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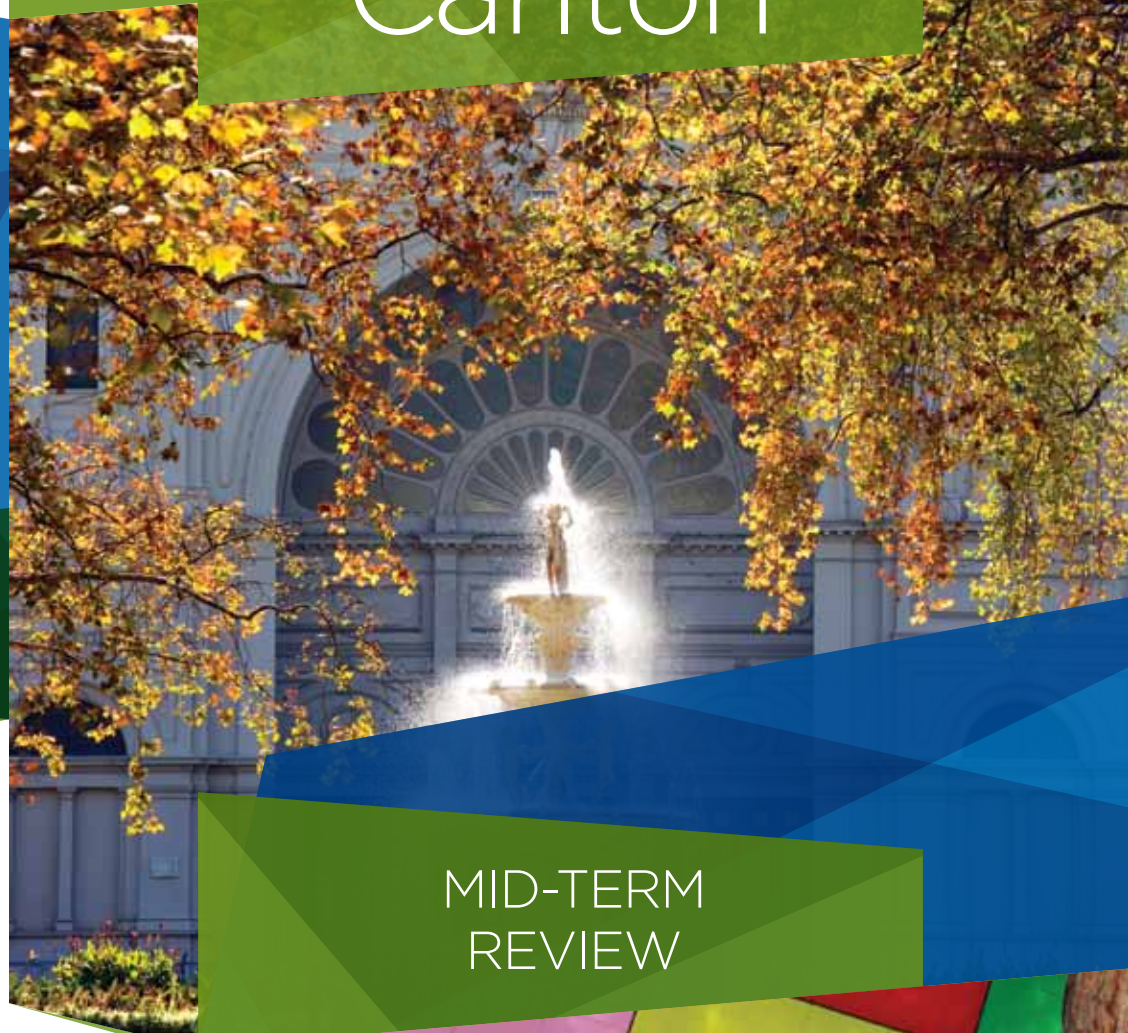
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Opportunities for Carlton



MID-TERM REVIEW

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OPPORTUNITIES FOR CARLTON

The City of Melbourne is proud to support the Opportunities for Carlton project and we invite you to read on for a snapshot of the project's achievements to date.

