

Peel Community Development Group Inc

45 Mandurah Terrace (PO Box 543) Mandurah WA 6210

p 9535 0000 f 9535 2119 e admin@pcdg.org.au

Web: www.pcdg.org.au

"Providing Regional Leadership by identifying and responding to the needs in the community service sector – Peel "

2010 Annual Report

Message from the Chair



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It is my pleasure to provide the Chairperson's report for the Peel Community Development Group for 2010.

By any measure this has been an extraordinary year for PCDG. Through the combined efforts of our hard working coordinator Donna Selby and a very involved and talented and experienced Board this organisation has continued to work with others to ensure that it is in a position to reflect and work with community development agencies in the Peel Region.

The securing of the Royalties for Regions funding and the partnership with WACOSS heralds a new chapter in community development in the Region. The Commonwealth and State Governments are changing the way they work with the Community Sector. This is an important

change and we in the Peel Region must respond accordingly.

If we fail to do so then the needs of many people in this Region will go unrecognised and the solutions that may be helpful to them will not be incorporated in Government policy. We have a unique opportunity to evolve into an organisation that will take a stronger advocacy role and be a voice for many in the Region.

To the Board of Peel Community Development Group, thank you for your enormous patience, your skill, your involvement and your commitment to just keep doing just what needs to be done to ensure that PDCG is set up to serve the Peel Region community.

I appreciate the enormous discretionary effort Board members have put in over many areas to ensure that the decisions are carefully thought through and made with the best information available.

To Donna our Coordinator, thank you for your great efforts, your enthusiasm and your vigour and your capacity to ensure that the work

gets done and that the deadlines are met. You have a lot to be proud of and we are very proud of the work you have done.

It has been a privilege to work in this Region and to steadily grow the partnerships that we enjoy. I want to particularly acknowledge the commitment and assistance that we have continued to enjoy from the Peel Development Commission staff. Without them, both as our host and great supporters our future would have been very different.

We have incredible opportunities in the year ahead. I believe we are in a position to take advantage of those opportunities and to ensure that this Region on the outskirts of the Metropolitan area, which is different to other regions in the State, can have a voice for the community sector to ensure that decision makers take note of what is happening in our community, what is changing and what will be the solutions that will make a difference

Best Wishes

Chairperson

WA Council of Social Services Partnership



Peel Community Development Group Inc (PCDG) in partnership with the Western Australian Council of Social Services (WACOSS) were successful in a funding application to the Peel Development Commission under their Royalties for Regions Strategic funds to undertake a project to build the development of Peel regional communities.

This project builds on an existing structure both PCDG and WACOSS have developed to ensure that local issues identified by Peel community service organisations can be heard. The project will deliver training and development opportunities as well as investigate shared services or cluster models of sustainability increasing the resilience of the sector.

Hence the project name 'Building Resilience In Community Services - Peel' or BRICS - Peel. The objectives of the project are:

- Implement a framework to establish effective communication, coordination, support and development of community services in Peel
- Strengthen networks and increase capacity of Not for Profits (NFP)'s regionally
- Provide a mechanism for social planning in the Peel NFP sector that maximises partnerships and ensures the best possible delivery of sustainable community services in the region
- Establish an integrated system for contributing Peel data and collated information into social policy discussions and decision making.
- Investigate and identify sustainable models to capacity build/ support the Peak Regional Body.

Bindjareb Art Trail project



In June 2008 PCDG was engaged by Main Roads WA (MRWA) and Southern Gateway Alliance to develop a project that would engage local communities to promote the Peel region. From this collaborative beginning the Bindjareb Art Trail was

conceptualised based on the Regional Placemakers model. Irene Osborne, renowned public community artist is the Lead Artist for the project and will work alongside selected 'emerging' artists to convert curved walls into meaningful artworks. The initial artwork to be sited at Dorsett Road in Waroona is funded through the Royalties for Regions - Regional Grants Scheme. The support of the Shire of

Waroona has been invaluable ensuring the final product will be a reflection of the local community and its interaction with environment. A community workshop was held to ensure local themes and concepts were captured and reflected. Donations of local preloved/pre-worked materials are being sought to add to the artwork heritage values. Opening is planned for early 2011.

George St Hub



The 'George St Hub' aims to develop a flourishing and viable community precinct with a strong youth focus. Located at 28 George St, Pinjarra the premises are leased from the Shire of Murray. The central position of the George St Hub both in Pinjarra (main street setting) and in the Peel Region makes an ideal location for an outreach, co-locators premises assisting the Shire of Murray, neighbouring Local Governments and the Peel community sector.

The George St Hub is based on a co-location and shared services delivery model providing a range of benefits not only to its tenants but also the local and regional communities. This project would not have been possible without the support of Alcoa Australia whose office is based in Pinjarra and provide immeasurable support to the local community.

Co-location refers to individual organizations with separate legal identities and governance structures choosing to operate from one facility. Co-located / Shared Services facilities of this nature provide affordable, stable workspaces, build capacity for the non-profit sector and support the various missions of its tenant organizations.

At present, 28 George St hosts three service agencies:

- Street Net (operates Mon - Thurs 8.30am - 4.30pm)
- PCDG (available by appointment)
- St Vincent de Paul (Tues & Thurs 10am - 1pm)

Enquiries by other services are welcomed.

The George St Hub looks to work closely with the Pinjarra Community Resource Centre to ensure there are ample facilities and organizational support in the Shire of Murray for the increasing population's need of community services.

