

Grovedale Neighbourhood House



2016 -2019



Grovedale Neighbourhood House acknowledges Wadawurrung Traditional Owners of this land and all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People who are part of the Greater Geelong community today.





WELCOME

Welcome to Grovedale Neighbourhood House!

This plan sets out our key themes and actions for the next three years. Building a strong Grovedale community is our key priority.

We're in a unique position as a hub where people come together, connect with

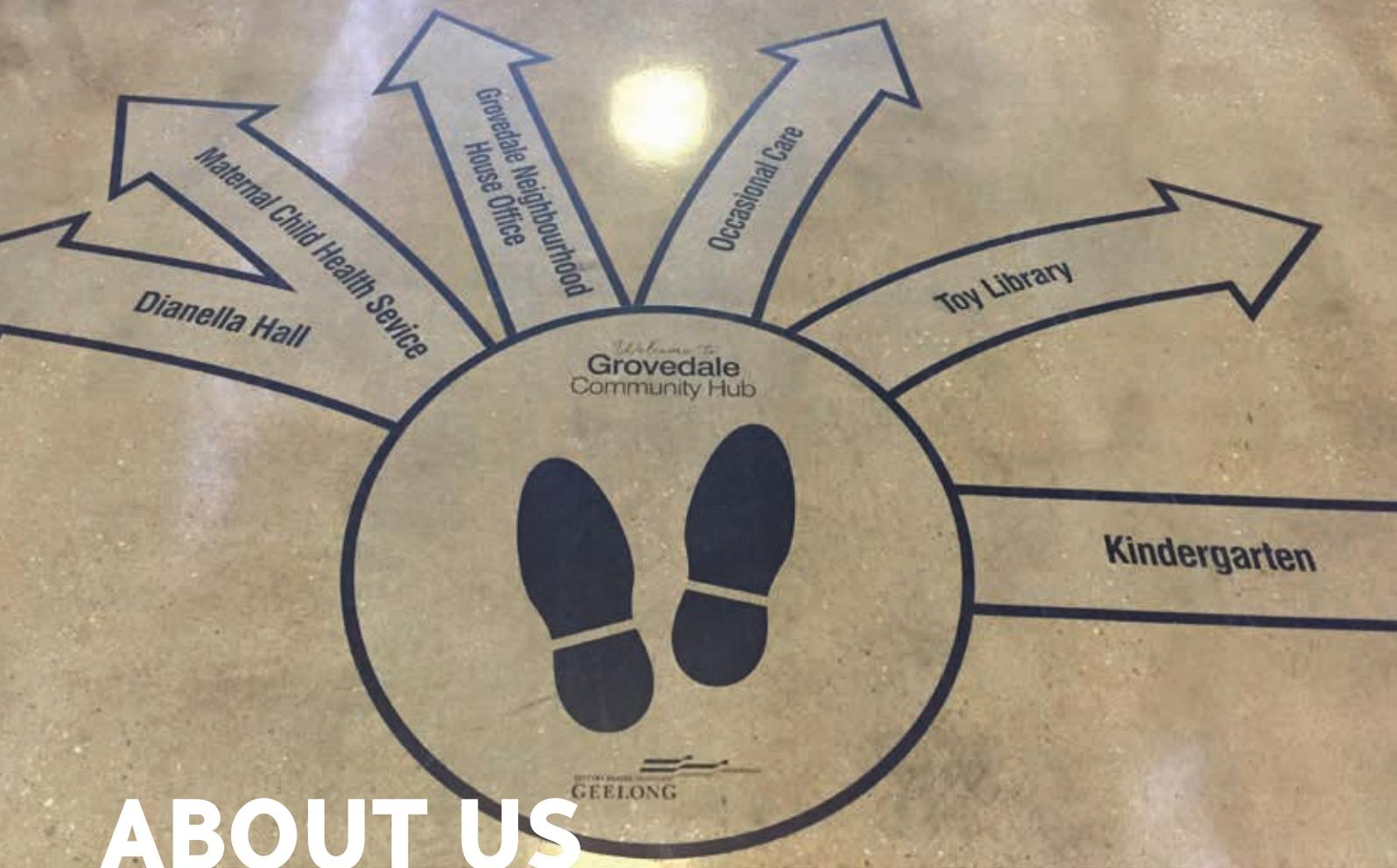
others and access activities, community development projects and learning opportunities which enhance health, social, emotional and educational wellbeing.

Informed by the diverse views of our communities,

over the next three years we'll be working together to further improve our activities, initiatives and programs so that all Grovedale residents can enjoy and be part of this vital community resource.

Community-Led Grovedale.

*IT'S A BEAUTIFUL SPACE TO BE IN,
WHERE PEOPLE MEET, LEARN AND CONNECT.*



ABOUT US

We first opened our doors in 2006 and we welcome Grovedale residents of all ages, nationalities and backgrounds.

In the last 10 years we've made a significant contribution to community life in Grovedale and since 2010, we have been auspiced by the City of Greater Geelong. The House is also

part of the Barwon Network of Neighbourhood Houses, whose 25 members work across the region to create and support welcoming and inclusive communities.

In 2015, after a \$6.7m upgrade to our facilities, we are now housed within the Grovedale Community

Hub. The Hub includes an integrated children's centre, the Grovedale Senior Citizen's Club, the Barwon Network of Neighbourhood Centres Networker and youth services. We work collaboratively with each of these services to maximise opportunities for communities to engage with community life in Grovedale.

