floor coverings put in place as we speak and we hope to get new furniture by the end of the week. All we need now is a photocopier and we will be back to normal at long last.

A special thankyou must go to the generosity of all our supporters who have helped us out during this time.

I would like to think that our issues are the worst outcomes of Queensland's extreme weather, however sadly this is not the case. So many individuals, community and corporate partners have suffered both directly and indirectly. An example is a community partner that had to cancel camps for 65 disadvantaged children simply because they couldn't access campsites. Similarly, support agencies are experiencing a huge surge in demand yet are struggling to find and fund the resources they need to meet this demand; their staff working even longer, difficult hours.

So I start with United Way during very interesting times. The world is already very different to what it was before Christmas and United Way Queensland (UWQ) is also not exempt from change as this year we complete a merger with United Way Australia. As you know UWQ is a small, independent operation and as such we must be "jacks of all trades." However the reality is that the not-for-profit world is becoming far more specialised and if we are to grow then we must access these specialist skills. Merging into United Way Australia enables us to take a targeted community impact approach and provides us with the security that a larger entity offers.

Nevertheless, there are sensitivities that need to be acknowledged. There is a degree of sadness in this change and perhaps this is because of Queenslanders having a strong, historical sense of identity which is a real asset that we should not lose. Hence, the benefits of merging must also enhance the engagement of local differences, knowledge and empowerment - ensuring this is a responsibility of my position.

In closing it is probably important to also present a précis of myself. I have worked within the not-for-profit sector for 14 years in a variety of management roles and prior to this I was within the manufacturing sector. Currently I am completing my Masters of Philanthropy and Not for Profit studies at QUT and indeed this role is my first that specifically engages me in the business of giving. I feel committed and inspired in this sector and working for United Way enables me to explore a particular interest: corporate philanthropy as a vehicle for staff and organisational development.

I certainly look forward to the next twelve months as a year of transition, growth and goodwill for us all.

*Yours sincerely*

*Michael McDade*

*General Manager UWQ*



Our Brisbane through a different lens.



Local Eyes community photographic competition and exhibition was a unique experience launched by UWQ in September 2010. It gave young people an opportunity to explore the world of photography and capture a very personal view of their lives and their city.

As David Lloyd, Deputy Director Griffith University Queensland College of Art and sponsor of Local Eyes explained "It is through the sharing of stories that the community is formed. The UWQ Local Eyes exhibition offered a voice to those yet to be heard." Eighteen young storytellers from UWQ community partners took up the camera and allowed others a glimpse into their lives. The images reflected the diverse lives of the photographers; a young mum caring for a toddler with complex disabilities and health issues; a young woman managing the daily routines of living with cystic fibrosis; a young man living independently while staying engaged at school and completing his education; homeless young people or those needing support in their lives were among those who shared their unique images.

The photographers were nominated by UWQ's Brisbane based Community groups and supported by mentors from corporate Brisbane and Bachelor of Photography students at Griffith University. All mentors gave their time freely to guide and tutor the participants. The categories chosen for the brief were 'Self Portrait', 'What Makes My Day' and 'A Day in My Life'. Works were submitted for adjudication by a professional panel that included Garry Gray - Fuji Xerox Australia, Peter Denham - Museum of Brisbane, Karin Brinkley - Brisbane Institute, Peter Cunningham - Redsuit Advertising and Maurice Ortega - Qld College of Art.

Encouragement Awards were presented by Peter Cunningham in the following categories, Judges Awards for Excellence to:

- Jane Board for Self Portrait
- Hayden Molloy for What makes my day
- Tameah Woodford for A day in my Life

Highly Commended Awards were presented to:

- Ryan Czernia, Christie Chandler and Alicia Hully for Self Portrait
- Christie Chandler, Ryan Czernia and Jane Board for What makes my day
- Jane Board, Ryan Czernia and Hayden Molloy for A day in my life

Often those who face challenges are the subject of photography - rarely do we have the opportunity to see their unique points of view. "By allowing us into their lives, the participants have portrayed a side of Brisbane most of us have never experienced." said Toni Brearley, CEO of United Way Queensland.

