

MAKE A  
**DIFFERENCE**  
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**COUNT**



# COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS



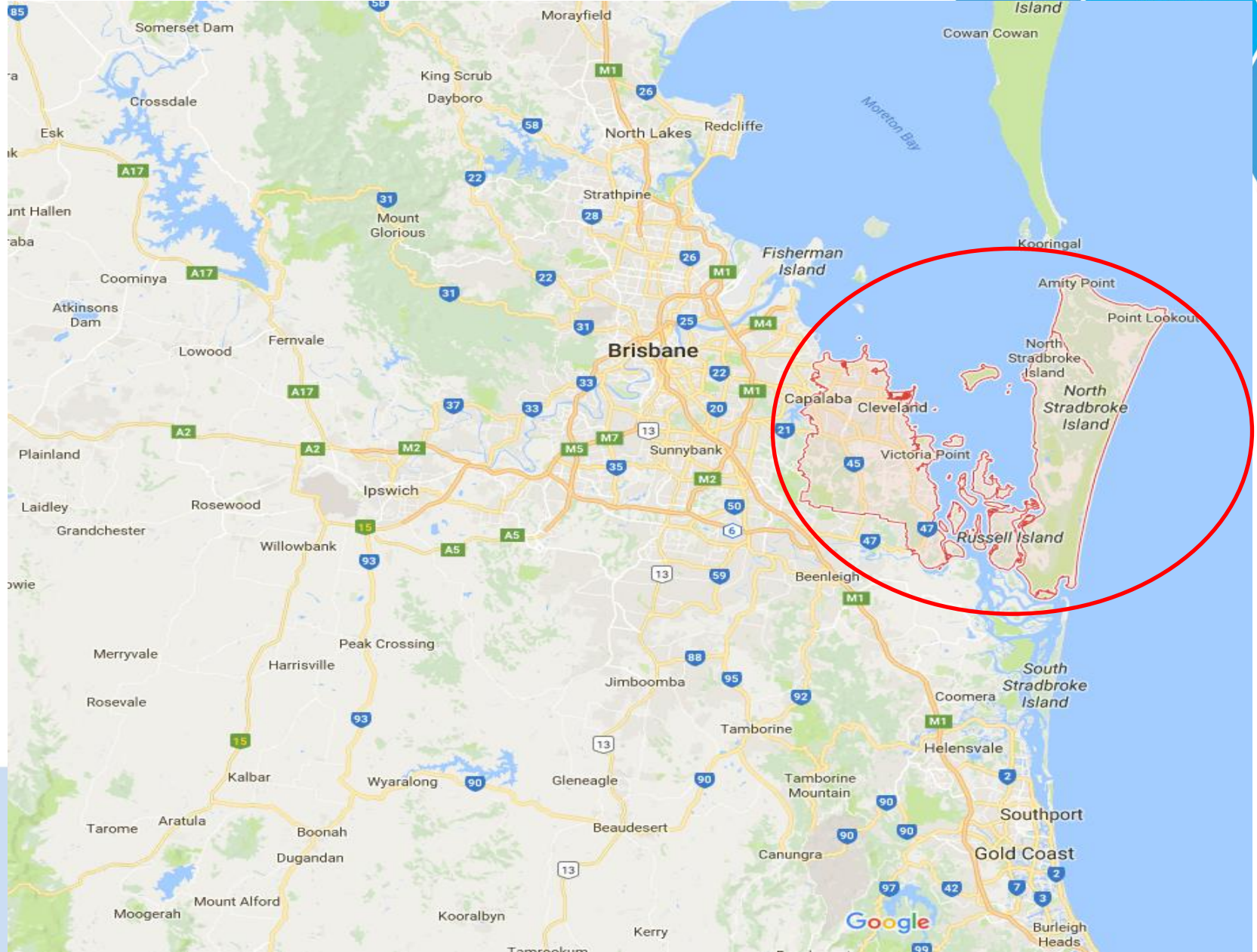
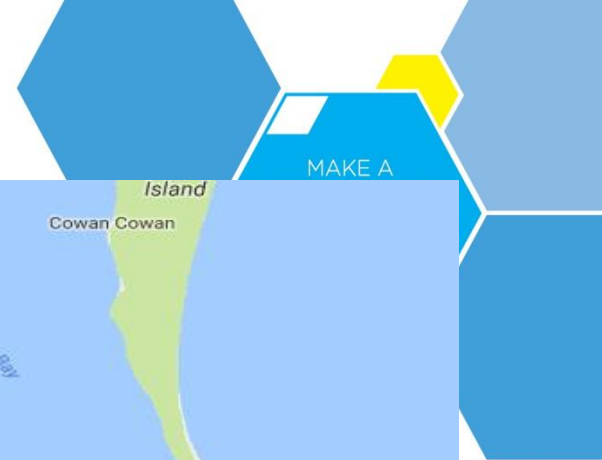
A Partnership to Support  
Community



