

# THE COMMUNITY BUILDERS PROGRAM

*'It isn't enough for a town to have good leadership. Communities also must have people – Community Builders – who vigorously encourage and support a wide range of activities which benefit the community. These builders aren't self-serving. They're interested in improving and perpetuating their communities. Find a community with both leaders and builders and you'll find a community that works.'*  
(Prof Robert Manley)

**The Community Builders Program** represents a grassroots leadership program that seeks to support local community builders within a defined cluster of communities to better understand and build their local and regional community and economy.

*'Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, concerned citizens can change the world! For indeed it is the only thing that ever has!'*  
(Margaret Mead)

## South Central Wheatbelt

# THE COMMUNITYBUILDERS PROGRAM ...

## Program Description

Community Builders is a six-month program that seeks to identify, encourage, and empower local residents to become more involved in building their community and its economy.

A cluster of communities provides the geographical basis for the Community Builders Program. Between six and ten communities within the south central Wheatbelt region will constitute the cluster, each being represented by a Community Team of three to six people. These Community Teams meet together between late June and mid October, 2022. The meetings enable shared learning and discussion about community economic challenges, opportunities and options; enhance awareness of available resources; and the discovery of the diversity and interconnections of their local and regional economies.

## Program Goals

- ✓ Provide the necessary information, skills, tools, motivation, confidence and passion to positively manage community change.
- ✓ Encourage new thinking about ways to better support and nurture social and economic development at local and regional levels.
- ✓ Stimulate collaboration between communities and create peer support networks and friendship links across a region.

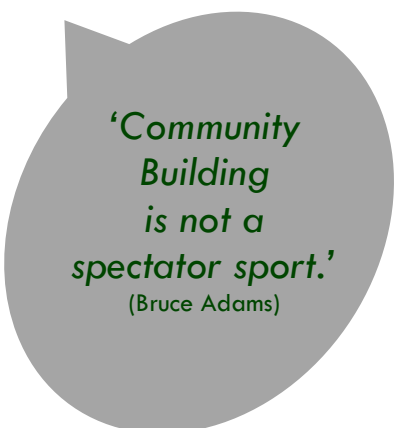
## Program Components

1. **Monthly 'cluster muster' workshops:** Workshop locations will rotate around participating communities and allow – a study tour of the host community; informal sharing over refreshments; resource information session; and a practical and interactive workshop experience focusing on participant identified learning priorities.
2. **Provision of a wide range of community building resources including a set of handbooks.**
3. **Community asset mapping experiences.**
4. **Individual Community Team meetings:** held by each Community Team between the Cluster meetings to focus on their Community Builder experience and its relevance and application locally.
5. **Community project.**
6. **Access to additional skills development opportunities.**
7. **Final celebration event.**
8. **Formulation of community action plans following completion of a six-month learning program.**

## For more information

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*'Community  
Building  
is not a  
spectator sport.'*  
(Bruce Adams)