



COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE CONNECTIONS

Welcome to Community Enterprise Connections

Welcome to the 4th edition of Community Enterprise Connections.

The Community Enterprise Conference, held at the Melbourne Town Hall in late August was a huge success. 169 people attended from around Australia and a range of sectors. The conference provided opportunities to network, share stories and celebrate community enterprise achievements in Australia to date. We would like to extend our thanks to speakers and attendees for making it

such a productive event. Attendees, stay tuned for a conference evaluation heading your way in the coming weeks, to feed into planning for future events.

During the conference, we received queries for more information about community enterprises, including tools to help with planning. We are proud to announce the recent publication of the Community Enterprise Resource Kit. The kit contains an Introduction to Community Enterprise, a DVD of case

studies and a Community Enterprise Workbook.

This edition of Community Enterprise Connections focuses on the Resource Kit (including an order form) and other materials that are available to support enterprise development, as well as debriefing on the success of the conference. We hope these resources assist you in your work and look forward to hearing any feedback you might have for us.

- The CEDI Team



Brotherhood of St Laurence

Working for an Australia free of poverty

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Community Enterprise in Your Town—Reservoir Community Cafe

Cultural foods, great coffee and an inviting atmosphere - The Reservoir Community café is being brought to life through an innovative partnership between three community organisations and Darebin City Council.

The café, built 4 years ago within an environmentally sensitive Civic Centre, is on the main shopping strip (Edwardes Street) in Reservoir. It was run as a training café but has been closed for some time. In late 2006, the Council sought applications from groups interested in running the café, particularly those focusing on community and social outcomes. Three organizations

teamed up to create a unique and exciting partnership and were selected as the preferred providers to run the café. Thornbury Women's Neighbourhood House is a local neighbourhood house and Registered Training Organisation (RTO) that has been supporting women and children in the community for 20 years. Preston Reservoir Adult and Community Education, also an RTO, is one of the largest ACE providers in the northern metropolitan region. Muslimah Multicultural Catering offers culturally diverse catering and opportunities for culturally and linguistically diverse women and young people, including young

Koori people. The partnership approach will grow to include a range of like-minded organisations in the northern area.

The café will offer cultural and healthy food and a catering service. It will provide an environment for people to sit and talk or pick up a healthy bite or a good coffee to take-away. The service will be staffed by people seeking training and employment opportunities who are unable to access these opportunities in the mainstream job market.

The project recently appointed a highly experienced Enterprise Manager and will open for business in mid-October.





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“The terms ‘community’ and ‘enterprise’ are equally important in the development of a successful community enterprise.”

Please contact Annie Major at: amajor@bsl.org.au if you would like more information.

Community Enterprise in Any Town—Community Recycling Ventures

Future Employment Opportunities have been operating a Community Recycling Venture (CRV) in Eaglehawk, Bendigo for 13 years. The CRV in Eaglehawk has created new and sustainable jobs plus a partnership with the City of Greater Bendigo to reduce waste to landfill.

Community Recycling Ventures (CRV) are not-for-profit social enterprises, designed to improve Australia’s rate of waste recovery and recycling, reducing waste to landfill and to provide sustainable employment and

training opportunities that help to reduce Australia’s rate of unemployment. FEO has developed **A Guide to Starting a Recycling Venture in Your Community** to share its experiences with other communities. The publication and support (through a dedicated website, a consultancy service and guided tours of the Eaglehawk CRV) aims to guide and support local Councils and not-for-profit organisations interested in establishing a Community Recycling Venture.

The publication outlines the case for and concept

of a Community Recycling Venture and the benefits to the community. It introduces the Eaglehawk Recycle Shop and provides step by step details on how to start a Community Recycling Venture.

A Guide to starting a Community Recycling Venture can be purchased for \$20 plus postage (GST included) by contacting FEO. Payment will be accepted in the form of a cheque, money order or bank cheque. The Guide and Promotional Brochure can also be viewed (not downloaded) from the website.

Feature: Community Enterprise Resource Kit

Over the last 9 months the Brotherhood has been working with the Victorian State Government to develop a suite of resources on Community Enterprise.

The resources help people to understand the business planning process for community enterprises and provide a range of case studies to illustrate the different community enterprise models. The full package of resources makes up the *Community Enterprise Resource Kit*.

The components of the Resource Kit are targeted at a range of different audiences, from those interested in understanding what community enterprise is through to those developing community enterprises and even those with successful enterprises.

The *Community Enterprise Resource Kit* consists of three specific resources which work well together and independently. The components include:

- Introduction to Community Enterprise booklet

- Stronger communities – making it our business (DVD)
- Community Enterprise Workbook

Introduction to Community Enterprise

This booklet provides a short overview of the concept of community enterprise including a number of case studies.

Stronger communities – making it our business (DVD)

This DVD provides a 10 minute introduction to community enterprise as well as five 10 minute case studies of successful community enterprises from across Victoria. Each of the case studies is unique which helps to demonstrate the breadth of community enterprise possibilities. The case studies include:

Yackandandah Community Development Company Ltd: a community-owned cooperative that owns and operates the local petrol station.

Eaglehawk Recycle Shop: a community enterprise that focuses on recycling and providing jobs in Bendigo.

Myrree Primary School Vine to Wine Program: a school-based community enterprise that makes premium quality wine.

BSL Community Contact Services: a community enterprise that offers public housing residents a pathway to employment.

