

## Principles for Engagement Workshop Notes

**Facilitator: Sharn Rocco – Townsville Communities for Children**

Principles for community engagement identified by workshop participants during the ‘Engaging Communities’ workshop, have been summarised and grouped into themes in the table below.

| <b>Theme</b>                                  | <b>Principle</b>  |
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| <b>Involve and consult with the community</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make use of community leaders</li> <li>• Consultation – needs analysis to skill up community leaders; volunteers; parents; carers</li> <li>• Find something that appeals to community/that community values</li> <li>• Asking people what they would like and listen to their answers</li> <li>• Ask people how they want to meet.</li> <li>• Reflect community interest/commonality of interest (go where the community is)</li> <li>• Utilise community resources</li> </ul> |
| <b>Purposeful engagement</b>                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engagement leads somewhere</li> <li>• Must be helpful/useful/positively reinforcing/reflective/beneficial.</li> <li>• Be clear on purpose of engagement</li> <li>• Meaningful</li> <li>• Belonging</li> <li>• Empowerment</li> <li>• Building trust</li> <li>• Common vision</li> <li>• Community doing it together</li> <li>• Relationship building, connections</li> <li>• Sharing vision to create excitement.</li> <li>• Bringing people together (ownership)</li> </ul>   |
| <b>General principles</b>                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use varied methods of engagement and communication</li> <li>• Provision of multiple materials/mediums</li> <li>• Opportunities for individual expression</li> <li>• Being open and flexible</li> <li>• No judgement/open response to ideas</li> <li>• Opportunities for everyone to participate</li> <li>• Space for ideas to emerge</li> <li>• Time to think and to do</li> <li>• Consider resources: tools, equipment, and people.</li> </ul>                                |
| <b>Access and Environment</b>                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accessible, taking it to where people are and where they feel comfortable</li> <li>• Natural gatherings – where and when?</li> <li>• Go to people’s own space (community)</li> <li>• Provide space to belong, to be secure and to act</li> <li>• Beautiful safe and spacious environment (back to nature)</li> <li>• Accessibility (in relation to culture as well as infrastructure).</li> <li>• Inclusive/belonging</li> </ul>   |

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|   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diversity</li> <li>• Free activities</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Fun, Excitement, imagination, creativity</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Music, entertainment</li> <li>• Make it fun</li> <li>• Look outside the box</li> <li>• Anything goes</li> <li>• Colour, movement, music and food (make it a sensory experience).</li> </ul> |

### Ideas for Engagement

Ideas for creative community engagement have been summarised in table below under themes.

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| <b>Music</b>           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create a song with support of musician/song-writer</li> <li>• Drumming</li> <li>• Music and play e.g. music activity in the park</li> <li>• Singing or music group</li> <li>• Christmas carols</li> <li>• Celebrate our news stories in a creative way – music.</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Art/craft</b>       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Art – colour therapy</li> <li>• Art class/workshop</li> <li>• Mural e.g. weaving mural depicting ourselves (ongoing)</li> <li>• Make a huge patchwork wall hanging collectively, people adding over time</li> <li>• Create site collage</li> <li>• Tree of Hope</li> <li>• Family tree, “paint a leaf”</li> <li>• Photo journal of community – “what I value about my community”</li> <li>• Craft group</li> <li>• Postcards (share cultural differences and origins)</li> <li>• Pictures (of family and community, young and old)</li> <li>• Dream board, drawing/painting</li> <li>• Posters/stickers</li> <li>• Start a creative wall of things we value as a workplace (people can write/draw/glue/attach)</li> <li>• Create a mandala celebrating children in our community</li> <li>• Baby collage (photos)</li> <li>• Video</li> </ul> |
| <b>Food</b>            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coffee mornings</li> <li>• Cooking classes/groups</li> <li>• Dads cooking group with kids</li> <li>• Picnics (share different cultural foods)</li> <li>• Cooking day – invite a chef and cook food</li> <li>• Drinks and dinner</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Reading/writing</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Story telling</li> <li>• Journal/book club</li> <li>• New mothers provide comments for those who are embarking on birth to make it a positive experience</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Playgroups</b>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Playgroups</li> </ul>   |

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|---|--|
| <b>Drama</b>                                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drama group</li> <li>• Dress up</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Play</b>                                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elemental play – water air, dirt</li> <li>• 20 kg of coloured rice in a blow up pool</li> <li>• being part of the environment – kids playing with mud-water</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Community activity/<br/>event</b>              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Come together – Community festival</li> <li>• Celebrating the community</li> <li>• Fun day at local playgroup/school/preps</li> <li>• Expo at <i>Playdays</i> (indoor play centre) Local health, development and parenting services available to talk to parents for free.</li> <li>• Play opportunities within community, e.g. park</li> <li>• Community gardening</li> <li>• Each street develops something creative for the local park.</li> <li>• Build something that everyone can use.</li> <li>• Have different groups in community develop/write a song or poem and then bring them altogether for concert and food</li> <li>• Community festival – children’s activities, family activities and information</li> </ul> |
| <b>Outings/Excursions</b>                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Playgroup mums and kids go on bush tucker excursion – have lunch at beach</li> <li>• Bus or boat trip</li> <li>• Market trips</li> <li>• Fathers fishing trip</li> <li>• Farm animals</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Child friendly<br/>community activities</b>    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child-friendly competition</li> <li>• Hands up for a child friendly/child safe community e.g. at football</li> <li>• Hairdressers project – provide info kits and basic training to hairdressers to inform parents/carers about local services and info web site.</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Community Mapping</b>                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mapping vision via pictures.</li> <li>• Visual asset mapping</li> <li>• Game – map of the most friendly aspects of a community</li> <li>• Organic/3 dimensional Asset map</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Community<br/>consultation/<br/>evaluation</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consult community using something other than words</li> <li>• Local evaluation gatherings</li> <li>• Each visitor to write one word or draw one picture into a book about their visit</li> <li>• Children’s sticker board – as an evaluation, first name, age (data/statistics) &amp; one or more words about what they think.</li> </ul>   |