

COMMUNITIES FOR CHILDREN SE TAS

OPERATING PLAN

Communities for Children South East Tasmania acknowledge and pay respect to the Tasmanian Aboriginal people as the traditional and original owners, and continuing custodians of this land on which we gather today and acknowledge Elders – past, present and emerging.

We acknowledge those who have passed before us and acknowledge Tasmanian Aboriginal people who are living and working in our Communities for Children activity areas, and we acknowledge that sovereignty has never been ceded.

We stand for a future that profoundly respects and acknowledges Aboriginal perspectives, culture, language and history. And a continued effort to fight for Aboriginal justice and rights paving the way for a strong future.

Communities for Children (CfC) South East Tasmania delivers programs and activities in the areas of:

- Southern Midlands – Bagdad, Campania, Oatlands, Kempton
- Upper Derwent Valley/Central Highlands – Glenora, Westerway, Ouse
- Brighton – Bridgewater, Gagebrook, Herdsmans Cove
- Derwent Valley – New Norfolk, Fairview

Communities for Children delivers programs and activities for families with Children in the 0-12 year age group that address the priority areas of **Safety, Resilience, Aspirations and Community Connections** and the Communities for Children Facilitating Partner objectives of:

- To improve the health and well-being of families and the development of young children, from before birth through to age 12 years, paying special attention to:
 - Healthy young families — supporting parents to care for their children before and after birth and throughout the early years;
 - Supporting families and parents — support for parents to provide children with secure attachment, consistent discipline and quality environments that are stable, positive, stimulating, safe and secure;
 - Early learning — provide access to high quality early learning opportunities in the years before school; provide early identification and support for children at risk of developmental and behavioural problems; assist parents with ways they can stimulate and promote child development and learning from birth; and
 - School transition and engagement - support children and families to make a smooth transition to school and work with local schools to assist children and families with their ongoing engagement with school.

The program aims to create **strong child-friendly communities** that understand the importance of children and apply this capacity to maximise the health, well-being and early development of young children at the local level.

Communities for Children- South-East Tasmania functions as a collective impact project, with a strong, vibrant backbone team and innovative, ethical, connected Community Partners. We work collectively, sustainably and we prioritize place-based initiatives to meet our goals in an inclusive and respectful manner.

Our 'Collective Leadership Table' is named our CfC Steering Committee, made up of our Community Partners, Community Members and people interested in working collaboratively towards our goal of:

“Families thriving in strong, safe communities”

All our funding decisions are made by the Funding Committee, who are Steering Committee Members. We do not allow Community Partners to join the Funding Committee, to avoid conflicts of interest.

We are committed to working towards ‘Closing the Gap’, breaking inter-generational trauma cycles, proactively challenging domestic and family violence and using innovative ways to create change. Our Communities for Children program is engaged in genuine systemic change work through the kutalayna Collective Table, Connected Beginnings program delivery and working with our local Aboriginal Advisory Groups.

We will implement and develop this work in partnership with our communities, community networks, government agencies and collectively address systemic issues in a progressive way.

THEORY OF CHANGE

Communities for Children South East Tas is committed to working **with** families and communities, using place based, collective impact practices to support change around:

- Community connections
- Resilience
- Safety
- Aspirations

All while connecting the pieces together to build child safe communities for everyone.

We support schools and our partners to work in meaningful, sustainable ways with our families to innovatively roll out evidence based, best practice programs and projects with robust evaluation processes in place.

The success of our work is based on The Salvation Army's (TSA) Communities for Children FP engaging skilled, committed and innovative community partners, and training and resourcing our communities and partner services. We will achieve positive impact by participating in action-based community networks, and by delivering programs and projects that have been asked for, and endorsed at the local community level.

The TSA CfC FP team leads by walking along side, building capacity and engaging with families and children to make sure program delivery is aligned with community needs. We value flexibility, sustainability, innovation and best practice in all service areas. We provide funding for gaps in service delivery where possible, and work proactively to connect communities to services that are available to them.

PROGRAM LOGIC – THE PLAN!