**volunteering**  
queensland



# Where is Redland City?



# Southern Moreton Bay Islands

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# Birth of Community Champions



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## Background:

- December 2016 – fires on Macleay and Russell Islands
- Russell Island fire raged for 6 days
- 60 homes threatened
- Over 30 residents sheltered at the Evac Centre
- Timely response hampered by isolation
- Community realisation of self-reliance
- Community recognised need and an opportunity to support one another

# Why Community Champions?

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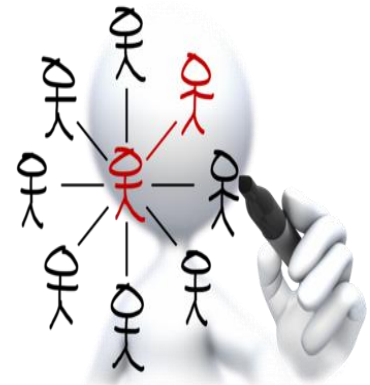
- Builds community resilience and self-reliance
- Seeks to overcome the isolated nature of the Island communities – timely response
- Local people know their community
- Local people are respected by their community
- Shared responsibility approach



# How were they Chosen?



- 25 Champions were chosen by the community from within the community
- Community Champions had to meet criteria:
  - Are permanent island residents
  - Are respected and have influence
  - Are available to attend training
  - Are available for disaster activations
  - Are not a current emergency service volunteer or officer



# What is their role?



- To establish and operate island evacuation centres
- To provide for the physical and psychological needs of evacuees
- To be a trusted source of information for Council, Local Disaster Management Group and the community
- Manage and supervise spontaneous and pre-organised volunteers during recovery
- **Community education on disaster preparedness – initiated by the Community Champions**



