FEAT

FAMILY EMERGENCY ACCOMMODATION TOWNSVILLE

# ANNUAL REPORT

2025/2026



# Acknowledgement of Country

In keeping with the spirit of reconciliation, Family Emergency Accommodation Townsville (FEAT) respectfully acknowledges the Wulgurukaba of Gurambilbarra and Yunbenun, Bindal, Gugu Badhun and Nywaigi as the Traditional Owners of this land, in and around Townsville in which we work, live and connect on and would also like to acknowledge our Torres Strait and South Sea Islander people to whom we share this great nation with. We recognise their continuing connection to land and waterways which is and always will be Indigenous land.



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# About FEAT



Family Emergency Accommodation Townsville Inc. (FEAT) is a long-standing member of the Townsville community and homelessness sectors.

We have been operating since 1978 and have received government funding for over 40 years. FEAT is a Public Benevolent Institution and is registered for Deductible Gift Recipient status.

## Guiding Values & Principles:




## Vision

Our vision is that every family in the Townsville region has safe and suitable housing.

## Mission

The FEAT mission is to:

- Advocate for affordable housing in the Townsville Region.
- Provide a timely response to families who are experiencing housing crisis.
- Work with families to identify their needs to achieve long-term sustainable housing

# FEAT Programs



## Temporary Supported Accommodation

This is short term supported housing for families experiencing homelessness.
Families are provided with support to resolve the immediate crisis and to work towards independent, safe and appropriate housing.
Rent is calculated using the Queensland Government's Community Housing Rental Calculator and is based on household income.



2026

**56** Families Housed

**128** Number of Children

**62%** First Nations Families



## Long Term Community Housing

FEAT provides some long term community housing properties.
Applications for these properties are approved through the Department of Housing.
To be eligible for consideration families must be able to sustain a tenancy with minimal support.

2026

**24** Families Housed

**35** Number of Children

**48%** First Nations Families

## DFSV (Domestic, Family & Sexual Violence)

This program provides service coordination to clients in head-leased properties within the private rental market.
Referrals and tenant allocations are coordinated through the Department of Housing Specialist Response Team, supporting individuals and families affected by domestic, family and sexual violence to sustain safe and stable housing. The program is funded for service coordination and housing support, rather than case management.



2026

**24** Families Housed

**50** Number of Children

**43%** First Nations Families

# FEAT Programs





## Centre Based

Provides support for families either experiencing or who are at risk of homelessness.

Supports include:

- information
- referral
- advocacy
- food relief
- back to school supplies
- other essential items

2026

**1303** Families Supported

**3471** Number of Children

**70%** First Nations Families

## Mobile Support - Sustaining Tenancies Assistance

This program assists families in the private rental market who are at risk of losing their housing.

FEAT will provide information and support to assist in tenancy sustainment, assess eligibility for financial assistance and may make a contribution to rental arrears to assist and avoid eviction.



2026

**38** Distinct Persons

**21** Number of Children

**45%** First Nations Families

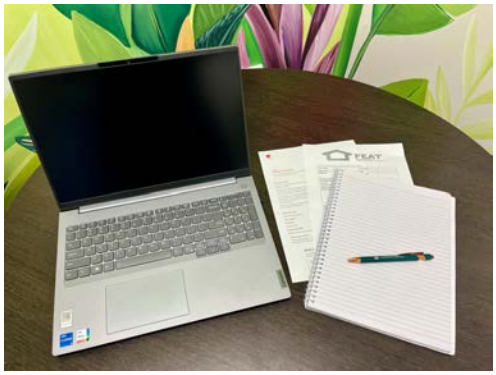
## Emergency Food Relief

We support low-income families who are experiencing homelessness or are at risk of homelessness by providing food packs and grocery vouchers. This assistance helps alleviate immediate financial pressures, enabling clients to redirect limited household funds towards other essential living expenses, such as housing, utilities, and healthcare.









## Community Fund

Aims to assist low income people who have experienced homelessness and have an active goal to improve their future employment, education or cultural opportunities.

# Chairperson's Report





## Hannah Wilkinson

Chairperson

It is my privilege to present the Chairperson's Report for Family Emergency Accommodation Townsville for the 2025/26 financial year. This has been a significant year for FEAT. We have delivered meaningful outcomes for families while navigating an important leadership transition and strengthening the foundations that will support the organisation into the future.

