



Connecting Communities

2021 - 2022 Annual Report



CLAN Midland
COMMUNITY LINK & NETWORK

Message from the Chairperson and Executive Manager

Once again, the 2021 - 2022 year brought with it many changes, innovation and transitions for CLAN Midland, some triggered by the disruption of COVID-19, while others were stimulated by contract renewal. Adapting to a new world, CLAN Midland was able to implement its Virtual Online Parent Education program with the generous support of Lotterywest. With over 200 people directly connecting with workshops and programs and a further 3,500 accessing online resources, the project was a huge success. (More details on following page)

During major COVID-19 restrictions, CLAN Midland was able to sustain its larger face to face multi family groups such as FAST and Early Years FAST, largely due to the ingenuity and flexibility of the team and the participating families. Creative solutions included a combination of meeting outdoors and online delivery resulting in everyone continuing to connect in challenging times.

The Community Links Project went from strength to strength with over 220 sessions with volunteers being held during the year and 180 connections made through partnership development across Midland and Bullsbrook.

June 2022 marked a transition in our work funded by Swan Communities for Children. As an organisation we have deepened and consolidated our commitment to genuinely working in partnership - with parents, carers, community members

and other organisations. We strive to engage with those that experience the most disadvantage, to invest our efforts in transitioning parents from 'recipients of services' to 'partners in service delivery'. We were therefore very excited to secure a further Communities for Children two-year contract to continue the very successful Families and Schools Together program (FAST) and, in collaboration with the Sister Project, expand our service provision to include Empowering Parents Empowering Communities (EPEC) under licence with Murdoch Children's Research Institute (MCRI).

We are proud to be leading and offering two major evidence-based programs utilising a peer-led approach. Significantly, this reconnects CLAN with its roots: CLAN's founding service model entailed linking trained peer volunteers with families with young children experiencing social isolation. Connecting with 'someone like me' is enormously powerful and non-threatening for families who are suspicious of the service system.

We give huge thanks to all our committed staff, volunteers and Board members for continuing to ensure CLAN Midland is responding and adapting to the ever-changing environment in which families are raising children.

Megan Dawson *Giona Lee*

CLAN Board

Megan Dawson – Chairperson

Seanna Dempsey – Vice Chairperson

Lesley Bremner Bell – Secretary

Amanda Gray – Treasurer

Aman Singh

Sara Browne

Mithun Parthiban

Claire Scanlon



Acknowledgement of Country

CLAN acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land that we work and live on, the Wadjak people of the Noongar Nation. We pay our respects to their strength, cultural resilience and Elders past, present and emerging.



TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

Continued training for staff is essential for CLAN to continue best practice in the sector. We partnered with Midvale Hub Parenting North-East, Anglicare, the Sister Project and Arbor Grove Primary School to host Family Partnership Training for staff facilitated by Murdoch Children's Research Institute and Same Page Consulting. This training not only strengthened the partnerships with these agencies but helped to support a shared understanding and language in our collaborative work in the City of Swan. Other trainings included: Facilitating Online Workshops, WACSS Child Protection & Mandatory Reporting Workshop, and WACSS Child Protective Behaviours Professional Development as part of our commitment to being a Child Safe Organisation.

PARTNERSHIP WITH THE SISTER PROJECT

We are very proud to partner with the Sister Project on a range of parenting programs for women from multicultural backgrounds. Throughout the last year, staff from CLAN Midland and the Sister Project have delivered one off workshops at their premises in Ellenbrook as well as partnering with Ellenbrook Central. Through seven workshops, participants were able to explore new ways of interacting with their child through play, the importance of building secure attachments and understanding their children's emotions, reading and number fun and safety tips. At each workshop, participants received resources to support them at home.

The Sister Project is a not-for-profit organisation that aims to provide connection, skill-sharing and entrepreneurship to support and empower women from diverse backgrounds to improve their confidence, mental wellbeing and sense of belonging.



1050 people attended our events and activities (2487 attendances)



95% Satisfaction across all parenting programs



2285 Facebook followers

LOTTERYWEST

In 2020, our organisation and the wider community were significantly affected by the impact of COVID-19. Despite nation-wide restrictions limiting face-to-face contact, the need for family and community support remained. As such, we began exploring options to continue offering support in the community and applied for the COVID-19 relief package to reach families virtually.

Funding through Lotterywest in 2021-2022 enabled CLAN Midland to increase our organisational capability and governance through new policies and procedures, purchasing of IT equipment and training including Protective Behaviours training and Online Safety training which align with our Child Safe Organisational policies and commitment to a safer community. It also gave us the opportunity to create an innovative service model suitable for the COVID-19 community landscape.

CLAN Midland began developing our new virtual service delivery model using online registration software, set up of online evaluation tools, online video-sharing software and content creation based on community need as understood through extensive community consultation.

Through this consultation, we became aware of a need for parenting resources and workshops to be delivered in Vietnamese. A CLAN staff member was able to deliver Read Play Grow program and other online workshops in Vietnamese as well as newsletter articles to the Vietnamese Community.

