

Annual Report

2024-2025

 **Supporting, Empowering & Engaging Our Community** 



Welcome to the Denmark CRC

Denmark is a town where natural beauty and strong community spirit are deeply connected. With its rugged coastline, pristine beaches, and towering Karri forests, the landscape provides both inspiration and identity. Just as defining, however, is the character of its people diverse, creative, and engaged in building a connected community.

For over 30 years, the Denmark Community Resource Centre has played a central role in this story. Based in the historic Morgan Richards Centre, once the town's first hospital, the CRC has evolved into a hub where people access services, find support, and participate in community life.

Our work balances the practical with the personal. From everyday services such as printing and office support to financial assistance and local programs, the CRC ensures that the needs of residents are met with professionalism, care, and respect.

At its heart, the CRC is about fostering connection, inclusion, and opportunity. We remain committed to strengthening the fabric of our community and ensuring the CRC continues to be a place where everyone feels welcome.





What We Offer

The Denmark CRC continues to play a vital role in supporting our community through a wide range of services and programs. We provide access to essential government services such as Centrelink, Medicare, and TransWA, alongside practical supports including printing, internet access, room hire, and professional services.



Our social initiatives remain a cornerstone of community life, with events such as Death Cafe, Coder Dojo, Hangout space for our youth, Friday Seniors Activities, Gingerbread House decorating, and the Community Christmas Lunch fostering inclusion and connection.



For those experiencing hardship, we provide food assistance, pantry access, vouchers, and referrals to financial counselling, while programs like Soupy Night create opportunities to share a meal and strengthen community ties. We also place a strong focus on learning and skill development, from CoderDojo for young people to Be Connected digital training, Repair Café workshops, and volunteer upskilling.

Together, these initiatives reflect the CRC's commitment to being a safe, supportive, and connected hub for the Denmark community.

Chairperson's Report – Von Quinn

Yet another productive and exciting year with an enthusiastic Management Committee taking on the sometimes difficult and pedantic issues of Governance by the horns and wrestling it into submission!

Major achievements of the Management Committee this past year have been the review of all Governance Policies and the Development of a new and exciting Strategic Plan. My gratitude, and admiration, to those who participated in the sub committees to review and develop our new direction.

At this AGM, we say goodbye to Jade and Liz, valuable and experienced members of our team, who have completed their time with us and have provided valuable input and friendship! Both will be missed and have our lasting gratitude for your efforts over the past years. We wish you well in your new endeavors!

To Gilly, who took on a new employment opportunity which has prevented her from giving her all to us, but her input has been invaluable. As she takes on new responsibilities, she knows we support her in that role.

I said this last year, but cannot say in any better, so Volunteers continue to play a crucial role at CRC, taking on many roles and programs, from the Management Committee, managing programs, Death Café, fixing things at the Repair Café, driving the bus, to housekeeping and gardening. We would not be the vibrant, friendly and effective organization with their support.

Thank you, all your efforts regardless of the size of their contribution.

You are all valued and necessary to our organization, and the Denmark community!

Those in paid positions, from Manager to cleaner, are to be congratulated for their dedication, hard work and generally happy attitude! I know that sometimes each one of you must feel like the ship is sinking, but you just keep going with a smile and friendly word! You get things done! I thank you all for your ongoing commitment!



Chairperson's Report – Von Quinn

I would like to acknowledge, and thank, the key organisations that make it possible for the CRC to keep its doors open, and be responsive to the community. The Department of Primary Industries and Development which provides key operational funding and support, Linkwest, our peak association for support and information, the Shire of Denmark for building lease, maintenance, project funding and support, and Denmark Community Foundation for their ongoing financial support across many programs and initiatives, including the community bus.

So, now that a lot of the hard work has been done, the Management Committee can look forward to an exciting year of new activities, projects and initiatives to support our community. I am stepping down from the position of Chairperson, retiring from all of my roles in the community, at least for a short while. It has been a delight to work with such a group of positive and enthusiastic people as the 2024/25 Management Committee, and I will miss your companionship!

