



THE UNIVERSITY  
OF QUEENSLAND  
AUSTRALIA



The University of Queensland  
**ROTARY  
PEACE CENTRE**

# INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE BRISBANE

## CELEBRATING BRISBANE AGENTS OF PEACE 2023 Nundah Community Enterprises Co-operative (NCEC or Nundah Co-op)



Nundah Community Enterprises Co-operative (NCEC or Nundah Co-op) was formed in 1998 to create sustainable employment and training opportunities for people with cognitive and/or psycho-social disabilities and has since expanded to include people from refugee and asylum seeker backgrounds.

### **From little things big things grow.**

NCEC was thrilled to be named Australia's best small social enterprise in 2015 and doubly thrilled to be awarded Australia's best large social enterprise in 2020!

### **Supporting People With Meaningful Work**

We are a not-for-profit organisation that currently engages more than 50 people in meaningful work opportunities through several small enterprises: Espresso Train Café & Catering, Marhaba Cafe, The Good Food Project, NCEC Parks & Property Crews and our new Youth Co-op. Many of our members have struggled to find their place in the current economic structure. They're keen to work, but due to the pace they learn at, employers are often unwilling to support them.

### **Lasting Impact**

NCEC creates more than 11,000 hours of long-term employment annually to people with disabilities and people from refugee or asylum seeker background; as well as providing social enterprise training to community start-ups. Our model is different than the standard 'flow through model' of employment training, in that we transform the local economy to create lasting job opportunities for those who have been excluded.

### **Our Partners**

We would not be here today without key partners and supporters including: Brisbane City Council, Community Living Association, Westpac Foundation, Social Ventures Australia and Foresters Community Finance. Whilst we derive the bulk of our income (approximately 80%) from trade, we would not be in this position without our partners previous offers of business, support and investment.

### **Triple Bottom Line**

NCEC believes that social and environmental responsibility can align with the financial sustainability of a business. Accordingly the Co-op seeks to make business decisions which support an inclusive and just community as well as a sustainable environment. Examples include: our inclusion of disadvantaged workers, sourcing goods (where we can) seasonally and directly from local farmers and an investment in P.V. solar which sees NCEC produce more than 2/3 of the electricity it uses!