



# CAIRNS YOUTH MENTORING SCHEME

CENTACARE CAIRNS  
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## Co-Ordinator's News

Hello readers

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a wonderful time over the holiday period and are all refreshed for 2008.

The end of 2007 saw a major fundraising success with the CYMS Celebration Lunch. More than \$4000 was raised which was a fantastic effort. I would like to thank again all members of the Action Group, the CYMS models that were pictured on the invite, and the whole of the CYMS community for making it such a success. This year a Bunnings BBQ is already planned for October which will contribute to funding mentor training and other CYMS activities.

Early February saw a Mentor Training Workshop. To see who the newest recruits are please look at the picture on page four. Please make them all feel welcome. The next training is already booked for April.

This year the Scheme hopes to bridge the gap between the number of mentees referred and the number of mentors joining the scheme. We hope to achieve this by continuing to spread the message of volunteer mentoring to the community and identifying new ways of attracting suitable mentors. We appreciate the patience of mentees waiting to be matched with a mentor.

This time of year is a good opportunity for mentors of CYMS to indicate if they would like to register to be a mentor again. Also it is a good time to register any times that being matched would not be suitable. Furthermore if you do not wish to receive these updates please reply back to this email address or call the CYMS office and I will take you off the database. CYMS does not wish to offend or send emails to people who no longer wish to participate.

The coming months will see a Celebration and Mentor Skill Builder. I look forward to seeing you all in 2008.

Kind Regards

Anita Andacic  
CYMS Co-ordinator

February 2008

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## *Important Notice*

**As a requirement of the programme, we would like to remind all current mentors of the importance of notifying the office of any activities or communication between yourselves and your young person.**

**This is not only required for accountability with our funding but also for insurance purposes. Contact can be made by phone, e-mail or text message. Remember to leave a name when leaving a text message.**

**Match Agreements given out at the initial match can be forwarded to the CYMS office signed by the mentor, mentee and parent or guardian.**

**Your co-operation is greatly appreciated.**

**Many Thanks  
Anita Andacic  
CYMS Co-ordinator**



## **COMING EVENTS**



**February  
Wednesday 27th**

**Mentor Skill Builder**

**March  
Wednesday 12th**

**Celebration**

**April  
Tuesday 15th**

**Mentor Training Info Session**

**April  
Saturday 19th**

**Mentor Training Workshop**

**May  
Wednesday 21st**

**Celebration**

## **It's time for another Celebration!!!!**

**March 12th is the first CYMS Celebration of the year. Come for a fantastic night of socializing, BBQ Sausage Sizzle, and be entertained by mentor/mentee couples with presentations of their projects and interesting re-counts of their 6-month relationships.**

**DATE: Wednesday 12th March 2007**  
**TIME: 5.30pm to 7.30pm**  
**WHERE: The Flexible Learning  
Centre, Clarke Street,  
Manunda  
(between Wilkinson and  
Hoare Streets)**  
**COST: FREE**



**So, whether it's to socialize with others, participate in basketball activities, hear about the relationships, or to catch up with others from the CYMS community, it will be a night to remember!!**

**All Welcome!**

### **Mentor Skill Builder.....**

Twenty percent of young people referred to the Scheme are young people with a disability. Many of the twenty percent are young people with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Young People with ASD experience challenges with social understanding, social behaviour and communication. The term 'autistic spectrum disorders' has replaced 'autism', as it has been increasingly recognised that this is a complex condition with a wide range of symptoms and varying degrees of severity. Many children affected by ASD have much milder symptoms than the traditional image of a child with minimal language or communication skills.

Beatrice Lucas, an Advisory Teacher at ASD Far North Queensland Region will be delivering an information session on ASD and how to effectively communicate with young people who have ASD.

**Date:** Wednesday 27th February  
**Time:** 6.00pm to 7.30pm  
**Where:** Flexible Learning Centre, Clarke Street, Manunda  
**Cost:** Free

Light supper will be provided. Please RSVP to Anita on 4041 5844 or [cyms@centacarecairns.org](mailto:cyms@centacarecairns.org) by Friday 22nd February.

