

# Socially Inclusive Communities WA 2018/19

*Expression of Interest*

*Closing date: 1 October 2018*



Government of **Western Australia**  
Department of **Communities**  
**Disability Services**

*PROMOTING AND SUPPORTING SOCIAL INCLUSION IN  
COMMUNITIES ACROSS WA*



## Socially Inclusive Communities WA 2018/19

*Promoting and supporting social inclusion in communities across WA*

Is your Local Government Authority (LGA) socially inclusive? Does your LGA welcome positive change? Do you know your community and its current challenges? The *Socially Inclusive Communities* initiative will build the capacity of LGAs and create more inclusive, better connected communities. This initiative, significantly underwritten by the Department of Communities, offers eight LGAs the opportunity to partner with *Inclusion Solutions* in delivering specific support to promote socially inclusive communities.

### The Need

**18.3%** or 4.3 million Australians live with a disability, representing almost one in five people. **49%** of Australians were born overseas or have parents born overseas. The latest Census data (2016) highlights that WA is more religiously, linguistically and culturally diverse than ever before. The need for social inclusion is compounded by:

- Decreasing state funding for support mechanisms such as the Club Development and Inclusion Officer Schemes
- Many LGAs reducing direct service delivery
- Communities voicing the need for assistance and support to be more inclusive

The societal demand to be more inclusive, as stated, is evident. Marginalised and underrepresented groups can add significant value in the development of cohesive, vibrant communities in WA.

### The Specifics:

For a co-contribution of \$3,200, the *Socially Inclusive Communities* initiative will give successful LGAs access to the following, over a 12 month period:

- **3 x Training Workshops** - Topics range from Disability Awareness, Social Inclusion, Inclusive Events, Recreation Advice Training, Attracting Talent & Time and Community Inclusion
- **Mentoring of 4 x Community Clubs/Groups** to be more inclusive and connected within their local community, providing best-practice frameworks for others to follow
- **10 X hours of personalised support for LGA Staff** providing key principles, resources and personal development opportunities
- **Advocacy on Access & Inclusion (DAIP)** through committee involvement and support
- **Complimentary tickets to events and forums**, providing ongoing learning opportunities for LGA staff, local clubs and other key stakeholders
- **Additional relationship building and strategic development** will be provided

These objectives will be delivered in **consultation** with LGA staff and stakeholders. Training and mentoring will address gaps on social inclusion within the LGAs and their respective communities.

### The Aims

The *Socially Inclusive Communities* initiative *aims to:*

- ✓ Build the skills and capacity of LGA staff, community groups and community members
- ✓ Develop stronger relationships between community and their LGA
- ✓ Provide community groups the platform to attract resources, members and volunteers



- ✓ Increase the inclusion of all marginalised groups, including people with disabilities
- ✓ Assist LGAs in identifying the social and economic benefits of being inclusive
- ✓ Promote longevity and sustainability by increasing skill and knowledge within the community
- ✓ Empowers LGAs and community members to create *Champions of Inclusion*
- ✓ Offer people from marginalised groups, including people with disabilities, the opportunity to contribute to the development of socially inclusive communities and obtain employment where possible

Selected LGAs have the opportunity to make real change through this underwritten initiative well beyond the life of the project. This is an opportunity to lead the social inclusion movement in Western Australia. Are you ready for the challenge to make your local community the best it can be?

Further information on the project is available upon request. Should you have any queries please contact:

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***#SocialInclusionMatters***



## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

### I. How will this project contribute to making my community more inclusive?

Inclusion Solutions will work with LGA staff to identify gaps related to social inclusion in the community, delivering a variety of customised training workshops to address these issues. By Inclusion Solutions being involved with access and inclusion (DAIP) advocacy, best practice examples can be shared and implemented from other WA communities. A key role is to develop relationships between community groups and their LGAs, creating a local knowledge-base and a collaborative approach into the future. Education, personal development and capacity building of LGA staff and community members will be provided. LGAs and community groups will have the platform for more inclusive operations and increased interest, participation and engagement.

### II. How are Local Government Authorities selected?

Applications by LGAs will be assessed by a panel of judges. The specific criteria will include: addressing *buy-in*, contributions to the project, capacity to deliver outcomes and sustainability.

### III. Once the LGA is deemed successful, how will community clubs be identified for the mentoring process and what is involved?

Once an LGA is successful, Inclusion Solutions will consult with key LGA staff alongside existing networks to identify and approach clubs and community groups that may be suitable. An LGA may also wish to run a short Expression of Interest (EOI) process with clubs and groups to ensure equity is promoted. Once these clubs are identified a 7-step mentoring process will be delivered. Typical outcomes for clubs that undergo the mentoring include: improvements in attitude & awareness, increase in membership, increase in volunteering, increased community profile and an increase in community awareness amongst other benefits.

### IV. How will the *Socially Inclusive Communities* initiative impact our staff?

LGA employees will benefit from implementing proven community development principles, participating in formal training workshops and personal development sessions. Key frameworks and resources will be provided, assisting LGAs in improving community development/access and inclusion outcomes. LGA staff, community groups and volunteers will be exposed to critical networking opportunities to increase their knowledge on social inclusion and promote the positive impact on the wider community.

### V. What is the application process?

Application forms are provided. Read introduction and complete application document. Return the document to [info@inclusionsolutions.org.au](mailto:info@inclusionsolutions.org.au) by 5pm, Monday 1 October 2018. Inclusion Solutions will advise if your submission is successful within two weeks of the closing date.

Due to time constraints and commitment to assess all applications in a timely manner, applications received after 5pm, 1 October 2018 will not be considered.