### Leadership Transition

On behalf of the Board, our staff and the broader FEAT community, I extend our sincere thanks to Mandy Thompson following her decision to step down as General Manager. Mandy led with commitment, passion and a genuine belief in FEAT's purpose. Her contribution strengthened the organisation, supported our people and kept the needs of families experiencing housing crisis and homelessness at the centre of our work. We are deeply grateful for Mandy's service and wish her every happiness and success in her next chapter. She will always remain an important part of FEAT's story.

Following a comprehensive recruitment process, we were delighted to welcome Tash Henderson as FEAT's new General Manager. Tash brings extensive experience in financial management, corporate services, governance and not-for-profit leadership. Tash's financial acumen, governance capability and people-centred leadership provide a strong foundation for FEAT's next chapter. Since joining us, she has brought energy, thoughtfulness and a clear respect for FEAT's history, people and purpose. I thank the FEAT team for the professionalism and generosity with which they have supported this transition.

### Supporting Families

The most important measure of FEAT's success is the difference our services make in the lives of Townsville families. During FY26, 28 families transitioned from FEAT's Specialist Homelessness Services program into longer-term housing, compared with 17 in the previous year. Our domestic and family violence supported housing program also reached its full allocation of 16 properties, providing safe accommodation and tailored support to families navigating the impacts of domestic and family violence. These outcomes were achieved despite a continuing shortage of affordable housing and limited pathways into secure, long-term accommodation. Each successful transition reflects the determination of the families we support, the capability of our staff and effective collaboration with our government, housing and community partners.

We also welcomed the renewal of FEAT's Specialist Homelessness Services funding for a further three years and a one-year extension of funding for the domestic and family violence supported housing program. This provides important continuity for our services, staff and families.

## Safe & Sustainable Housing

Safe and suitable housing remains at the heart of everything FEAT does. During the year, HK Solutions was engaged to undertake a condition and feasibility assessment of 23 FEAT properties, with much of the work provided on a pro bono basis. The assessment will provides a clearer understanding of the condition of our properties, the investment required and opportunities to make the best use of our assets. It will inform a responsible and sustainable portfolio strategy that balances maintenance, renewal, redevelopment and potential growth.

## Strengthening FEAT

FEAT's staff are central to everything we achieve. They support families experiencing crisis, trauma and complex barriers to housing with empathy, resilience and sound professional judgement. During the year, FEAT continued to invest in staff wellbeing, professional development, leadership capability, psychosocial safety and child-safe practices. We also strengthened our financial reporting, technology, cyber security, internal controls and organisational systems. On behalf of the Board, I thank every member of the FEAT team. Your professionalism, commitment and care for families, and for one another, make FEAT's work possible.



## Our Board

The Board was strengthened by the appointment of Jonte Verwey and Matthew Trende. Jonte brings extensive experience in public policy, government, strategic communications, advocacy and stakeholder engagement. Matthew is a Chartered Accountant and graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, with substantial expertise in finance, audit, risk and governance. We warmly welcome Jonte and Matthew and thank them for contributing their time and expertise to FEAT.

During the year, we farewelled Jason Slingsby from the Board after serving as a board member and our most recent Treasurer. On behalf of the Board, I sincerely thank Jason for the time, expertise and careful financial stewardship he brought to the role. I also thank my fellow Board members for their commitment throughout the year. Board service is voluntary and requires careful preparation, constructive challenge and thoughtful engagement. I am grateful for the experience, care and sound judgement each member brings to FEAT.

## Looking Ahead

FEAT enters the coming year with strong foundations and a clear understanding of the challenges ahead. Progress requires sustained government investment, an effective service system and strong community partnerships. FEAT will remain focused on the contribution we are uniquely placed to make: providing safe housing, delivering compassionate support, investing in our people and managing our resources responsibly. The Board's priorities for the coming year include implementing our strategic plan, progressing our housing portfolio strategy, supporting Tash and the leadership team, and continuing to improve outcomes for Townsville families.

I extend my sincere thanks to our funding partners, government agencies, community organisations, service partners, advisers, volunteers, donors and supporters. Most importantly, I acknowledge the families who place their trust in FEAT. Your strength and determination remain at the centre of our purpose.

# Treasurer's Report





## Matthew Trende

Treasurer

I am pleased to present the Treasurer's Report for the year ended 30 June 2026.

On behalf of the Board, I acknowledge the commitment and dedication of our staff, management team, volunteers, funding partners and fellow Board members throughout the year. I also thank Jason Slingsby for his dedicated service as Treasurer during the financial year. Their collective efforts help ensure FEAT remains financially sustainable while continuing to deliver vital housing support to vulnerable individuals and families in our community.

