



**MOUNT BARKER**  
**COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**STRATEGIC PLAN**

**2024 – 2027**

## **Who We Are**

Mount Barker Community Centre is a not-for-profit, independent organisation located in the heart of Mount Barker SA. The Community Centre offers local community members opportunities to connect with each other through a variety of responsive and inclusive programs, events and volunteer roles across the region. The Community Centre is responsive to local community need and works to address gaps and unmet needs through innovation and collaboration.

## **Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners**

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land occupied by Mount Barker Community Centre, its programs and services.

We pay our respects to the Elders, both past and present, for they hold the memories, the traditions, the culture and the hope of the oldest living culture on Earth.

We acknowledge the sacred connection to this land which, since the beginning of the Dreaming, was, is, and always will be traditional Aboriginal Land.

## **VISION**

A Connected and Inclusive Community

## **MISSION**

To offer responsive and inclusive opportunities and supports for the community to participate in and to develop connections.

## **VALUES**

### **Responsiveness**

We engage with our communities, listen, and act upon what we hear.

We partner with other organisations to increase our capacity to respond quickly.

We find innovative and progressive solutions to address community needs.

### **Empowerment**

We are here to empower our communities and the people living within them by building capacity and capability through programs and services designed to build community participation.

We are inclusive. We value diversity and we advocate for equity within our service and our community.

### **Integrity and Transparency**

We value openness, honesty and transparency and will always live up to our role as a trusted member of the communities we service.

### **Sustainability**

We are committed to a sustainable future and to improving the social, economic and environmental well-being of the community.

We are dedicated to creating a financially sustainable organisation that grows and develops with the community.

### **Outcomes of this Strategic Plan**

Mount Barker Community Centre is a positive example of community empowerment, inclusivity, and sustainable growth. Commitment to our values and goals shapes the centre into a dynamic and nurturing environment that supports our community.

#### **High Profile Service**

The profile of Mount Barker Community Centre has been elevated, resulting in widespread recognition and engagement from the community. Through targeted marketing strategies, social media initiatives and innovative promotional campaigns, our centre draws individuals from diverse backgrounds to explore all that we have to offer.

#### **Welcoming and Inviting Atmosphere**

Mount Barker Community Centre has solidified its reputation as a friendly, safe, and inviting haven for everyone. Our dedication to fostering a warm and welcoming atmosphere ensures visitors, staff, and volunteers experience a supportive service when visiting the community centre and our programs.

#### **Well-Managed and Sustainable Service**

Our commitment to effective management and sustainability ensures Mount Barker Community Centre implements a model of efficiency and is set up for a long-term financial future.

Our programs and services adopt eco-conscious practices, nurturing both personal growth and the health of our planet.

Our comprehensive legal compliance framework ensures that all activities and programs are conducted with integrity and accountability.

#### **Expanded Programs and Services**

The heart of our success is our expanded programs and services, which have evolved to meet the needs of our priority groups. From women, children, and families at risk to young people, culturally diverse communities, and indigenous populations, each individual finds relevant and effective programs on offer.

Collaborations with diverse organizations, and stakeholders have created new opportunities, fostering shared knowledge and growth.

## KEY STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS 2024 - 27

	<b>Program Development</b>	<b>Marketing and Communications</b>	<b>Governance</b>	<b>People</b>
<b>Goal</b>	Expand programs and services to engage priority groups, ensuring programs are responsive to community needs.	Increase the profile of Mount Barker Community Centre in our community	Maintain and improve a well-managed, sustainable, legally compliant service	Mount Barker Community Centre is a friendly, safe and inviting workplace where people want to visit, work and volunteer.
<b>Strategies</b>	<p><b>Funding opportunities</b> Continue to seek diverse funding opportunities to further expand programs and opportunities available to support the community.</p> <p><b>Community Engagement</b> Create a wide range of opportunities for engagement with community members to ensure understanding of current needs and appropriate responses.</p> <p><b>Partnerships</b> Build and strengthen partnerships with state and local Government and relevant community organizations. Work together with increased capacity to offer relevant programs and services and address community needs.</p>	<p><b>Marketing and Promotion</b> Develop a comprehensive marketing and communications strategy that includes social media, community events, and other new ideas to increase awareness in the community about the centre's programs and services.</p> <p><b>Community Engagement</b> Provide a variety of opportunities to enable people to explore the centre's facilities, meet staff and volunteers, and better understand the centre's mission while providing diverse opportunities for participation.</p> <p><b>Partnerships</b> Build and strengthen partnerships with state and local Government and relevant community organizations, fostering a sense of unity and shared purpose.</p>	<p><b>Review Organisation Model</b> Research and develop a plan to move to a community services organization model.</p> <p><b>Legal Compliance</b> Stay up-to-date with relevant regulations and laws governing community centers, ensuring all activities, programs, and operations remain legally compliant. Ensure all policies are up to date and reflect relevant legislation.</p> <p><b>Financial Sustainability</b> Explore diversified funding sources, including grants, self-generated income and donations, to ensure financial stability and ability to provide consistent services.</p> <p><b>Data and Reporting</b> Prioritise data collection and reporting systems to track the impact of programs and services, helping the centre demonstrate its effectiveness to stakeholders and potential funders</p>	<p><b>Volunteer and Staff Development</b> Implement a comprehensive HR approach to support staff and volunteers including a robust performance review process with access to professional development opportunities. Provide opportunities for volunteers and staff to enhance their skills in communication, cultural sensitivity, conflict resolution, and other areas that contribute to a positive and inviting atmosphere. Research the possibility of developing a volunteer resource centre.</p> <p><b>Physical Space</b> Ensure the community centre is welcoming and accessible.</p> <p><b>Feedback Mechanisms</b> Promote channels for regular feedback from visitors, volunteers and staff to continuously improve the centre's environment and services.</p>
<b>Actions</b>	Actions will be developed to support the implementation of the strategies. These will be documented in the business plan and reviewed annually.			