

# Unlocking learning, transforming lives: educating 'lost learners' and juvenile offenders

*Steps to successful transition back to community (no matter how rural or remote) through education and partnership.*

# What's CIF?

- ▶ Collaboration & Innovation Fund
- ▶ For state secondary and special schools
- ▶ \$500,000 funding to design creative, distinctive & collaborative projects that add depth & quality to education
- ▶ This project was designed and implemented by Andrea Hayes.

# Why did we need to embark on this journey?

## **BYETC:**

- ▶ Co-educational detention centre
- ▶ Catering for up to 132 remanded & sentenced students
- ▶ Cohort: 1/3 girls; 55% A&TSI; 15% Pacific nations
- ▶ Significant number of students verified and learning difficulties
- ▶ Average length of enrolment for 68.5% of students is approximately a month.
- ▶ More than 75% of students do not return to mainstream schools
- ▶ 2016 over 450 young people exited BYDC did not re-engage in schools in any traceable way

## **Youth Justice:**

Service centres presently providing response to community need by providing 'informal' education to upward of 150 young people across Qld at any point in time, without support or funding from DET.

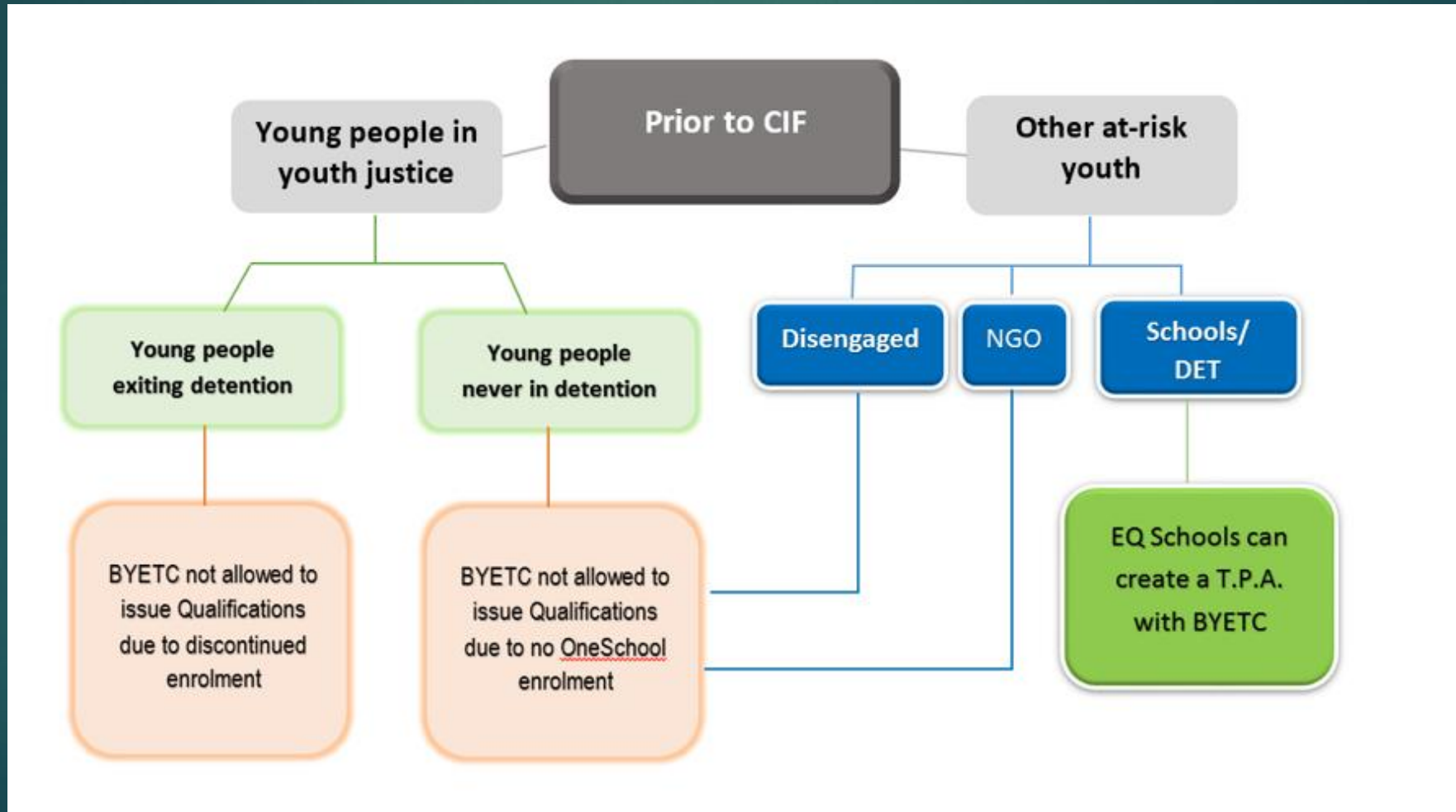
# What were our objectives?

