14th March 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to pledge our wholehearted support to the Far North Queensland Volunteer Tutors Inc. in their endeavour to secure a third round of funding for their Adult Community Literacy and Numeracy Course. Babinda is a small agricultural town who relies heavily on support in training delivery and the positive outcomes for our community and we are more than pleased to furnish this letter of support.

The Babinda community is a hardworking resilient group who would benefit greatly from the realisation of the proposed funding outcomes in many ways. Given the economic position of our community this funding to continue this program our area would hugely benefit our community. Our people would benefit from the skills learned from such training. Our community has changed from one that offered a lot of semi skilled jobs to a town where these jobs are no longer available. Many of our people now need to gain new skills to find other work and literacy and numeracy are the first skills they need.

We fully support again the Far North Queensland Volunteer Tutors Inc. and their request for funding for this wonderful training program and commend their application to you without reservation. We wish them well into the future.

I would be happy to discuss this further at a mutually convenient time. Please feel free to contact me on phone 4067 2900.

Kind regards

Rachel Nicholas
Rural Transaction Centre, and President
Babinda District Community Association Inc
August 13, 2012

Melinda Stockwell  
P.O. Box 1460  
ATHERTON QLD 4883

Dear Melinda,

I, Clare Milne, have trained two groups in Babinda and Innisfail for the Skilling Queenslanders for Work Project. This project has been extremely popular in both venues and I feel the participants generally benefitted from this course. We had a wide range of participants at both venues, the CWA hall in Innisfail and the Babinda Taskforce, with some participants using the course to assist them in starting their own small businesses.

I believe this course is extremely beneficial to both communities as the participants would otherwise not be able to attend similar courses due to financial difficulties, family complications or remote residences. This course allows participants to improve their employment opportunities by gaining new skills and greater confidence. I am extremely happy to have been a part of this project and look forward to further assisting participants in their employment endeavors.

I would also recommend the Community Literacy Program Far North Queensland Volunteer Tutors Inc. for each of the areas where we delivered SQW. The participants as a whole had very low literacy and numeracy levels and this had been a major barrier for them in finding and maintaining employment.

We also had many participants who needed literacy and numeracy but weren’t eligible for Skilling Queenslanders for Work. I would be happy to donate my skills as a trainer for $5,000 worth of free training if we are funded to continue a Community Literacy Program in 2012.

Sincerely,

Clare Milne
To whom it may concern,

FNQ Volunteer Tutors Inc. have been conducting Language, Literacy and Numeracy Courses, as well as basic computer training from our training room here in Mossman. The structure and delivery of the courses has been exceptional as the trainers promote individual and group participation and encourage self-esteem among the course participants.

The training staff are extremely professional and build a strong rapport with both students and Job Services employees. Feedback from the students has been favourable and the success of the program is easily demonstrated by the continual participation of voluntary students.

Not only have the courses been beneficial for the upgrading of job seeker skills, they have been an absolute god send when we have had job seekers requiring an intensive activity or work experience. Since the closure of the TAFE campus in Mossman, there is a genuine need for a registered training facility in the area and FNQ Volunteer Tutors have provided that facility.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any further information or clarification.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Stollery
Employment Co-ordinator
ITEC Employment

3/7 Mill Street
Mossman, QLD 4873
Ph: (07) 40999 200
Fax: (07) 40983 102
To Whom It May Concern:

Jobfind Centre Australia a Job Services Australia provider are happy to support FNQ Volunteer Tutors in delivering the Adult Literacy and Numeracy course to gain future funding to continue their innovative programs.

Jobfind are the only JSA provider that services Babinda. Until FNQ Volunteers started their program, we had in the past found it challenging to get training providers into the area that were affordable and provided a quality service. There is a great need for this program as we have identified the barriers of some Jobseekers to be their lack of literacy and numeracy skills, which we know hinders their chances of gaining ongoing sustainable employment.

The Community itself has been through tough times of late, with the town a year on and still recovering from the affects of tropical cyclone Yasi, compounded with the lack of jobs in the area after the shutdown of the Babinda Sugar Mill. We need to give our jobseekers every opportunity to develop their reading and writing skills and move them onto further education, where they can have the confidence to know they are able to learn new skills as trainees or apprentices.