The Carlton Community Website and regular community forums have led to some impressive outcomes for the Carlton community. Building on the ongoing efforts of many individuals and organisations, we are working towards improvements in community facilities and services. In a broader context, we have made real progress in discussing the future of education and creative employment strategies.

The Carlton community identified ideas for their neighbourhood and it is local people who are putting their plans into action. The project is a great example of groups working together to achieve common objectives, and the City of Melbourne will continue to support all involved in Opportunities for Carlton.



Robert Doyle

Robert Doyle
Lord Mayor



Jennifer Kanis

Cr Jennifer Kanis
Future Melbourne
(People and Creative City)
Committee Chair



OPPORTUNITIES FOR CARLTON NETWORK

We should all be proud of the way this document chronicles an impressive array of activity by the Carlton community, the OFC team and our key stakeholders in government and private sector. This is a complex task and one that now leads the way in how we think about our urban communities.

The launch of the Carlton Community Plan and the Community Infrastructure Implementation Framework have helped keep focus on a whole of community, whole of government approach that engages the our community closely in the support, care and development of this extraordinarily diverse area.

From innovative environmental actions to developing new employment pathways, the Opportunities for Carlton project continues to create well being and engagement for the people of Carlton, both now and into the future. A sincere thank you to everyone who is contributing their energy, passion and time.



Melanie Raymond
Chair, Opportunities for Carlton

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CARLTON: WORKING IN COLLABORATION

This booklet provides an update to the work of the Opportunities for Carlton (OFC) project in the first 21 months, from June 2009 to April 2011. In this time, we've seen:

- the Carlton Community Plan
- five key objectives
- the involvement of over 250 individuals
- input from over 70 agencies, including community, government and industry
- over 40 projects generated in the first 18 months
- 21 community projects funded through OFC grant funds, totalling \$110,000
- the brokerage of additional funds to community projects and services, totalling over \$447,000.

Since the initial community consultation process in 2008, a range of Carlton community members have contributed to the project vision and developed the Carlton Community Plan. The OFC project has focussed on the facilitation and support of Carlton representatives agencies, industry and government, to respond to the community priorities and actions identified in the Carlton Community Plan.

The Carlton network has actively participated in implementing solutions, actions and outcomes, while building strong relationships and partnerships through the process.



Here's a snapshot of some of the key projects and achievements supported by Opportunities for Carlton.

We recognise the valuable contribution of the many agencies and partners in this process

The Carlton Together Working Group is coordinated by Church of All Nations and Carlton Residents Association/Carlton Gardens Tennis Club and includes:

- local residents
- La Mama
- Carlton Neighbourhood Learning Centre (CNLC)
- Drummond Street Services (DSS)
- Department of Human Services (DHS)
- Environment Victoria
- City of Melbourne
- other stakeholders.

Coordinated by Carlton Neighbourhood Learning Centre (CNLC), the Work and Learning Working Group includes:

- Job Prospects
- Sarina Russo
- Brotherhood of St Laurence (BSL)
- local residents
- Carlton Housing Estate Residents Services (CHERS)
- Capital City Local Learning and Employment Network (City LLEN)
- Church of All Nations (CAN)
- Drummond Street Services (DSS)
- Adult Migrant Education Services (AMES)
- Carlton Primary School
- Melbourne Museum
- University of Melbourne
- Yarra Centrelink
- Department of Planning and Community Development (DPCD)
- Department of Human Services (DHS) Public Tenant Employment Program
- Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD)
- City of Melbourne
- other stakeholders.

