WRF

Your Warrawong Community Centre

MARCH NEWSLETTER

Warrawong Residents Forum Inc (WRF)

Operates from Warrawong Community Centre in the NSW Illawarra Region. With 1.5 staff and a few volunteers, we support one of Illawarra's most under-resourced communities (SEIFA Index of 2%). Intervention to Emergency Relief, offering information, referral, links, assessment, and advocacy.

We facilitate various initiatives, such as community lunch, food hub, food parcels, take-away meals, and occasional vouchers, addressing basic needs and creating opportunities for vulnerable individuals to seek assistance. These initiatives serve as entry points, fostering trust, and enabling deeper engagement with our team. Through these interactions, we assess needs and connect community members with additional resources, leveraging the trust built during these encounters.

IN MARCH WE RESCUED APPROX. **1,400KG'S OF FOOD**

AND SERVED / ENGAGED **1,323 PEOPLE**

900 ADULTS AND 423 CHILDREN

OUR FOOD INITIATIVES

Our food initiatives rely on donations, grants, and gifts. We extend gratitude to Oz Harvest for their weekly efforts in partnership with Woolworths and Aldi. Thanks to Green Connect, local community members, businesses, sponsors, and champions for their contributions that sustain our essential food services. For more information and/or if you would like to get involved please feel free to get in touch via our website or direct to us via contact details below.

WHERE IS WRF MOVING TO?

In the coming weeks we will announce details of our relocation. We have stayed true to community feedback in staying close and accessible whilst maintaining current essential services during the changes and displacement

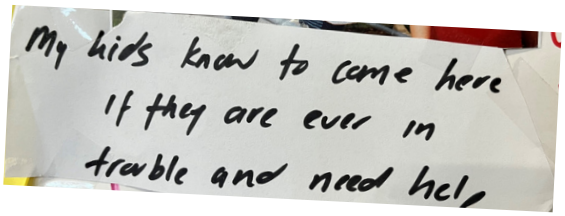
Update: We are awaiting an outcome on a grant that will fund the fit out of the temporary home. Once the fit out commences, we have approximately 5 weeks to countdown for our transition. We will be able to announce location and move dates once we have funding secured.

MEET DOROTHY

We have known Dorothy and her young family for a number of months. Dorothy will access our food hub service and will often present 'in a hurry' which has limited our time in engaging and getting to know Dorothy.
The team have been engaging Dorothy at a pace that is safe and predictable for her, seeing her return each week.
When Dorthy sore the thoughts and reflections of the time capsule taking shape, she asked us if she could make a write a reflection - See Dorothys reflection below.

As Dorothy wrote her reflection, she also spoke to us about she and her family transitioning into the area since the sudden loss of her and her partners employment 'our whole world turned upsidown'. Dorothy told us whilst the family have been rebuilding their lives; the weekly food support and friendly faces have been a big part of their motivation and encouragement **(without ever knowing it)**

Dorothy told us that she was really embarrassed when first walking through these doors and that she has felt respected and safe when she has come in. As a result, she has reinforced to her children that this is a safe place and somewhere to go if they need help.



UPDATES

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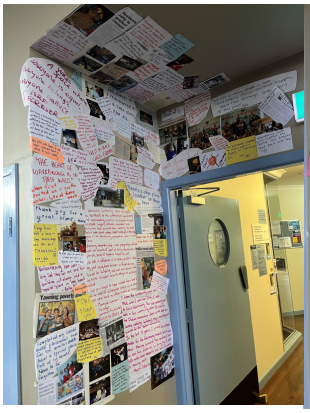
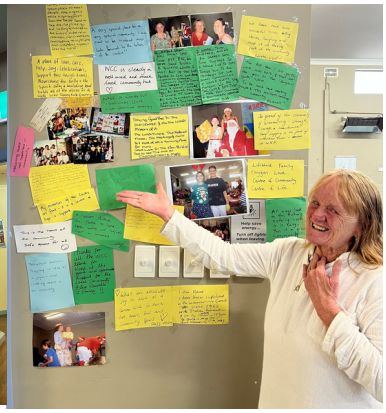
FAREWELL WARRAWONG COMMUNTY CENTRE





We hosted 50+ friends and champions of Warrawong at our Farewell ceremony 27/03/2024. A delicious range of morning tea goodies complimented the heartfelt spirit of the ceremony. Aunty Lorraine and Aunty Narelle's welcome to country set the tone and energy in the space to be about togetherness and reflection. We had a few community members share their reflections and stories of this space. A huge thank you to all our volunteers for making the day as special as it was and a special mention to our Volunteer Trish who has been a enormous part of bringing the time capsule (now an arch) to life. She has been helping community members to turn their thoughts and reflections into words with such warmth and heart. The community voted on the winning artwork on the theme 'My Hope for my community' We also want congratulate Amber who won the art competition.

WANT TO KNOW MORE? OR TO GET INVOLVED.

admin@wrf.org.au
02 4275 1875

Donate
Help us to bring our vision to life.

Join Our Board
Be a part of our meaningful cause.

Volunteer
Help us to provide supportive services.

Sign our VOW
Voice of Warrawong Statement.

Community Champ
Give back to your local community.