Thank you for your efforts and dedication! I feel confident that I am leaving the CRC in great hands and it will flourish under the new Management Committees' stewardship. I wish you well and offer my ongoing support to this incredible organization.

Von Quinn
Chairperson



Manager's Report – Petra Thompson

This past year has been a very productive and rewarding one for the Denmark Community Resource Centre. We celebrated the 100th year of our building in September, a wonderful milestone that brought our community together to reflect on the history of this space and its ongoing role as a hub of connection and support.

We were also proud to support the return of the Denmark River Arts Markets. These markets are such a vibrant part of our community, and it was a pleasure to assist with coordination and resources to help them get going again.

Another highlight was the launch of our Community Bus Pilot Program. This initiative, made possible through the generous support of the Denmark Community Foundation, is already making a real difference for people needing accessible transport. We are deeply grateful to the Foundation, who are also strong supporters of our Emergency Relief Program and continue to be a vital partner in helping us provide essential support to community members doing it tough.

Our programs have continued to flourish, providing opportunities for learning, connection, and support. “Cuppas & Clicks” has offered a friendly, accessible space for people to build digital skills and confidence. Coder Dojo has inspired young people to explore technology, and our Study Hub has remained a valuable resource for students. Meanwhile, our hardship program has continued to provide practical support to community members facing challenges.

This year we also undertook a very productive strategic planning process. With guidance and support from Linkwest, we are proud to have a solid plan in place for the next three years, ensuring the CRC can continue to grow and respond to the needs of our community in a thoughtful and sustainable way.

None of this would be possible without the people who bring our work to life. I sincerely thank our many volunteers, who generously share their time and skills, and my fabulous staff, whose warmth, professionalism, and commitment make the CRC the welcoming and supportive place it is.

Looking back, it is clear that together we have achieved a great deal. I am excited for the year ahead, confident that we will continue to serve our community with care, collaboration, and dedication.



Treasurer's Summary

This is my first year on the CRC Board and it has been an absolute privilege working with this amazing team (even if I am the only guy)

Often the finance report of an organization is viewed as one of the more “boring” & misunderstood (although vitally important) aspects of a board meeting! So, in addition to working closely with Petra to tidy up areas of the financial reports that were a bit messy, I have also endeavored to make the financial reporting more accessible to and understood by every member of the board, and I think we have made some good progress in this area.

I am aware that there have been some challenging times in previous years, especially in relation to the involvement with and recent separation from Denmark FM. So, it seems I have now inherited a fairly straight forward and robust financial position, for which I am thankful. The financial reports for 2024/25 year reflect this situation and show that the income received over the year has exceeded the operating expenses and there is sufficient money in the bank to cover upcoming payments. What more could we ask for!

As a non-profit organization our financial goal is not to make significant profits, but simply to ensure that there is sufficient income to cover the important services that the CRC provides, that the finances are managed well and that the reports are accurate. Under Petra's competent management and the oversight of the CRC Board, this goal is clearly being achieved, and it seems the overall mood of the CRC is one of excitement and optimism for the future.

In this financial year a new vehicle/bus has been purchased, but apart from this, there has been no other significant capital investment. I will be continuing on as treasurer for another year and look forward to working with the returning and new members of the board to continue to serve the Denmark community in this amazing organization!

Andrew Kowald
Treasurer



Community Support & Emergency Relief

The CRC provides a wide range of support services to help individuals and families in the Denmark community meet both immediate and longer-term needs. Through our programs, people can access essential items such as groceries, fuel, and gas vouchers, easing the pressure on households experiencing financial strain. Our Foodbank and weekly Food Pantry are central to this work, ensuring that everyone in need can access nutritious food.

For those experiencing homelessness, we offer free shower facilities, a kitchen to prepare meals, and washing and drying services. Our welcoming centre also provides a comfortable space to rest, recharge electronic devices, and connect with others in the community.