The Healthy Carlton working group is coordinated by North Yarra Community Health (NYCH) and the Department of Health (DoH). The group includes:

- local residents
- students
- Carlton Housing Estate Residents Services (CHERS)
- Drummond Street Services (DSS)
- Sports without Borders (SWB)
- Department of Human Services (DHS)
- University of Melbourne
- Victoria Police
- Carlton Primary School
- Carlton Neighbourhood Learning Centre (CNLC)
- City of Melbourne
- other stakeholders.



WHOLE OF GOVERNMENT COORDINATION

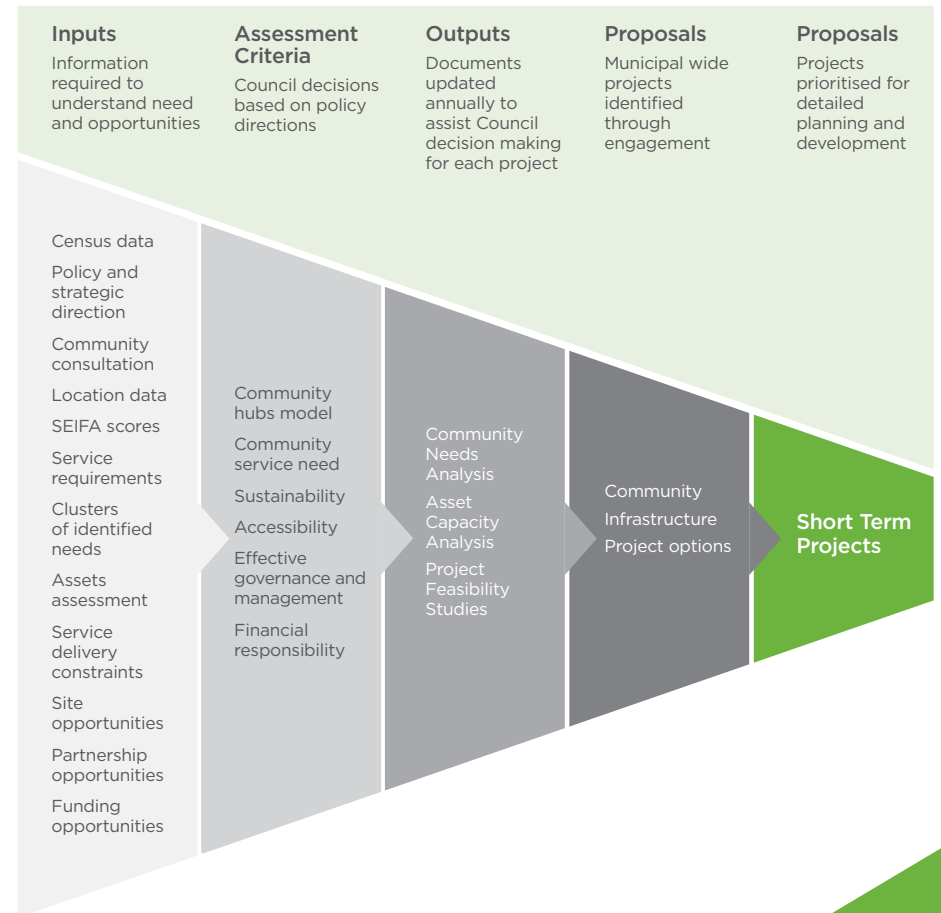
One of the key objectives for the project has been coordination of government effort and investment in Carlton. The work of the community is supported by an inter-government group of senior local and state representatives responsible for coordinating government resources in and around the Carlton area.

Chaired by Melanie Raymond, the group includes representatives from the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD), Department of Human Services (DHS), Department of Health (DH), Department of Planning and Community Development (DPCD) and City of Melbourne.

One of the areas for the inter-government group will be planning around community infrastructure. Developed in 2010, the City of Melbourne Community Infrastructure Implementation Framework provides an overview of the short, medium and long term timeframes – which correspond to the Council Plan cycle – for community infrastructure projects across the municipality and the associated funding requirements and partnership opportunities.



