



MOUNT BARKER **COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**Community Development and Collective
Partnership**

Acknowledgement

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land occupied by Mount Barker Community Centre, its programs and services. We pay our respects to the Elders, both past and present, for they hold the memories, the traditions, the culture and the hope of the oldest living culture on Earth. We acknowledge the sacred connection to this land which, since the beginning of the Dreaming, was, is, and always will be traditional Aboriginal Land.



Types of Partners

- Corporate
- Other Not for Profits
- Government entities
- Suppliers / 3rd parties
- Community members (with a vision or idea)

Background Considerations

- Develop an MOU or Partnership Agreement
 - Consider legal obligations
 - Identify role in partnership
 - SWOT analysis
 - Consider Non negotiables
 - Assess Risk

Risk Assessment

- Vision, Mission and values alignment
- Differing expectation from partners
 - Conflicts of Interest
 - Ensure Transparency
- Track Record: Partners being capable of performing their agreed tasks

Potential Impacts

- Financial impact on your Centre
- Human Resource: Impact on your staff / volunteers
 - Impact on your clients / participants
 - Reputational Damage

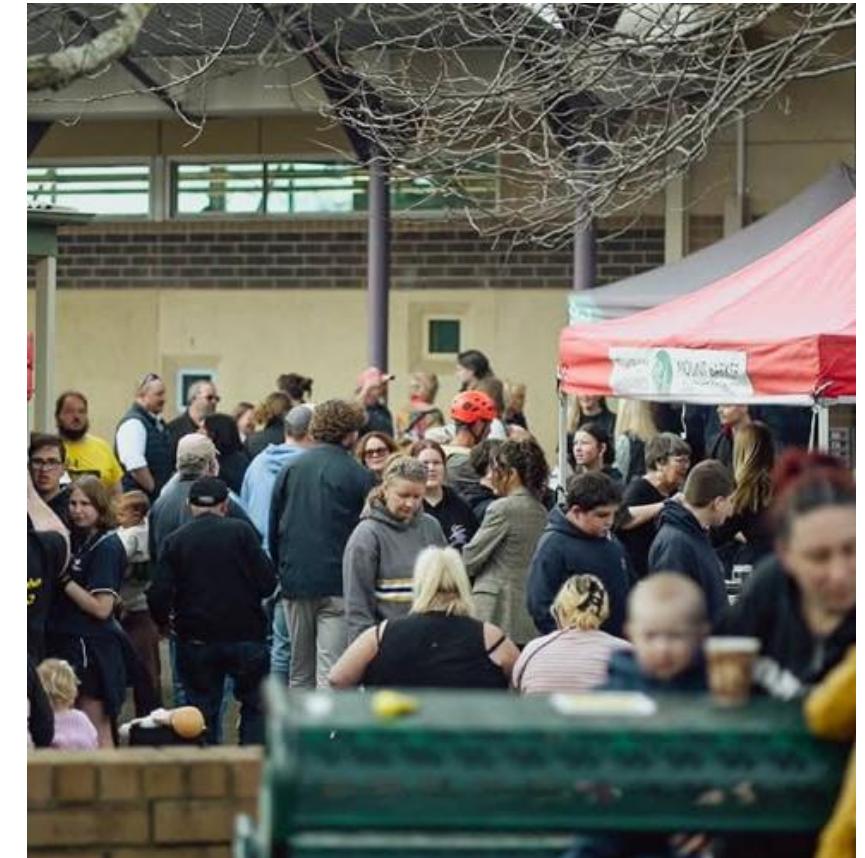
Benefits of Partnerships

- Community Centres often have limited resources.
- Our strong community connections create a natural mindset for collaboration.
- Partnerships expand what's possible — reaching more people, deepening impact, and sharing learning.
- At Mount Barker Community Centre, we've seen firsthand how the right partnership can transform a small idea into something that genuinely strengthens our whole community.

Benefit 1 – Enhanced Reach and Impact

- Reach new audiences or communities you might not otherwise engage.
- Example: Partnering with schools and youth agencies to reach young community members.

“Our recent community event on R U Ok Day showed us that when we partner with youth-specific organisations, we can build trust faster and connect with young people we may not reach through traditional programs.”



Example – Aboriginal Youth Engagement Program

- Supported by DHS funding and collaboration with local schools.
- Benefit: Culturally safe, inclusive programs led by young people's voices.
- Outcome: Built ongoing trust and inclusion in community centre activities.