Worn Gundidj Cooperative: an Aboriginal cooperative that provides employment opportunities for the Indigenous community in south-west Victoria.

Community Enterprise Workbook for practitioners and those developing or considering developing community enterprises

The terms ‘community’ and ‘enterprise’ are equally important in the development of a successful community enterprise. The Workbook covers both aspects, which makes it a little different from a traditional resource on business planning or business start-up.

This is a comprehensive resource which will walk you through the community enterprise planning process.

As well as covering the feasibility study and the business plan stages, the workbook outlines strategies for involving the community in the development of the idea. The workbook provides a critical reference point for

those developing a community enterprise.

The Community Enterprise Resource Kit is available from the Brotherhood of St Laurence, order forms are included in this edition of Community Enterprise Connections. It will soon be available to download from the website in coming weeks.

We value your feedback on the Community Enterprise Resource Kit.

Any comments can be directed to the Community Enterprise Development Initiative (details overleaf).

- The CEDI Team.



Community Calendar

15 November, Melbourne

Social Firms Forum

Includes international speakers perspectives on social firms, hospitality case studies from social and commercial viewpoints plus practical presentations on social firms, finding and screening business ideas, funding, workplace modifications and much more.

Early bird discount registrations before 15th October so hurry!

For more details, contact Margie at Social Firms on 03 9445 0373 or email: info@socialfirms.org.au

For a listing of events in your area, check the following websites:

- www.acc.gov.au and follow the links to your local ACC
- www.business.vic.gov.au
- Your local chamber of commerce

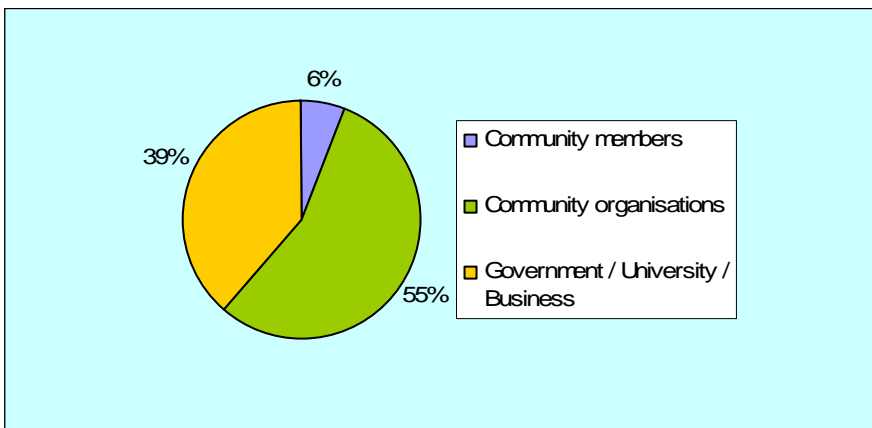
Let us know of any enterprise events in Australia that you'd like us to flag!

Facts and Figures—Community Enterprise Conference

Who came to the conference?

Total attendance over the two day event was 169 people!

State	Number
ACT	1
NSW	11
TAS	2
WA	1
QLD	1
Overseas	1



We would love to hear from you! If you have any **comments or suggestions** about this newsletter, please contact Annie on 9445 2410 or amajor@bsl.org.au.

We are already looking for stories to share in our next issue of Community Enterprise Connections—so **if your community has something to share**—please let us know and we will do our best to feature your community in issues to come.

Stronger Communities: Making it Our Business 2007 Community Enterprise Conference—Feedback

Overall, the conference was a resounding success. So, what was your conference feedback? Some of your comments were....

What did you like most about the conference?

Different speakers, opportunity to contribute, ask questions and interact. Really enjoyed it!

The chance to network and discuss the other projects that are either in development phase or currently up running

Networking, sharing ideas, learning / Good speakers. Very interesting and engaging participants

What would have improved the conference?

Maybe smaller groups for tricky questions and concepts.

Chance for community enterprise reps to interact, share insights & resources during a workshop session

More chat around the table to get to know where people from + what they do.

More time to nut out the 'hub' ideas which emerged.

Any other comments?

Brilliant speakers. Very inspiring. Let's please see some follow up. This is very exciting!

It was really inspiring, great work BSL for organising it and leading and supporting this "quiet revolution"

BSL has done a great job in the CE 'space' with this conference being a very important and useful element.

Thanks to everyone involved for organising this – a wonderful initiative.



Tony Nicholson, BSL Executive Officer, The Honourable Peter Batchelor, Cath Scarth, BSL General Manager—Community Services

Stay tuned—our website will soon be updated to include speakers presentations!

www.communityenterprise.org.au

Making Connections—Community Enterprise Resource Kit Order Form



Community Enterprise

WORKBOOK

Stronger communities – making it our business



The kit includes the following publications:

- *Introduction to Community Enterprise*
- *Community Enterprise Workbook*
- *Community Enterprise Across Victoria DVD*

Name:

Organisation:

Address:

Phone:

Mobile:

Email address:

I would like to order ____ copies (max 2) of the Community Enterprise Resource Kit.

Resource Kit: Free (RRP normally \$100)

Postage & handling (in Aust): \$15.00 per kit

We will invoice you on receipt of your order

OR Cheques can be made payable to The Brotherhood of St Laurence

Receipt required? Yes / No

Please submit this order form to:

CEDI—Brotherhood of St Laurence

288 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy VIC 3065

Fax: 03 9445 2499



Brotherhood
of St Laurence

Working for an Australia free of poverty

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