The framework provides a tool for the City of Melbourne to plan, assess and decide future community infrastructure projects. It will form the basis for the whole of government community infrastructure planning in 2011.



COMMUNITY CONSULTATION IN PRACTICE

Another area for the project has been around community participation in decision making processes. To date, OFC involvement has included:

KEY MESSAGES FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IN CARLTON

In April 2010, OFC brought together key community and government agencies to discuss community consultation in Carlton. The session highlighted that the community:

- want to be closely engaged and well informed about decisions affecting the Carlton community
- are passionate about working with partners to create a vibrant and inclusive Carlton
- recognise that decision making is complex and want open and transparent processes.

DHS PLANNING FOR 140 NEILL STREET

The OFC team contributed to the July 2010 community consultation sessions regarding the foyer upgrades for the 140 Neill Street public housing building with DHS. OFC worked with the local housing office to provide guidance in the planning, preparation and structure of the sessions, and also facilitated the sessions.

Seventy tenants were involved over in the four sessions and provided great feedback during the planning process, were clear on the outcomes of the session and gave positive feedback on their experiences.

CARLTON BATHS AND FAMILY RESOURCE CENTRE REDEVELOPMENT

The City of Melbourne is redeveloping the Carlton Baths and Family Resource Centre to upgrade and extend the building to provide greater accessible and inclusive health, wellness and community facilities and services for the growing population in Carlton. Approximately 120 community members participated in three community information sessions and contributed valuable ideas and feedback during the planning process.

DEECD EDUCATION FORUM - JULY 2010

DEECD held a community information session on the future of education in Carlton. The session emerged from an initial request from the OFC Work and Learning group on planning for lifelong learning in Carlton, and the planning for future education options in Carlton.

CITY OF MELBOURNE TRAINING FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE ORGANISATIONS

The City of Melbourne provides training to enable local community organisations to better manage and run their organisations. Through the OFC project, a range of training options have been supported for the Carlton community, including governance, grant writing and targeted work with public housing groups. This training helps build the skills of local agencies to best respond to community needs.



CARLTON TOGETHER WORKING GROUP: FOCUSES ON COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, COMMUNITY CONNECTEDNESS, EMBRACING DIVERSITY, VOLUNTEERING AND TOURISM

CARLTON COMMUNITY WEBSITE – AN ONLINE HUB FOR CARLTON INFORMATION, EVENTS, SERVICES AND BUSINESSES

Throughout the OFC project, the community has highlighted the importance of information, access and connection across Carlton. September 2010 saw the launch of the Carlton Community Website (www.carlton.vic.au) as the online hub for Carlton. The website features information about Carlton for residents, students, visitors and those working in the area, and includes details on exciting events, volunteering and job opportunities, interesting initiatives in the local community, education and training and information on all things Carlton.

It is a fantastic resource for residents, businesses and workers in Carlton. Jobs and events can be advertised free of charge, and the introduction of marketing and sponsorship of local businesses through the website is building the sustainability and prominence of the site. The website will be further promoted by a postcard mail out to every Carlton household in 2011.



ECO-CARLTON: TRANSFORMING CARLTON INTO A 'GREEN' PRECINCT, REDUCING OUR ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT THROUGH ACTIVE COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Environmental sustainability is a key theme that underpins the OFC project – it's a connection between all groups in Carlton and, linked to health, wellbeing, future economic and social development.

In July 2010, Cr Cathy Oke hosted the Eco-Carlton meeting which brought together key stakeholders with expertise and experience in environmental sustainability. The meeting provided City of Melbourne with strategic directions and valuable advice on how to involve and support community action on the environment, including actions by individuals, organisations, business and government.

Building on this work, the March 2011 Opportunities for Carlton Network Meeting focussed on the theme of sustainability. Participants at the meeting explored options to transform Carlton into a 'green' precinct and reduce the ecological footprint through active community involvement.



