

**NETWORK WEST INNOVATIONS FORUM**  
**Thursday 16 November 2017: 9.30am-3.45pm**  
**Encore Events: 80 Derrimut Road: Hoppers Crossing**

<b>SESSION 1: Access, Equity and Inclusion</b>		
<p><b><i>How do we ensure fair and equitable access for all people in our Neighbourhood Houses / Community Centres?</i></b>            Hear from a panel of community members about what makes them feel welcomed and included.            Workshops will follow that explore the types of strategies that can be used to engage with diverse communities.            Each workshop will be facilitated and include guest presenters from a variety of community organisations and an example of good practice from a Neighbourhood House / Community Centre.</p>		
<b>WORKSHOP OPTIONS</b>	<b>GUEST PRESENTERS</b>	<b>NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE / COMMUNITY CENTRES - GOOD PRACTICE EXAMPLE</b>
<p><b>1. Engaging and working with people with disabilities</b></p>	<p><b>Jenny Watts-Sampson   Disability &amp; Positive Ageing Planner</b>  <b>Wyndham City Council</b></p>	<p>Lana Bedford – Coordinator            Julyne Ainsley Vice President  <b>Duke St Community House - Disability leadership program</b></p> <p>Duke Street Community House is passionate about improving equality and inclusion for people with a disability and has undertaken many successful programs in this area over the last ten years. Duke Street is currently undertaking the Pathways to Participation project which aims to learn more about the issues that people with a disability experience in finding and undertaking volunteer work or work experience in the Brimbank community. This includes identifying any barriers, as well as learning about existing helpful organisational supports and strategies. The information we gather will help Duke Street to develop and trial a framework that will support five people with a disability to undertake volunteer work or work experience in the Brimbank community. The information will also allow us to feedback to government the issues that people with a disability are facing in the local area.</p>
<p><b>2. Engaging and working with CALD Seniors</b></p>	<p>Genevieve Nolan   Programs Manager  <b>MOVE</b></p> <p>Ebony Morelli   Active and Healthy Ageing Adviser  <b>DHHS</b></p>	<p><b>Rebecca Smith   Further Education Coordinator / Loretta Kensington Neighbourhood House</b></p> <p><b>The Healthy Living and Learning Project</b>            This project works with seniors living in local (Kensington) public housing to increase awareness of growing food, healthy cooking, and encourages the adoption of healthier lifestyle habits.</p> <p><b>Chinese Seniors Project @ Kensington Neighbourhood House</b>            Kensington has a large population of senior Chinese residents. Many of these residents are socially isolated due to limited English language skills. During various community consultations, these seniors expressed a strong desire to learn English but also revealed a lack of confidence to attend regular classes (due to age, limited communication skills etc).            In response, Kensington NH introduced a Chinese Seniors English Program at Kensington Neighbourhood House. The overarching goal of this program is to lessen social isolation and improve community connections.</p>

WORKSHOP OPTIONS (continued)	GUEST PRESENTERS	NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE / COMMUNITY CENTRES - GOOD PRACTICE EXAMPLE
<p><b>3. Engaging and working with refugee / CALD women</b></p>	<p>Rana Ebrahimi   Senior Consultant CQ Consulting – Melbourne City Mission</p>	<p><b>Juliana Lobo   Everybody’s Business Project Worker</b> <b>North Melbourne Language and Learning – Everybody’s Business Project</b> The Everybody's Business project offers refugee, asylum seeker and migrant background women the opportunity to develop the skills and knowledge needed to start a microbusiness in Australia. The program provides pre-accredited training and mentoring to assist women to utilise their existing knowledge and skills and develop / refine a microbusiness plan.</p>
<p><b>4. Engaging and working with people experiencing homelessness</b></p>	<p><b>Cassandra Bawden   Team Leader Peer Education and Support Program</b></p> <p><b>Jody Letts   Team member Peer Education and Support Program Council to Homeless Persons</b></p> <p>The Council to Homeless Persons is the peak body representing organisations and individuals in Victoria with a commitment to ending homelessness. Their vision is to end homelessness in Victoria</p> <p>They will start the discussion around what are the barriers for people experiencing homelessness accessing mainstream services. How can we work to address these?</p>	<p><b>Sharee Grinter   Manager</b> <b>West Footscray Neighbourhood House - Soul House Project</b> The Soul House program has been running at WFNH since 2014 and connects with older members of the community experiencing a range of complex issues, not least of which is being socially isolated.</p> <p>A core purpose of the program is to connect with people as neighbours, building a rapport that strengthens individual and collective value. The program has continued to develop and maintains a view of participants as individuals, encouraging shifting how they see themselves, their value, and their role in our community.</p>
<p><b>5. Engaging and working with people from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities</b></p>	<p>Kerrie Godbold <b>Community Development Officer   Community Wellbeing &amp; Inclusion</b> Marie Mullins <b>Wyndham Aboriginal Community Centre Project Officer</b> Wyndham City Council</p> <p>This workshop will explore strategies that can be used in engaging with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- How can we ensure we include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities within our governance and programs?</li> <li>- What are some of the inclusion strategies we can use before engaging with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities?</li> <li>- What are some of the key organisations to link in with?</li> </ul>	
<p><b>6. Engaging and working with people experiencing mental health issues</b></p>	<p>Cathy Connop   Centre Manager Robert Hunt   Participant <b>Farnham Street Neighbourhood Learning Centre</b></p>	<p><b>‘Marvellous Mental Health’ Project: Farnham Street Neighbourhood Learning Centre</b> Farnham St NLC has been working in the Mental Health area since 1993. In this workshop, Farnham St NLC will outline the journey it has undertaken to successfully engage with people experiencing mental health issues including partnerships with mental health services and programs it has delivered such as a special needs cooking class, Vietnamese Men’s Group, community garden and singing.</p>

