

# Media Release

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## Cyclone damaged community centre rebuilt in Cape York

When the Yungee Healing Place in remote Cape York was destroyed by cyclone Ita in April 2014, the local Hopevale community lost an important facility for their at-risk youth.

A ground-swell of support from a broad range of organisations mobilised to help Yungee's founders Des and Estelle Bowen to get back on their feet so they could recommence their operations.

"We became aware of the opportunity to provide assistance to Yungee and this was quickly embraced by the Suncorp Commercial Claims team," said Mr Matt Pearson, Executive General Manager with Suncorp Commercial Claims.

"A wide range of fundraising activities were undertaken by our people across Australia and these proved very successful, with over \$10,000 being generated.

"We invited our panel builders Nuveau Constructions Qld, RPF Building and Dankav to lend a hand and the response was overwhelming," said Mr Pearson.

In October 2015, teams of builders travelled six hours north of Cairns to rebuild the Yungee Healing Place, making a number of improvements in the process.

Suncorp Commercial Claims personnel also visited to lend a hand. In less than four weeks the reconstruction was complete.

"This really picked me up because now I can go on with our dream," said Mr Des Bowen, founder of Yungee Healing Place.

"With this building now, we can now start planning and start bringing people out."

A video of the rebuild is available here: <https://youtu.be/uHz-R6HRGUo>

ENDS

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