Beyond material support, the CRC provides guidance and referrals to connect people with the right services for their situation. This includes help navigating housing waitlists, accessing social services, or seeking advice on consumer rights. We also recognise the importance of digital skills in today's world and provide opportunities for people to build confidence with technology. Volunteers are always on hand to offer guidance, answer questions, and provide one-on-one support tailored to individual needs.

The CRC plays a vital role in linking people to the wider community. We help individuals connect with local groups, programs, and initiatives, fostering social connections and creating opportunities for engagement and inclusion.

Through Community Support & Emergency Relief, the CRC combines practical assistance with guidance and connection, ensuring that every member of the Denmark community has access to the resources, support, and pathways they need to participate fully in their town.



3052

People provided government and community information

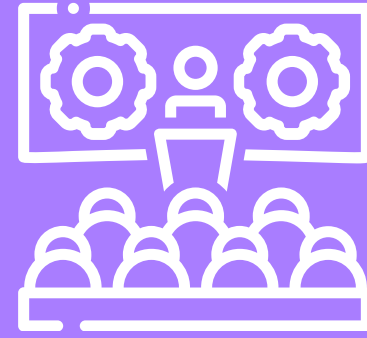


One-on-one IT training sessions provided

245



6



Monthly events delivered

10

Successful grants recieved



Room Hires

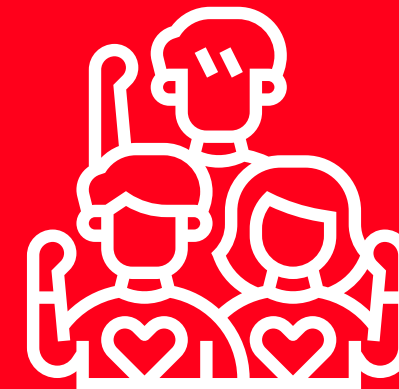
1836



22

Overall services we provide our community

39



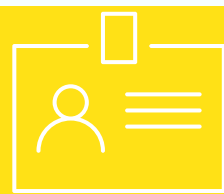
Volunteers engaged

Collaborations with other community groups

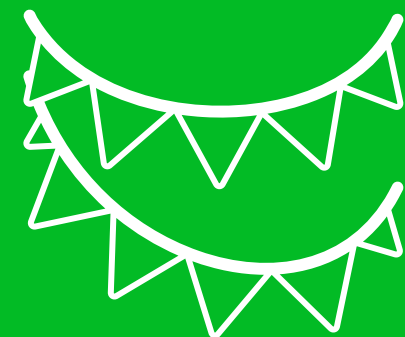
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11



Local people employed



Community events held

43

Youth & Economic Development

The CRC provides a range of programs designed to support young people and strengthen local economic participation. The Hangout is a dedicated space for teens to come together, offering crafts, games, and social activities in a safe and welcoming environment. It's not just about fun it helps young people build friendships, develop social skills, and connect with peers in meaningful ways.

Our Repair Café is another key initiative that blends practical skills with community connection. Volunteers and participants work together to repair bikes, electrical items, clothing, small furniture, and more. The café not only keeps treasured items in use, reducing waste, but also creates opportunities for hands-on learning, skill development, and peer-to-peer mentoring.

Volunteer involvement is a central part of the CRC's approach to economic development. Through programs like the Repair Café and other community projects, volunteers gain valuable experience, upskill in practical and professional areas, and receive ongoing guidance and support. This hands-on learning helps build confidence, capability, and pathways into further work or education.

In addition, the CRC runs a range of engaging events for young people, such as Pizza & Games Night and Cooking Classes, which combine learning with social connection. These activities encourage creativity, teamwork, and practical skills while providing opportunities for young people to participate fully in their community.

By offering social spaces, skill-building opportunities, and practical experiences, the CRC supports youth development while contributing to broader community wellbeing and local economic participation. These programs help young people feel included, valued, and equipped with the skills and confidence to thrive in Denmark.



Community Events

This year the CRC was proud to host and support a wide range of events and activities that brought people of all ages together, strengthened community connections, and celebrated the spirit of Denmark.

