



Empowering young people to build their own futures

Quarterly Report

Term 1, 2022



Message from the founder

Welcome to our first Quarterly Report of the year. 2022 has already tested our communities in unexpected ways, and once again, we've all had to dig deep for grit and resilience. With rising COVID numbers, and floods devastating the communities we work with across South East Queensland and beyond, it's never been more important for vulnerable young people to have the additional support that TRACTION programs uniquely deliver.

The challenges faced by our young people, their schools and the wider community required us to adapt quickly. Our team delivered condensed programs, to ensure that all our young people were able to complete their TRACTION projects and experience the sense of success that is central to our programs' impact. Our Mentors also spent extra time working with our young people on positive coping

strategies, to help them effectively navigate any anxiety they may have been experiencing.

While some of our referral partners needed to postpone their programs in Term 1, this only means that the rest of 2022 will be busier than ever, with even more schools and young people to support. There is a lot of work to be done, and we are grateful for our dedicated



TRACTION takes them out of the classroom and sets another support structure in place. A great sense of achievement in a relatively short timeframe. Reward and recognition are placed together and that's why TRACTION works really well.

Term 1 TRACTION Parent

community of supporters who make this possible.

We continue to receive testimonials from young people, their parents and school staff, which highlight the immense positive impact TRACTION programs are having. What is alarming, is that there are so few support options for some of these young people. We realise that we need to grow to meet the need.



Driving us into the next stage of TRACTION's growth and development is our 2022-2025 Strategic Plan. Our focus is now on the following five strategic themes:

1. Providing access to quality programs that deliver enduring impact
2. Developing our people and strengthening our team
3. Evidencing our impact
4. Positioning TRACTION as an organisation trusted to make a difference
5. Ensuring our longevity and building a sustainable, for-purpose organisation

On behalf of the TRACTION team, we thank you for your unwavering support in these challenging times, and we hope that you and your loved ones stay safe and well.

Yours sincerely,

Sandy Murdoch



I just wanted to thank you all from the bottom of my heart. My son has enjoyed participating in TRACTION immensely. He got excited every Wednesday afternoon about going to the program on Thursdays and has grown in many ways. He is more confident in his abilities, has a better image of himself and has learned about commitment and teamwork. You gave our boy more than the last few years of therapy has done and it means the world to us. You just know how to deal with teenagers, get through to them and support them to flourish and see their own potential.

Term 1 parent



TRACTION works because it gives the students confidence in their own abilities. The program allows students to take ownership over their work and they are proud to show their families and friends the results.



TRACTION builds social skills and gives students a sense of pride from their achievements.

Representatives from TRACTION partner schools

2.

Progress to date

Term 4 in Review - the Key Numbers

51	Participants (young people) engaged, including from:
9	Redlands
4	Brisbane South
5	Logan
10	Scenic Rim
5	Ipswich
6	Gold Coast
12	Holiday and mobile workshops
95%	Program completion rate
85%	Program attendance rate
47	Bicycles donated to young people
2,406	Hours of mentoring provided
10	Referral agencies supported – including schools, community service organisations, government and other agencies
3	Types of programs delivered including Bicycle Build, Boom Box, Small Engines and 1-day/school holiday formats



6	Number of regions where programs were delivered
8	Program delivery locations

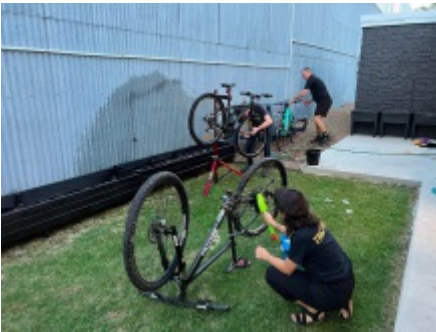
Cumulative to date (since July 2015)

1,775	Participants (young people) engaged, including from:
618	Redlands
337	Brisbane South
35	Brisbane North
128	Logan
170	Scenic Rim
35	Ipswich
33	Gold Coast
12	Moreton Bay
407	Through Outreach, Mobile or Holiday programs
1,514	Bicycles donated to vulnerable young people
76,833	Hours of mentoring provided

Term 1 Highlights



TRACTION bike techs joined forces with **99 Bikes Annerley** to help members of Yeerongpilly and the surrounding community get their flood-affected bikes back on the road! Thanks to **Councillor Nicole Johnston** for supporting this initiative.



“It will help me with career goals and help me with socialising which is something I need help with in the big wide world.”

Term 1 participant



“I got to learn something in a completely new environment and vibe, and I also got to stray from my typical learning friendship group. It was also very fun because I got to see the outcome of my hard work, which was a custom bike with my own design.”

Term 1 participant



Young people from **Beenleigh Special School** engaged in the TRACTION Bike Build program for the first time, out of a new venue - the "Woodshed" at **Youth Enterprise Trust's Woodstock farm** in the Logan region!



“It helps young people figure out what they want to do. It guides them into the right path.”

Term 1 participant



“It was a small group and the support that he got is more focussed than classroom teachers can give him. He felt more confident to speak up or ask for help. The TRACTION Mentors were always there to answer his questions or encourage him with whatever he needed. It was his work, there was no-one else doing it for him. It was his accomplishment.”