We fully support FNQ Volunteer Tutors Inc.

Kind regards

Clare Davey | Centre Manager, Cairns | Jobfind Centres Australia | 152 Grafton Street, CAIRNS, QLD 4870
P: (07) 4081 6800 | E: 6813 | F: (07) 4081 6899 | M: 0404 837 955
I, Thea Buthman, of Ngoonbi Co-operative Society Limited, support Far North Queensland Volunteer Tutors Inc. Skilling Queenslanders for Work program in my local community of Kuranda. We would encourage applicants from this course to apply for any entry level positions that may be available in our organization/business on completion of this course. This group and particularly Bryony Stockwell does great work in Kuranda and we all think the world of her. FNQ Volunteer Tutors Inc listens to what we need and helps our people with the skills they missed out on earlier on in their lives.

Yours sincerely

Thea Buthman
Community Support Officer

Ngoonbi Co-operative Society Limited

13 March 2012
Dear Sir/Madam

As Principal of Kuranda District State College, I wish to indicate a firm commitment and high level of support for the ongoing numeracy and literacy training provided by FNQ Volunteer Tutors Inc. This has been occurring in our community this year. I see a great benefit to the students of my school by being a very collaborative partner in the school based activities. I fully endorse the concept and envisage other opportunities for my students which may grow from this initiative.

The course supplements our school curriculum with subject material in the areas they are experiencing difficulty. This added support is aimed at helping the students to achieve their Senior Certificates and continue on to further study and future employment.

Please contact me for further discussion if required.

Regards
Gary Toshach
Principal

20-3-12
To Whom It May Concern

Dear Sir/Madam,

On behalf of the DSCSA Inc Flexi Respite and Family Support Service, I support Bryony Stockwell and the Far North Queensland Volunteer Tutors Inc.'s application for the continuation of the Adult Literacy and Numeracy course.

Our service currently supports two young women with an intellectual disability who have commenced this course in Mossman on a Monday. Whilst they have completed Yr 12 and Yr 13 at a local High School Special Needs unit, they require ongoing one on one tutoring in a quiet place with people they know to support them. Our students are accompanied by their Lifestyle Support Worker to attend each session. They are then able to continue the lessons into the afternoon and practice what is learnt during shopping, excursions and computer tasks here at the centre.

The value of the small classes in a surrounding that they are familiar with is that they enjoy the tasks, set goals, see a benefit in it and are proud of their weekly achievements. It also has the "adult" classes feel that school didn't have and they consider that they are now out in the "working" world and are treated accordingly.

We would like to enrol more clients in future classes.

Please call should you like to talk more about our use of this service.

Yours sincerely

Vivienne Ruffles
Coordinator
21/3/12
I, Phillip Branchard, am writing in support of FNQ Volunteer Tutors Inc. Community Literacy Program.

There are no other organisations in the Mission area offering this great service.

We are in a remote area and not easily reached for these services. We desperately rely on this literacy program to learn important skills that we need in today's life.

We are disadvantaged students and the nearest course is too far to travel and cost too much money and have no other employment services available to us.

I want to see the community literacy program because of these reasons that I have mentioned and many more.

Regards,
PHILIP BRANCHARD
To whom it may concern,
First I would like to thank the government for making this course available and the Babinda Task Force for their support. On commencement of this programme I had only recently purchased a computer and had no idea how to operate it. Now I can find my way around the computer, send email, store photos, search for information on the internet and write this letter.
I am still slow but have a basic idea of how it works and hope to learn a lot more depending on work.
Lastly I would like to thank my teacher Bryong Stockwell for her patience, encouragement, and persistence.
Time and time again I had to be shown things till it finally stuck. And when I had problems at home with my computer, I would bring it to class where she would explain where I was going wrong and ways to avoid it. I was told to practice, focus and not to give up.
I recommend this class to others and hope it continues as it fills a need for people like me who find themselves at loss with computer and have to catch up with the real world.

