



## Expression of Interest

### Go Goldfields Independent Chair

#### About Go Goldfields

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.

Our collective impact journey has been one of learning and striving. Authentic community voice and influence at the table has been critical to the success of our work. As has, building relationships based upon trust and tapping into grassroots community networks in ways that benefit the community.

Our guiding principles were developed to inform the way we work together.

#### 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
- 

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 Every Child, Every Chance Change Plan

The appointment of an Independent Chair and the transition from a broader based Collaborative Table to a decision 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 are 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 Parents
- Safe and Thriving Children
- Valued Early Years Education and Care
- A Great Start to School for all Kids.



The initiative is supported by a community engagement program undertaken in 2021. This ensures 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 priority areas.



## 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 service delivery that directly impact on the early years in the Central Goldfields Shire to:

- Make a 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 in relation 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.

The Leadership Table has Executive representation from the following local organisations:

Anglicare Victoria	Central Goldfields Shire Council
Department of Education and Training	Central Goldfields community members (including an Independent Chair)
Department of Health	Centre for Non-Violence
Bendigo and District Aboriginal Cooperative	Maryborough District Health Service
Committee for Maryborough	Department of Families, Fairness and Housing



## Go Goldfields Independent Chair role

Go Goldfields is currently seeking a suitably qualified and motivated Independent Chair for our Leadership Table to drive our *Every Child, Every Chance* initiative. The Independent Chair will convene a Leadership Table consisting of executives of not for profit, business, and government partner organisations and representatives of the Central Goldfields community.

### Personal Attributes

- An independent member of, or person with demonstrable association with, the Central Goldfields Shire community
- A commitment to addressing disadvantage for children and their families in the Central Goldfields Shire through a collective impact approach to achieve system and community level change
- An understanding of good governance principles and board procedure
- Business acumen and strategic thinking skills
- Ability to build consensus on complex issues and nurture courage to innovate
- A current Police Check and Working with Children Check (voluntary status)

### Responsibilities

- Chair a minimum of four Go Goldfields Leadership Table meetings to ensure robust inquiry and commitment to the strategic direction
- Ensure that members of the leadership Table comply with their obligations in respect to meeting attendance and upholding the groups values
- In conjunction with the Go Goldfields Manager, develop a forward agenda for the Leadership Table that draws upon the collective knowledge, influence and capacity of the group
- Provide leadership to the Go Goldfields backbone and our partners on strategic issues and significant partnerships
- Advocate for outcomes and actions in the *Every Child Every, Chance Change Plan* developed by stakeholders and community
- Hold members of the Leadership Table accountable for their authority and capability to support place based solutions for better outcomes and opportunities for Central Goldfields
- Identify as the public figurehead of the Leadership Table providing comments to the media to increase profile of Go Goldfields and the *Every Child, Every Chance* initiative

### Remuneration

This is a voluntary position however does include travel allowances and negotiated annual honorarium.

### Appointment period

12 months

### How to apply

Further information can be obtained by contact Carolyn Bartholomeusz, Manager Go Goldfields on 0412 917 100 or email [Carolyn.bartholomeusz@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:Carolyn.bartholomeusz@cgoldshire.vic.gov.au)

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