



## EARLY CONNECTIONS PROJECT

Laidley Community Centre are passionate about empowering people in our community and do so by focussing our efforts on areas where we can make the greatest impact. The Early Connections Project (ECP) is one such example of that. Made possible through funding from the Tim Fairfax Family Foundation, the purpose of the project is to work with our local partners to give parents access to the resources and support they need to give their child the best start in life, from pregnancy up to a smooth transition to school.

Since it's inception in 2018, the capacity building activities that have been undertaken include

- Over 90 Supported Playgroup sessions
- Over 90 New parent/baby group sessions
- Delivery of 313 activity packs during Covid19 lockdowns
- Over 16 parent workshops on topics including positive parenting, sleep, health, early development and child first aid.
- Delivery of over 16 child-focussed 16 events
- Attendance and delivery of children's activity at over 20 local markets
- Individual referrals and support of over 320 parents
- Organising training workshops for local early years workers on over 8 occasions.
- Establishing child-friendly facilities at initiatives at the community centre including community garden, nature playspace, parent resource cupboard, free nappy program and more
- Establishing literacy project that has distributed over 900 books to local children
- Coordinating local parents pages on social media
- Creation and distribution of over 100 new parent packs

In addition to the vast amount of activities, our partnership with local schools and services reveals some of the impact we are having on families. Additionally, we receive high unsolicited praise for the service.

For more information about getting involved in our ECP activities, please call the centre on 07 54651889 or email [info@laidleycc.org.au](mailto:info@laidleycc.org.au)



Some of the positive feedback we have received from participants in the program include:

*'The children's resources and activities are second to none - the playgroups and the craft boxes delivered during covid restrictions saved our sanity in this house.'*

*'Great staff, great organisation supporting and assisting families'*

*'The play group is awesome; my boys love it. Janella is doing fantastic job with it'*

*'..she has helped both myself and my son come out of our shells'*

*'She's been there through such a horrid time for myself and my son'*

*'always feels welcome, remembers the kids names and shows a real interest in them and the community'*

*'my 5 kids all love the events that get put on the holidays'*