Brisbane Powerhouse hosted an official opening and exhibition that ran over two weeks giving the Brisbane public the opportunity to share these extraordinary images.

*Thank you to our sponsors*



## Corporate giving brings smiles at Christmas

The generosity of our corporate partners Colliers International, Fuji Xerox Australia, Fujitsu and KPMG brought smiles to over 600 children and young people who would otherwise have experienced a very lean Christmas. Staff from these organisations opened their hearts and carefully selected and donated beautiful presents for individual children. Over 30 companies contributed to Colliers International Christmas trees placed in city office buildings giving 500 gifts to the Pyjama Foundation. Fuji Xerox Australia's staff rallied to collect an amazing array of gifts for the Pyjama Foundation and Fujitsu delighted young people at FSG with carefully selected gifts. The Companies also gave cash donations as an extra Christmas bonus to help the organisations. Thank you to these generous corporate supporters for bringing such joy at Christmas.



## CBA at Brisbane Youth Service



Commonwealth Bank volunteers spent a rewarding day taming a sub tropical jungle at Brisbane Youth Service Parents' YES program. The team did an amazing job clearing the growth, setting up compost bins and creating new herb and vegetable gardens for the families attending this program. A comment from

one of the CBA volunteers says it all, *"This experience was AMAZING and well worthwhile. We all felt at the end that we had made a significant, immediate and positive contribution. THANK YOU, and keep up the terrific and meaningful work!!"*

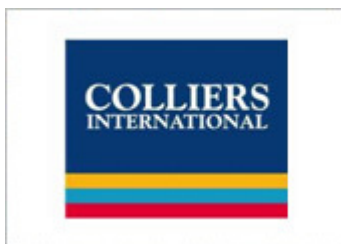
By the end of the day the CBA team had created an accessible outdoor learning environment where young parents and their children can tend a garden that will provide them with fresh home-grown vegetables and herbs. Some young families have never experienced the sense of accomplishment that comes with nurturing plants and the joy of cooking and eating their own fresh produce. Their children now have an opportunity to learn about where fresh food comes from and to develop healthy eating habits.

Volunteering days such as this are invaluable to the community organisations like as BYS and their clients. A huge thank you to all the CBA volunteers.



---

## Colliers Gold Coast create healing gardens for Paradise Kids



The gardens at Paradise Kids and Hopewell Hospice were in need of serious attention to bring them back to a calm and peaceful setting for children and families who are facing the traumatic experiences of a terminal or life limiting illness. Colliers enthusiastically slashed through overgrown gardens, pruned the rose garden and spread metres of mulch.

The team created a herb garden for use by the kitchen staff to create tasty and inviting meals for the children in the hospice or attending Paradise Kid's programs. By the end of the day, all gardens were restored to a tranquil and peaceful space that will help the children to move forward in life and face the future with hope. They will encourage relaxation, enjoyment of the outdoors and help in finding peace and calm.

Staff commented that this was such a worthwhile cause they needed no persuasion to volunteer their time and they were happy to be active in the community.



---

## Fuji Xerox Australia blitzed the gardens at Integrated Family and Youth Service



IFYS were fortunate to have the team from Fuji Xerox Australia supporting their work for children, young people and families in taking responsibility for their lives and assisting them to actively participate in the community of their choice.

They were very happy to have the team from FXA turn a barren site at their community house into an accessible edible garden. After a lot of site preparation that entailed clearing old gardens and replacing old retaining walls, the team set about creating new herb and vegetable beds. A wheelbarrow team filled all the beds with good organic compost and planting teams filled the beds with healthy seedlings. The transformation was amazing. The young people needing the services of IFYS now have a garden that will be easy for them to maintain, they can learn a new set of life skills as they prepare and cook the produce they have nurtured. Fuji Xerox Australia is a major sponsor of UWQ and is always willing to give this kind of practical support to our community organisations. After a long hard day's work the FXA staff could stand back and look at their work with pride knowing that they have made a huge difference to the lives of young people at risk. Well done FXA.