- ▶ Supporting transition from detention – through vocational qualifications & appropriate literacy & numeracy skills interventions
- ▶ Supporting students at risk of offending or reoffending due to disengagement from mainstream schools
- ▶ Formation of partnerships with schools, youth justice service centres and flexible learning sites across Qld
- ▶ Provision of innovative curriculum – blended learning model for Vocational Qualifications & closing skills gaps
- ▶ Support & mentor youth justice staff, youth workers & EQ schools to deliver curriculum and meet needs of struggling learners

# Why did we think we stood a chance?

- ▶ Almost all youth offenders in detention engage positively with education. Young people want to continue their education post release.
- ▶ YJSC actively supported the delivery of literacy & numeracy interventions.
- ▶ There are significant barriers to youth offenders engaging with mainstream school & formal education programs. If provided with viable options, youth offenders will participate & achieve.
- ▶ Typically youth offenders are 5yrs or greater below peers in literacy, numeracy & reading. When set with individual goals learning becomes 'visible' and this motivates engagement.

# What did the landscape look like prior to Unlocking Learning?

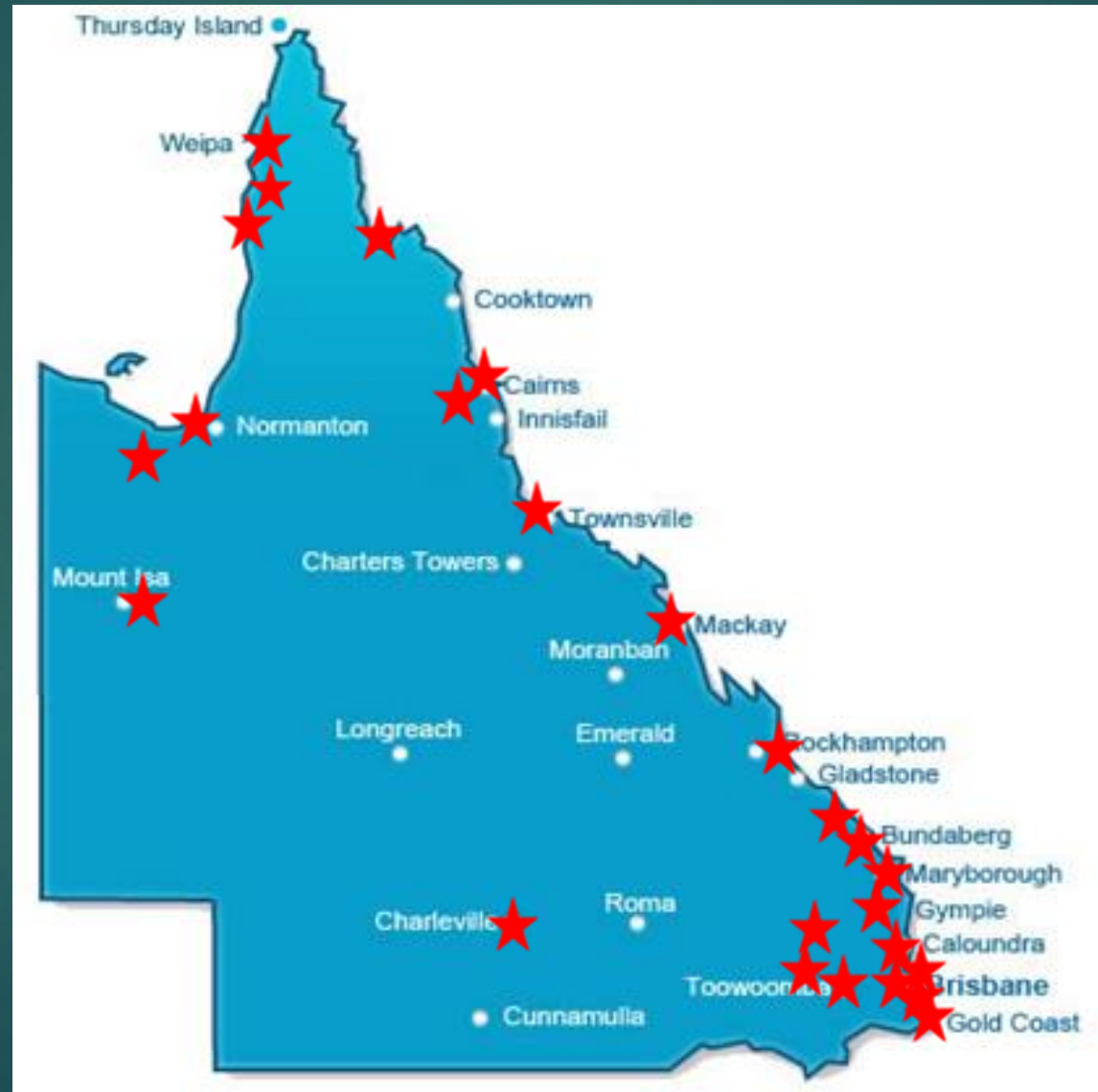


# What steps did we take to get to where we are?

- ▶ Network & partnership formation
- ▶ Sustainable funding model to ensure continuation of service beyond project timeframes
- ▶ Creation of VET course materials using a blended learning approach (LMS) delivering qualifications in CSET then in CGEA.
- ▶ Provision of literacy & numeracy assessment and support tool (Bksb)
- ▶ State-wide collaboration
- ▶ Youth Justice engagement
- ▶ Continuing enrolments – QCAA extension of delegation