Project Goal – Connected, Child Friendly, Communities

Resources/Inputs	Activities to be Conducted	Outputs	Outcomes/Benefits	Impact
Communities for Children SE Tas Funding will be provided for programs, small grants, projects and training. Up to date community services directories. CfC SE Tas Project Officers/team on the ground doing collaborative work. Strong community agencies, local government and government services in the network with some established networking groups. Active social media presence for information sharing with families and services. Training and development work by Kylie Dunn and Julia Curtis around visual storytelling – to create easily read documents for families to connect into CfC. Tasmania has a strong network of emerging community who participate and support CfC.	Collaborative, community co-designed programs with a strong focus on using an Aboriginal lens. Using data and evidence to support evidence backed and evidence based projects. A vibrant, student led, small grants round funding innovative projects each year. CfC funded programs actively participating in community service networks, sector referral pathways, front line worker meetings and professional development. Support for local place based project work, to create stronger communities for our families and children. Training and development sessions to expand community knowledge and build capacity in our people.	Innovative, engaging programs will be funded to deliver in the: - Brighton - Southern Midlands - Central Highlands - Derwent Valley local government areas. Preference will be given to place based organisations, and those willing to commit to strong outreach plans for community service stability. CfC CP's will deliver services for our children pre-birth to 12, and their families, with a focus on sustainability, innovative practices and working locally to strengthen local community capacity. Small grants will provide space for pilot programs, new activities and experiences, community celebrations and skills development and social enterprise program seed funding.	Increased resilience, connection and opportunities for our children and their families in safe, connected communities. This will be measured through: - Numbers of families/children engaged - Movement through programs and removal of barriers - Hearing the stories, and the voices, and using this information to inform future service choices Using the DSS DEX/SCORE system through The Salvation Army (TSA) SAMiS system, and de-identified case studies to tell stories of change. Place based program delivery will provide local opportunities and create local system changes, while connecting people together.	Stronger connections between community and community services. Stronger service collaborations in the community sector and increased sector efficiency. Families thriving, feeling a part of their community and connecting into community and its resources. More opportunities appearing regularly for children and families to participate in (breaking down isolation and loneliness and building skills and resilience) Thriving communities ready for changes, new ideas, innovations and supporting community initiatives.

	Program delivery will be a mix of one on one work, group work and community wide work, in order to build stronger people in stronger places.	Regular free training opportunities happening/accessible in all our communities – provided by CfC, CP's and sector.	Our collective impact practice framework will build and grow the whole community over time.	
FACT - all CfC funded services will be free, inclusive and accessible.	Our work is based around collective impact methodologies – where CfC holds the role of the Back Bone Team.	Possible opportunities include participation and support of the Anglicare CfC Annual conference, working with ChangeFest Tassie 2022.		

AIFS Evidence Based Listed Programs that are suggested for connecting communities include:

FAST (Families and Schools Together)

Sibworks

Volunteer Family Connect

Playsteps

Useful if we go in to COVID-19 lockdown

Healthy & Safe: An Australian Parent Education Kit

Programs/projects CfC would consider funding to support community connections include:

- Activities that actively work to meet the priority reforms of the “Closing the Gap” work.
<https://www.closingthegap.gov.au/national-agreement/priority-reforms>
- Community activities/activation of ‘unsafe’ spaces
- Creation of community plans for community driven change including increasing service access and navigation
- Social enterprises that empower communities to thrive
- Conferences and skilling up events
- Activities that tackle intergenerational trauma
- Activities that remove barriers for families to thrive
- Activities that support school transitions – for primary and secondary students
- Programs that support COVID-19 specific issues (isolation, loneliness, isolation, anxiety)

Project Goal – Building resilience in our families and children.

All of the above and....

Resources/Inputs	Activities to be Conducted	Outputs	Outcomes/Benefits	Impact
Communities for Children SE Tas Funding will be provided for programs, small grants, projects and training. Our communities bring strong connections, networks and values. CfC SE Tas Project Officers/team on the ground doing collaborative work and listening to community needs. Strong community agencies, local government and government services in the network with some established networking groups. AIFS has a wide range of Evidence Based Programs that build resilience.	Programs and projects that take place in and out of school environments, to build skills in resilience. Programs that provide up to date parenting/caring support that build on strengths. Programs that provide a bridge for school entry, and school transitions to high school, addressing parents fear of letting kids fail. Programs that break the cycle of generational trauma in parents and children. Programs that support 'real world' understanding, to tackle the facebook/youtube information overload. Supports that address local needs e.g. bushfire recovery Programs that address bullying and create community leaders. Programs that address postcode stigma, and locational disadvantage.	A community resilience tool kit, with information, resources training tips, parenting help. Local story telling (books, events) to explore what resilience looks like, and what it feels like, written in Tasmania and illustrated by Tasmanians. Community participation to lead, model and drive change in the community. Training/programs that are asked for by the community, and driven on evidence based, best practice ideas.	Increased resilience, connection and opportunities for our children and their families in safe, connected communities. This will be measured through: - Numbers of families/children engaged - Movement through programs and removal of barriers - Hearing the stories, and the voices, and using this information to inform future service choices Using the DSS DEX/SCORE system through The Salvation Army (TSA) SAMiS system, and de-identified case studies to tell stories of change. Place based program delivery will provide local opportunities and create local changes, while connecting people together. Our collective impact practice framework will build and grow the whole community over time.	Strong connections between families, programs and schools. Families and children feeling more connected and able to cope with life changes. Families and community knowing where to get support when they need it. People being familiar with what resilience is, and how that looks in practice. Local stories from local people – sharing the power and the local knowledge about what works and what doesn't.