The 2025-26 financial year was positive for FEAT. Despite ongoing economic pressures and growing demand for affordable housing, the organisation maintained a strong financial position and achieved a net operating surplus of $314,055.

Total income was $3.11 million, with government grants remaining FEAT's primary revenue source, supplemented by rental income, donations and other operating income. The organisation continued investing in service delivery, housing maintenance and operational support while carefully overseeing expenditure and financial risk.

At 30 June 2026, FEAT's assets totalled $5.02 million, with equity increasing to $4.65 million. These results demonstrate ongoing financial strength and provide a solid foundation for future endeavours.

### Audit Outcome

Jessups Audit Assurance and Advisory independently audited the financial statements. FEAT received an unqualified audit opinion, confirming that the statements present a true and fair view of the organisation's financial performance and position and comply with Australian Accounting Standards, ACNC and other regulatory requirements.

### Financial Governance and Risk Management

The Board remains committed to high standards of financial governance and accountability. During the year, this included:

- Regular review of financial performance against budgets and strategic objectives.
- Oversight of financial reporting by the Board and Finance Sub-Committee.
- Ongoing monitoring of organisational risks and compliance.
- Review of internal policies and procedures.
- Ongoing risk and compliance assessment.

### Looking Ahead

Demand for safe, affordable and secure housing continues to grow across our region. Despite a challenging operating environment, FEAT is well placed to deliver positive community outcomes.
In the year ahead, FEAT will focus on:

- Maintaining and improving its housing portfolio.
- Strengthening long-term financial sustainability and reserves.
- Pursuing opportunities to expand housing capacity and services.
- Supporting clients through responsive, community-focused programs.
- Maintaining sound governance and prudent financial management.

The organisation remains financially strong and well equipped to make a meaningful difference for people experiencing housing insecurity.

# Financial Snapshot

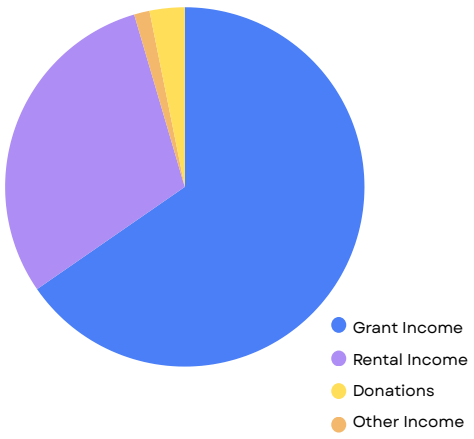


| Profit & Loss Statement | |
|---|---|
| Grant Income | $2,030,732.00 |
| Rental Income | $934,708.00 |
| Donations | $43,309.00 |
| Other Income | $97,987.00 |
| Total Income | $3,106,736.00 |
| | |
| Wages & Salaries | $1,383,171.00 |
| Repairs & Maintenance | $135,003.00 |
| Other Property Expenses | $654,212.00 |
| Client Related Costs | $171,423.00 |
| Other Expenses | $448,872.00 |
| Total Expenses | $2,792,681.00 |
| | |
| **Net Surplus** | **$314,055.00** |

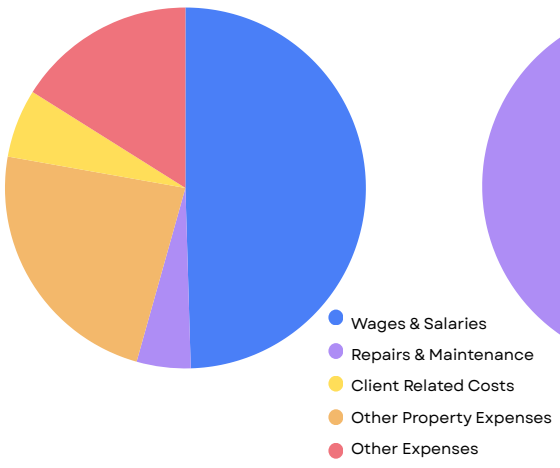



| Balance Sheet | |
|---|---|
| Current Assets | $2,497,086.00 |
| Non-Current Assets | $2,518,918.00 |
| Total Assets | $5,016,004.00 |
| | |
| Current Liabilities | $308,693.00 |
| Non-Current Liabilities | $56,389.00 |
| Total Liabilities | $365,082.00 |
| | |
| **Total Equity** | **$4,650,922.00** |

