

What's the purpose of a House?

The purpose of the House is community development.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Community development is our core business. It involves ways of working that empower individuals and groups of people to make changes in their community on issues that affect them.

Community development is not about service delivery. It is not a worker running a project for the community. It is drawing people together to unite and run with a possibility.

What a Neighbourhood House is:

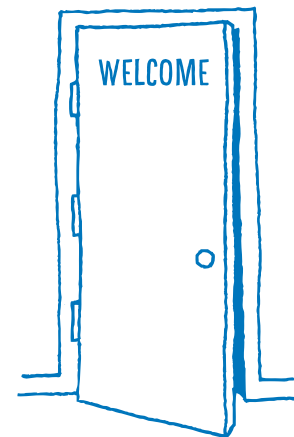
- A locally based community asset
- Run by volunteers
- Not-for-profit
- A legally incorporated association
- Non-partisan — not aligned to any political party
- Secular — not aligned to any religion

Governance

- Houses are community operated organisations, led by a Board of Governance consisting of volunteers living or working in the local community.
- Maintaining local governance is central to the Neighbourhood House Program philosophy and is a requirement of the core funding.

What a Neighbourhood House does:





- Delivers programs using a community development model
- Consults to plan its priorities and actions
- Promotes belonging and community spirit
- Has 'open door' access



Houses are run by the community, for the community and offer a wide range of programs and activities for local people.

The Strategic Framework for the Neighbourhood House Program is a guide for House activity and operations.

The 4 goal areas of the Framework 2018-2023 are:

-  **CONNECT COMMUNITY**
-  **SUPPORT PEOPLE**
-  **CREATE OPPORTUNITY**
-  **LOCAL LEADERSHIP**

Guiding principles of CD include:

- promotes change by the community, for the community
- values local knowledge, local skills, local culture, local resources and local processes
- is a process that can be owned, controlled and sustained by the community itself
- is a dynamic process, with the journey itself as important as the outcome – good process is the key to good community development
- is more than a planning process – it is an ongoing learning process where new attitudes, ideas and networks develop from acting and reflecting together

“The principles of community development guide the process rather than a recipe or prescription. It is about drawing people together to unite and run with a **POSSIBILITY.**”