Benefit 2 – Shared Resources and Expertise

- Pooling resources reduces duplication, increases capacity and increases quality.
- Partnerships help organisations expand what they can deliver without overextending resources.
- Shared staff, volunteers, or expertise can multiply impact.
- “Through collaboration, we can achieve more — larger projects, more consistent delivery, and broader community benefit.”

ONE STEP ONE COMMUNITY
WALK AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
WEDNESDAY 26TH NOVEMBER



Meet at The Haven at 6pm
Mount Barker Community Centre
3 Dumas Street
Walk to the pop-up park
Morphett Street, Mount Barker

WEAR ORANGE TO SHOW YOUR SUPPORT



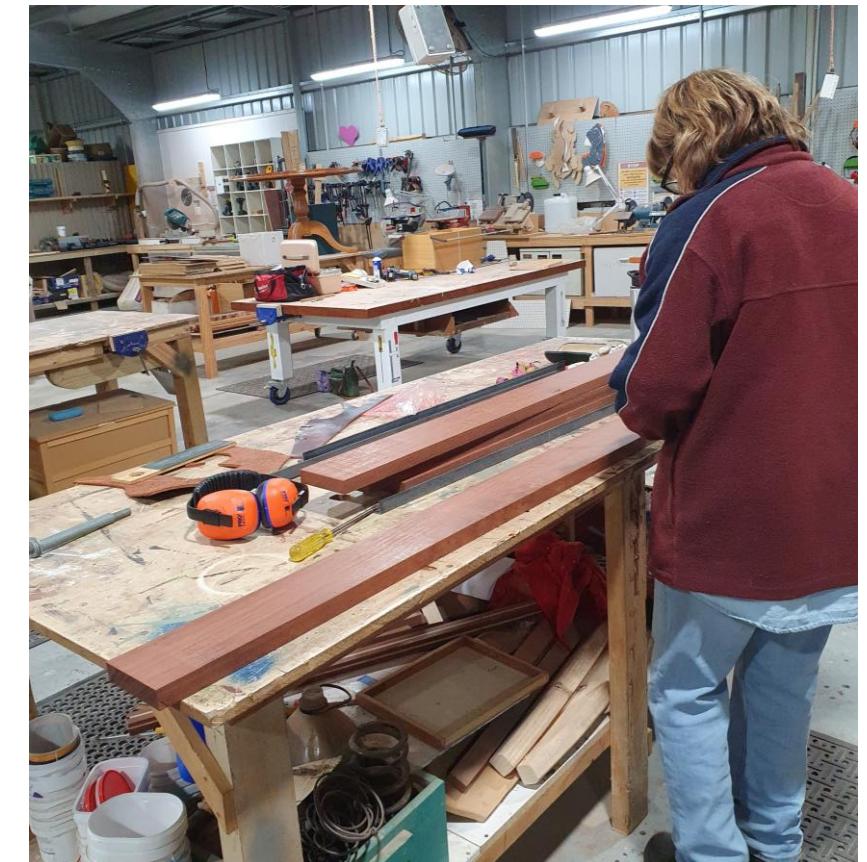
Benefit 3 – Innovation and New Ideas

- Different sectors bring fresh perspectives and creative approaches.
- “When we worked with partner on digital and financial literacy as well as cooking programs, they brought technical skills but also marketing ideas that helped us reach more isolated residents.”



Example – Women’s Shed Corporate Sponsor

- Partnered with Carbatec to sponsor a presenter each month.
- Benefit: Access to industry expertise and quality trainers.
- Outcome: Strengthened the Centre’s reputation as a safe, responsive place for lifelong learning.
- Mutually beneficial outcome – Carbatec strengthens their reputation as a company supportive of community programs.



Benefit 4 – Increased Credibility and Visibility

- Collaborating with reputable organisations including local Council builds trust with funders, clients, and the community.
- “Our collaboration with the Pride of the Hills network has increased our visibility and demonstrated that we’re part of a larger movement for inclusion.”



Example – DV Support Group

- Partnered with Local DV Service Centacare and a local counsellor to deliver a DV support group.
- Benefits:
 - Professional expertise in a community-led space.
 - Participants become familiar with services at the community centre.
- Outcomes:
 - Increased confidence and connection for local women; stronger links with local services.
 - Improved relationship with partner agencies.



Final Message

As you have heard, partnerships require clear agreements, risk management, and boundaries — but when you get the foundation right, the benefits are enormous.

- Partnerships work best when built on:
 - Respect
 - Shared purpose
 - Genuine connection
- They don't just make our projects bigger — they make our communities stronger.