The 2011-12 year will see City of Melbourne work closely with the Carlton community to implement the ideas and actions for sustainability in Carlton, which reflects Council's Key Strategic Activity (KSA) on climate change adaptation and mitigation. The Opportunities for Carlton work around sustainability will focus on increasing community awareness and participation in the 'Eco City' programs by completing a community needs assessment; developing a community engagement and communications process and trialling a sustainable living and behavioural change program within the Carlton precinct.

The following projects have started the activity around sustainability and the Eco-Carlton priority.

ECO BEHAVIOUR CHANGE PROJECT

Environment Victoria, Sustainability Victoria, DHS and City of Melbourne have developed an Eco Behaviour Change project, which aims to undertake a behaviour change pilot with both public and private tenants in the new Stage One Housing in the Carlton redevelopment during 2011.

The new buildings have a 6 to 7-star ESD (Ecologically Sustainable Development) rating. The behaviour change pilot aims to equip the new residents with the understanding and skills required to best utilise the range of ESD features, thereby maximising environmental outcomes and saving residents money and resources. The pilot will also work from a social

inclusion agenda, welcoming and orienting the new populations into their neighbourhoods and building them as community champions for the environment, thereby creating a sustainable Carlton.

GREEN RENTERS - SUSTAINABILITY SESSIONS FOR RENTERS IN CARLTON

Sometimes renters can feel that sustainability is only for people who can install solar panels. Sustainability is for everyone and there are many simple things renters can do at home that result in big environmental savings. In 2011, Green Renters will deliver 10 workshops for renters in Carlton. The workshops offer practical advice for Carlton residents to make the properties in which they live more environmentally sustainable.

BENDIGO BANK CONNECTED COMMUNITIES FUND

To help build sustainable means to support locally lead projects, the Carlton Connected Communities Committee has involved a group of Carlton locals working with the Bendigo Bank Carlton branch to establish and manage a fund that will direct profits into community projects in the Carlton area.

The community fund will support projects and activities driven by Carlton community members and organisations. Revenue for the fund will be generated through the support of the Bendigo Bank Carlton branch. The committee is well along the way to achieving the necessary pledges to get started and is now looking to the next stage of setting up the fund and planning for its distribution to community projects.

WORKING WITH YOUNG PEOPLE IN CARLTON

'TELL IT HOW IT IS' YOUTH THINK TANK

In April 2011, as part of Youth Week, Drum Youth Services held the 'Tell it how it is' youth think tank designed by young people to invite young people to participate in a consultation process as the experts in their lives. The Think Tank will inform the following OFC Youth priorities, including:

- for young people to brainstorm projects and programs that could be developed and that address their perceived needs
- for young people to commit to a youth action group to work on delivering these projects
- for young people to sign up as consultants to the youth action group and remain connected to the projects, offering ideas, skill sets and individual strengths via email or phone contact or other appropriate communication.

We look forward to hearing the outcomes and directions.



BUILDING SOCIAL CONNECTION IN CARLTON: THE ROLE OF ARTS AND CULTURE

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT GUIDE TO CARLTON

With international students making up a large portion of the Carlton population, Meld magazine is developing an in-depth guide to introduce newly arrived international students to their new neighbourhood. This online guide will strengthen the community by welcoming and orienting newly arrived international students to Carlton and assisting them in exploring Carlton's arts, sporting activities, food, and community life.

CHURCH OF ALL NATIONS COMMUNITY SUPPORT VOLUNTEERS COMMUNITY LUNCHEON

The Church of All Nations has approximately 75 volunteers working across its programs. Through an OFC grant in 2010, this luncheon brought all the volunteers together to share knowledge and experiences to strengthen and increase skills. Volunteers make a vital contribution to our community, and we welcome the opportunity to say thank you.

