



# EXPRESSION OF INTEREST LEADERSHIP TABLE COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

## ABOUT GO GOLDFIELDS

The success of Go Goldfields can be attributed to its innovative Collective Impact approach and its commitment to keeping the voice of the community at the centre of the work.

In 2010 a group of service leaders, having worked for many years trying to improve outcomes for local children, young people and families in Central Goldfields Shire, met to discuss how they might do things differently. At that time the Shire was the most disadvantaged in the State and the same old ways of thinking and doing were clearly not working. Inspired by a deep commitment to making a real difference in the lives of our community, they formed the Go Goldfields Alliance to find a new way of working together.

In 2014 the Go Goldfields Alliance adopted collective impact as a collaborative approach to drive large-scale social change in the Central Goldfields community, with Central Goldfields Shire Council agreeing to the significant role of a Backbone organisation. Since then community members have been coming together with leaders from services and government agencies to address local, complex social issues that have previously proven difficult to fix.

Our Collective Impact journey has been one of learning and striving. Bringing authentic community voice and influence to the table has been critical to the success of our work. This means building relationships based upon trust and tapping into grassroots community networks in ways that benefit the community.

## OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

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WE LEAD THROUGH ACTIONING OUR BELIEF THAT WE CAN BRING ABOUT CHANGE
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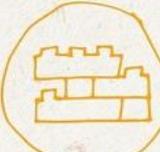
WE BRING THE RIGHT PEOPLE AROUND THE TABLE TO BUILD AND SHARE POWER
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WE AUTHENTICALLY ENGAGE AND CO-DESIGN SOLUTIONS WITH THOSE WHOSE LIVES ARE IMPACTED
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WE ACHIEVE ACTION THROUGH ALIGNMENT, COORDINATION, AND RESOURCE COHESION
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WE INVEST WHERE WE SEE A BLOCK OR A PROJECT ACTION IS NEEDED
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WE LEARN AND INNOVATE TO SOLVE A PROBLEM WHEN NEEDED
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WE ADVOCATE BY USING OUR COLLECTIVE VOICE TO INFLUENCE POLICY DEVELOPMENT
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WE BUILD CAPACITY AND CAPABILITY TO INCREASE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND CONFIDENCE TO IMPLEMENT CHANGE
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WE MEASURE IMPACT AND USE DATA TO DRIVE THE CHANGE THAT IS NEEDED



## REFINED DIRECTION AND FOCUS

In 2020, the Go Goldfields Collaborative Table endorsed a strategic direction to build on this rich experience and underpin its strength and focus into the future. These include:

- Commitment to the *Every Child Every Chance* initiative
- Revised governance that reflects the focus and direction
- A comprehensive community engagement program; and
- The development and monitoring of an Early Years Change Plan

The appointment of an Independent Chair and the transition from a broader based Collaborative Table to a focussed Leadership Table is significant in implementing this direction.

The Go Goldfields Leadership Table will bring together service leaders and government decision-makers – who are in the position to change existing systems – to understand the specific circumstances in Central Goldfields Shire as we work to achieve change.

The Chair and Leadership Table will be critical in creating a foundation for our partners to ensure better outcomes for children and their families in the Central Goldfields Shire.

## EVERY CHILD, EVERY CHANCE INITIATIVE

The Go Goldfields Every Child, Every Chance initiative recognises the early years as a critical time to combat inequality to ensure all our kids get the footing they need.

Beginning in pregnancy, the early years of every child's life entails rapid development of emotional, communication, thinking, and social skills to equip children with tools for life. However, too many of our children are beginning school with vulnerabilities in these important areas.

Research conducted in Central Goldfields Shire by the Murdoch Children's Research Institute found that while we receive our fair share of programs and services directed to the early years, more can be done to ensure they are shaped to our local context and meet the specific needs of our families.

The 'Every Child, Every Chance' initiative brings together community, business, government, and not-for-profit partners to ensure every child in Central Goldfields Shire has every chance to grow up safe, healthy, and confident.

This means working together on identified priority areas.

- Supported and healthy pregnancies
- Confident and Connected new parents
- Safe and Secure Children
- Valued early years education and care
- Great start to school.



The initiative is supported by a community engagement program to begin in early 2021. This will ensure we have the voices of children, parents, carers, community volunteers to inform service providers, educators and health professionals and governments as we come together around these important milestones.



## THE GO GOLDFIELDS LEADERSHIP TABLE

The Leadership Table is designed as a forum that brings together key executives and decision-makers that contribute to policy, funding, and deliver services that directly impact the early years in the Central Goldfields Shire to:

- Make space for executive leaders to focus on collaborative place-based decision making to enhance early years services, data, and investment.
- Work together to maximise the value and impact of government investments and reform by tapping into local intelligence to inform early and strategic planning
- Purposefully consider the community experiences presented through Go Goldfields engagement to inform and influence future decision making and service provision
- Draw on executive capabilities and influence within home organisations to respond quickly to opportunities and issues that arise concerning the 5 priority areas in the Shire
- Share early intelligence on opportunities to feed into policy development to ensure it is context-appropriate or allows for flexible implementation and maximise local alignment
- Where appropriate contribute resources ie staff time – to assist the Go Goldfields backbone to develop information for partners, stakeholders, and community.
- Work collaboratively to support the co-developed Change Plan and outcomes for each of the five priority areas.

Currently being finalised, the Leadership Table is expected to have Executive representation from the following local organisations:

Anglicare Victoria	Central Goldfields Shire Council
Department of Education and Training	Central Goldfields Local Community
Department of Health and Human Services	Centre for Non-Violence
Bendigo and District Aboriginal Cooperative	Maryborough District Health Service
Committee for Maryborough	

The Leadership Table is an opportunity to demonstrate the need for, and benefits of, improving the balance between centralised policy and decision making and embracing increased autonomy and flexibility in regions and communities to ensure the most effective development, design, and delivery of key services and investment that support children and families in the early years.



## COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE ROLE ON THE LEADERSHIP TABLE

Go Goldfields is currently seeking members of the Central Goldfields community to provide a community perspective at the Go Goldfields newly formed leadership Table. The successful applicants will join with executives of not for profit, business, and government partner organisations to support the principles of Go Goldfields, drive our *Every Child, Every Chance* initiative and ensure better outcomes for the community.

### ATTRIBUTES

- An independent member of the Central Goldfields Shire community
- A commitment to addressing disadvantage for children and their families in the Central Goldfields Shire through innovative and collaborative means
- Ability to build rapport with different sections of the community to ensure broad representation
- Effective communication skills
- Broad understanding of meeting procedure

### REQUIREMENTS

- Attend Go Goldfields Leadership Table meeting and relevant events.
- Provide community perspectives and experience to enhance decision making.

### REMUNERATION

Voluntary with and travel allowances and potential for negotiated annual honorarium.

**Potential opportunities for relevant professional development where appropriate.**

### APPOINTMENT PERIOD

2 years (24 months)

### FURTHER REQUIREMENTS

The Community Representative will need to complete the requirements of a volunteer of Go Goldfields.

## HOW TO APPLY

Please tell us;

- About yourself in 500 words or less.
- About the skills that you would bring to the Table.
- What drives you to be a part of the Go Goldfields Partnership in 500 words or less.

Applications, or requests for further information, can be emailed to Carolyn Bartholomeusz, Manager, Go Goldfields [Carolyn.bartholomeusz@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:Carolyn.bartholomeusz@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au) or please call 0412 917 100 for assistance.