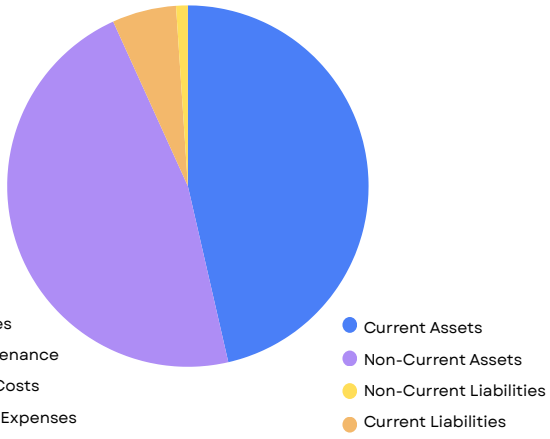
Income




Expenses




Balance Sheet



# Board Members



Hannah Wilkinson
Chairperson



Jessica Naunton
Vice-Chairperson



Matthew Trende
Treasurer



Brittany Curran
Secretary



Rebecca Wilcoxson
Ordinary Board Member



Jonte Verwey
Ordinary Board Member



**Jason Slingsby**
**Treasurer (Retired 31/03/2026)**

FEAT sincerely thanks Jason for his dedicated service as Treasurer and Board Member. His commitment, expertise, and leadership have made a lasting contribution to the organisation. We are grateful for his service and wish him all the very best for the future.

# Employees

Being able to see people succeed and fulfil their dreams gives you a sense of purpose. I enjoy the interactions with people from all walks of life.

*-Ngaire, Operations Support Officer*

'Tve always had a desire or need to want to help people and I think that the older I got to more I wanted to do so and a genuine desire to be of help to people.

*-Deanne, Case Manager*

Working for FEAT provides a strong sense of purpose, as we play an important role in assisting disadvantaged families with essential resources including housing and food. The opportunity to contribute to positive community outcomes, while collaborating with like-minded people who are committed to helping those in need, is both motivating and rewarding.

*-Amber, Senior Administrator*

I wanted to help families sleeping rough, in cars and tents find suitable accommodation, establish a solid foundation to then be able to take the steps necessary to improve their futures.

-Loretta, Administration Officer




Helping people. We help a lot of families and that is what I want to do and I love doing that, changing their lives and giving them supports that they need.

-Daule, Case Manager

I've always loved helping people, and I've always had a passion for making a difference and I feel like within this role I can do that. Everyday I'm surrounded by women that constantly lift me up and I want to do the same for the community.

*-Shannon, Case Manager*

I believe people thrive when they feel connected and have a genuine sense of belonging. Being part of a community gives people that connection, and that's what inspired me to work in community services. For me, it's about helping create meaningful relationships, supporting people to feel valued and providing opportunities for them to be part of something bigger than themselves.

*-Samantha, Case Manager*

I had been working in hospitality most of my life, when I saw an opportunity to better mine and my children's life, while at the same time giving back to the community and trying something new.

*-Ashley, Property Administration Officer*

I wanted to do work that genuinely matters. Being able to build relationships, support people to achieve their goals, and know I've made a positive difference at the end of the day is what keeps me motivated.

*-Annie, Senior Case Manager*



## Celebrating 28 Years of Service

Twenty-eight years of service is a remarkable achievement and a testament to Lori's dedication, commitment and passion. FEAT is sincerely grateful for Lori's longstanding contribution to the organisation and for the knowledge, experience and positive influence she has shared with colleagues, clients and the wider community throughout her career. We congratulate Lori on this significant milestone and thank her for her outstanding service and unwavering commitment to FEAT's mission.




## Celebrating 10 Years of Service

This year, FEAT proudly celebrates Amber's ten-year anniversary with the organisation. Her professionalism, reliability and dedication have made her a valued member of the team and an important contributor to FEAT's financial, property and administrative operations.
We congratulate Amber on this significant milestone and thank her for ten years of outstanding service and commitment to FEAT and the community we support.

# General Manager's Report





## Tash Henderson

General Manager

It was a pleasure to join the caring and committed FEAT team in January 2026. Over the past six months, we have strengthened the foundations that support safe, consistent and high-quality services for our clients.

Our clients and families remain at the heart of everything we do. Rental pressures and the rising cost of living increased demand for emergency relief and centre-based assistance. Despite these challenges, more clients transitioned from temporary accommodation into long-term, stable homes than in previous years.

Sector changes required us to strengthen safeguarding and compliance through the Child Safe Standards and Reportable Conduct Scheme. Throughout the year, we reviewed policies, procedures and staff training to uphold our ongoing commitment to child safety.