# Who do we support?

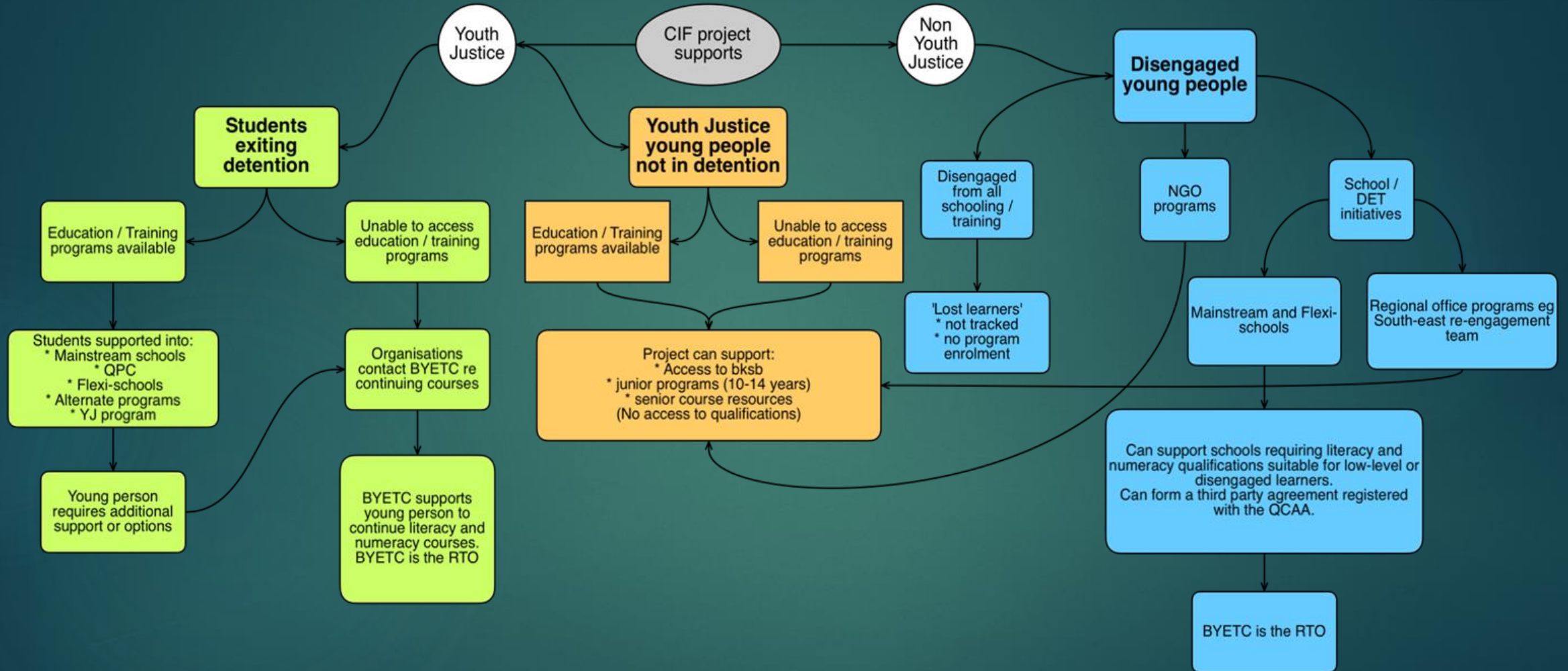




# What does the landscape look like now?

Youth Justice Sites	Schools / DET	NGO and At-risk programs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gold Coast</li> <li>• Logan</li> <li>• Redlands</li> <li>• Aurukun</li> <li>• Cherbourg</li> <li>• Toowoomba</li> <li>• Rockhampton</li> <li>• Emerald</li> <li>• Bundaberg</li> <li>• Harvey Bay</li> <li>• Western Districts</li> <li>• Sunshine Coast</li> <li>• Atherton</li> <li>• Caboolture</li> <li>• Cairns</li> <li>• Mt Isa</li> <li>• Brisbane North</li> <li>• Innisfail</li> <li>• Yarrabah</li> <li>• Sunshine Coast</li> <li>• Brisbane South</li> <li>• Atherton</li> <li>• Herberton</li> <li>• Cooktown</li> <li>• Mareeba</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Murgon SHS</li> <li>• Barrett Adolescent Centre Special School</li> <li>• Aurukun State School</li> <li>• South East DET Regional Re-engagement Team</li> <li>• Toowoomba TALES under Denise Kable Positive Learning Centre</li> <li>• Burnett Youth Learning Centre</li> <li>• Cleveland Education and Training Centre</li> <li>• Cherbourg State School</li> <li>• Charleville State High School</li> <li>• Mountain Creek SHS</li> <li>• Queensland Pathways College</li> <li>• Ipswich State High flexi-school</li> <li>• Borallen Correctional Facility</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sunshine Coast Individual Learning Support (SCILS)</li> <li>• Churches of Christ Care's CYCLE – Believe and Achieve education program</li> <li>• PCYC Cherbourg</li> <li>• Flipside Youth Skills Program</li> <li>• Nwaica</li> </ul>

# Pathways



# What's next?

- ▶ VTQ issuing qualifications for young people (15yrs+) across the state
- ▶ Junior programs that respond to need and link to Australian Curriculum
- ▶ Continue to work towards sustainability – refinement of systems and funding models that minimise workloads, maximise feedback & empower key frontline staff
- ▶ Continue to support young people to unlock their own learning and transform their lives.