Sunshine Butterflies

YOUR local DISABILITY SUPPORT CHARITY

Early Learning Excursions





"Of all the people in this world there is only one you.
Let your light shine"

IS YOUR SCHOOL/CENTRE LOOKING TO CONNECT WITH THEIR COMMUNITY??

Sunshine Butterflies is a disability support service and not for profit charity.

Sunshine Butterflies strives to improve the lives of those with disability and their families.

Sunshine Butterflies was founded in 2010 by Leanne and Damien Walsh whose son Curtis was born 13 weeks premature with Cerebral Palsy in 1995. Through Leanne's experience, passion and dedication, the Sunshine Butterflies' vision and mission to provide a better future for people with disability began.

Sunshine Butterflies provides a broad range of recreational, educational and life skills programs for individuals of all ages.

Our unique 15-acre space 'Our Backyard' - the home of Sunshine Butterflies, is where we deliver our range of programs, support services, therapies, and activities for people with disability and their families.

Sunshine Butterflies is more than a disability support service, our vision is empowering people with disability, by creating a unique and all-inclusive community.

Our Vision

Empowering people with disability by creating a unique and all-inclusive community.

Our Mission

By providing opportunities and pathways through programs and services that create a sense of purpose and belonging.

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Our Values

U **Unified Team**
A team is not a group of people that work together. A team is a group of people that trust each other. "Welcome to the best team ever".

N **Nurture – People, Place and Purpose**
We provide a supportive environment where we care, protect and develop growth.

I **Innovate, Challenge, Change & Create**
"Vision with action can change the world".

Q **Quality Recruiting - Retain the Best**
Our talented staff thrive in our culture.
"We are a great place to work".

U **Uphold –**
Our Vision, Our Principles and Our Values
We treat each other with respect and speak openly, listen actively and communicate with honesty, integrity and kindness.

E **Empower**
We provide our people with opportunities to develop and achieve personal growth.
"We rise by lifting others".

We Listen. We Create. We Deliver.

CEO/Founder - Leanne Walsh



Leanne's passion and dedication towards disability education, awareness and inclusion began together with her husband Damien and their son Curtis, who was born 13 weeks premature with Cerebral Palsy.

Leanne's desire to make her community an inclusive and accepting place has earned her numerous awards that include; a Rotary International Paul Harris Fellow, QLD Disability Action Week Awards and Australia Day Local Legends Award.

It is because of her commitment and contribution that Leanne has made big changes in the lives of people with disability and their families.

"Having a child with disability is a lifelong thing. It doesn't go away when they turn a certain age or leave school. Support needs to be effective and ongoing, catering for individual circumstances"



Leanne has created a successful concept through Sunshine Butterflies that has received ministerial recognition and it is because of Leanne's enthusiasm, love and devotion towards her son Curtis that Sunshine Butterflies continues to flourish, thrive, prosper and grow to promote and support others in their mission for acceptance within an inclusive and supportive community.

Supporting our Members

From humble beginnings in 2010, Sunshine Butterflies has grown from being a volunteer run organisation with a handful of members, to becoming one of the region's largest employers and supporting hundreds of people with disability.

Leanne Walsh has made it her mission to reduce the stigma of disability within her community and now leads a passionate team of over 90 staff and 30 volunteers, who continue to help make this dream a reality.



From the very beginning, Sunshine Butterflies was operating in a garage in Leanne Walsh's Tewantin residence with just 3 Members and 4 Volunteers, all chipping away at Leanne's lifelong vision of creating a unique and all-inclusive disability support service.

Sunshine Butterflies now provides a broad range of daily recreational, educational and life skills programs for individuals of all ages.

Sunshine Butterflies' unique range of programs, activities and services are changing the lives of many individuals with disability and their families.

With the help of sponsors, contributors, grants and donations we have been able to create these much-needed programs and services which are life-changing to those with disability.

Our range of programs include:

All sports
Big Day Out
Butterfly Bakers
Chippies Corner
Commando Outdoor Education
Community Connect
Drama Kings & Queens
Farmability
Farmyard Cooking School
Gone Fishin'
Kiss My Art
Learning Garden Kitchen
Rockability
Tech Connect

Our activities include:

Social Saturdays

Our Therapies include:

Exercise Physiology
Psychology
Speech Therapy







"Vision, with action, can change the world".
-J.A.Baker

We Listen. We Create. We Deliver.

