AIMING FOR EQUITY

WITHIN MITCHELL AND MURRINDINDI CATCHMENT AREAS

WHO WE WANT TO REACH

Low socio-economic status
CALD population
LGBTI population
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
People with a disability
Youth

LOW SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS

Mitchell and Murrindindi catchment areas are both classified as disadvantaged in terms of socioeconomic status and there is large differences between their poorest and wealthiest residents.

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population is almost double the Victorian average in Mitchell and Murrindindi catchment areas. In the catchment, 3% of the total population identified as being Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.

CALD

On all key indicators for cultural diversity, Mitchell and Murrindindi catchment areas score considerably lower than the Victorian average. In Mitchell and Murrindindi catchment areas approximately 21% of community members were born outside Australia.

DISABILITY

Within Mitchell and Murrindindi catchment areas percentages of people with profound or severe disability are high, particularly in Alexandra, Kilmore and Seymour. In Mitchell and Murrindindi catchment areas, 11% of the population identified as having a disability.

LGBTI

There is currently very little data surrounding the LGBTI population in Mitchell and Murrindindi catchment areas. Based on data surrounding the Australian LGBTI population as a whole, statistics show that 11 in 100 Australians identify as being part of the LGBTI population.
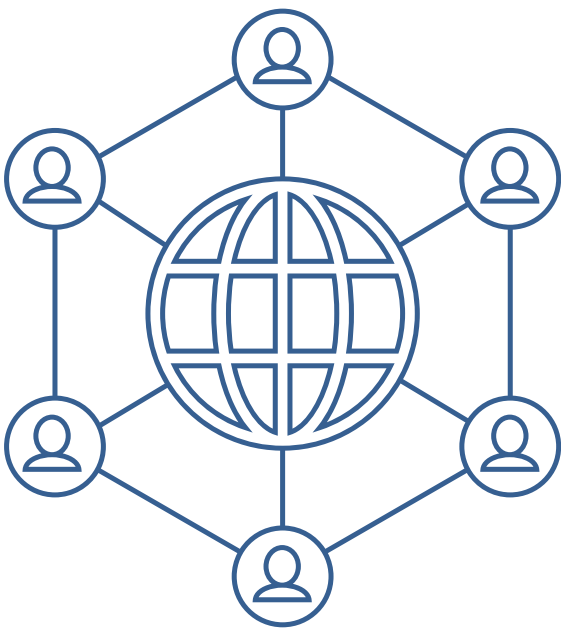
YOUTH

Those aged between 15 and 24 are classified as being in their youth. In Mitchell and Murrindindi catchment areas, 20% of the total population are aged 15 to 24.

ENGAGING WITH THESE GROUPS

HOW TO INCREASE ENGAGEMENT LEVELS

Support system availability:
- Encourage people's support networks to attend the meeting.
- Engage people in the community that connect with these populations.

Setting timing and appropriateness:
- Engage groups where they meet and feel comfortable .
- Ensure meeting locations are accessible, including public transport, disability access and provide a 'safe' space.

Communication effectiveness:
- Don't use technical language, write and speak to the audiences level of understanding.
- Where possible, ensure all documents are available in alternative formats, including other languages, plain text versions (for screen readers, braille readers and audio listeners), and pictures/diagrams.

Engagement method appropriateness:
- Ensure engagement activities are inclusive, accessible and provide a diverse range of perspectives.
- Maintain confidentiality.
- Respect everyone's identity, culture and views.

Partnership effectiveness:
- Talk with people in the community who connect with these populations.

Resources to be provided:
- Provide free food at community engagements.
- Provide transport for community to meet with you when no public transport is available.

STRATEGIES TO MEASURE ENGAGEMENT

Attendance forms

Anonymous questionnaires

Community expert partnerships

Rocks into pockets