Our Gingerbread House Decorating afternoon was once again a festive favourite, filling the CRC with laughter, colour, and creativity as families and children designed their edible masterpieces in the lead-up to Christmas. The joy of the season continued with the Community Christmas Lunch, which provided a welcoming table for locals to share a meal, companionship, and connection during what can be a difficult time for many.

The Giving Tree Appeal highlighted the generosity of our town, with thoughtful donations from community members helping brighten Christmas for local families. These simple acts of kindness reflected the strength and compassion that underpin our community. Throughout the year, the CRC also hosted gallery exhibitions and morning teas, giving local artists a valued platform to showcase their work while creating spaces for conversation, creativity, and connection. Regular programs such as Friday Seniors Activities and CoderDojo provided opportunities for learning and sharing skills, while also fostering friendships and connections across generations. Our youth program, The Hangout, continued to offer a safe and engaging space for young people to socialise, build confidence, and take part in fun activities and events designed to support wellbeing and belonging.

One of the year's most exciting developments was the launch of the Community Bus Pilot Program, run in partnership with the Denmark Community Foundation. This accessible transport option has already made a positive difference by supporting participation, reducing barriers, and helping community members stay connected.

We were also delighted to have a CRC stall at the Easter Markets, which provided a fantastic opportunity to meet with locals and visitors, share information about our services, and celebrate community spirit in a vibrant setting.

A particularly special highlight this year was celebrating 100 years of our beautiful old building, which once served as Denmark's hospital. The event brought our community together to share memories, celebrate how far we've come, and look forward with pride to what's ahead

Together, these events reflect the CRC's ongoing commitment to providing spaces where people can connect, celebrate, learn, and belong.



Volunteers & Staff

The strength of the CRC comes from the people who give their time, skills, and energy to support others. In 2024–25, 39 volunteers contributed generously across every corner of the centre, helping to shape the CRC into a place that is welcoming, supportive, and full of life. Their efforts touched nearly everything we do from assisting with programs and running events to supporting the day-to-day operations that keep the centre running smoothly. Without their dedication, many of the opportunities and services we offer simply wouldn't exist.

At the Community Christmas Lunch, volunteers ensured every plate was full and every guest felt included. Their warmth, care, and attention to detail turned a simple shared meal into a day of connection, laughter, and community spirit. Throughout the year, volunteers also supported the Repair Café, greeted visitors at the front desk, and helped with countless small but essential tasks. Each act of service, no matter how big or small, contributed to making the CRC a vibrant, welcoming space for everyone.

Our staff team played an equally vital role, bringing professionalism, energy, and compassion to every task. Working across administration, finance, project coordination, mentoring, and community engagement, they ensured programs ran smoothly and that people of all ages felt supported and included. From running youth activities at The Hangout, guiding children at CoderDojo, and supporting seniors through regular activities, to coordinating community events and creating new opportunities, their work reached across generations and made a meaningful difference in people's lives.

Together, staff and volunteers form the heart of the CRC. Their combined dedication ensures the centre is far more than a service hub it is a place where people connect, learn, and feel part of something bigger. The impact of their work is felt throughout Denmark, enriching lives, strengthening the sense of belonging, and reinforcing the caring, resilient spirit that makes our town such a special place to live.

This year, as every year, we are reminded that it is the people volunteers, staff, members, and the wider community who truly make the CRC what it is. Their energy, generosity, and commitment allow the CRC to continue creating opportunities, fostering connections, and supporting the wellbeing of everyone who calls Denmark home.



Supporters & Partners

The CRC's work is made possible through the generosity and commitment of our supporters and partners. Every contribution, whether financial, practical, or through shared expertise, helps us deliver programs and services that strengthen Denmark and bring people together.

We are deeply grateful to the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD), the Denmark Community Foundation (DCF), and the Heritage Council for providing vital funding and resources during 2024–25. Their support has helped us respond to local needs, continue delivering essential services, and celebrate important milestones such as the 100-year anniversary of our building.

Our partnerships with local organisations and groups have been equally important. The Denmark Community Foundation continues to be one of our strongest partners. Their generosity made it possible for us to purchase the Community Bus, and they remain a key supporter of our Emergency Relief Program, helping us assist community members in times of need.