# What training did they do?

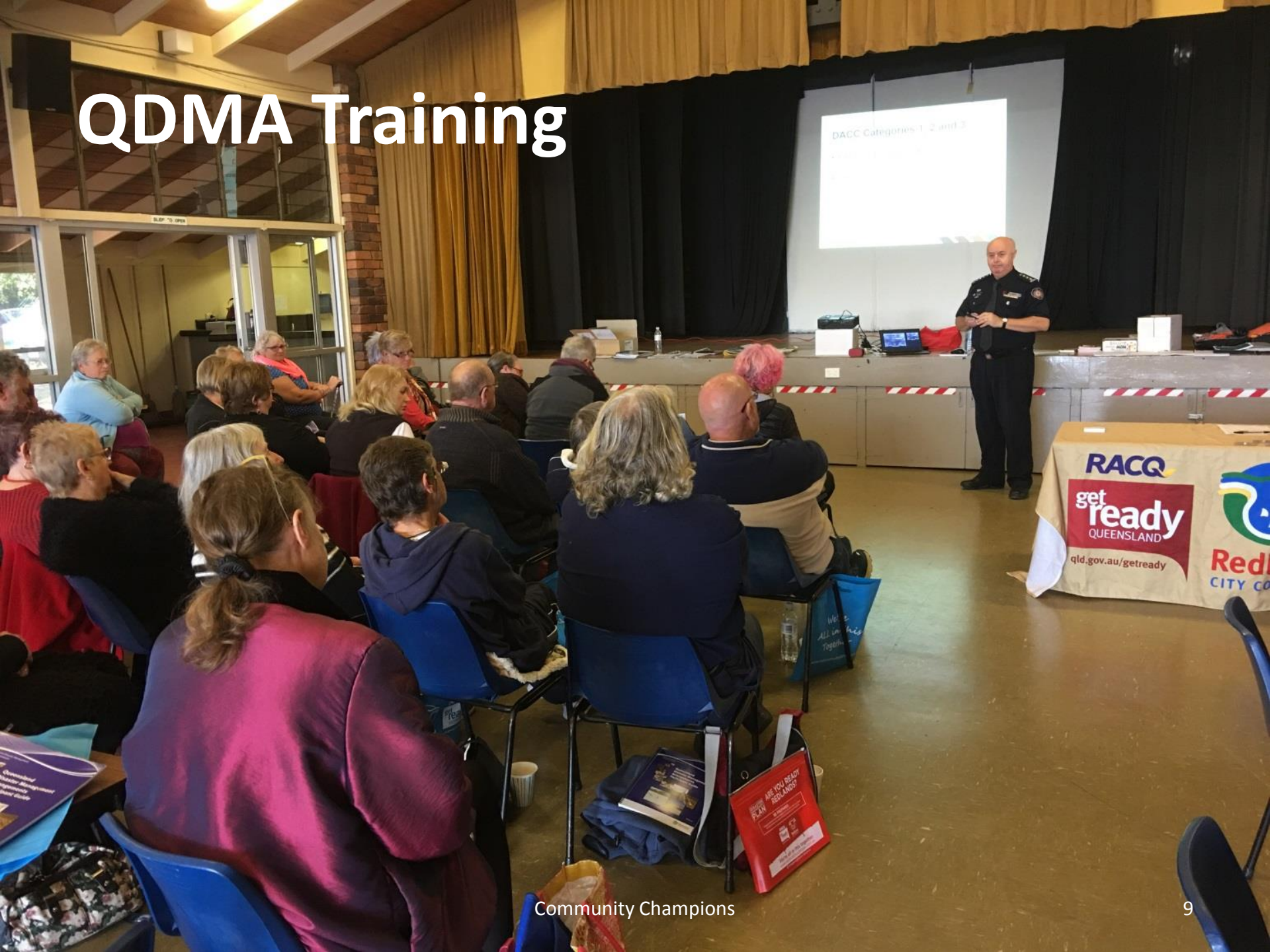


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- All Community Champions received training in the following areas:
  - Queensland Disaster Management Arrangements (QDMA)
  - Evacuation Centre Management
  - Psychological First Aid
  - Volunteer Management
- Council partnered with QFES, Australian Red Cross and Volunteering QLD to deliver the training
- Exercise Exodus – thrown in the deep end!!
- Future Training



# QDMA Training



# Evac Centre Training



What causes distress?



# Understanding Roles



# Graduation



# Exercise Exodus



# Exercise Exodus





**AREA**

GREENSBORO AND AMBULANCE SERVICE

# Exercise Exodus

# Exercise Exodus



Community Champions



# Exercise Exodus



# What have been the Benefits?

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- Builds on community spirit and passion
- Expands existing networks of support
- Builds trusted networks between Council/community/LDMG
- Trusted source of information
- Shares responsibility, doesn't shift it
- A **“Call To Action”** for the community to prepare, respond and recover



# Where to from here?



- Community Champions is a staged program, based on our most vulnerable communities:
  - Stage 1 – Southern Moreton Bay Islands
  - Stage 2 – North Stradbroke Island
  - Stage 3 – Mainland and Coochie
- Stage 1 – monitor and maintain
- Stage 2 – early days, being developed
- Stage 3 – watch this space



# Thank You

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