



Church Pack

www.yeswecare.org.au

Yes! We Care – History and Purpose

Yes We Care is an initiative of BrizNet, a group of churches and Christian ministries from the Greater Brisbane Regions coming together with the sole purpose of demonstrating the love of Jesus Christ in a practical way to the people of Brisbane and surrounding communities.

To facilitate this, Queensland's Biggest Neighbourhood Blitz is held annually on the last Saturday in May each year. It is a day when the church in the Greater Brisbane region, in cooperation with the Brisbane City Council and other participating councils, place organised teams into homes of people who have specific needs and require a helping hand.

Yes! We Care - Strategy

The network of Churches and Christian ministries behind this initiative recognises the importance of the local church, and the Yes! We Care strategy is founded very much on mobilising the local church to connect in a unique way with others in serving their local community.

Any church in the Greater Brisbane Region can participate in 'Queensland's Biggest Neighbourhood Blitz' and together we can impact the region in one day with acts of service and compassion.

The first Yes! We Care, Brisbane's Biggest Neighbourhood Blitz was held in 2006 where we had 600 volunteers go into 300 homes. In 2007 we had around 1000 volunteers go into more than 600 homes and in 2008 and 2009 we reached 900 homes with over 2500 individual volunteers. This year like previous years, we again have the full support of the Lord Mayor Campbell Newman and the Brisbane City Council.

Ethos of Yes! We Care

One Church, Many Locations, Serving Brisbane and the Surrounding Communities.

Benefits of Yes! We Care

Brisbane Lord Mayor's Support

The campaign has been given full support from Brisbane Lord Mayor Campbell Newman who said, *"Yes! We Care, was a significant commitment from Brisbane churches to demonstrate generosity to the city. "Yes! We Care" is a great initiative that is sure to touch people's lives and I would like to see it grow stronger each year so that the quality of living for people in Brisbane, from all walks of life, is improved."*

The Potential

Some of you may already be active in your local communities, through this campaign we wish to get more congregations and their members, more community groups and more unsaved friends and family members involved as we show them that the church can walk the talk. Being the hands and feet of Jesus in their local community.

Just imagine how different Brisbane and the surrounding communities would be if somebody mowed another's lawn for free, cleaned those hard to reach areas or simply enjoyed a cuppa and a laugh with someone for no other reason than they cared and wanted to show God's love to them. Sometimes, despite our best efforts we find that we all need help from time to time, whether it is a financial crisis, physical illness or just loneliness – Yes! We Care has this ethos.

Over the past 4 years of Yes! We Care it has given many volunteers the opportunity to form ongoing relationships in their community and we know of many volunteers who still continue to visit and have a cuppa, who take people shopping and who do gardening for those who would otherwise be unable to do so, and some have joined local churches. Not only does this give hope to the recipient, but this also gives the volunteers a sense of joy and purpose and a relational environment in which to speak about their love for God.

You can be involved

Any church, regardless of size can be involved. Any individual can be involved. This is such a great opportunity to get involved. Please join us to make Brisbane and the surrounding communities a better place and ultimately expand the Kingdom of God.

The Greater Brisbane Region

Even though the largest area being covered is in the Brisbane BCC region and the Brisbane City Council is working with us through the Lord Mayor, the vision is for the Greater Brisbane Region. So, if your church is in the Redcliffe, Pine Rivers, Ipswich, Logan, Redlands and even the Beaudesert Shire areas – many churches in those regions have already become part of Yes! We Care over the past 4 years, why not contact us: log onto our website www.yeswecare.org.au > and get involved today.

Yes! We Care is more than a Neighbourhood Blitz

Not only are Christians from many denominations of the Christian Church participating in the Yes! We Care - Queensland's Neighbourhood Blitz, but other opportunities exist.

Supporting Churches

Citywide prayer support is activated throughout the campaign with supporting churches taking part across the city and region.

Church Pack Contents

Yes! We Care – Be informed, Get involved!

Prayer

- Encourage prayer (existing groups, new groups) - register on the YWC website.
- Register for prayer information on the YWC website

Regional Promotional Evenings

- Details on the nights, times and location are on the YWC website.

Inform Church Congregation

- Distribute YWC advertising brochure to your church, groups etc.
- Obtain and use YWC promotional DVD - see your Zone Coordinator or download from the YWC website.
- Include in church notices

Register your Church

- Register through the YWC website
- Register for Prayer information with your Zone Coordinator

Administration

- Appoint a YWC Church Coordinator (see attached Job Descriptions – separate document)
- Call for volunteers and appoint team leaders (see attached Job Descriptions – separate document)

Contacts

- YWC Office – Kenmore Baptist Church Ph: 3378 3595 or www.kbc.org.au
- www.yeswecare.org.au
- Zone Coordinator's details (Regional/Zone Coordinators to provide their contact details).

Job Descriptions

(See attached document.)

Note: The latest version can be downloaded from the Yes We Care website.

Volunteer Guidelines

(See attached document.)