We strengthened our information technology environment by appointing ADITS as our managed IT services provider. Cyber security training and testing also reinforced staff awareness and our shared responsibility to protect systems and stakeholder information.

Developing an engaged and capable team remained central to our progress. A psychosocial survey provided valuable insights and clear actions to support staff wellbeing and safety. We also developed our team values: integrity, compassion, consistency and cultural safety, which reflect how we aspire to work together and how we want people to feel when working at FEAT.

Our partners and supporters helped us meet growing demand and assist families experiencing hardship. I sincerely thank our philanthropic donor for contributing $30,000 towards emergency relief and subsidising four accommodation units. A big thank you also goes to the Rotary Club of Mundingburra for donations totalling $8,120 and Christmas presents for our families.

I would also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge outgoing General Manager Mandy Thompson and thank her for the support and thorough handover that enabled a smooth leadership transition.

A sincere thank you to the FEAT Board for your guidance and support. Your commitment and generosity with your time make it possible for FEAT to continue this important work in our community.

Finally, my heartfelt thanks go to our wonderful staff. Your care, dedication and commitment to achieving the best possible outcomes for our clients are truly inspiring. Thank you for welcoming me so warmly and for everything you have contributed this year. I look forward to the year ahead and to continuing our work together in support of families.

*Despite growing demand and increasing financial pressures on families, more clients moved from temporary accommodation into stable, long-term housing than in previous years.*

# Partners & Supporters



## Funding Partners

Queensland Department of Housing and Public Works

Queensland Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety

Australian Government Department of Social Services

Althea Projects

Gambling Community Benefit Fund

Street Smart Australia

## Donors & Supporters

ADRA
Alannah & Madeline Foundation
Ashley Richards
Brumby's Parkside
Brumby's The Avenues
Bunnings North
Busy at Work
Calvary Care
Coles Thuringowa
CQUniversity
Duncan and Ilsa Fyfe
Dylan Sparrow
Fulton Hogan
Good360
Green Leaves Early Learning – Kirwan
Hair Cartelle
Northreach Baptist Church
On Bundock
Pacific Islands International
PFD Services
Philanthropic Donor of 4 subsidised units for accommodation and $30,000.00
Plaza Meats – Parkside
Queensland Health
Rotary Club of Mundingburra
Rotary Club of Thuringowa
RSPCA
Share the Dignity
Suella Property
The Digimen
Townsville Angel Faces by Leta
Townsville City Council
Woolworths Hermit Park
Zephyr Education















*Thank you to our generous donors for their valuable contributions through funding, groceries, and other essential items, helping us provide vital support to individuals and families in need.*

# Finance & Office Manager's Report





## Kerrie Rush

Finance & Office Manager

The 2025-26 Financial Year was another highly productive period for the Finance and Administration Team. As the community's need for FEAT's frontline services increased, we successfully expanded our internal capacity and leveraged our digital systems to ensure smooth operational support, diligent financial oversight, and stable workflows during a time of rapid growth.

Our team focused heavily on internal efficiency and maximising daily workflows to absorb increased demand across our housing and support programs. To back our expanding services, our dedicated staff maintained a sharp focus on strong financial tracking, and practical workplace coordination.

## Key Highlights:

***Successful Grant Acquisitions***

We successfully secured a $35,000 Gambling Community Benefit Fund (GBCF) grant to purchase essential household furniture for our Crisis Accommodation Program (CAP) properties.
We also acquired a $5,000 Street Smart Grant, which was fully dedicated to providing emergency relief food vouchers to directly help families bridge immediate gaps.

***Sustained Low Rent Arrears***

Proactive property management and strong day-to-day oversight ensured rent arrears were maintained at historically low levels, reflecting great communication, consistent tracking, and excellent coordination with our tenants.

***Systems and Financial Optimisation***

We continued to streamline our digital and financial systems to better support our workforce. Concurrently, we supported fundraising and public engagement by expanding our presence across LinkedIn, Facebook, and Instagram, and managing the Give Now platform for seamless public donations.

## Appreciation

It is incredibly rewarding working alongside this dedicated FEAT team.
To Amber, Ashley and Loretta, I am so grateful for your hard work, patience, and the absolute commitment you each demonstrate. Whether managing financial, property, or administrative workflows, your collaborative efforts provide the vital foundation and support that directly drives our organisation's goals. Thank you for your unwavering reliability, your positive team spirit, and united front you each contribute to our workplace.