AIFS Evidence Based Listed Programs that are suggested for building resilience include (this funding must take up 50% of the funding CfC allocates each year):

Baby Makes 3

Bringing Up Great Kids

Circle of Security (CoS)

Cool Kids and Cool Little Kids

DRUMBEAT (Discovering Relationships Using Music, Beliefs, Emotions,

Attitudes and Thoughts)

Exploring together

FAST (Families and Schools Together)

Fun FRIENDS and FRIENDS for Life

Journey of Hope

Parent-Child Mother Goose (P-CMG)

Parents Under Pressure (PuP)

Seasons for Growth

Second Step

Secret Agent Society

Sibworks

Smalltalk

Tuning in to Kids

Tuning in to Teens

Volunteer Family Connect

What Were We Thinking! (WWWT)

Useful if we go in to COVID-19 lockdown

Healthy & Safe: An Australian Parent Education Kit

Parents as Teachers (PAT)

CfC is looking to fund programs that address:

- School transitions
- After school and holiday programs (to grow experiences and opportunities)
- Parenting support
- Sibling support
- Single parent support
- Dad's programs

**Project Goal – Supporting aspirations in our children and families.
All of the above and...**

Resources/Inputs	Activities to be Conducted	Outputs	Outcomes/Benefits	Impact
Communities for Children SE Tas Funding will be provided for programs, small grants, projects and training. CfC SE Tas Project Officers/team on the ground doing collaborative work and actively listening to community needs Strong community agencies, local government and government services in the network with some established networking groups.	Programs that provide opportunities to explore career options, social enterprise creation/engagement Programs that connect students and families with new adventures, study options and pathways. Programs that include training and development and skills for parents and carers. During school, after school and school holiday programs that include evidence based opportunity creation – and some fun! Programs that encourage recovery from mistakes and decisions that haven't worked. Programs that foster cultural connections and pride.	Videos showcasing wins, new opportunities, local people/leaders talking about what resilience means to them. A variety of programs across the CfC footprint area that regularly explore new ideas, new opportunities and add value to traditional education options.	Increased resilience, connection and opportunities for our children and their families in safe, connected communities. This will be measured through: • Numbers of families/children engaged • Movement through programs and removal of barriers • Hearing the stories, and the voices, and using this information to inform future service choices Using the DSS DEX/SCORE system through The Salvation Army (TSA) SAMiS system, and de-identified case studies to tell stories of change. Place based program delivery will provide local opportunities and create local changes, while connecting people together. Our collective impact practice framework will build and grow the whole community over time.	Students thinking broadly about what career paths/life choices they might make. Families participating in events to widen experiences and open up opportunities. Creating space for emergence of social enterprise programs as an alternative to traditional career pathways.

AIFS Evidence Based Listed Programs that are suggested for supporting aspirations include:

Exploring together
FAST (Families and Schools Together)
Volunteer Family Connect

Community programs CfC would like to engage: UTAS Children's University, community garden programs, community event programs, safety plan development opportunities, healthy movement opportunities, healthy cooking opportunities, programs that create community safety nets/communications

Project Goal – Community safety
All of the above and more!

Resources/Inputs	Activities to be Conducted	Outputs	Outcomes/Benefits	Impact
Communities for Children SE Tas Funding will be provided for programs, small grants, projects and training. CfC SE Tas Project Officers/team on the ground doing collaborative work and actively listening to communities about their safety concerns. Strong community agencies, local government and government services in the network with some established networking groups.	Programs that move safety from the police to the community. Programs that activate public spaces, to connect people to places. Programs that create feelings of belonging, and friendship. Community safety maps and programs to address the issues – led by students and families. Participation that drives action at community networking groups. Local social enterprise/small business support programs to activate our small communities and create job pathways for our students. Programs that foster cultural connections and pride.	Community safety/information sharing ideas – driven by the community. Community feedback and involvement. Community partners willing to share, network, promote and connect. Strong partnerships built with local government, local business and local police.	Increased resilience, connection and opportunities for our children and their families in safe, connected communities. This will be measured through: • Numbers of families/children engaged • Movement through programs and removal of barriers • Hearing the stories, and the voices, and using this information to inform future service choices Using the DSS DEX/SCORE system through The Salvation Army (TSA) SAMiS system, and de-identified case studies to tell stories of change. Place based program delivery will provide local opportunities and create local changes, while connecting people together. Our collective impact practice framework will build and grow the whole community over time.	Families feeling safe to explore and live in their areas. Families knowing where to get help - and with skills to also give help. Agencies working together to support events, create opportunities and things happening for people to participate in. Families exploring new ways to work together to break down inter-generational trauma. Police working closely with the community – rather than beside.

AIFS Evidence Based Listed Programs that are suggested to support safety -

Bringing Up Great Kids

Circle of Security (CoS)

Cool Kids and Cool Little Kids

DRUMBEAT (Discovering Relationships Using Music, Beliefs, Emotions, Attitudes and Thoughts)

Empowering Parents, Empowering Communities (EPEC)

Exploring together

FAST (Families and Schools Together)

Fun FRIENDS and FRIENDS for Life

Healthy & Safe: An Australian Parent Education Kit

Incredible Years

INFANT (INfant Feeding Active play and NuTrition)

Journey of Hope

Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT)

Parent-Child Mother Goose (P-CMG)

Parents Under Pressure (PuP)

Playsteps

Seasons for Growth

Second Step

Secret Agent Society

Sibworks

Smalltalk

Volunteer Family Connect

Community programs CfC would like to engage: Sexual health (whole of community) providers, community celebrations and public art projects, active living programs, little library projects, Dad's parenting programs, community neighbourhood programs.