



Fact Sheet

St Marys Community Hub

Updated: July 2011

The Community Hub services families in the St Marys area, with a focus on providing activities in partnership with local public schools. In 2011, we are working in three schools in St Marys, and linking two more with local community partners. Our programs and activities aim to build links, networks and relationships accessible to families with young children, particularly those not accessing existing programs. Local community needs and priorities determine which programs and activities are implemented.

Target groups

This project aims to work with families with children aged from birth to eight years.

Service activities

Community Engagement activities

To provide events and activities that bring people out of their homes to meet with other parents of young children and develop relationships with local members of the community. This service provides a soft entry point for engaging families and finding their needs, fostering relationships and promoting parent groups.

Supported playgroups

These groups provide a structured program for parents and carers and their children to encourage literacy, play and informal discussions about any issues related to raising children.

Parent support activities

These groups aim to provide families with support and resources that are more intensive than those provided in a supported playgroup or by community engagement activities. This extra support includes workshops on behaviour management, 123 Magic and Triple P Parenting programs, anger management and nutrition/cooking classes.

Service engagement activities

To engage in networking activities that encourage and enhance service provision and promote the project's programs and activities.

Outcomes

- The development of supportive relationships with others in the local community;
- Improved parent-child interaction and strengthen relationships;
- Increased parents' satisfaction with their parenting skills;
- Increased knowledge of activities, services and resources in the area relevant to families;
- Supported enhancement of children's development
- Improved access to affordable social, recreational and/or community activities suited to the needs of families of young children.

- Improved networking and collaboration between agencies working with families with young children
- Reduced social isolation
- Increased sense of community

Funding sources

The Department of Human Services – Community Services funds this project under their Families NSW initiative.

Mission Australia

Mission Australia is one of the nation's leading community service organisations, having helped transform the lives of individuals and families in need for over 150 years. Mission Australia's vision is to see a fairer Australia by enabling people in need to find pathways to a better life. We currently operate more than 550 community and employment services throughout metropolitan, rural and regional Australia, which provide:

- Pathways away from homelessness;
- Pathways to strong families and healthy, happy children;
- Pathways through a successful youth;
- Pathways to life and work-ready skills

Contact information

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"Since the hub has been working in our school, I have been re-energised as a teacher. I feel supported and together we are achieving better outcomes for our children, families and community." - Teacher, Oxley Park Public School