*"I've always been passionate about helping people and it's even more so meaningful when you're doing something that helps your community."*

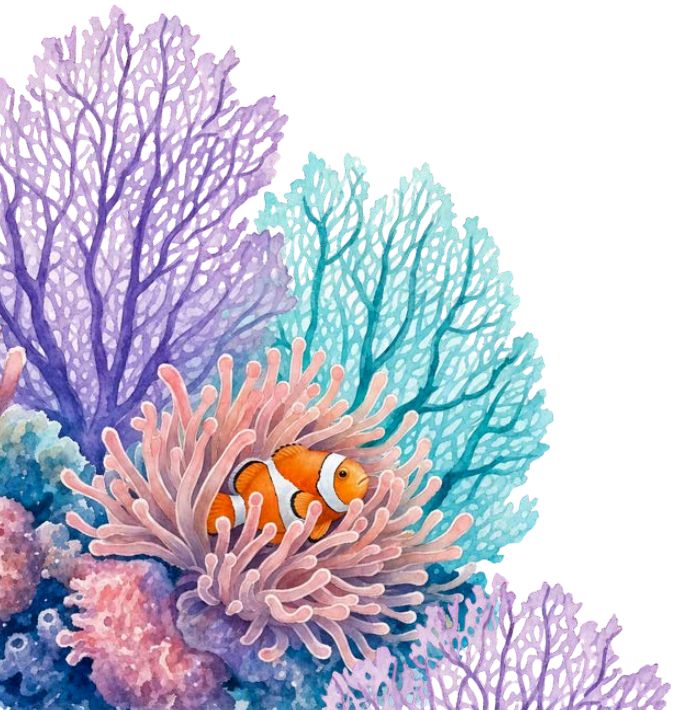
# Help Give Local Families a Safe Place to Call Home

For more than 45 years, FEAT has been supporting families experiencing homelessness across Townsville, providing not only housing but also the stability, dignity, and opportunity that comes with having a safe place to call home.

Through our 2025 Give Now campaign, generous community support helped provide crisis accommodation, affordable long-term housing, emergency food relief, household essentials, furniture, and ongoing support services for vulnerable families. Every donation, no matter the size, contributed to helping children and their families move from crisis to stability, rebuild their lives, and create a brighter future.

Together, our supporters are restoring hope and helping ensure that more local families have the security of a place to call home.

## 📲 Scan the QR code to **DONATE NOW!**



# Program Manager's Report





## Bianca Mooney

Program Manager

25/26 FY has been another extremely busy but highly productive year for the Team. We have been able to offer staff permanency, which has led to a stable workforce, a consistent client centric approach and greater positive outcomes for the families that we support.

Emergency Relief Funding (ERF) by way of food assistance has continued to be an area where FEAT has supported a large number of families in need. In the 25/26 FYI we have received more than 3,652 requests for ERF. The peak of these requests occurred in January 26 when there were 524 requests alone.

Due to us not being able to keep up with the demand of ERF requests a decision was made to support families with food bags as well as vouchers this decision ensures that we are meeting the needs of the most vulnerable families in Townsville. To ensure that FEAT can successfully support as many families as possible, we have collaborated with other community partners such as ADRA to meet the increased need.

It is hoped that over the 26/27 FY FEAT will be able to expand the current support being provided in this space by offering families much needed food supplies such as fresh and frozen essential staples as well as non-perishable items in a walk-in pantry.

In 25/26 FY FEAT have continued to implement the Domestic and Family Violence Screening Tool at the Phone Screening and Intake phase of a family's journey. This year we have been able to collect a full year of data which will assist with the research currently being undertaken by CQU. It is hoped that this research will raise awareness of the prevalence of Domestic and Family Violence within the community but also the impact that it has on staff working in a non-specialist DFV Homelessness service.

In 25/26 FEAT has received more than 1,829 requests for homelessness support, in comparison to 1,687 in 24/25 FY and 1,998 in 23/24 FY. Staff are working closely with community partners such as the Red Cross and Women's Centre to transition vulnerable families in IHR to our Crisis Accommodation Program (CAP). This year we have seen more families successfully transition into our CAP than last year.

This year we have been able to support 28 families in our Crisis Accommodation Program successfully transition to long term housing options, which is 11 more than the 17 families in the 24/25 FY. We have also seen an increase in families transitioning from our Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Program, with 12 families successfully transitioning to long term housing options comparatively to 9 in the 24/25 FY. This is a tremendous achievement for staff and tenants alike and is something that should be celebrated.

I would like to take the opportunity to personally thank all of the FEAT Team for their time, patience and dedication shown toward the families we support in an increasingly different time.

