



Rural CONNECT

Wanaaring Child and Family Fun Day

Wanaaring Child and Family Fun Day was conducted on Wednesday, 22 June 2022 at the Paroo Contact Children's Mobile base Vicary Street, Wanaaring.

The relaxed and fun filled day was designed to:

- Connect Children, families and Community members with Hearing Australia services and access an initial hearing appraisal.
- Create opportunities to connect isolated children, their families and community members with others in the region, to further build a sense of community and belonging.
- Promote a range of support services and facilitate links to build families knowledge of services and programs available to them.
- Provide opportunities to listen to the needs and issues impacting on regional isolated children, families, and communities, consider ways to further adapt programs to respond to families' requirements, and communicate these as appropriate to policy makers.

Key Outcomes

1. Event coordinated in partnership with RFDS SE (Mental Health) and Hearing Australia. The day was conducted from 10.30am to 2.00pm at the Paroo Contact Children's Mobile Vicary Street base to complement regular Royal Flying Doctor Service SE Clinic (RFDS SE) across the road, thus enabling an ability for participants to attend both the fun day and the clinic as required.
2. Children and staff from the Wanaaring Public School attended and actively participated in all aspects of the program.
3. Estimated 44 people inclusive of children and families, community members and agency representatives (based on attendance sign-in sheets).
4. A range of early and middle childhood activities provided by Bourke and District Children's Services in tandem with RFDS SE Child and Family Mental Health team representatives.
5. Positive feedback received throughout with children, families and agencies valuing the opportunity to come together for a relaxed and fun filled day.
6. The ability to meet Hearing Australia representatives, obtain general hearing information, a variety of resources and access preliminary Hearing screening services by a Hearing Australia Audiometrist was also particularly appreciated by all in attendance.
7. Delicious morning teas and the luncheon catering supplied by Wanaaring Rodeo and Gymkhana Club Inc.
8. Accommodation provided via the Wanaaring Store and Caravan Park for Contact and Hearing Australia representatives.
9. Seven Agencies attended - Wanaaring Public School, Wanaaring Rodeo and Gymkhana Club, Bourke and District Children's Services - Mobile, RFDS SE Child and Family (Mental Health team), Lila Leigo Centre Trustees, Hearing Australia and Contact representatives.
10. This event was made possible through the support of Hearing Australia, The Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal(FRRR) NSW State Government through Ministry of Health, Contact and RFDS SE acknowledge in appreciation this assistance.
11. A Street Library was showcased on the day to introduce a proposed Paint the Outback REaD approach for the region by Contact in partnership with Paint the Town REaD. This portable resource was donated by the Street Library organisation and donated preloved children's and adult books welcomed. Contact is exploring options to add new books to this venture and early literacy will be featured at some future regional RuralCONNECT events. Street Library kits have also been supplied to Louth and Tilpa.

Thank you sincerely to all involved for your valued support throughout that greatly contributed towards these positive results for children, families, community members and agencies from the Wanaaring region.



Listening to the issues impacting on regional isolated children, families, and communities



Building healthy relationships and connections



Creating opportunities to connect isolated children, their families and community members



Further building a sense of community and belonging



Enhancing well-being





Further developing positive outcomes for children, families and communities



Building families knowledge of services and programs available to them



Enhancing well-being





Building resilient, sustainable communities