



Gympie And District Sustainability Alliance

CAI and GADSA partner to improve social housing in Gympie Region

Community Action Inc (CAI) provides community housing, support services and accommodation for young people, support services and accommodation for women and children experiencing domestic and family violence, financial counselling and multicultural services. Gympie And District Sustainability Alliance (GADSA) advocates for and encourages the adoption of technologies that reduces greenhouse gas emissions. Both groups recognise that energy use and cost is a major cause of inequity in our community, with lower socio-economic sectors unable to afford the benefits of adopting solar energy and normally also living in energy inefficient buildings.

CAI and GADSA agreed to work together to improve the energy efficiency of the social housing in our Region. This could include:

- Insulating the buildings so less energy is needed to heat or cool the living space and to make this area more comfortable for the occupants,
- Replace inefficient hot water systems with modern, energy efficient systems such as solar or heat pump systems to reduce energy use,
- Installation of rooftop solar and battery storage systems to reduce grid sourced electricity and greenhouse gas emissions,
- Installation of roof space ventilation to remove hot air and humidity from ceiling spaces to help cool the building and minimise mould in the structure.

The benefits of this program will flow across our community:

- The energy bills for CAI will decline, freeing these resources to be used elsewhere in their programs.
- Housing residents who pay for their own energy will have reduced energy cost, allowing this to be spent in our community.
- Clients of CAI will be more comfortable and healthy in their homes.
- Local businesses will be used to implement the building upgrades.
- The reduced energy use overall will reduce our communities contribution to greenhouse gas emissions and climate change.

The initial stage of this plan is to commence work on the two buildings owned by CAI with the work to be undertaken in 2023-24 financial year. Subsequently, buildings owned by others (170+) but managed by CAI will be upgraded following negotiations with the various building owners.

CAI and GADSA need to raise funds for the initial stage of this project, requiring an estimated \$71,000 (excluding GST). CAI is a not-for-profit (PBI) community organisation based in Gympie (Qld) with registered charity and deductible gift recipient (DGR) status. **Tax deductible donations to CAI** can be made by accessing their website <https://communityactiongympie.com.au>, or contacting CAI by Phone (07) 5482 8959 or email accounts@communityactiongympie.com.au.

GADSA welcomes donations under the **Containers for Change** program for this project. Donate your containers at any Recycle It depot using **Member No. 11055810** and **Name: GADSA**. The funds will automatically be deposited in the GADSA Community account and use to support this project. Container collections from your home may be arranged at <https://www.containersforchange.com.au/qld/container-collect>. These funds will all go towards this project. Any surplus funds raised in this first stage of the project will be held by CAI for the subsequent stages.

We look forward to our community supporting this socially and environmentally desirable project.

Ruth Tidswell, General Manager, Community Action Inc.
Murray Keys, President, Gympie and District Sustainability Alliance.



Discussing the potential for Solar System at the Nash St.



CAI Energy Efficiency Project

Community Action needs funds to make their social housing energy efficient and to install solar and battery systems. GADSA supports this project as it will:

- reduce energy use, costs and greenhouse gas emissions.
- improve the health and well being of the residents.
- counteract the economic disadvantage that residents suffer due to their economic situation.
- utilise local businesses where possible.

We are asking our Gympie Regional community to support this project by donating to Community Action Inc. A receipt for your tax-deductible donation will be generated if you donate by:

Website: <https://communityactiongympie.com.au>

Contacting Community Action direct: Phone (07) 5482 8959 or email accounts@communityactiongympie.com.au

Containers for Change donations are anonymous and no receipt is issued. Donate to a GADSA account for our community project supporting CAI:

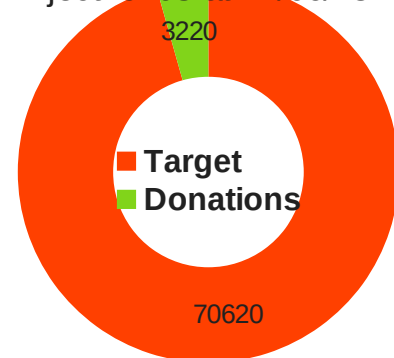
Member No.: 11055810

Name: GADSA

Collections from your home can be arranged at

<https://www.containersforchange.com.au/qld/container-collect>.

CAI Energy Efficiency Project funds at 21/06/23



Thank you for your support.