*"I enjoy working in this field because I believe people can achieve great things when they are met where they are at in their journey with empathy, patience, compassion, kindness and integrity in a world where there is often none, this is hugely important to me".*

# Client Testimonials



Getting the opportunity with FEAT was my turning point and a step in the right direction.

The joy on the faces of my children when I told them that we have a home is something I will always remember.

*Anonymous FEAT Tenant*

After losing my husband we had hope and stability knowing FEAT was there to support my family and keep us all together.

*Anonymous FEAT Tenant*

The experience has helped me build my confidence and I now know that I can do things by myself.
I know it's not my forever home, but I still consider it a home for myself and my daughter. A safe place and a roof over our heads.

*Anonymous FEAT Tenant*

For me FEATs impact went beyond housing. Their support gave both my son and I a sense of hope, safety and stability at a time when we really needed it. They helped me feel like I wasn't alone and that there was a way forward for my family.

*Anonymous FEAT Tenant*

*Client feedback and personal stories are invaluable in demonstrating the difference our services make. While we are grateful to those who have consented to share their experiences, we have chosen to present all client stories anonymously to ensure privacy, dignity, and confidentiality are maintained.*

# Year in Review



## 6-13 July 2025
## NAIDOC Week & Deadly Day Out




## 16 July 2025
## Rotary Club of Mundingburra Annual Dinner



## 4-10 August 2025
## Homelessness Week



## 7 August 2025
## CQUniversity Laptop Donations




## 11 September 2025
## R U ok? Day Morning Tea




## 24 September 2025
## FEAT Annual General Meeting



## 8 December 2026
## Tenant Christmas Party





## Rotary Club of Mundingburra
## Christmas Donations






## 14 January 2026
## Back to School Haircuts





## April 2026
## Children's Easter Competitions
## Sponsored by Fulton Hogan




## 14 April 2026
## Natalie Marr Visit




## 25 May 2026
## Rotary Club of Thuringowa
## Household Packs Donations



# 2025/2026 AGM Agenda



**Family Emergency Accommodation Townsville Inc.**



**Date and Time**
28th October 2026 5:30pm

**Location**
FEAT Office – 9 Carlton Street, Kirwan Qld 4817

Welcome & Acknowledgement of Country

Apologies

Proxies

Previous meeting minutes
- Confirm previous minutes
- Business arising



Reports
- Chairperson's Report
- Treasurer's Report
- General Manager's Report

Appointment of Auditor

Election of Association Board Members
- Declaration of Vacant Positions
- Nominations & Elections of New Board Members

General Business

Closing Items
- Thanks to outgoing board members, staff and volunteers
- Invitation to refreshments/networking
- Meeting close

# 2024/2025 AGM Minutes



## Annual General Meeting Minutes

FEAT Office | 24th September 2025 | Meeting Opened: 5.06pm

**Chairperson:** Jessica Naunton (Secretary) **Minute Taker:** Amber Dawson

**Acknowledgement of Country:** We acknowledge the Wulgurukaba of Gurambilbarra and Yunbenun, Bindal, Gugu Badhun and Nywaigi as the Traditional Owners of this land, in and around Townsville in which we work, live and connect on and would also like to acknowledge our Torres Strait and South Sea Islander people to whom we share this great nation with. We recognise their continuing connection to land and waterways which is and always will be Indigenous land. We pay respect to all Elders past and present.

**Present:** Amber Dawson, Kym Musumeci, Jonte Verwey, Sonali Viyyapu, Cherie McLaughlin, Jessica Naunton, Loretta McKergow, Matthew Trende, Kathrin Meehan, Helen Perriman, Louise Wood, Claire Riordan, Daule Tau Vere, Samantha Lane, Debra Miles, Jason Slingsby, Abigail Robinson, Ruth Stainbrook, SR Carmel King, Ngaire Hansen, Louise Stevie, Sally-Anne Staples, Kate Hoffensetz, MP Janelle Poole, Thao Dang, Rebecca Jesser, CR Andrew Robinson, Ashley McAndrew, Annie Jones, Deanne Raciti, Lori Maloney, Kerrie Rush, Rebecca Wilcoxson and Mandy Thompson.

**Apologies:** Barbara Thompson, Bianca Mooney, Brett Hanna, Brittany Curran, Isabella Bevan, Jane Logan, Jeremy Audas, Julie Smith, Kara Moseley, Katrina Davis, Kelli Campbell, Lance Lofts, Acting Mayor Greaney, Matt Heley, Mick Devine, Natalie Marr MP, Paula La Rosa, Phillip Thompson MP, Minister Sam O'Connor MP, Sandra Elton, Shannon Staker, Tania Sheppard, Therese Smith and CR Vera Dirou.