ONLINE SERVICES DELIVERED

Women's Wellness, Tweens Online Safety, Tween's Friendship, Community Development, Big Feelings and Emotions, Dads' Group, Healthy Lunchbox, Building Strong Brains, InbeTWEENS, Understanding Sleep, Learning through Play.

LAUNCH OF DIFFERING PERSPECTIVES BOOKLET

CLAN Midland has been working in partnership with the Family Inclusion Network of WA and the Department of Communities for many years on the Differing Perspectives Project.

The journey through child protection is an emotional and difficult one which involves a number of people including parents, children, family supports and professionals. This journey is enhanced when each group respects and recognises their different perspectives. As our perspectives are built from our own experiences and understandings, it can be difficult to reach a common ground. With that in mind, this publication was produced with the hope of bringing all parties a little closer together. The booklet was launched at the Swan Communities for Children quarterly networking breakfast in June. We thank them for their support.

VOLUNTEER WEEK

This is one of our favourite weeks of the year! CLAN Midland was built on volunteering back in 1993, and through to today, we are graced with amazing volunteers who contribute their time and skills to support our organisation and the community. From social media to document control, and to our incredible Board, our organisation continues to grow from strength to strength due to the support and dedication of our volunteers. This year we celebrated our volunteers, learning the art of lawn bowls from the talented team at Midland Bowling Club. Grateful thanks to Volunteering WA for their grant for the event.

LOTTERYWEST GRANT

Through the Lotterywest Grant CLAN was able to strengthen the organisations IT capacity with new computers, software and items to support enhanced online delivery of programs and workshops.

ONE OFF WORKSHOPS

14



VOLUNTEERS

13 Volunteers and 10 staff were involved in the project

5-8 WEEK PROGRAMS

5



IMPACT

200 people directly impacted through service delivery

EXTENDED REACH

3500



917 Midland Community Engagements
1249 Bullsbrook Community Engagements



1750 Student hours



2304 Volunteer hours

BULLSBROOK CUPPAS GROUP ANIMAL RESCUE DONATION DAY

The wonderful Bullsbrook Cuppas Group rallied together to collect donations to support local animal rescue organisations. After months of planning and promoting, 16 volunteers participated on the day in rotating shifts and 47 people in the community kindly donated to the cause. Three rescue centres were the recipients of the donations and were very grateful. This was the first time the Cuppa's Group had held an event. The participants learnt project management, event management, marketing and promotion, community connection and developed relationships with stakeholders and partners such as City of Swan and the three rescue centres.



ABEC GRANT

CLAN Midland was successful in its application for a grant from Australian Business Enterprise Centre (ABEC). We received \$50,000 towards the development of the Read Play Grow (RPG) Program including translation work of key resources into other languages, development of a specific RPG website and training of parents and local practitioners to deliver the RPG program. For more information on RPG please visit our website.



SWAN COMMUNITY FAST

FAST® is an evidenced-based program that promotes children's success through strengthened family relationships. The program supports the attendance of the entire family each week for eight weeks, alongside other families, to share a meal and participate in family strengthening activities.

10 families from the Swan community completed the eight-week FAST® Program.

"That we all as parents have something to offer others whether it be advice, help or just an ear."

"I am really thankful for every single thing they did for me, and it means a lot to me."

"He has started to listen and follow instructions a little bit... I am really thankful to the team for their hard work and sincere efforts."

VOLUNTEER PROFILE - MAXINE

Maxine, a Bullsbrook local & dog lover has volunteered with CLAN Midland for three years, working alongside Lisa in the Community Links project in Bullsbrook. In that time, she has created the Bullsbrook Community Directory, the Bullsbrook Hub Program Directory, designed and developed the Bullsbrook Community Conversation Letter "Briefly Bullsbrook" (multiple editions) and been an active member of many local groups including the Bullsbrook Toy Library (just to name a few). Maxine's tireless work in the community and with CLAN Midland is truly invaluable. Thank you, Maxine, for all you do.



VOLUNTEER PROFILE - MEREDITH

Meredith has volunteered with CLAN for nearly three years. Nearing retirement, Meredith was actively seeking an organisation where she could use her incredible document control skills and other talents. During this time Meredith has improved our systems, documents and policies and procedures to a level that was beyond our imagination! Meredith, we are indebted to you and your amazing work.



SWAN COMMUNITY FAST

Parent Satisfaction
Parents rated their satisfaction with the FAST Program 9.9 out of 10 possible



97%

Team Feedback
97% agreement by members that the FAST Team worked well.

Family Improvement
More than half (>50.0%) of parents reported improvement on all scales



Parent Child Relationship
Social Relationship to FAST Child (100.0%)

Patience
Purposeful
Energetic
Organised
Attentive
Skilful
Adventurous
Loyal
Humorous
Confident
Honesty
Independence
Helpful
Understanding
Encouraging
Creative

Our Sponsors



Government of Western Australia
Department of Communities



CLAN Midland has been proud to work with a variety of practice partners and collaborators

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