Yours Sincerely,
Trevor Winch.
To whom it may concern,

I, Janine Jami Gopina am writing in support of FNA Volunteer Tutors Inc. Community Literacy Program. There are no other organisations in Mossman offering these services. As I have no car and there is no public transport available I benefit from this service greatly. I can reach the facility by walking and the supply of equipments by the tutor enables me financially to learn. I enjoy expanding my computer knowledge as an older person so I may also find a little job in employment which requires some computer and literacy knowledge. Mossman is remote and the nearest schooling system is in Cairns. The bus fare to Cairns is $40 one way per person, and $14 to Port Douglas one way per person.

Our tutoring lessons are 3 hours once a week and I humbly ask you not to dismiss my ability for further education. I have a small disability, I am further disadvantaged as our service is the only one here in Mossman. I have come to meet across section of people disabled, unemployed, older persons, migrants and students and see the need to have the community the Literacy Program.

Yours sincerely,

Janine Jami Gopina
7th August 2012.

Noi Gardner
P.O. BOX 51
Munro st
Babinda QLD 4861

To whom it may concern

I, Noi Gardner, am writing in to support of FNQ Volunteer Tutors Inc Community Literacy Program.

There are no other organisations offering this service in our area.

Due to living in a remote area, it is very hard to get transport to go into the city. We have no bus and the train doesn’t stop here in Babinda. I need to keep learning English and the Computer.

Many thanks

NOI GARDNER
Qi Fen Cheng
22 Riflebird Cres
Mossman 4873 Qld.
8-8-2012

I Qi Fen Cheng am writing in support of FNQ Volunteer Tutors inc Community Literacy Program. There are no other organisations offering this service in this area.

I want to save the community literacy program because I need this to improve my skill.

6-8-2012
To whom it may concern

I, Shane McQuillan, am writing to you in support of FNQ Volunteer Tutors Inc community literacy program. There is no other organization offering this service in the area, and to lose this service that offers this resource and brain storming solutions in a small town means a lot to me. It is a few hours a week, and I have noticed big changes to my approach in this small community.

Mossman is a remote area and is not easy to reach over services in Cairns. I have a medical condition and am trying to retrain myself and to lose this opportunity would be a great disadvantage to me.

Regards,
S McQuillan
X M"R
I, Judy Bogart, am writing to support the FNQ Volunteer Tutors Inc. Community Literacy Program.

Babinda is a rural community about 1 hour’s travel from Cairns, and therefore is not generally provided with the services of the city. Public transport is very limited and expensive so I believe we are disadvantaged. I am not aware of any other organisations offering this service in our area.

I wish to express my greatest desire to have these programs continued in the further. It is only with the aid of these programs that I have been able to understand the basic functions of the computer. I can finally do searches on the Internet, and send emails, with a certain amount of confidence. Prior to these classes I could not even turn the computer on without stressing out. However now I have learned to relax and am able to do these tasks.

The importance of the community Literacy Program goes without saying. In this high tech world we are living in, you are left behind if you don’t have a good knowledge of computer operations. If you require any information about anything, you must go to a web site to access that information. As a senior citizen I have not grown up with computers, so without the continuation of these programs I, like many others, will be left behind. Please assist us by providing more classes.

Regards

Judy Bogart

Judy Bogart
P.O. Box 117
Mirriwinni, Qld 4871

Dated 9th August, 2012
3rd August, 2012

To whom it may concern

Hamanga Bubu Ngadimunku Inc. is a not for profit Indigenous organization that supports and assists Indigenous people to become employed, empower them to become more independent and to become involved in wider community activities and services.

Literacy, numeracy and computer skills are essential for the people to be able to succeed in these and many other day to day activities (reading and responding to mail etc.).

Hamanga Bubu Ngadimunku Inc. strongly supports the FNQ Volunteer Tutors Inc. Community Literacy Program as there is no opportunity for people to engage in these courses here.

Public transport does not exist here and the closest opportunity for this type of training is in Cairns, an hours drive away. Very few people have their own transport so this is not an option for them.

There has been an eager response to the training that has been delivered so far and we would very strongly support the continuation of this program.


Jacquie Thomas
Indigenous Community Links Manager