

A PERMANENT WORK CAMP FOR CLERMONT

SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES. BUILDING SKILLS. CREATING BETTER PATHWAYS

For more than thirty years, the Clermont Work Camp has played a quiet but deeply meaningful role in the Isaac region. It has supported community groups, maintained local facilities, assisted in disaster recovery and provided people in custody with the chance to learn new skills and rebuild confidence.

In a time when volunteer numbers are declining and community groups are under pressure, the Work Camp remains a valuable support to our region. It connects people, helps projects get done and strengthens the social fabric of our towns.

The opportunity now is to expand the Work Camp to operate permanently, ensuring it continues to deliver benefits to both the community and participants well into the future.

↓ WHY IT MATTERS?

Many regional towns are finding it harder to maintain the services, programs and events that bring people together. Volunteers are stretched. Workers often travel long distances or work shift patterns that make it difficult to volunteer regularly. At the same time, the need for practical support is growing.

The Clermont Work Camp provides a reliable and skilled workforce that can assist community organisations, clubs, councils and event organisers. It helps keep towns active, welcoming and well cared for.

The program also plays a key role in rehabilitation. Participants gain practical abilities, work habits, confidence and a sense of purpose. Contributing to the community helps build stronger pathways back into employment and reduces the likelihood of reoffending. It supports dignity, accountability and personal growth.

↓ WHAT THE PROGRAM ALREADY DELIVERS

The Work Camp has well-established partnerships with local organisations and clear operating

arrangements through Queensland Corrective Services.

There is accommodation, supervision, equipment and structured work programs already in place.

Participants work on projects that have real meaning for the community. They learn teamwork, communication and practical trade skills. They leave better prepared to step into jobs, families and community life.

By expanding the Work Camp to full-time operations, the program could support a greater number of activities that communities rely on, including:

- Maintenance of community facilities and public spaces
- Support for sporting clubs and showgrounds
- Assistance with local events
- Disaster recovery and resilience work
- Programs linked to training and employment pathways

This expansion would increase the capacity of community groups while deepening rehabilitation outcomes for participants. It is a practical, achievable investment in community strength.

→ WHAT WE'RE ADVOCATING FOR

Isaac Regional Council is seeking support from the Queensland Government to:

- **Establish the Clermont Work Camp** as a permanent full-time facility
- **Confirm operational arrangements** that provide stability and continuity
- **Recognise the Work Camp** as a shared community and rehabilitation asset

This is a collaborative opportunity. The foundations already exist. The partnerships are in place. The need is real.