Term 1 parent



“It teaches young boys to work together with adults and their peers. We learnt about each other and at first we were shy but the Mentors helped us gain confidence.”

Term 1 participant

We welcomed more new school partners for 2022! We were thrilled to support young people from **YMCA Vocational School - Redlands, Holland Park State High School and Upper Coomera State College** for the first time through the TRACTION Bike Build Program.

“ It helps you to develop new skills. It helps you become more confident in talking and expressing yourself.

Term 1 participant



TRACTION partnered once again with **“Project Booyah”** to deliver the Bike Build program to young people engaged in a 16-week police mentoring program, intended to help disconnected young people regain their sense of self-worth, build resilience and connect to community.

Another group of young people from the Scenic Rim completed the Small Engines program, this time from **Beaudesert State High School**.



“ It’s inclusive of the children regardless of their background. They all have a place and they feel a sense of belonging. The fact is they are treated like young adults instead of children. The Mentors inspire the children and have such enthusiasm which engages the young people.

Term 1 parent

Our Impact – results for young people

Engagement in learning



65% of parents/guardians confirmed that TRACTION helped their child feel more engaged and better able to cope with school

Schools reported that during TRACTION,

60% of young people had shown an improved attitude towards school since commencing TRACTION

23% reduction in the school's level of concern about students behaviour with 63% of schools attributing this change to TRACTION

TRACTION helped **90%** of young people think about what they want to do in the future and steps to achieve it

Schools reported that **60%** of students had improved their level of effort at school

86% of young people reported feeling more positive about going to or being at school

Schools reported that attendance had improved by **34%**

Schools reported that **60%** of students had improved their level of effort at school

Resilience and mental health



92% of young people reported that TRACTION helped them build confidence

73% of parents/guardians confirmed that TRACTION helped their child learn ways to cope with feeling angry or upset

63% of schools reported that students were coping better with the demands of school

88% of parents/guardians noticed their child discovering self-confidence and developing their strengths

95% of young people said that TRACTION helped them feel that they can contribute positively to the wider community

Schools reported that **56%** of students were enjoying improved interactions with peers

Schools reported that **63%** of students were interacting more positively with teachers

Schools reported that the self-confidence of **60%** of their students had improved

Behaviour and skills



90% of young people reported that TRACTION helped them feel more motivated to seek help from an adult or support service if required

65% of parents/guardians agreed that the general behaviour of their child had improved since being at TRACTION

95% of young people reported that they have learnt ways to cope with stress, feeling angry or upset

95% of young people reported they developed better teamwork skills and 82% had developed better leadership skills

58% parents/guardians confirmed their child has improved their skills for working with and being more supportive of others

86% of young people agreed that TRACTION has helped them make safer and healthier choices

71% of young people report TRACTION has helped them get along better with family or other important people in their life

100% of young people felt they had developed practical skills that could help prepare them for a job or work

How your support makes a difference



Lincoln

Lincoln completed the Small Engines program this term, supported by mentors Ricko and Ben. We sat down for a chat about how the program helped him, what it was like working with the Mentors, and his new plans for his future. Here is what he had to say:



"Before TRACTION, I wasn't going too well to be honest. I was being really disruptive and annoying people, and not showing good respect. But now that I've been going to TRACTION, I've been doing so much better - I've been listening to teachers, not being as disruptive, doing my work, and talking to people better.

Working with the Mentors has been so fun. They're really nice. It's better than normal school to me.

The people here treat you with respect and you can have deep conversations with them and reflect on the same.

I know I would want to be a carpenter or a builder, but I didn't

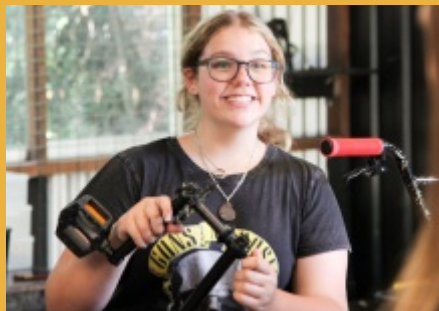
think I would make it. But servicing the mower and doing the engines and everything has boosted me to do what I like. Instead of everyone else choosing what I want, it's letting me have confidence in picking what I want.

I've been coming home happier, actually being more respectful to people and having fun, instead of just sitting in my room, not talking to anyone. My mum's proud of me as well.

Recently from grades 7 to 8, I've been getting C's and D's, but I think now that I'm listening more in class and everything, I can get higher grades.

(Before TRACTION) I would want to go to TAFE or something. Now I'll probably study until grade 12... It's helped me learn and get better grades so I can get a good job when I'm older."

Maddie



Maddie wants to be a mechanic when she leaves school, and we're excited to support her to build a foundation of workshop skills... and then watch her go on to achieve her dreams.

Maddie's favourite parts of the Bike Build program so far?

"Surprisingly, the socialising - I've made some new friends. The painting has also been good and working on the tools - I really enjoy that."



