



Share. Belong. Grow



 Playgroups

 Room hire and parties



 Courses

 Events

Our local
community house
doubleviewhouse.com.au

Annual Report 2018 - 2019

Our Vision:

A vibrant, welcoming community organization facilitating individuals, families and groups, to share, learn and connect'

About Us

Doubleview House (West Stirling Neighbourhood House Inc.) was established in 1988 and continues with the revised vision being 'A vibrant, welcoming community organization facilitating individuals, families and groups, to share, learn and connect'. It is a hub of activity where playgroups, families, individuals and community groups meet in a friendly neighbourhood context which provides opportunities for support, to learn and reduce isolation.

We are a not-for-profit organization governed by the volunteer Management Committee, whose role is to manage the organization within the approved budget in accordance with the WSNH stated Objectives, Policies and Procedures.

The Western Australian Government through the Department of Communities provided 76% of funding for this service in the past financial year. The previous WSNH Service Agreement commenced on 1st July 2013 and was extended past the 5 years till June 30th 2019. The organization has subsequently been awarded the Empowering Communities Program funding which commenced on 1st July 2019.



Chairpersons Message – Nicole Jenkins

The end of 2018, and the beginning of the new committee's term, began with cause for celebration.

The annual Santa Sundowner, hosted by the staff and committee of WSNH, provided an environment for all to share in a little Christmas magic. And the best Christmas gift...the announcement made by the Empowering Communities Department, acknowledging the successful funding tender for WSNH.

With funding secure for the next 5 years, the management committee had the drive and now the resources to plan for the future. And so it began. Throughout the year the management committee, with the support of Jenni and Fran, has enabled the planning and delivery of:

Community - our focus on bringing people together took so many forms. Special events were a huge success with one of our largest turnouts at the Family fun day in years, social get-togethers paved the groundwork for our now bi-monthly Friday food nights, a Repair Cafe for sustainability, and last but by no means least, our first ever Community Patron award was presented to our good friend, Joan Field.

Centre Refurbishments - Interior painting, lino and carpet replacement, playroom cabinetry, new toys, books and educational resources, technology replacements, outdoor lighting and playground additions in the pipeline, are gently transforming our facility.

Policies and Procedures - a complete overhaul of the WSNH foundation documents was a key component in securing the future of the centre and its deliverables. A huge thankyou to all of the committee, who worked tirelessly to improve these documents. To our Policies and Procedures captain, Andrea Marchesi, who not only steered the ship, but has quite literally built it from the ground up, you have left a legacy in systematic proficiency. Thank you so much.

Re-Branding - not to re-imagine who we, are but to refresh. This was the mammoth and ongoing task ahead. With the guidance and professionalism of our selected business The Hub Marketing, the WSNH committee and staff have brainstormed, discussed, deliberated and finally, decided on the new representation of our centre, Doubleview House. We hope the new logo will leave a fresh, inviting and friendly impression on our community, with our new strapline Share. Belong. Grow supporting our vision for the years to come. Our sincerest thanks to Nicolle and Sally from The Hub for bringing our ideas to life.

Finally, to the team. Your support, encouragement, dedication, clarity, realism, positivity and drive has enabled so much this year. My heartfelt thanks, hugs and congratulations to you all. I will never again think of 'community' as a generic term. It now, and will always have, faces, stories and opportunity tied to it, and for that I am grateful.



2018-2019 Management Committee

Executive Members

Chairperson	Nicole Jenkins	(Monday p/g)
Vice – Chair	Andrea Marchesi	(Monday p/g)
Secretary	Chenoa Walsh	(Monday p/g)
Treasurer	Kasumi Fletcher	(Community Member)

General Members

Naomi Bellworthy	(Monday p/g)
Anna Blenkarn	(Tuesday p/g)
Kara Cheah	(Friday p/g)
Yuko Kuroda	(Japanese p/g)
Alison Perry	(Monday p/g)
Jo Olsen	(Community Member)
Wendy Stentiford	(Community member)
Rae Webb	(Monday p/g)

The Management Committee are WSNH members who volunteer their time to represent the interests of all members. Nicole has been an exceptional leader. Taking on the role of chairperson, she studied the duties and responsibilities of Governance and familiarized herself and the committee with the WSNH administrative policy documents.