ART MURAL AT CARLTON FAMILY RESOURCE CENTRE

In 2011, a group of University of Melbourne Student Ambassadors have transferred their study of 'Creativity, Play and the Arts' to a real world context. In partnership with the Carlton Family Resource Centre, Janet Clarke Hall and mural artist, Russell Danby, the project has transformed the Carlton Family Resource Centre's outdoor space into a vibrant and interactive environment that fosters creativity, sharing and teamwork. The students worked closely with children and families to produce the mural.

THE CARLTON SONG

'...is a story...and a statement of memories and feelings about the community in which I live and breathe' (Fadil Suna).

A fine collection of Carlton residents showcased their musical skills, talent and love of the arts through the creation of the Carlton song. It was a perfect medium for these individuals to illustrate their craft and work collaboratively to celebrate their Carlton. The performance was a highlight of the Carlton community plan launch in September 2010. The song was produced and recorded professionally with assistance through an OFC project grant.



WORK AND LEARNING WORKING GROUP: FOCUSES ON LIFELONG LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT OF EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN CARLTON

UNDERSTANDING LIFELONG LEARNING IN CARLTON

CARLTON LEARNING NEEDS ANALYSIS

The review of educational participation, services and facilities in Carlton report was finalised in May 2009 and has informed the direction of the Work and Learning working group through projects, advocacy and information. The report helps to inform both community and government about planning and development and includes a profile of the community learning needs, a learning capital assessment and options for the future.



THE ROLE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY (ICT) IN EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Access to and improved skills ICT have been shown to address disadvantage and social isolation in many ways. The Work and Learning group have developed a range of initiatives across this priority.

ICAN IT CENTRE

Opened in 2009, the iCAN IT Centre provides an internet kiosk with free training and access to computers and the internet. The project is supported by student volunteers and recycled computers from the University of Melbourne, funds from the Church of All Nations Share Appeal, Department of Planning and Community Development volunteer grants and the Opportunities for Carlton grant fund. Since establishment, iCAN has averaged about 100 visits per week by local community members. In addition, four computer courses have been completed across various target groups, such as older people and African women.

CHILDCARE FOR AFRICAN MOTHERS LEARNING COMPUTERS PROJECT

Recognising the barriers to accessing training and education, Church of All Nations used an OFC grant to provide in-house childcare to enable a group of local women to access ICT training at the iCAN IT Centre. The provision of childcare has enabled groups such as African women and newly arrived migrants to learn necessary skills for gaining employment and explore opportunities for further study.

CARLTON ONLINE: OPPORTUNITIES AND LEARNING (COOL) - DIGITAL INCLUSION IN CARLTON

The culmination of the Work and Learning group's development of digital inclusion strategies in Carlton has been the development of Carlton Online: Opportunities and Learning (COOL). The COOL project has received a \$125,000 DPCD grant provide a coordinated approach to 'bridging the digital divide' and includes a range of partners in Carlton for the provision of low cost computers, training programs, volunteer support and the Carlton community website. The project will run for 18 months, from January 2011 to June 2012.

A COORDINATED APPROACH TO FAMILY LITERACY

FAMILIES LEARNING TOGETHER IN CARLTON – SCIENCE MORNING TEAS

In 2009, Museum Victoria worked with 33 Carlton families – mainly recent arrivals to Australia – and Melbourne University students to help residents acquire the skills and confidence to access Melbourne museum independently. Initiatives like this assist new Australians in integrating and understanding Australian society.

THE FAMILY LITERACY PROJECT

Commencing in 2010, through a partnership project between Carlton Primary School, Drummond Street Services and Carlton Neighbourhood Learning Centre, the Family Literacy project involves families in their children's education and builds the links between literacy, access, participation, employment and health. It supports parents and their children and promotes connectedness within and between families as well as within the local community. The project has launched key initiatives like coordinated intake and assessment processes across agencies in Carlton, incorporating health and literacy as determinants of broader wellbeing.



