

What people say about Empowered Faith Communities

I was struggling to find stable and safe housing... I found myself renting in a Caravan Park as permanent housing, feeling quite isolated and anxious about moving into a new area with no contacts or social support and no real purpose...

The New Peninsula Baptist Church gave me a food parcel and told me about the Wednesday Night Community Meal... During my journey with the group, I have come to faith in Christ and was baptised. I have developed a sense of belonging and purpose in my life. After we have our meal, we meet around some couches and discuss life and spirituality. We have learned that despite our challenging life circumstances, God has given all of us strengths and passions to share with others that can make a difference in our local community.

— Carol

COACH stands for Creating Opportunities And Casting Hope

Empowered Faith Communities is an initiative of COACH Network. COACH aims to promote individual and community wellbeing by supporting people in tough places to flourish.

We also offer

- Family Mentoring
- Youth Mentoring
- Kids Mentoring
- Financial Mentoring

For more information about Empowered Faith Communities contact

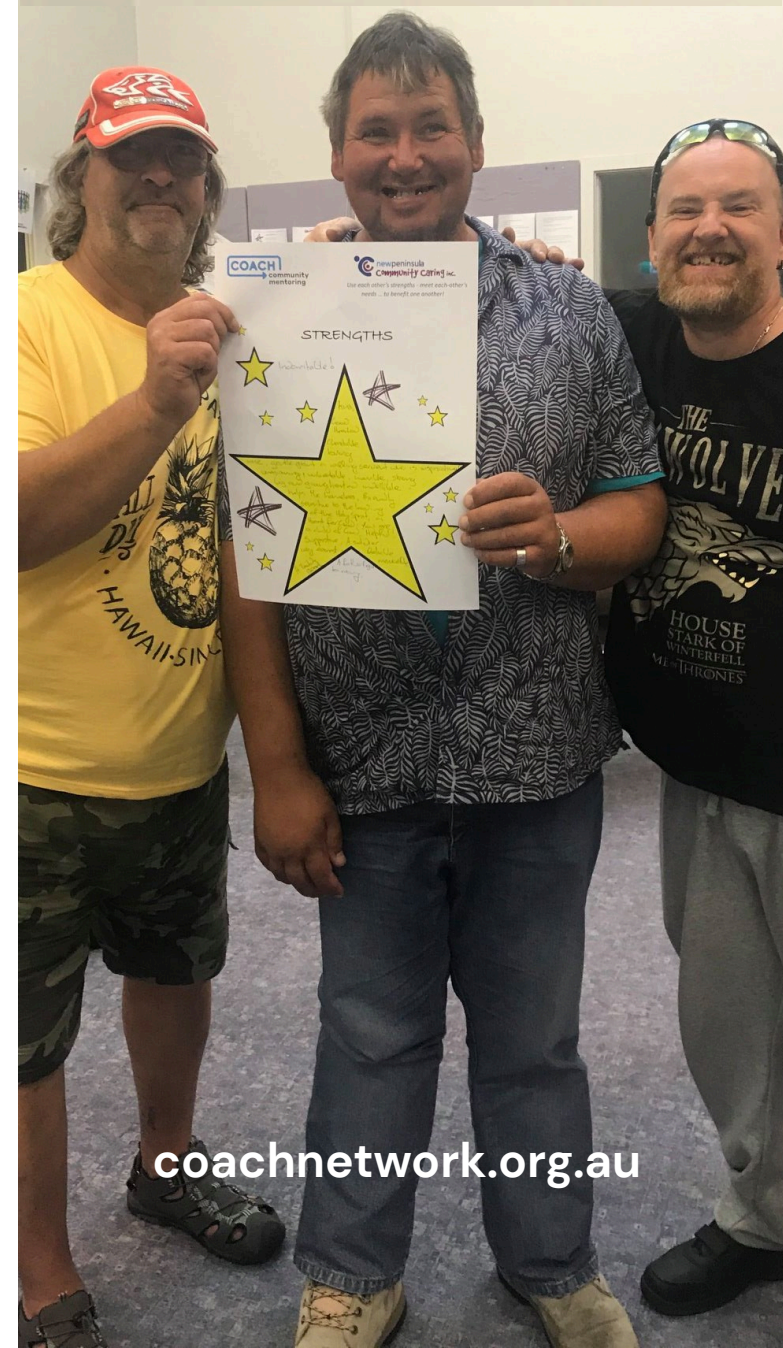
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Some of our partners include



Empowered Faith Communities



coachnetwork.org.au



Our Purpose

To catalyse the church to develop Empowered Faith Communities for those doing life tough.

We want to build interdependent faith based communities with a strong discipling culture for people on the margins who may not feel they can fit into mainstream church environments.

Our Values

Accepting and embracing 'the stranger'.

Recognising and encouraging the best in one another.

Sharing strengths and resources to support each other in spiritual, practical, material and emotional ways.

Building genuine connections for long term community transformation.

Honouring God and growing in relationship with Him.

Empowered Faith Communities

Being part of a caring, like-minded community is essential for human flourishing. Empowered Faith Community participants are encouraged to share their strengths to benefit one another in a supportive, empowering and gospel-centred environment, that promotes personal development and strong spiritual growth. Empowered Faith Communities are structured around a regular, informal, community meal and worship service.

Empowerment is central to the model, underpinned by proven principles for sustainable, long term flourishing:

- Empowerment as a culture
- Understanding the methods of empowerment
- Acceptance before change model
- Developing community through strengths
- Moving from dependant to empowered faith communities
- Seeing participants learn to "be and bring the good news" into their own social space.

Next Steps

We are committed to helping faith-based groups establish Empowered Faith Communities in their context. We are ready to equip you with training, resources and ongoing support. For information about setting up an Empowered Faith Community please contact Mark Matthews (details overleaf).

My Empowered Faith Community has enabled me to find purpose and meaning in my life, and most importantly introduced me to Jesus.

— Sharon