**Proxies:** Nil

**Minutes of Previous Annual General Meeting:** Motion that Minutes of previous AGM of 25th September 2024 be accepted.
Moved: Hannah Wilkinson Seconded: Jason Slingsby
Vote: Carried

**Business Arising from Previous Minutes:** Nil

**Reports:**
**Chairperson's Report – Presented by Hannah Wilkinson**
Moved: Jason Slingsby Seconded: Kate Hoffensetz
Vote: Carried

**General Manager's Report – Presented by Mandy Thompson**
Moved: Cherie McLaughlin Seconded: Jessica Naunton
Vote: Carried

**Treasurer's Report Remuneration Statement – Presented by Jason Slingsby**
For the 2024-2025 financial year, the association paid 3 senior staff members a total of $424,744.65 in remuneration and benefits.
Moved: Jason Slingsby Seconded: Helen Perriman
Vote: Carried

**Appointment of Auditor - Jason Slingsby**
Jessups NQ appointed as Auditor for the 2025/2026 Financial Year.
Moved: Jason Slingsby Seconded: Hannah Wilkinson
Vote: Carried

**Appointment of Solicitor - Jason Slingsby**
Wilson / Ryan / Grose appointed as Solicitor for the 2025/2026 Financial Year.
Moved: Jason Slingsby Seconded: Jessica Naunton
Vote: Carried

**Membership:** New membership nominations will be presented and passed at the next Board Meeting in October 2025 and new members advised in writing after that.

**Election of Association Board Members:**
- Delcaration of vacant positions.
- Nominations & Elections of New Board Members.
- Introduction of New Board.

**Association Board Members were nominated as follows -**
Chairperson: Hannah Wilkinson
Nominated by: Jason Slingsby Seconded by: Jessica Naunton

Vice-Chairperson: Jessica Naunton (Elected board member 25/09/2024)
*Nominated by: Jason Slingsby and Lorelei Billing*

Secretary: Brittany Curran (Elected board member 25/09/2024)
*Nominated by: Hannah Wilkinson and Jessica Naunton*

Treasurer: Jason Slingsby
Nominated by: Hannah Wilkinson Seconded by: Jessica Naunton

Board Member: Rebecca Wilcoxson
Nominated by: Hannah Wilkinson Seconded by: Jessica Naunton

Remaing two Vacant Board Member Positions to be considered by the Board once EOI's received and considered.

Motion that all Association Board Members be appointed is accepted.
Vote: Carried

**General Business:** Nil

**Guest Speaker Address - Julie Saunders, CHIA CEO**

**Life Membership Awards - Presented by Mandy Thompson**
Mandy introduced & presented awards & flowers then handed to Jessica Naunton for joint interviews with Life Member recipients Ruth Stainbrook and Helen Perriman. Special mention put out to Sister Carmel King and the link between the Sisters of Mercy and Helen Perriman.

What inspired you to join FEAT?
- Ruth – applied for a 20 hr per week Community Worker position at FEAT, and never though it would lead to a long-term career.
- Helen – motivated by FEAT's values and believed that they aligned with her personal values and wanted to help people utilising her own personal life experiences.

What has been the most rewarding aspect of being a part of FEAT?
- Ruth – working with families and people taught her so much. Everything Ruth and FEAT have achieved and all the fun. One of the major achievements is giving FEAT a home, so that whatever happens with funding FEAT would always have its own place to continue operating.
- Helen – the service FEAT provides is meaningful and Helen will cherish the memories shared with board members and staff, being a part of the FEAT family. Helen never wanted to miss a committee meeting because they always had a good time, whilst still striving to make a difference in the lives of people.

How has FEAT shaped you as a person?
- Ruth – what FEAT stands for, wanting people to have a fair go and not judging people. Ruth believes that she will always want to be a part of FEAT.
- Helen – FEAT as an organisation and what it does is amazing – the staff and board. FEAT has managed to stand up and act when others have not.

**Special Acknowledgements**
- Shout out to attending supporters: RSPCA Qld (Abi)
- Give Now Launch

**Closing Items**
- Thanks to outgoing board members, staff and volunteers.
- Invitation to refreshments/networking.
- Mandy Thompson provided Vote of Thanks to Jessica Naunton.

Meeting Closed: 6:06PM

FEAT
FAMILY EMERGENCY ACCOMMODATION TOWNSVILLE

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Funded by
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