'Our Backyard'

Our Backyard' is a 15-acre community facility set in the Noosa Countryside that provides the space to deliver a range of programs, support services and activities for people with disability.

Since purchasing the land in 2014, Sunshine Butterflies has transformed the 15-acre property to accommodate a variety of services including, social and skills-based programs, animal enrichment sessions, Supported Independent Living, therapeutic services, recreational programs and community events.

'Our Backyard' has plenty of facilities for everyone to enjoy, including a Learning Kitchen and Garden, a large Activity Shed, an Adventure Playground, Therapy Rooms, Farm stables and an Accessible Pool and Supported Independent Living options.

'Our Backyard' is a place of learning, purpose and belonging.

In June 2021 we spread our wings and purchased the 10-acre property next door expanding 'Our Backyard' into a 15-acre oasis.

This will provide the space for us to expand our educational and recreational programs, allowing us to support more people with disability and their families.

This next 10 acres will provide Sunshine Butterflies with the space to provide more facilities and car parking for our staff and visitors, making 'Our Backyard' even more accessible to the community.

We are very excited to have plenty more space for outdoor activities and for our furry and feathered farm animals to roam.

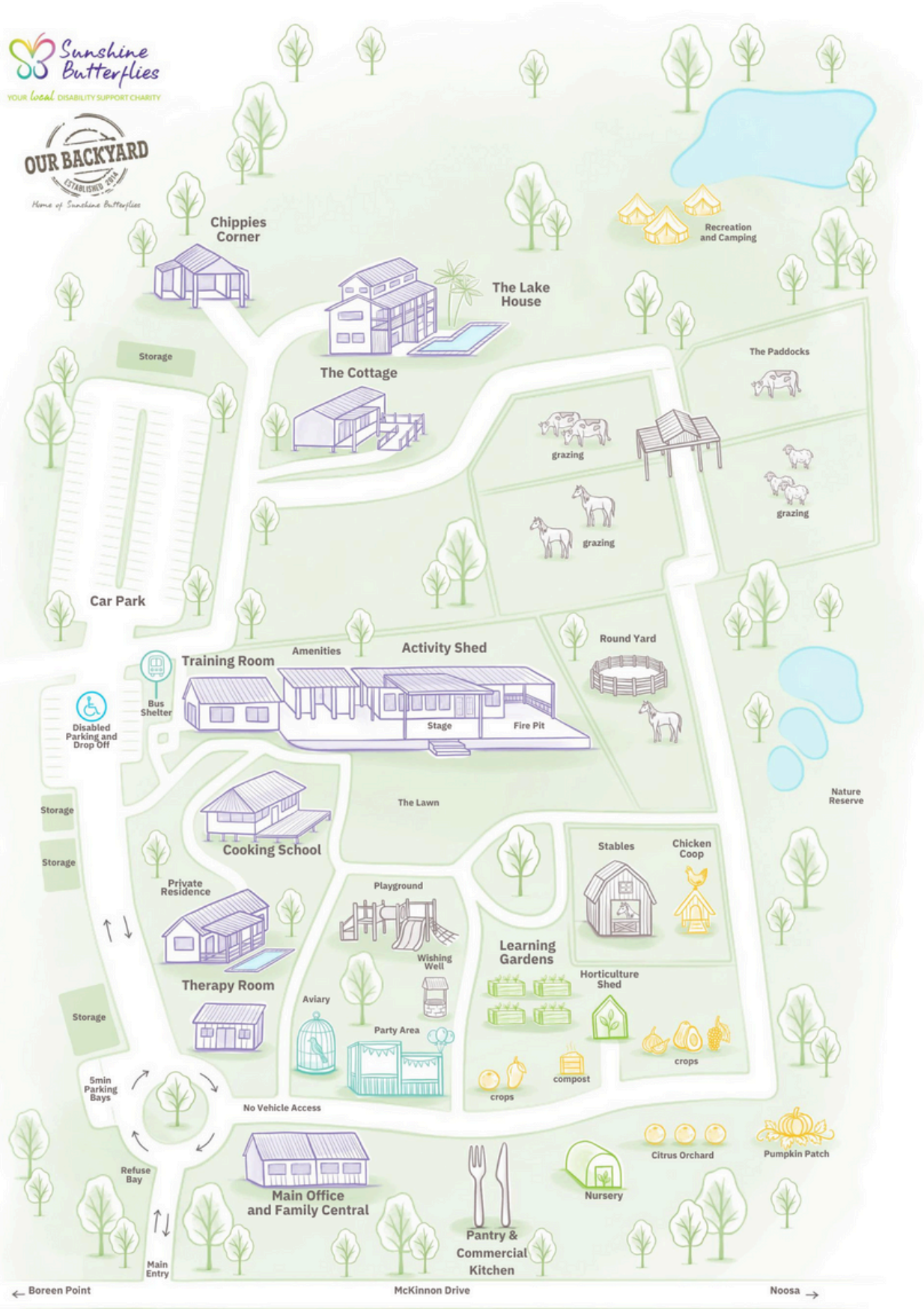
But most importantly, this extra space will allow us to provide small-scale, residential-supported homes for those with disability on the Sunshine Coast.

