

Communities for Children Direct Service Activities 2015-17

The following 7 Activities have been identified for implementation by Greater Shepparton Communities for Children through contracting to local services in the first two years of the strategy. The Activities were selected for their alignment with the Key Priorities listed overleaf and in response to identified need in the community.

Future Parenting Programme – The Bridge Youth Service

This Activity incorporates the evidence based **Baby Makes 3** programme aimed at new parents to promote equal and respectful relationships, the **Parents Under Pressure** programme for at risk families with children aged 2-8 years of age, and **Bringing Your Baby Home** with a focus on Indigenous and CaLD new parents.

Priority Areas addressed: Smooth Transitions, Cross Cultural Focus, Closing the Gap, Partnerships, Communications and Evidence Base.

Mother Baby Day Stay Service - FamilyCare

This Activity offers customised parenting attention and support to families to observe the modelling of positive parenting practices, leading to improved parent-child attachment and increased social and service networks.

Priority Areas addressed: Smooth Transitions and Partnerships.

Cultural Connections – Kildonan UnitingCare

This Activity includes the Evidence Based **Parenting in a New Culture** (PiNC) programme to help newly-arrived families adjust to a new cultural environment, **Face to Face Refugee Experience** workshops aimed at increasing knowledge and awareness in the community, and a Schools Transition Programme for CaLD families to help the transition from Kinder to primary school.

Priority Areas addressed: Smooth Transitions, Cross Cultural Focus and Partnerships.

Early Matters Shepparton – Relationships Australia Victoria

This Activity includes the evidence based **Exploring Together** group-based programme for families with pre-school aged children, and **Tuning Into Kids** parenting programme to help prevent behaviour issues in young children. It also includes a wraparound family support model to support vulnerable children and their families.

Priority Areas addressed: Smooth Transitions, Cross Cultural Focus, Closing the Gap, Partnerships, Communication and Evidence Base.

Stronger Families – Smooth Transitions – Lulla’s Children and Family Centre

This Activity includes the evidence based **DRUMBEAT** programme aimed at Indigenous children aged 3-12 years old, and a wraparound model of family support including Kinder/School transition and wellbeing support activities such as an annual Health Day for Indigenous families with young children.

Priority Areas addressed: Smooth Transitions, Closing the Gap, Partnerships, Communication and Evidence Base.

Greater Shepparton Intensive Supported Playscheme Programme – Save the Children

This Activity is an Evidence Based play-based learning programme targeting ‘at risk’ children and families in the Greater Shepparton area. It includes input from the Maternal and Child health Services, a Family Support Worker and includes parenting education.

Priority Areas addressed: Smooth Transitions, Partnerships and Evidence Base.

Second Step Shepparton – Mission Australia

This Activity is an Evidence Based Programme focused on middle years’ transition, targeting vulnerable, Indigenous, CaLD and socio-economically disadvantaged families. **Second Step** is designed to increase students’ school success/readiness through case management and support as well as the delivery of a group programme.

Priority Areas addressed: Smooth Transitions, and Partnerships.



Greater Shepparton Communities for Children

Community Strategic Plan 2015-19

SUMMARY



VISION:

‘That all families and children in the City of Greater Shepparton have the opportunity to develop and grow in a supportive and nurturing community.’



Australian Government
Department of Social Services

Greater Shepparton Communities for Children Community Strategic Plan 2015-19 can be located at:

<http://www.sheppartoncfc.com.au/resources.php>

Summary of Programme Objectives

The national objectives of the Communities for Children initiative are to improve the health and wellbeing of families and the development of young children, from before birth through to 12 years of age, paying special attention to:

- Healthy Young Families
- Supporting Families and Parents
- Early Learning
- School Transition and Engagement

and to create strong child friendly communities.

Our Mission in Greater Shepparton is:

'To work strategically to improve service accessibility, responsiveness and outcomes for vulnerable and disadvantaged families and children, through family-centred practice.'

As an enhanced Communities for Children site, Greater Shepparton also has a focus on young parents and jobless families.

Community Informed Planning

The development of the **Greater Shepparton CfC Community Strategic Plan 2015-19** is the result of service mapping, data and needs analysis, community and stakeholder engagement. Identified needs were translated into Key Priority Areas to guide the strategic direction of the Programme over the next 4 years.



Priorities for Action

The six Key Priority Areas identified to address the needs of vulnerable children and families in Greater Shepparton in the Community Strategic Plan 2015-19 are listed below. Each of the Priority Areas has associated strategies and actions, against which the programme's effectiveness is measured annually.

- 1 Smooth Transitions**
 - To strengthen the relationships between antenatal, primary health, early childhood and schools
 - To develop effective transition/referral processes from service to service
- 2 Cross Cultural Focus**
 - To increase culturally aware and competent service delivery
 - To build the capacity of CaLD families through support and parenting skills
 - To improve outcomes for CaLD children and their families
- 3 Closing the Gap**
 - To promote active engagement approaches with Indigenous families
 - To build the capacity of Indigenous families through parenting and other skills
 - To improve outcomes for Indigenous children and their families
- 4 Partnerships**
 - To build strong links with State and Federally funded services, including schools, pre-schools, health services, etc.
 - To link universal services with specialist services to ensure appropriate referrals
- 5 Communications**
 - To develop a consistent CfC message and approach for internal and external stakeholders
 - To engage with the local community over the life of the Strategic Plan
- 6 Evidence Base**
 - To develop sector skills and knowledge in evidence based programme delivery
 - To prioritise evidence/data collection in order to understand our community
 - To create a shared system of measurement

For more information, please contact **Greater Shepparton Communities for Children** at:

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