

# Communities for Children- Bendigo

July 2019



## Vision

*Joining together for Bendigo children-  
our children and their families flourish and lead happy, healthy lives.*

## What is it?

*Communities for Children* is a strategic initiative providing service system support and programs to ensure all children have the best start in life.

Funded by the *Department of Social Services* (DSS) under the *Families and Communities Programme*, the *Communities for Children* initiative aims to deliver positive and sustainable outcomes for children and families in disadvantage communities throughout Australia.

Focussing on prevention and early intervention approaches the role of *Communities for Children* is to work in consultation and collaboration with local stakeholders across the early years and family services sectors to provide integrated services and support for families that bring about positive family functioning, safety, and child wellbeing & development outcomes.

### *Plan for children's wellbeing*

The *Communities for Children* initiative provides a unique platform for an integrated service system response to ensure positive and sustainable outcomes for all children, with a focus on children and their families experiencing disadvantage.

*Communities for Children* works towards supporting children (0-12yrs) and their families through the provision of place-based, targeted and coordinated programs, and supporting the development of a holistic approach to service delivery. The children and families we work with often have complex needs and may be disconnected from mainstream family services.

*Communities for Children (C4C) Bendigo* is one of 52 sites across Australia funded by the DSS. Anglicare Victoria (formally St Luke's Anglicare) has been the Facilitating Partner for *C4C Bendigo* since 2005. As the Facilitating Partner, Anglicare Victoria – St Luke's Region coordinates the initiative locally, working with several partner organisations (Community Partners), supporting them to deliver specific projects that aim to improve long term outcomes for children and families.

Projects being implemented under C4C have a focus on:

- place-based and/or home visiting programs;
- early learning and literacy;
- addressing family violence;
- culturally safe spaces and practices;
- parenting and family support; and
- education and/or employment pathways.

*Children for  
children's sake*

*C4C Bendigo* is a partnership between various organisations, agencies, communities and families – we share a vision of joining together for all children in our community so that they may lead happier, healthier lives. A broad range of local children & family focused services and agencies work alongside *C4C Bendigo* funded organisations as part of the C4C Committee. This Committee assists with planning, guiding and supporting the initiative locally.

Contact: *C4C Bendigo Facilitating Partner Team 5440-1100 (current at July 2019)*