



Street by Street

— BRINGING NEIGHBOURS TOGETHER —



COMMUNITY PARTNER KIT

A guide for agencies wishing to support
Street by Street groups

www.streetbystreet.org.au



A project of the
Centre for Civil Society



An invitation to Agencies to become Community Partners.



Dear Colleague,

Do you like the idea of turning streets into communities?

Does our vision of building strong local communities by promoting neighbourliness align with your agency's mission?

We invite you to be a Partner in the Street by Street project. Partners can play an active role in the development of local Street by Street groups in several ways:

1. by supporting residents who want to start a group;
2. by identifying (and encouraging) local residents to become Community Connectors of a Street by Street group;
3. by initiating an initial meeting of neighbours and then calling for Community Connectors.

We don't recommend that your agency take on the role of convening a Street by Street group as residents are not likely to feel ownership of the group and the group may be swayed by your priorities. There's nothing wrong with making suggestions to the group, as long as they are free to decide whether to take them up or not.

Together, let's create a neighbourhood movement.

To discuss how you can support the project contact me via irene@streetbystreet.org.au.

Yours in collaboration,

Irene Opper

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SUPPORTING STREET BY STREET GROUPS

1. Supporting residents who want to start or sustain a group.

You might be approached by one or more residents wanting to start a Street by Street group – or, indeed, by a group that has already formed – asking for support. As a Partner you could assist them with:

- resources, for example: a meeting place, ideally with an adjoining area where children can play safely, refreshments, photocopying, computer use, etc
- advice, for example: services in the area, venues, ways of reaching people, media contacts, regulatory requirements, etc
- suggestions of activities the group might undertake that would meet community needs, which the Community Connectors could put to the group.

2. Identifying locals willing to initiate a Street by Street group.

In the area that your agency serves, select a locale of 200-400 households to be the nucleus of a Street by Street group. Google maps or a street directory may assist here, but your own knowledge of the area and its residents will be invaluable.

Adapt our sample [Invitation Seeking Community Connectors](#) which calls for interest in convening a Street by Street group and letter drop it. Provide a link to, or email the Street by Street Participants Kit and the Community Connector Kit (www.streetbystreet.org.au/resources-and-inspiration) to those who respond and invite them to a meeting to discuss the idea and to plan the first gathering.





3. Initiate an initial meeting of neighbours and then call for Community Connectors.

Alternatively, you may prefer to invite residents to a meeting, describe the Street by Street Project and assess the level of interest. If there is interest, you could ask if one or more people are willing to be Community Connectors/leaders. This approach may work particularly well if there is another topic of community interest that you are wanting to bring people together to discuss, that may attract community minded people.

It may be that people from a larger area are invited to that meeting and the locality of those who are willing to convene a group determines where groups are established. In other words, one broad public meeting may produce a number of Community Connectors, who could establish a number of Street by Street groups.

Your role here is to support the would-be conveners by connecting them to the project, where they can get further support, and to discuss ways you might continue to work with the Group as a Partner in their endeavours.

Together, let's build Australia's social infrastructure by turning streets into communities.