Team member in focus:

Richard Hallett – Child Safety Officer



The safety and wellbeing of young people is central to our work at TRACTION, and our Child Safety Officer has a vital role ensuring TRACTION's policies, procedures and reporting tools are up-to-date and in line with legislation and best practice. My responsibility to our young people involves writing policies and managing reporting tools, contributing to risk assessments, undertaking audits, and managing child safety onboarding of staff – a rigorous process of conducting working with children checks, police checks and training.

Richard says, "What I really value about TRACTION programs is the opportunity for our Mentors to be a positive role model in a flexible learning environment that can better serve the needs of the young people".

3.

Partnership focus



At TRACTION we value partnerships with like-minded organisations and believe that working together we can make a more powerful difference for vulnerable young people in our local community. We are proud to have **Ausenco** as a valued partner, working with us to help our young people go places.

Recently we welcomed 3 members of the Ausenco team, including Project Engineers and a Contract Manager, who will be getting on the tools and working alongside our young people in a Term 2 Bike Build program as volunteer mentors! Over the course of the term, each volunteer will spend a day a week across 3 weeks engaging with our young people, supporting their needs and directly strengthening their outcomes.

To get our partnership started, the Ausenco team joined in the celebrations with a group of young people and their TRACTION Mentors on the last day of their program in Term 1 at our Yeerongpilly workshop. They spent time with the young people, who were proud to show their completed bikes and talk with the Ausenco team about their TRACTION experience. Having the Ausenco team visit was a great start to our partnership.



We also kicked off an exciting partnership with **UnLtd**, a social purpose organisation that connects media, marketing and creative industries with grassroots Australian charities to ensure every young Australian can fulfil their potential.



In 2021, TRACTION was proud to become the first Brisbane-based Charity Partner for UnLtd with their expansion into Queensland. TRACTION attended the first Queensland industry event, UnLtd Big Clash, which saw Brisbane's media owners go head-to-head with agencies on the pitch for a cracking day of friendly competition and fundraising. The event raised an impressive \$38,000 that will go

“ TRACTION gives kids with behavioural problems something to focus on which excites them and interests them so they can wake up and do something which results in more positive behaviour.

Term 1 parent

towards UnLtd's work supporting 25 grassroots organisations in Australia – including TRACTION!

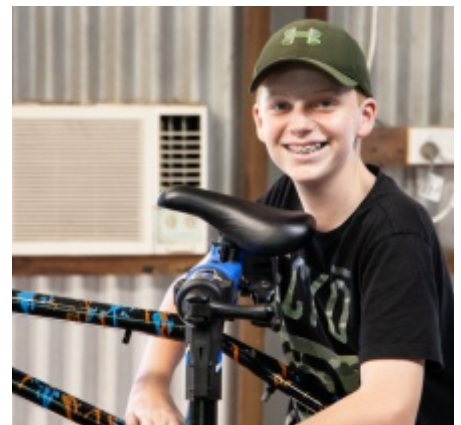


“ TRACTION makes learning new skills fun. It takes them out of their social comfort zone. The TRACTION staff are simply fantastic.

Term 1 parent

“ I'm an anxious person and it was good to have 2 Mentors that understand how you feel and help talk you through anything you need.

Term 1 participant



4.

With thanks from TRACTION

Thank you to:

- **The Bryan Foundation** for continuing their partnership with TRACTION with \$50,000 in support each year for another 3 years to help expand our reach.
- **The Morgans Foundation** for extending their partnership with TRACTION for another 3 years with an annual \$30,000 donation to help more young people access TRACTION programs.
- **The 2021 Chain Reaction Women's cyclists** for an additional donation of \$24,375 to support our programs, on top of the \$200,000 they raised from their ride last year.
- **The Lord Mayor's Charitable Trust** for \$7,048 to provide our workshops with a years' worth of PPE and safety equipment.

Thank you also to the following partners for their generous donations this quarter:

- The Rotary Club of New Farm
- Nicholas Hay and William Brice
- Sherrin Partners
- Jon Krause MP, Member for the Scenic Rim



5.

Looking ahead



In Term 2, TRACTION will continue to extend its reach across South East Queensland, including launching pilot programs in the **Ipswich** and **Moreton Bay** regions.

We are also excited to launch the pilot of the "**Fuel Up**" program in partnership with **Health and Wellbeing Queensland**. This innovative nutrition and food preparation program will combine TRACTION's unique mentoring and hands-on learning approach with a curriculum co-designed by the young people themselves.

TRACTION relies on community donations, corporate sponsorship and grants to meet the costs of delivering programs for young people and **we welcome your ongoing support.**

6.

About TRACTION

At TRACTION, **our mission is to empower young people to build their own futures.**

Our approach

TRACTION provides the opportunity for vulnerable young people to participate in a safe, workplace-like learning environment, "on the tools".

Young people form connections with peers and positive adults. They discover talents, develop strengths and build goal setting, teamwork and leadership skills for learning and work. The experience strengthens resilience, improves wellbeing and provides a foundation for improved future employment opportunities.

Visit **www.traction.community** contact us at **connect@traction.community** or follow **[@atractionbuilds](https://www.instagram.com/atractionbuilds)** on Instagram, Facebook and LinkedIn.



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