IMPROVING EMPLOYMENT PATHWAYS IN CARLTON

EMPLOYMENT ROUNDTABLE – EMPLOYMENT CREATION IN CARLTON

Organised by members of the Work and Learning group, the employment roundtable was held in July 2009 to help address the unemployment levels in Carlton. The roundtable focussed on how local employers and residents can benefit from local employment strategies in a changing labour market.

CARLTON PUBLIC HOUSING EMPLOYMENT WITH LOCAL EMPLOYERS

Building upon the employment roundtable, Work and Learning partners progressed discussions between the key agencies in Carlton about local employment strategies for public tenant employment.

In May 2010, DHS signed an agreement to work with four Melbourne hospitals to generate employment for public housing tenants in Carlton. Under the agreement, about 50 unemployed Carlton tenants will be able to access training and jobs at the Royal Women's Hospital, the Royal Children's Hospital, the Royal Melbourne Hospital and Dental Health Services Victoria. The work of the DHS Public Tenant Employment Program and Work and Learning partners in developing these links is a significant and exciting step in establishing systemic employment pathways for the Carlton community.

AFRICAN EMPLOYMENT CHALLENGE REPORT

December 2010 saw the launch of the African Employment Challenge Report, which details the achievements and challenges of the Carlton Horn Afrik project, employment, training and advocacy project 2007-2010. The Horn Afrik project was a three-year initiative of the Carlton Local Agency Network (CLAN) which highlights the needs of this community, the great potential to address barriers to employment and the strong links now made with the business communities.

CARLTON HOUSING ESTATE CHILDCARE WORKERS AND STUDENTS – ADVOCACY GROUP AND FORUM

This Church of All Nations project will support and advocate for a group of women with children's services qualifications who are experiencing barriers to finding employment. Employers, industry representatives and community members will meet in June 2011 to discuss the childcare sector supply and demand issues in the Carlton area. The aim of this conversation is to identify and institute actions to create employment pathways for the local community and service providers.

HEALTHY CARLTON WORKING GROUP: FOCUSES ON HEALTH AND WELLBEING, SAFETY, DIVERSITY AND RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR CARLTON

BUILDING THE IMPORTANT LINKS BETWEEN SOCIAL INCLUSION AND HEALTH

The Healthy Carlton group has worked closely with the local community to first understand the community's priorities for health and wellbeing, and then institute a range of projects and initiatives to respond directly to these needs.



FAMILY HARMONY SAFETY PROJECT

In 2009, North Yarra Community Health commenced work with University of Melbourne students and community members to identify the Carlton community's understanding and needs around the issue of family safety and domestic violence. The resulting information sessions about safety and the prevention of family violence reached 290 community members, increasing the understanding of safety and wellbeing issues in Carlton.

The success of this pilot in Carlton has seen the idea further developed for implementation at the Neighbourhood Renewal project at Collingwood Estate, supported by Office of Women's Policy, Office of Housing and the Neighbourhood Justice Centre.

MEN'S HEALTH FOR HARMONY PROJECT

The Men's Health for Harmony project evolved from the identified need for a second stage to the Family Safety Harmony project. An OFC grant enabled North Yarra Community Health to focus on increasing family harmony in the Carlton community by bringing men from different backgrounds and abilities together in a supportive social environment. This came from the principles that many cycles of violence can be broken down through social inclusion and experience sharing, and that family violence prevention is an issue for the whole community.

CARLTON MEN'S SHED

The Carlton Men's Shed project has emerged as a place for men to meet, build networks, learn new skills and access information relevant to their communities. Through a DPCD grant for \$45,000 and a partnership with Carlton Housing Estate Residents Services (CHERS), DHS and NYCH, the Carlton Men's Shed is at the base of 510 Lygon Street and will work with men around Carlton.

CARLTON HEALTH AND WELLBEING - FOOD SAFETY PROJECT

Healthy Carlton and North Yarra Community Health have also undertaken important work with women in Carlton to build skills and training to 10 local women in food safety, preparation and small business training.