**SESSION 2: Active Citizenship 1.45pm-2.45pm***How do we ensure the voices of the community are included in Neighbourhood Houses / Community Centres?*

A panel of community experts will discuss the theme of active citizenship within the areas of community profiling, community consultation, advocacy and alternative governance models. Facilitated workshops will explore each of these themes in depth and include examples of good practice from the NH sector.

WORKSHOP OPTIONS	GUEST PRESENTERS	NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE / COMMUNITY CENTRES - BEST PRACTICE EXAMPLE
<p><b>1. Data is the New Black</b> How can we use data to profile our community so we can make informed strategic and program decisions about what services we offer?</p>	<p><b>Ryan James   Client Consultant Profile ID</b> Ryan works with more than 140 local councils and regional bodies to help them build stories about their places, and to bring an evidence base to their planning and strategic activities using demographic and economic data. He advises strategic planners, community and social planners, economic development teams, and senior management groups as they to respond to the changing nature of their places. He holds a Master's degree in Social Science (Planning &amp; Environments). He is a passionate advocate for placemaking and the ways both policy and the built environment can encourage healthy and sustainable living.</p>	<p><b>Dave Hamra   Coordinator Neighbourhood Hubs Pat Rayner   &amp; Wyndham City Council – Neighbourhood Hubs Annual Expression of Interest</b> The EOI process aims to provide all community groups and organisations with an equal opportunity to secure space for their activities at community centres and ensure that activities align with Community Priorities. Priorities are developed for each Centre and are based on local demographic data, City Plan, Community Plan and what residents have told us is important to them. Groups and organisations wanting to run a regular program or activity at Council's community centres or facilities are encouraged to contact their nearest Community Centre to discuss their ideas and application process.</p>
<p><b>2. Co-design starts with CO-mmunity</b> What are some new and innovative methods to consult with our communities?</p>	<p><b>Penny Jordan   Principal Co-design Studios</b> Penny is a community development and engagement professional, with project management experience across local Government (including Coordinator of Community Development at Moonee Valley City Council) and not-for-profits. Penny has specialist skills in engaging hard to reach and diverse communities while building capacity for leadership and resilience.</p>	<p><b>Kelly Harding   Community Development Manager Wingate Ave Community Centre The Ascot Vale Needs Assessment</b> On a shoe string budget Wingate Ave CC interviewed over 100 community members and 7 local agencies. It used a range of creative methodologies to gather data, pop up parks, focus groups and ice cream stalls. A 2 year Action Plan was developed based on this consultation.</p> <p><b>Karen Cain   Community Development Officer – The Grange The Grange / Penrose Promenade &amp; Tarneit Community Centres - Knowing Me, Knowing You Project</b> Went to four parks in the local area and held activities such as bbq, face painting on a Friday evening to consult park users on what they would like in regards to enhance community connections / would they like to be involved in any activities. A second round of consultations was done as a follow up. This has led to some of the park users holding activities such as cultural exchange activities and sharing food.</p>

WORKSHOP OPTIONS	GUEST PRESENTERS	NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE / COMMUNITY CENTRES - BEST PRACTICE EXAMPLE
<p><b>3. Keep Your Eyes on the Prize – Advocacy in a new age.</b>            How can we use storytelling in advocacy?            What strategies can we put in place for local advocacy?</p>	<p><b>Julian Cleary   Community Mobilisation Project Lead cohealth</b>            Julian Cleary recently joined cohealth’s prevention team in a community mobilisation role, supporting community members to advocate on issues that matter to them. Julian was previously a campaigner with Amnesty International, working in partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations to shine a light on human rights abuses in Australia’s youth justice systems, profile community-led solutions and mobilise activists to secure reforms. In his downtime, Julian likes to listen to hip hop and folk music and occasionally gets around to making his own.</p>	<p><b>Tania Phillips   Campaign Manager NHVic</b>   <b>Mark Orril   Operations Manager Wingate Ave Community Centre</b>            Steps to Advocacy – the Men’s Shed Project</p>
<p><b>4. Community Ownership in Governance</b>            A discussion around what works and what doesn’t with governance structures. What are some of the alternative structures of governance whilst maintaining legal obligations of a committee of management?            The realignment of committees of management to active citizenship.</p>	<p>Judy Lazarus – Networker North East Network            Francesca Carlton – Team Leader Sydenham Neighbourhood House: Brimbank Council - Advisory Group Model            Inderdeep Thapar – Melton City Council – Neighbour Networks</p>	