



## Community Connector - Street by Street Project

### About Us

Turning streets into communities is the focus of a national project that is forging links on a local level and fostering an Australia-wide network of groups. The **Street by Street** project helps bring neighbours together, providing resources and support.

We have groups in their early stages in three States, a project team spanning four States and the support of a Reference Group with over 90 members across Australia. Everyone involved is passionate about creating and supporting communities. The project is unfunded; we are all contributing on a voluntary basis.

This is a community building initiative of the Centre for Civil Society, a social policy and social innovation institute.

You can check it out at [www.streetbystreet.org.au](http://www.streetbystreet.org.au)

### About You

We are looking for people of all descriptions anywhere in Australia who are:

- interested in connecting face to face with your neighbours and building a sense of community;
- welcoming and friendly to all types of people; and
- able to plan ahead and organise things.

### What help will we give you?

You'll have lots of support to make this work for you in your area, including:

- Help and advice from a member of the Project Team via phone and email;
- A Kit from our website giving you lots of 'how to' information such as how to contact your neighbours, how to discuss what you might do together, how to handle problems, if any;
- Example invitations and other useful tools;
- Lots of examples of inspiring community groups and what they've done;
- Easy, in-between and ambitious ideas of what a Street by Street group could do (so no shortage of options);
- An on-line platform (in development) to make it easy for your group to communicate in between real-life activities; and
- Encouragement to find neighbours willing to share the leading/organising role with you (it's more enjoyable done as a team).

### What will you get from this?

- A greater sense of community where you live
- A community where neighbours are willing to give each other a helping hand when needed.

- The satisfaction of being helpful to your neighbours, sharing your skills and making a positive difference in their lives.
- Getting to know more people in your neighbourhood expands your circle and maybe even uncovers new friends.
- Connections with people across the generations.
- The benefits of whatever you decide to do together. These could be fresh veggies if you choose to garden together, company for walking, improving the look of your area, sharing tools or skills, more sustainable living or a group of fellow book lovers.
- Community development experience. This is particularly useful if you work, or want to work, in community services.
- Being part of a network of Community Connectors - sharing stories of what works, learning from what doesn't.
- Being part of a national project and seeing it grow and develop
- A greater sense of well-being, purpose, and satisfaction in your life.
- The joy that comes from making all this possible for others.

### **Is this a big commitment?**

This can be done on top of a busy life. Finding others to share the organising role with you and pacing activities allows you to fit this in at a pace that works for you.

### **Take the next step**

To get the ball rolling in your area, send an email to [irene@streetbystreet.org.au](mailto:irene@streetbystreet.org.au) with the following:

- why this interests you
- any experience you've had with community groups or organising gatherings (desirable, not essential)
- where you live, your contact details and your preference for contact (business hours or after hours).

If you have any questions please call Irene Opper, Project Manager, on 0413 706 233.

Please note that this is a role that a person takes on as a neighbour, not as a volunteer of Street by Street or the Centre for Civil Society. We want each group to be free to chart its own course.

**Please express your interest as soon as possible.**

**You can express interest along with a neighbour.**

**Please share this with all the community minded people you know.**