IN AN AVERAGE WEEK 1200 PEOPLE PARTICIPATE IN ACTIVITIES AT GROVEDALE NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE



SNAPSHOT

1%

Aboriginal and
Torres Strait
Islander people.

14%

Youth
unemployment

1%

Population
growth
expected

33%

Families
with young
children

21%

Over 65
in 2031



HOW WE WORK

At Grovedale Neighbourhood House, we:

Value The Local Knowledge – the community is the expert.

Culture – championing all our local cultures and addressing structural inequality and inequity within a human rights framework.

Skills – developing skills for use in the local community.

Resources – including financial, technical, natural and human.

Create Opportunity

Community Ownership – Our members inform the direction, resources and decision-making processes of the House.

Access To All – Our inclusive practice ensures fair and equitable access for all and promotes a fairer distribution of resources and power.

Lifelong Learning – We build and support personal, family and community skills, knowledge, and resilience through formal and informal pathways in education, employment and self-development.

Self-help – We practice a process that respects, values and enhances people's ability to have control of their lives and aspirations in a self-aware and informed way that takes advantage of their skills, experience and potential.

Empower – We bring people together in a supportive group environment to share information, knowledge, skills and life experience so that each participant can reach their own personal or group goals.

Networking – We link, form alliances, collaborate and work with individuals, groups, other agencies, government and business.

Social justice and action – We analyse internal and external factors to transform relationships between individuals, groups and organisations through collective action.

Advocacy – We act with and on behalf of community members to meet individual and group needs.

DEVELOPING AN INCLUSIVE, CREATIVE AND DYNAMIC COMMUNITY SPACE.



THE PLAN

NURTURE

Develop our workforce (both paid and volunteer) to reach their full potential

We will do this by:

- Creating an environment for community governance and independence
- Participating in the Barwon Network of Neighbourhood Centre's activities, training and programs
- Partnering and expanding our funding base via philanthropic, non-government, government and private sector sources
- Providing sustainable and relevant staff positions
- Continuous professional development, recruitment, retention and supervision for existing and new staff and volunteers
- Exploring opportunities with volunteers to build greater connections between community members and Grovedale Neighbourhood house
- Investing in volunteers and providing social, learning, cultural, leadership, economic and other self identified opportunities.

Create connections, ownership and the identity of Grovedale Neighbourhood House within the community

We will do this by:

- Establishing clear responsibilities and processes with stakeholders in the Grovedale Community Centre hub relating to daily operations and activities
- Championing a collaborative stakeholder model and identifying opportunities and shared goals as a hub with co-located agencies and services
- Reviewing and monitoring hub goals and impacts.

Build strong partnerships that benefit our community and enhance our sustainability as a Neighbourhood House

We will do this by:

- Developing a three-year community engagement plan
- Identifying and actively working with community, peak bodies, government and non-government organisations to develop and deliver community projects
- Ensuring all our policies, documentation, social media and strategies reflect and incorporate inclusive language, inclusive strategies and consultation with key population groups that experience structural discrimination and exclusion.



CHAMPION

Provide diverse and inclusive Neighbourhood House programs that reflect the strengths and emerging needs of our community

We will do this by:

- Continually improving our ICT systems and promoting digital inclusion
- Exploring the feasibility of co-working spaces and social enterprises in a Neighbourhood House context
- Promoting Grovedale Neighbourhood House space to other services
- Promoting our programs across multiple platforms and population groups.

CREATE

Promote and be recognised as a place that supports arts and cultural activity among our communities

We will do this by:

- Creating and resourcing a dedicated staff position to develop projects and programs with a creative focus
- Supporting and showcasing local creative talents
- Creating strong connections to local culture and community
- Developing partnerships with local creative industries.

LEAD

Become a place where people gather, engage and act on community issues

We will do this by:

- Working with local community groups to identify key issues
- Facilitating and promoting information about identified issues
- Working collaboratively with local agencies and organisations to take local action on identified issues
- Linking in with networks and peak bodies relevant to identified issues.



MEASURING SUCCESS

We know that the kind of change we want to see will take time, longer than the three years of this plan. We're realistic about what outcomes we can observe and measure over the course of our plan.

The focus of our evaluation efforts will be on process to ensure we are meeting the needs of our diverse communities. It will be informed by the best local, national and international evidence of what works in developing health, social, cultural and economic determinants of strong communities.

We will do this by:

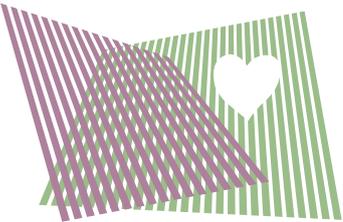
- Aligning our monitoring and evaluation effort with the Department of Health and Human Services Neighbourhood House Coordination Guidelines 2016-2019
- Planning our activities with evaluation as an integral component
- Valuing the time of our stakeholders and communities and only asking for feedback that we will put to good use
- Sharing our findings
- Storing data responsibly and securely.

*I KNOW THERE IS STRENGTH IN THE DIFFERENCES
BETWEEN US. I KNOW THERE IS COMFORT,
WHERE WE OVERLAP.*

ANI DiFRANCO







GROVEDALE
NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE

45 Heyers Rd, Grovedale
phone: 03 5241 5717
info@grovedalenh.org.au
www.grovedalenh.org.au
📍 find us on Facebook