

Yarra City Council and Neighbourhood Houses Partnership Strategy and Action Plan 2018 – 2021
Year 1 Actions – 2018 - All Houses

Areas for Action - 2018

1. A healthy Yarra: Community Health, Safety and Well-being

Community well-being is the combination of social, economic, environmental, cultural and political conditions that enable people to flourish and fulfil their potential.

Area		Action	Who	Budget	Outcomes/Outputs	Time Frame
<i>NH Programs</i>	1.1	Houses to learn about Results Based Accountability (RBA) and Collective Impact Framework (CIF).	Cheryle Grey	existing	Two workshops were held in March/April on RBA- all Houses attended. Individual Houses organised RBA session for staff & committee members.	February/April 2018
<i>Partnerships</i>	1.2	Houses and Yarra Libraries to work together to build and strengthen relationships and increase collaborative activities.	All Houses Yarra Libraries	existing	Yarra Library staff member attended Yarra Neighbourhood House (NH) Network meetings. One shared activity per year with each House: Finbar – Urban Field Day Fitzroy Learning Network (FLN) – Bridges2Harmony Richmond Community Learning Centre (RCLC) - Community Connections Day at Richmond estate. Holden Street – Movies in the Park. Alphington Community Centre (ACC) – Book bike and story time.	2018

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					Nth Carlton, Carlton Neighbourhood Learning Centre (CNLC), Collinwood & Belgium Ave – From the Heart Community Event.	
<i>Consultations</i>	1.3	Houses to participate in the consultation process for the development of Council's key strategies e.g. Volunteering, open spaces, urban agriculture	Community Planner to inform Network of Council consultations	existing	Houses contributed to relevant council consultations for key strategies: Urban Agriculture, Open Space, Access & Inclusion, Multicultural Partnerships Plan and Volunteer Strategy.	2018 -ongoing
<i>Open spaces</i>	1.4.	Council to work with Houses to activate small scale, under-utilised open spaces to foster opportunities for local connection.	All Houses Council Open space Unit	existing	Nth Carlton Gardening Group identified Bocce Courts to develop a community garden. Bridges2Harmony in Condell Reserve, Fitzroy. Suitcase Rummage Sale - Alphington. Planting fruit trees in Holden St Reserve. Herb Garden at Alphington garden space. Compost social enterprise at CNLC. Movies in the Park at Holden St Reserve. Perry Park Gathering Space at Collingwood Neighbourhood House (CNH).	2018 - ongoing

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2. An inclusive Yarra: Inclusion, diversity and uniqueness are welcomed, respected and celebrated

Creating a safe place where people of all ages, genders, sexualities, abilities, cultures and backgrounds feel welcome and connected is a priority for Council.

Area		Action	Who	Budget	Outcomes/Outputs	Time Frame
<i>Gathering spaces/celebration</i>	2.1	Houses and Council to actively collaborate in support, promotion and delivery of on-going celebrations and festivals e.g. Harvest Festival, Harmony Day, Sustainability Week, fetes.	All Houses Council Community Planner Communications Unit	existing	FLN- Bridges2Harmony Festival. CNH - Lunar Festival, Harvest Day Festival. Moon lantern Soiree, Music by Candlelight, Love is in the Park LGBTI event at Collingwood Underground carpark, Roller Disco. Finbar-Urban Field Day. All Houses - From the Heart Festival. Holden St - Movies in the Park. FLN - Community Well Being Day Atherton Gardens. CNLC - Harmony Day, Tower Cinema ACC - Dog Show, Community Fete, Seniors Month.	2018
	2.2	Houses and Council to partner in an annual Neighbourhood House Network event e.g. Music from the Heart and identify opportunities to build on the success of past events.	All Houses Community Planner	existing	From the Heart Community Event that celebrated all the Yarra Houses in	September 2018

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					partnership with Council /Yarra Libraries, Ewing Trust, Neighbourhood Justice Centre (NJC), Bendigo Bank and Dimattina.	
<i>Skills Developing/ Skills Harnessing</i>	2.3	Houses to learn about Asset Based Community Development	Cheryle Grey	existing	A workshop was presented in March 2018 - attended by all Houses and committee members.	March 2018
<i>Safe Spaces</i>	2.4	Identify professional development for neighbourhood staff and volunteers on how to listen and provide information about what is available in the community. Explore options for council to support professional development for example: Mental Health First Aid training, Common Risk Assessment Framework (CRAF). e.g. Link in with Council's Skills Training, Women's Health in the North or other networks	All Houses North East Neighbourhood House Network (NENHN)	existing	"Identifying Family Violence" training through Northern Integrated Family Violence Services - Staff from three neighbourhood houses attended.	June and August 2018

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3. A sustainable Yarra: Council leads on sustainability and protects and enhances its natural environment

Protecting our natural environment and supporting our community to reduce its environmental footprint will continue to be a priority for Council.

Area		Action	Who	Budget	Outcomes/Outputs	Time Frame
<i>Information and education</i>	3.1	Neighbourhood houses to generate list and description of all sustainability activities and share with sustainability officers at council – include information about demonstration sites e.g. low water use gardens and learning clubs and best practice compost.	All Houses Council Sustainability Unit	existing	Improved sharing of information on sustainability activities in all Houses shared From the Heart Event. Sustainability activities in Houses listed on Council Webpage eg, recycling drop off points.	2018 - ongoing
	3.2	Council’s Living Sustainably pages to link to neighbourhood house sustainability initiatives and programs	All Houses Council Communications Unit	existing	Neighbourhood Houses profiled in Council’s “Living Sustainably” page.	2018 - ongoing
<i>Reduce waste to landfill</i>	3.3	Council to support neighbourhood houses to be recycling drop-off points (for nonorganic and hard waste items) e.g. mobile phones and batteries	All Houses Council Sustainability Unit Waste Management Unit	existing	Council Sustainability and Waste Management Units support Houses to set up compost bins and worm farms, recycling drop off points, fruit squads, food/seed swaps, urban field days, reducing food waste programs.	2018 - ongoing
	3.4	Develop Neighbourhood Composting Education and engagement (e.g. War on Waste screening)	All Houses Council Waste Management	existing	Education programs offered at Alphington, Finbar, Richmond,	2018 - ongoing

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			Unit		Carlton, Nth Carlton, Holden St, to reduce landfill waste. New Compost Hub at Carlton.	
<i>Facilitate Urban Agriculture</i>	3.5	Continue to strengthen the relationship between neighbourhood houses and Urban Agriculture at Council and explore urban agriculture initiatives e.g. community orchard, fruit squad, food swap, seed swap	All Houses Sustainability Unit	existing	Urban Agriculture Unit supports all Houses with:- Fruit Squad activities, food/seed swap, composting/worm farms, gardening/food production, recycling/waste management,	2018 - ongoing

4. A prosperous Yarra: Local businesses prosper and creative and knowledge industries thrive

Supporting local businesses and creative industries not only contributes to Yarra's economy, but also increases employment opportunities, enhances street life and fosters community connectedness.

Area		Action	Who	Budget	Outcomes/Outputs	Time Frame
<i>Employment pathways and micro business and social enterprises for economically disadvantaged.</i>	4.1	Meet with Economic Development Unit from council to understand what services they provide, and how neighbourhood house participants can access these resources and services. Explore the potential for partnership opportunities e.g. Houses to promote or host council's Lunchbox Learning series of seminars.	Economic Development Unit Neighbourhood House Network	existing	Increased understanding by the Houses of the services provided by Council's Economic Development Unit.	2018 - ongoing