## The SWAMP

### (Students with Awesome Multimedia Potential)

This is a Flexible Learning Centre, after school program where youth work with mentors to explore their own interests in areas of technology (animation, game making, robotics, PS3 fun, etc).

CYMS mentors and mentees are welcome to visit this club together – just give me a call a few days in advance.

*Please be aware that this is normally a program open only to at-risk or disengaged students referred by their teachers. We are pleased to be able to offer this program to participants of CYMS.*

Call Linda: 4080 9258

Email: [lsaun36@eq.edu.au](mailto:lsaun36@eq.edu.au)

## Resources available for use by CYMS.....

As the Cairns Youth Mentoring Scheme is housed at the Flexible Learning Centre (Clarke Street) there are fantastic resources available for matched mentee and mentor pairs. These resources can be utilized during school days from 3.00pm to 6.00pm. They include: -

- Half court basketball court and basketballs
- Manual arts room with work benches and some hand tools
- Kitchen with small hot plates and oven (you will have to bring in your own cooking materials and ingredients)

You can book these rooms in advance with the CYMS Co-ordinator.

Sports equipment is also available to be utilized at any time. This includes: -

- Basketballs
- Soccer balls
- Footballs
- Cricket set



Please book these items in advance with the CYMS Co-ordinator.

Mentees and mentors are welcome to utilise these resources in pairs or groups with other mentees and mentors .

### CYMS would like to thank the following for their support in 2008:

- \* Flexible Learning Centre for use of their resources and support to the CYMS team;
- \* Far North Queensland Volunteers for assisting the scheme with volunteer interviews and mentor recruitment;
- \* The Cairns Sun for continual support of the Scheme; and
- \* Nicky Jurd from City of Cairns for maintaining the CYMS Website.

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter please contact the co-ordinator as per the address on this page and your details will be removed from the relevant listing. PLEASE NOTE that the newsletter is now distributed every 2 months and will be emailed to all subscribers and mailed to Mentees. In order to protect your privacy, the distribution list that has been compiled for this newsletter will not be used for any other purpose and your name and contact details will not be disclosed to any third party.

### **CENTACARE CAIRNS CAIRNS YOUTH MENTORING SCHEME**

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Postal:  
PO Box 201  
Cairns Qld 4870

Phone: 4041 5844  
Fax: 40 809 200  
Mobile: 0438 413 949

**Please send info, photos and stories for the next newsletter. Any/all items of happenings, what you are doing, what you hope to do, what you missed out on doing.**

All items are of interest to other mentors and mentees. Email to the office at [cyms@centacarecairns.org](mailto:cyms@centacarecairns.org) or contact the office on 4041 5844.



## **CYMS Newest Recruits**



The new recruits from the 2nd February mentor training are (from the left) Phillip Whykes, Rebecca Whyte, Miranda Manuel, James Lee, Marissa Litonjua, Sally Hennerbry, and Andrew Lucas. All willing to be an extra support person in a young person's life.

Mentor training includes sessions on communication with young people, stages of adolescent development, an opportunity to talk to past and present mentees and mentors and an opportunity for mentors to workshop activity ideas. It is also a forum for which training mentors build networks and friendships.

### **Mentee / Mentor of the Month**

**The National Youth Mentoring Network aims to work with youth mentoring organisations to foster the growth and development of high quality mentoring programs. There website:**

**<http://www.youthmentoring.org.au> features a Mentee / Mentor of the month section which is an opportunity to celebrate mentoring and showcase a match and what they have achieved. If you would like your mentee / mentor story submitted to be showcased on the website please contact the CYMS Co-ordinator.**

**The Youth Mentoring Network website contains up to date research, general information on mentoring and professional development opportunities. Please have a look when next surfing the net.**