Peel Early Years Group

Peel Early Years Group (PEYG) is a voluntary group of parents and professionals from health, parenting programs, education, childcare facilities, local government and other stakeholder agencies. The group endeavours to provide, a cohesive response to increase awareness and educate people of the importance of a child's first few years of life. The vision of Peel Early Years Group is to 'value and support children in their early years'

As an interagency group PEYG supports the community by:

- Interagency knowledge sharing
- Develop programs to answer identified community needs

- Service Gaps identification
- Sharing of resources
- Developing quality services in line with community needs
- Supporting the community service sector employees that work within the Early Years field

In answer to an identified community need PEYG drafted The 'Happy Tummies' cook book at the beginning of 2009. The inspiration of the book came from cooks in local childcare centres who were regularly asked by parents with children in childcare centres why their children ate well at the centre but not at home.



The book has now sold over 1000 copies and a reprint is being planned.

STREET NET YOUTH SERVICES—PEEL

Street Net is a Youth Outreach Service that is now based at 28 George Street in Pinjarra.

The service aims to support young people, aged 12 to 18 years inclusive, through any issues they may be experiencing. Street Net do this by offering one on one short term counseling and support, outreach, advocacy and if need be, referral to longer term support agencies.

Street Net has a strong working relationship with the Department for Education, Department for Child Protection, City of Mandurah, Shire of Murray, WA

Police, and numerous local agencies and community members.

Street Net staff deliver numerous educational programs to schools and the wider community as well as respond to any issues schools may be experiencing with students.

Street Net are involved with many other groups including: Peel Youth Program, Blue Light Dance Events, and Local Drug Action Group.

Its Vision is that young people have a sense of connectedness to their community. Street Net staff work hard supporting young people and helping them access opportunities. Street Net Youth Service is an ef-



fective service for the young people of the Peel but more importantly after 10 years of operation it is also tried, tested and continuing to be current.

PEEL AWAY THE MASK II

STOP PRESS

Peel Community Development Group Inc (PCDG) is coordinating a Peel Away the Mask (PATM) II study into the social conditions of the Peel region. The study, which effectively takes a temperature reading of the Peel community services sector, will be conducted by Robyn Mayes, Curtin University, from Oct 2010—June 2011.

Changing Face of Peel

PCDG co-hosted a sector development day on Oct 22 2010. This event had several aims:

- Regional networking and discussion of regional changes and how that affects the sector
 - Launch the Peel Away the Mask II study
 - Explore the 'model' of the Peel Community Service Sector (CSS)
 - Conduct a training needs assessment
 - Generate ownership of the Peel CSS
- Over 80 people representing the Peel region CSS attended what will now be an annual event.



Message from the Treasurer

Note from the Treasurer.

This year has been successful from a Treasurer's and Board member's point of view in that your Board and Staff have continued to balance the income and

expenditure of PCDG to give PCDG the outcomes required by our membership.

The Board has appreciated up-to-date, accurate and readable financial reports on a monthly basis that provide for responsible financial governance and the leaders in each project are provided with reliable reports to enable them to manage more responsibly.

Over all it has been a good year for PCDG and the organizations we auspice. Operationally this was a year of expansion and although we have utilized some accumulated funds from 2009, we have operated within budget and have a sufficient balance carried forward into 2011 to enable the Board to plan with

some confidence for the future.

All auspiced projects are also in solid financial positions and the PCDG Board is continuing to develop ongoing systems for shared

management/responsibility of these projects.

We have also had wonderful support from

Dianne Conlan at Midway who provides all the accounting services and this arrangement has again received a positive response from our Auditor. I also recognize the valued assistance of Melissa Higgs and our auditors, Ward & Ilsley Partners.

Complete Financial and Auditors Reports are available for your inspection at the Annual General Meeting.

Tim Atkinson, Treasurer 14th October 2010

Sector Development & Training

A Training Plan is currently being researched and developed that will ensure the needs of the Peel CSS are informed over the coming 12 months. It is recognised that due to remoteness from city based training opportunities it is difficult for the Peel CSS to remain skilled and in touch with opportunities, shifts and changes to the sector.

As part of the Building Resilience in Community Services (BRICS)-Peel project a minimum 10 trainings and social policy forums will be held across the Peel region. PCDG aims to promote an ethos of self sufficiency in Peel and will source trainers from the region where possible.

There will also be a closer relationship for the sector with its peak regional body through more communication utilising the extensive database PCDG has built up and the distribution of the PCDG News, newsletter, commencing November 2010.

Additionally PCDG is investigating opportunities for capacity building the Peel CSS with improved organisation development prospects.

Peel Community Development Group Inc

BOARD 2009–2010

Executive

Chairperson

Paddi Creevey—City of Mandurah

Vice Chairperson

Nicole Nugent—Peel Development Commission

Secretary

Cheryl Song Loong—Challenger TAFE

Treasurer

Tim Atkinson—Midway Community Care

Members

Maree Ellis—Shire of Waroona

Mark Webb—City of Mandurah

John Allert—Shire of Boddington

Merri Harris -Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale

Maria Price—Sustainable Developments

Fran Luke—Alcoa Australia

Anthony Harrison—Mandurah Baptist Church

Donna Selby—Regional Coordinator

We wish to express a warm 'thank you' to all supporters of Peel Community Development Group, the projects and activities it inspires.

- City/Shires of ▪ Mandurah ▪ Murray ▪ Serpentine-Jarrahdale ▪ Waroona ▪ Boddington ▪ Lotterywest
- Peel Development Commission ▪ Department for Child Protection ▪ Alinta ▪ Regional Development Scheme
- Western Australia Community Foundation ▪ Main Roads WA/Southern Gateway Alliance ▪ Alcoa of Australia
- Criminal Property Confiscation Act 2000/Office of the Attorney General ▪ Midway Community Care
- WA Council of Social Services ▪ Department of Communities