The Management Committee have contributed not just their time, but shared their individual skills and knowledge with our community. Their collaborative involvement at meetings creates dynamic conversation and provides a great foundation for decision making. Our committee members have found ways to utilize their own interests and skills to be valuable at our centre whether it be suggesting links to public resources and community organizations, becoming involved in WSNH courses, planning and setting up functions, laying groundwork for new policies and procedures, stepping into alternative roles when it was required, or simply by offering to lend a hand when it was needed most.

Coordinators Message – Jennifer Kopij

Community is derived from ‘com’ meaning with, together, jointly, altogether. Our local community house provides a common space for communication, commitment, comedy and compassion with direction from the Management Committee. So many local people have so many skills and such generous hearts that our mission to support Asset Based Community Development is largely one of balance and coordination.

The Office is a hub of activity. On a daily basis we are attending to the regular tasks of addressing new enquiries for; playgroups, room hire, and courses, organizing; activities, events and resources and attending to administration including data entry, accounting and reporting. Having been awarded the Empowering Communities Program funding, we have entered into a new phase of Centre development, accountability, and reporting. Old systems have been revised and updated as have the premises. This has been a huge job in addition to the employee’s daily work and could not have been achieved without such a dedicated and hardworking committee, led by Nicole (who has volunteered many, many hours to the organization).

The past year has seen the community come together to Collaborate with events and community development like never before. We are at the heart of our network and able to work with community to support their initiatives. The 2019 Election saw the House being used as a polling booth for the first time which alerted and attracted new members to the Centre. The ‘Bend in the Road’ Place Activation Group have liaised closely with us and are inspiring and engaging the community to act locally by holding sundowners in local cafes, creating vibrancy along the strip with signage and artworks.

Repair Café – Doubleview is now well established in the adjacent Guide Hall. It is envisaged that sustainable themed workshops will run in conjunction with the monthly repairing schedule. Hand sewing was the first skill taught with the gentlemen that participated, being very excited to accomplish this! We thank Wendy Stentiford who has straddled both our Management Committee and Coordinated the Repair Café on behalf of our organization and Transition Town Stirling.



We continue to strive for excellence in presenting a fabulous resource for our target community of Families with Young Children and are also welcoming and working with an older demographic. Along with our safe and well-resourced Centre for playgroups, the house has become an ideal base for Child Health Nurses, Parenting Programs including Triple P, Circle of Security and other Ngala funded workshops, Adult Learning and Leisure Workshops and Room Hire for community groups and individuals. But there's more....who would know that casting for the ABC drama series 'The Heights' was done here, or that we are home to an Ashtanga Yoga Practice Group, The Potters House Christian Fellowship, The Brazilian St. Francis study group, after school Children's Art classes, Scarborough Toy Library, Japanese Kindergarten and Children's French Classes to name a few?

This has been a year full of action, inspiration and fulfillment. I extend my appreciation to the Management Committee, Staff and volunteers who have all contributed to making 2018 - 2019 another productive year while riding the wave of community change.

Staff

Staff longevity brings with it a stable 'home-base', accumulated skills, knowledge and experience. The Administrative staff - Jen and Fran, have worked for the organization for 12 & 14 years respectively. Their reliable, welcoming attitude along with their passion for supporting families with young children has contributed to the House being 'Our place to call home' – a place to share, belong and grow.

We bid farewell to our long time employee, Joan Field, our Caretaker in December 2018. The Management Committee subsequently awarded Joan with the inaugural WSNH Community Patron Award, which recognizes the dedication and commitment shown by an individual to our community, through friendship, support or effort given selflessly with compassion, for the benefit of others. Congratulations Joan – you have set the bar high!



Kathy has been minding children in our crèche for more than 15 years and Lorrae for 5 years. Both staff are caring, relaxed and efficient. They have the knack of both calming and entertaining the children in their care. We thank you for your beautiful ways, reliability and professionalism.

Membership

All community members are welcome to join and participate in our thriving Centre. As of **June 2019 there were 173 Family/Individual Memberships**, comprised of 9 playgroups with a total of 123 parents or guardians and 163 children. The remaining 50 are non-playgroup members having joined as a result of having had a party here (Room Hire), attended a course here, or are members no longer attending playgroup.

Most playgroups are full with wait lists, however attendance has suffered a little over the winter due to illness and the international playgroup members returning to their country of origin to visit family.

User Groups & Partnerships

The house is very much a **community venue** and operates with ease to accommodate its many users. It is clean, bright and welcoming and I commend all users for ensuring that it is left that way for the next user group.

Last year saw a 13.5% increase in Room Hire which brought the rate to near 100% capacity. Room Hire has stabilized this year as on-going bookings have remained constant.

