

Community Practitioner Short Course

Program

Day 1

9am **Overview and Introduction**

9.30am **Understanding Community**

- Characteristics of communities,
- Sub-communities,
- Enhancing community capitals,
- Different forms of community,
- Identifying and understanding community assets and stakeholders.

10.30am **Morning Break**

11am **The Principles and Processes of Community Development**

- The components of a vibrant community,
- Community preparedness,
- The “ingredients”, “enablers” and “principles” of community development,
- Asset-based community development,
- How community strengthening occurs in practice,
- Leverage points for community action,
- Common pitfalls to avoid,
- Overview of “models” of community development,
- What community development isn’t.

12.30pm **Lunch**

1.15pm **Community Dynamics**

- Understanding communities as the first step in community development,
- Community profiling,
- Asset mapping,
- Collaboration charting,
- Integration of community capitals
- Use of methods by participants

2.15pm Change in Communities

- Social, demographic and economic changes in communities in Australia,
- Drivers of change,
- Emotional reactions to change,
- Key opportunities and challenges in communities.

3.15 pm Contemporary Issues in Communities.

Discussion of key issues in communities relevant to participants, such as engagement of young people, encouraging participation, community development policy etc.

3.00pm Afternoon Break**3.30pm Contemporary Issues in Communities (cont'd)****5pm Summary and Close of Day 1****Day 2****8.30 am Community Engagement**

- Engagement as a relationship,
- Clarifying what engagement involves,
- Levels of engagement,
- Steps involved in planning community engagement,
- Stakeholder analysis,
- Participants develop a community engagement plan.

10.30 am Morning Break**11am Citizen Participation in Communities**

- Trends in participation,
- Issues influencing community participation,
- “Layers” of participation,
- Encouraging greater community involvement,

12 Noon Leadership and Entrepreneurship

- Characteristics of community leadership,
- Shared leadership,
- Formal and informal leaders,
- Mix of leadership styles,
- Fostering collaborative leadership.
- The elements of entrepreneurship,

- Myths about entrepreneurship,
- Fostering entrepreneurial approaches in communities.

12.30pm Lunch

1.15pm Leadership and Entrepreneurship (cont'd)

2.15pm Community Development Methods.

- Sets of methods for different levels of engagement,
- Description of key methods such as nominal group technique, force field analysis, appreciative enquiry, focus group, taskforce etc.
- Choosing a method
- Avoiding the “hammer rule”

3pm Afternoon Break

3.30pm Community Development Methods (cont'd)

- Participants use a community development method to address practical issues identified on day 1
- Plenary and feedback session

5pm Summary and Close of Day 2

Day 3

8.30am Community Economics

- How community economies work,
- Importance of a comprehensive economic development approach involving several strategies,
- Key economic development strategies,
- Approaches to economic development analysis,
- Analysing a local economy,
- Economic assessment tools.

10am Morning Break

10.30am Power and Conflict Management

- Forms of power in communities,
- Mapping “power actors”,
- Distributional and non-distributional conflict,
- Conflict management skills,
- Coping with apparent apathy and negativity.

11.30am Access to Funding and Resources

- Overview of funding sources,
- Understanding funding guidelines and criteria,
- Writing a good funding application,
- Valuing community contribution,
- New prospects for resourcing communities,
- Community Foundations

12.30pm Lunch**1.15pm The Role of the Community Practitioner**

- The six roles of a community development worker,
- Experiences of participants.

2pm The Role of Government and Major Organisations in Community Development

- Directions for local, state and federal government in supporting community development,
- Combining service provision with community development,
- New approaches required to better support community development,
- Issues for both government, non-profit agencies and communities.

3pm Measurement and Evaluation of Community Outcomes

- Measurement of social and community change,
- The logic of evaluation,
- Benchmarking and measuring incremental change,
- The structure of evaluation frameworks,
- A framework to evaluate community programs,
- Participants develop a framework to evaluate a community program.

4pm Close