DEVELOPING SERVICE RESPONSES TO COMMUNITY NEEDS

ADDITIONAL DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH FUNDING FOR HOME AND COMMUNITY CARE (HACC) IN CARLTON

In 2009-10, the Department of Health secured additional recurrent funding of \$110,000 for Home and Community Care (HACC) services in Carlton. The Department of Health has been a key partner in the Healthy Carlton coordination and the extra funding for additional occupational therapy and physiotherapy emerged out of the community needs identified through OFC.

GETTING BACK ON YOUR FEET PROJECT

The Active Service Model project with the City of Melbourne clearly identified that people with greater physical disabilities are less likely to find access to leisure activities and have less access to transport. Delivered by North Yarra Community Health, the 2011 Getting Back on your Feet project aims to provide isolated, low mobility clients with increased support to assist with their physical mobility. The intention is that the project will benefit participants by:

- increasing social connectedness
- increasing skills, confidence and motivation
- improving physical health, lifestyle and mental health
- increasing participants' ability to use public transport and be involved with local agencies.

CELEBRATING DIVERSITY IN CARLTON

Social connections comprise the people we know, the friends we confide in, the family we belong to and the community we live in. Each contributes to our physical and mental health in a variety of ways.

CARLTON HARMONY DAY

Carlton Harmony Day provides an opportunity for us to celebrate our successes as a culturally diverse society, re-commit ourselves to harmony and say 'no' to racial intolerance. Carlton Harmony Day is an initiative of CLAN (Carlton Local Agencies Network) and at least 40 agencies are involved in organising the event. The skills, self-esteem and self efficacies of local community residents develop through their roles as key organisers of the event. Harmony Day 2011 involved 2500 community members and a many great activities and events, building social networks, inclusion and celebration.

CULTURALLY DIVERSE YOUNG WOMEN'S GROUP

The Culturally Diverse Young Women's group has been developed to bring young women from diverse backgrounds together to create a supportive social network. The 30 women who attend the monthly meetings share ideas, socialise and have fun together. One of the main drivers of the program is to support, encourage and train young women to become a strong linkage between their parents and services providers as cultural and language barriers can make it difficult for their parents to access services.



RECREATION SERVICES IN CARLTON

Recreation is a tangible means for the Carlton community to come together, and improve health and wellbeing.

SPORTS WITHOUT BORDERS – SOCIAL INCLUSION THROUGH SPORTS

Sports without Borders (SWB) has developed a program to encourage and assist newly arrived young people to participate in sport as a means of social inclusion. During 2011, SWB will deliver its Social Inclusion through Sports (SITS) program with local partners in Carlton to connect the diverse range of people in Carlton across different cultural and age brackets. The project will also tackle key social issues such as obesity, the importance of physical activity and participation structured sport. It aims to empower newly arrived young leaders to encourage their peers and organise sporting events, and eventually assist in forming a pathway to mainstream sport within the City of Melbourne.

CITY OF MELBOURNE CARLTON RESOURCE CENTRE AND CARLTON BATHS REDEVELOPMENT

In 2011, City of Melbourne will undertake a \$5.9 million upgrade to Carlton Baths and Family Resource Centre. The City of Melbourne owned building, now more than 20 years old, will be renovated so it can continue to meet the growing needs of the community well into the future. The redevelopment will focus on increasing service provision by better utilising and expanding the capacity of the site, improving the health club facilities, change areas and playgroup areas, and increasing services such as family services.

NEXT STEPS FOR OPPOTUNITIES FOR CARLTON

As we move into the final year of the Opportunities for Carlton project, the aim is to build on the initiatives showcased in this update and work towards achieving the objectives of the Carlton Community Plan.

The final year will focus on consolidating the learnings and relationships at a whole of community level. This will pave the way for positive and sustained outcomes for the Carlton community.

For more about Opportunities for Carlton and the latest news about the Carlton community, visit carlton.vic.au