Sunshine Butterflies' growth has brought with it many individuals and families who are in need of support, new and innovative programs and activities for people with disability, multiple community partnerships, and a more inclusive and supportive environment for people with disability.

Throughout the challenges and changes, Sunshine Butterflies has experienced over the past 10 years, we continue to put our members and their families at the core of all of our activities and we look forward to what the future holds.

Our uniquely flexible and respectful culture that supports our individuals and their families with disability is what sets us apart.




Sunshine Butterflies
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OUR BACKYARD ESTABLISHED 2014
Home of Sunshine Butterflies
Chippies Corner
The Lake House
Recreation and Camping
Storage
The Cottage
The Paddocks
grazing
grazing
grazing
Car Park
Round Yard
Training Room
Amenities
Activity Shed
Bus Shelter
Disabled Parking and Drop Off
Stage
Fire Pit
Nature Reserve
The Lawn
Storage
Storage
Cooking School
Stables
Chicken Coop
Private Residence
Playground
Wishing Well
Learning Gardens
Horticulture Shed
Therapy Room
Aviary
Party Area
Storage
crops
compost
crops
5min Parking Bays
No Vehicle Access
Citrus Orchard
Pumpkin Patch
Refuse Bay
Main Office and Family Central
Nursery
Pantry & Commercial Kitchen
Main Entry
Boreen Point
McKinnon Drive
Noosa

EXCURSIONS

Schools, Child Care Centres, Kindergartens, Early Learning Centres

Come and visit 'Our Backyard' and enjoy exploring our paddocks, dams, orchard, landscaped areas and stables while learning about Sunshine Butterflies, our farm animals, paddock rotation and composting.

Enjoy morning tea or a picnic lunch around the dams and finish your visit exploring our Adventure playground and treehouse.

SAMPLE DAY:

9 am Arrival
9.15 am Welcome & History of Sunshine Butterflies & Our Backyard
10.15 am Morning Tea
10.30 am Garden and Farm tour with search and find activity
12 pm Lunch and play in our Adventure Playground
12.30 pm Home time



Costings

$10 per person

Sunshine Butterflies relies on the generosity of grants and donations to create a beautiful, meaningful place where people with disability can connect, learn and grow.

Many of Sunshine Butterflies projects, events and infrastructure are non-government funded, so we rely on grants and donations to be able to create these important spaces and events for people with disability.

The funds that we receive from your generosity are put towards more substantial projects, facility upgrades, essential items or programs that may not receive conventional funding.

Give a gift to help Sunshine Butterflies continue to build an inclusive and accepting community, creating a space where people with disability feel safe, supported and empowered.

Sunshine Butterflies Inc., is a registered charity.
All donations over $2 are fully tax-deductible.



"What an amazing experience it was for our students from Rainbow Beach to visit Sunshine Butterflies. The staff, volunteers and members worked together to show us around their 'backyard' and what a wonderful job they did. The grounds are beautiful, with an amazing edible garden and all the animals are so happy and well cared for. The children loved it and learnt a lot, not just about caring for plants and animals but also people with disabilities. We will definitely visit again. Thank you Sunshine Butterflies."

Samantha Langton - Rainbow Beach Primary School

Sunshine Butterflies

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Contact us

Thank you for considering a visit to Sunshine Butterflies.

For further information please contact
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