

NOVEMBER 2022

# HEC Action Group Network Newsletter

Hume Empowering Communities

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## Hume Empowering Communities Update

Funding of up to \$243,231 is available to the Hume community to develop innovative and evidence-informed projects for young people between 8-24 living, working, or studying in Hume. The Youth Participation and Empowerment Stream funding round opened on Monday 10 October 2022 to address crime prevention and community safety in Hume incorporating a youth partnership model. The funding will close on Friday 4 November 2022 with the funded projects to be announced in February 2023.

The Hume Capability Building Workshop Program was launched on Wednesday 28 September 2022 with a series of free online workshops continuing throughout October. Delivered by field experts, the workshops included Grant Writing, Governance, Research Fundamentals, Monitoring and Evaluation, and Project Planning. The workshop program has received positive feedback from participants. A Capability Building Resource Kit has been distributed across Hume organisations and groups.

### LINKS

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[Hume Empowering  
Communities](#)

[Department Of Justice and  
Community Safety –  
Empowering Communities](#)

[Where Safety Begins](#)

[Imagineering Plus Flyer](#)

[Igbo Association of Victoria  
Australia](#)

[Headspace Craigieburn](#)

## Update: HEC Funded Projects

### Igbo Association of Victoria

The Igbo Association of Victoria has completed Engaging Social Circles 2022. The sessions involved games incorporating Igbo language and Igbo cultural heritage to bring children and young people together through play-based activities in Craigieburn.

### Hume-Whittlesea Local Learning & Employment Network

Imagineering Plus has seen incredible progress since its launch with positive feedback from students and teachers. Imagineering Plus has engaged a total of 593 students across six schools, continuing the program in 2023. The sessions included; Goal Setting, Friendships, Overcoming Challenges, Organisation and Time Management, and Wellbeing. Strategies to engage students' families are currently being identified with plans to launch the Imagineering Plus Parent Pack with resources and materials to continue "thinking big" outside of the program.

### Headspace Craigieburn

The Man Cave training has been received well by participants with an ongoing interest in further sessions. Headspace Craigieburn staff were able to explore experiences with working with young men in the community, develop new techniques and learn from one another as well as facilitators from The Man Cave. It has continued to be a topic of conversation and changes in practice have occurred because of Headspace's experiences with this training.

### Northern Community Legal Centre

Launched in Term 4 of 2022, Where Safety Begins has commenced the delivery of six modules which have been developed in consultation with 20 organisations and 12 young people in Hume. The modules include; Identity and Belonging, Social Butterfly, My Life, My Voice, Mapping Emotions, Understanding the Body and Support Circles. These modules are culturally responsive, LGBTQI+ and can be tailored to diverse learning needs.

## Goonawarra Neighbourhood House



The Teens in the Kitchen project has come to an end with a number of positive impacts on its participants. Children and young people participating in the program have been observed to develop greater confidence, improved relationships with caregivers, positive self-image as individuals and collectively as well as resilience. The participants learn how to make healthy choices, take responsibility, share good conversation, and increase basic math, science and language skills.

Through this program, the teens are supported to build positive self-image and pride through the accomplishment of preparing a meal and build resilience through participating in the cooking experience. Participant and parent survey results reported that the program has been successful as the participants have learned new skills, strengthen social connection amongst the group, tried diverse foods, expanded their palate and explored their senses.

## Next Action Group Meeting

The last Action Group Meeting for 2022 will be held on **Wednesday 14 December 2022 at 10am** to wrap up the year.