## AMP at Noah's Ark Resource Centre



The team from AMP moved into Noah's Ark Resource Centre's South Brisbane library for a day's volunteering to clean and repair specialist equipment used by young children with a disability.

Large equipment such as plinths or standing frames that were beyond repair and unsafe were taken out of stock and dismantled ready for disposal and useable parts recycled. Another task included sorting and clearing the archives - a great help to the organisation. This Noah's Ark program provides the resources that enable young children with a disability or additional needs to attend their local child care centre, be educated with their peer group and fully participate in their local community. One activity for the day was to help the librarian put together multicultural learning kits with items from many cultures. It is estimated that this day of volunteering represented a saving to Noah's Ark of somewhere in the region of \$1500 if they had to pay for this work. For charitable organisations this means that scarce dollars can be used for direct services to benefit the clients. The AMP team certainly made a difference to Noah's Ark and its children.



## Bankwest helps Edmund Rice Camps

Bankwest supported Edmund Rice Camps for disadvantaged youth by preparing their stock of camping gear in readiness for the Christmas holiday camps.

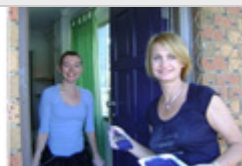


CBA, BUPA and FEDEX also participated in corporate connect activities with Noah's Ark, Othila's and Glenleighden school and they did some fantastic work to help these organisations and the people they support.



Staff from the Commonwealth Bank archived documents and photographed the specialised toys and games for Noah's Ark's online catalogue

Fedex staff created an environmental walk in a dry creek bed for students at Glenleighden School.



The team from Bupa painted and refurbished a building used for programs at Othila's Young Womens Support Service

Well Done!

## Corporate volunteering invested over 800 hours and \$30,000 in United Way Queensland's community projects

*CBA at Brisbane Youth Service*



2010 was a good year for community organisations receiving practical assistance through United Way's Corporate Connect program. From Backyard Blitzing to cleaning and sorting camping gear, many disadvantaged youth can now enjoy positive and engaging experiences as a result of practical corporate support in the community.

### Corporate connect snapshot

Corporate Partner	Community Group	Project	Volunteer Hours
CBA	Foodbank	Packing donated food	35
Colliers Brisbane	Youth Enterprise Trust	Landscaping	72
Redsuit, BCC, FXA	Brisbane Youth Service	CEO Breakfast	12
CBA	Brisbane Youth Service	Herb & veggie garden	75
Colliers Gold Coast	Paradise Kids	Serenity Garden	84
Genworth	FSG Pinelands	Herb & Veggie gardens	56
FXA	IFYS	Garden Makeover	78
AMP	Noah's Ark	Resource making	60
CBA	BABI	Painting residences	112
Bupa	Othila's	Painting	84
Fedex	Glenleighden	Nature Garden	84
CBA	Noah's Ark	Photography for online catalogue	33
Bank West	Edmund Rice Fdn	Camp equip Maintenance	24
<b>TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS</b>			<b>809</b>

### Allocations snapshot

Community Group	Project	\$
-----------------	---------	----

Aunties and Uncles	Supporting children and youth	5,000
Brisbane Youth Service	The Good the Bad and the Ugly	5,000
Evolve	Keeping Kids on Track	5,000
FYS	Out on Your own	5,000
Othila's	Live Life love life	5,000
Pyjama Foundation	Awesome stories by Aussie Kids	5,000

Thank you to all volunteers and corporate partners for working with United Way to make a difference in our community.

[VISIT WEBSITE](#)

[SEND TO A FRIEND](#)

[CONTACT US](#)

PO Box 3668 South Brisbane Qld 4101 P (07) 3407 2144 E [info@unitedwayqld.com.au](mailto:info@unitedwayqld.com.au)

[Click here to unsubscribe](#)



This email was sent by Rosemary Meadows, United Way Queensland, PO Box 3668, South Brisbane, Australia 4101 to [Gabrielle@unitedwaysydney.com.au](mailto:Gabrielle@unitedwaysydney.com.au)

[Edit my Profile](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)

