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May 2021

//EO Message

Welcome to our new look Newsletter. There has been so much happening since our last edition. The Board have endorsed the 2021-2023 Strategy, we are undertaking an independent review of the work for the period 2018-2020, the final report for the Youth Conversations Project has landed on my desk, the 'Superheroes' Campaign work has begun and we welcome a new Board member. The work in community continues thanks to the amazing volunteers and in-kind support of our partners. We hope to be able to resource backbone support going forward; hence our advocacy work continues to secure long term funding.

Local Action Groups (LAGs) continue to evolve. The Glenelg LAG are currently scoping Phase 2 of the Engagement in Learning Project, aiming to capture the voices of the children, young people and families. The Warrnambool LAG is undergoing a 'refresh' and the Moyne LAG is reconvening after a pause during last year while schools focused on the immediate impacts of the pandemic. The Casterton Education Stakeholder Group is considering a merger with 'Hands Up Casterton' and Southern Grampians Glenelg Primary Care Partnership, in partnership with Beyond the Bell, have recently advertised for a Community Development Officer to support this work. The connections with Colac Otway, Corangamite and Southern Grampians continue as we navigate community need and priorities for their children and young people.

Thank YOU!!

NATIONAL 17-23 MAY 2021
VOLUNTEER
WEEK
RECOGNISE. RECONNECT.
REIMAGINE.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many volunteers involved in the work of Beyond the Bell across the region. Your contribution is vital and valued, thank-you.

A new volunteer initiative opportunity awaits - see later in the newsletter for details.



Kate Roache
Executive Officer

//2021-2023 Strategy

After extensive community consultation the [2021-2023 Beyond the Bell Strategy](#) has been endorsed by the Board. This gives us a clear focus to continue the significant work across the region over the next three years. Ultimately, we are striving for an increase in young people attaining a Year 12 or equivalent (Cert III) and for all young people to be able to access their pathway of choice; however, we understand that connecting to education and engagement in learning is the first step toward this. The initiative is a long term commitment to the children and young people of Southwest Victoria.

[View Strategy Here >>](#)

//Independent Review

Ludowyk Evaluation have been engaged to undertake a review of the work of Beyond the Bell for the period 2018-2020, with a focus on outcomes achieved and areas for growth as an organisation. A number of stakeholders and

early review findings and shape insights and recommendations for the final report.



May 12 Collective Impact workshop



Michael Gray, Carlo Ticci, Alistair McCosh, Natasha Ludowyk (standing)

YOUTH CONVERSATIONS

A quick update

We have received the final draft of the Youth Conversations Report providing a number of findings and recommendations to inform us of what our young people across the south west think in regards to the following questions:

1. What events/activities do you participate in that make you feel **connected to your community**?
2. What do you want your near future to look like in terms of **education and employment**?
3. What would help young people **stay in school** and pursue **training/employment in the region**?
4. What do you want your **community** to look/feel like? Additional questions added when the project re-recommended during the pandemic:
5. **What has changed for you since the COVID-19 pandemic? How have you adapted to the pandemic?*
6. **What have you learned about yourself and others during the COVID-19 pandemic?*

753 young people aged 12-19 years across the six Local Government Areas engaged in the project. The final engagement numbers for data use was 711, 71% of our target. Engagement was through face-to-face and online forums and a survey.

- **Strand One:** *Feeling connected to the community and desirable community attributes.*
- **Strand Two:** *Staying at School, pursuing further education and training, imagining a desirable future.*
- **Strand Three:** *Changes brought about by the pandemic and learning from them.*

We are looking forward to receiving the final printed report from the Deakin University team in the very near future. Our next step is to plan opportunities to share the findings with community and develop an action plan in response to the recommendations. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the current Project Control Group members: Kathy Sanderson, Carlo Ticchi, Wendy Lever-Henderson, Anne Murphy, Tracie Martin, Cassandra Prigg, Karen Walsh, and Alistair McCosh. They continue to make a significant contribution to ensure we are true to the intent of the project.



The Superheroes Campaign is a component of the Positive Transitions to School Project and aims to inform families and communities on elements of school readiness through a series of animations. A bold and ambitious concept with the launch planned for early October.

Check out our [Request for Offer for an Animator](#) on our website or Facebook page for details.



//Welcome Ailiche Goddard-Clegg to the Board

Ailiche Goddard-Clegg has joined the Beyond the Bell Board in a casual position. Ailiche is looking forward to re-connecting to the work and contributing to the governance and strategic direction of Beyond the Bell.

//Volunteer opportunity supporting career pathways for young people

Volunteer opportunity supporting career pathways for young people

Have you been looking for a way to assist young people in their career journey? South West Local Learning and Employment Network, in partnership with [Leadership Great South Coast](#) and Beyond the Bell, is coordinating a brand new program to provide support to young people as they learn more about applying for jobs, application preparation and interview techniques. We're seeking expressions of interest from people who can provide assistance as interviewers on mock interview panels, conducted as part of careers education. This is a great way to give back to your community, learn more about young people, and hone your interview skills. If you'd like to know more about this program, please contact Emily at South West LLEN: emily@swllen.org.au

PURPOSE

To actively work with communities to enable children and young people in South West Victoria to engage in education and successfully transition through key stages of their learning.

VISION

All children and young people are connected to education and engaged in their learning.

Want to get involved with Beyond the Bell?

Email info@btb.org.au or
call on 0491 722 069 to discuss the possibilities.



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