The Anglican Church also plays a vital role in supporting our Emergency Relief Program, ensuring we can provide help when it's needed most. Denmark Local Grocer has been another wonderful partner, assisting with the transport of food and contributing regular donations that make a real difference to local families.

Our strong relationship with the Shire and local Council continues to be invaluable in fostering inclusion and cooperation across our town, while our local schools remain an important part of our network, encouraging young people to get involved in volunteering and projects that build confidence and community spirit.

We also want to acknowledge every individual who has given a donation, large or small. Each one makes a difference. It truly shows the spirit of "community helping community," which is a pleasure to see and be part of.

These partnerships and acts of generosity go far beyond financial support. They enrich our programs, strengthen local ties, and help us reach people who might otherwise miss out on opportunities. Working together, we continue to build a Denmark that is connected, resilient, and inclusive.

We offer our heartfelt thanks to every supporter, partner, and friend of the CRC. Your involvement ensures our centre remains a place where people can find support, opportunities, and connection, and your contributions continue to shape positive outcomes for our community.



Looking Ahead to 2025–26

Looking Ahead to 2025–26

This year, we launched our new Strategic Plan, a shared vision for how the CRC will walk alongside our community over the next three years. It reflects the voices of local people, the partnerships we've built, and the opportunities and challenges of life in Denmark.

Our vision is to be Denmark's inclusive hub for connection, innovation, and collaboration, creating a welcoming space where everyone can access guidance, practical help, and opportunities to grow.

Our Strategic Priorities

Communication and Promotions: Ensuring people know about the programs and support available.

Partnerships and Connections: Working with partners to respond to local needs and create opportunities.

Sustainability: Investing in staff: Volunteers, and facilities to continue supporting the community.

Innovation: Expanding learning opportunities, upgrading infrastructure, and keeping a human-centred approach.

Inclusive Culture: Listening, supporting, and valuing everyone who visits or works at the CRC.

Everything we do is about supporting, empowering, and engaging our community. Initiatives like Death Cafe, Repair Cafe, and Get Online Week create spaces where people connect, learn, and thrive. Our digital and creative programs help people build skills, share stories, and explore ideas together.

In 2025–26, we will continue our youth programs, helping seniors stay connected, and supporting people facing hardship challenges. With strong partnerships and community input, the CRC will keep bringing people together and strengthening the sense of belonging that makes Denmark a special place to live.



Thankyou

We'd like to extend our sincere thanks to our staff, volunteers, members, funders, and the wider Denmark community. Everything the CRC achieves comes from the people who stand behind it those who share their time, skills, and support to make this a place where everyone can connect, learn, and feel part of something.

Our staff bring dedication, warmth, and creativity to their work each day, making sure every person who visits the CRC feels welcome and supported. From helping people access services to running programs and community events, they go above and beyond to meet local needs with care and compassion.

Our volunteers are at the heart of what we do. They contribute their time, knowledge, and enthusiasm in so many ways greeting visitors, repairing items at the Repair Café, supporting youth programs, and helping at events. Their kindness and generosity capture the true spirit of Denmark: friendly, resourceful, and community-focused.

We're also thankful for our members, whose continued belief in the CRC helps us grow and adapt to meet the needs of Denmark and the surrounding areas. Their support reflects the shared values of connection and belonging that run deep in our town.

To our funders and partners, we are truly grateful for your trust and ongoing support. Your contributions make it possible for us to deliver valuable programs and services from emergency relief and community transport to youth engagement and digital access helping us respond to what matters most.

And to our wider community, thank you. Whether you drop in for a chat, attend a workshop, or lend a hand, you help keep the CRC vibrant and welcoming. Every visit, every conversation, and every moment of connection adds to the sense of belonging that makes Denmark so special.

Together, we are much more than a community centre, we are a reflection of the caring, resilient, and generous spirit that defines Denmark. With your continued support, the CRC will keep creating opportunities for connection, growth, and community wellbeing well into the future.



