

# Strategic Plan 2007 - 2010



The Parks Community Network Inc provides services and programs for people and communities in South Western Sydney, with a specific focus on the 'parks' suburbs in Fairfield LGA. The organisation and its services are supported by volunteers and it encourages the participation and involvement of the local community.

The Parks has developed this three year Strategic Plan explore a future vision and future strategic directions for the organisation.

## Our Statement of Purpose

Parks is a dynamic community centre, engaging with people to provide information, activities and services for communities in South West Sydney, with a focus on meeting current and emerging needs of disadvantaged groups.

## How we work

In our work we use the following principles and approaches:

- being a community centre that has a sense of place for the community, a place that is accessible and belongs to the community
- working with, alongside and responding to different communities, defined by geographic proximity, cultural or linguistic background, age, shared needs or in other different ways
- use a community development approach
  - ✦ using consultative, networking and planning processes to identify community needs
  - ✦ resourcing and empowering people
  - ✦ focusing on community capacity building and engaging the community
  - ✦ continuing to advocate for these needs to be met and
  - ✦ developing and implementing innovative programs and services to respond to these needs
- demonstrate a commitment to social justice, access and equity and respect for human rights and embracing and promoting cultural diversity
- ensure a commitment to quality services, using flexible and resourceful approaches
- advocate for the needs of disadvantaged groups in our communities.

## Four key areas for our work

In our future work we will build on our strengths in the following four areas:

1. providing information and referral (ie the first point of contact for people, providing information and making referrals)
2. advocating for the needs of disadvantaged groups in our communities and for service gaps to be met
3. offering programs that provide direct financial and material assistance for people who are disadvantaged
4. providing programs and activities to encourage healthy living, community connections and engagement in community life (targeting specifically older people, young people, people with disabilities and carers)
  - ✦ providing activities and services directly
  - ✦ partnering with other agencies to provide services.

## Our plan for the next three years: what we want to achieve

1. To continue to develop our role in identification of community needs
2. To maintain and develop our existing services and programs to respond to client and community needs
3. To expand programs and services to respond to the emerging needs of different groups in our communities
4. To build a strong and positive profile for The Parks in the community and amongst clients, funders and other stakeholders
5. To provide opportunities for community involvement in and support for The Parks
6. To build a strong organisation based on collaboration, an effective and flexible structure and quality systems
7. To secure premises and resources that support and sustain our organisational growth

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