

The AEDI in Action

Case Study: Mornington Peninsula Shire Victoria



AEDI Participation

Year of completion:	2005
Number of primary schools:	31
Number of children:	1,478
Number of teachers:	72



'The AEDI helped unpack where and why there are higher levels of vulnerability for children'

Communication of the AEDI results

The AEDI results were presented at various forums and to different groups (for example local councillors and community members). The results have also been presented to the community in a forum that facilitates conversations around the results and allows time for planning (at different levels) by key stakeholders and local groups.

Community use of the AEDI results

Child and Family Service re-development

The re-development of Wallaroo Child and Family Centre saw resources from both Council and the Victorian Government Department of Education and Early Childhood Development being targeted in a community where there was a high level of identified vulnerability.

New initiatives, projects and programs

The AEDI results provided the rationale for attracting the Victorian government early years initiative – *Best Start* – to the Mornington Peninsula Shire.

The AEDI results also identified that the Hastings community would benefit greatly from being involved in the *R.E. Ross Trust Linking Schools and Early Years Project* which has since begun operating in Hastings.

A planning framework

Mornington Peninsula Shire has been keen to explore a planning framework that focuses on improving outcomes for children and maximising current resources. The AEDI provided a unique opportunity to focus on a framework for local communities in an area that had a wide demographic profile.

An Early Years Project

The report, *Dropping off the Edge*¹, in conjunction with the AEDI results, has led to the development of the Rosebud West Early Years Project. This project aimed to address some of the issues identified in the AEDI Community Profile. A very exciting aspect was that philanthropic funds were provided for this project and has seen a strong local commitment.

Positive outcomes

- Increased awareness of decision and policy makers around the need to plan and allocate resources to improve outcomes for children and their families.
- The ability to attract new resources and maximising existing resources.
- Increased community awareness about the importance of the early years.
- Development of a common language amongst service providers and community agencies.

'The AEDI results initiated further investigation and analysis of local issues'

Challenges

- Engaging key stakeholders and the use of data for planning purposes.
- Encouraging schools in the community to be aware of the benefits of an ongoing commitment to the AEDI.

Mornington Peninsula Shire – Telephone 1300 850 600

For more information go to www.aedi.org.au

¹ <http://www.australiandisadvantage.org.au/order.html>



An Australian Government Initiative

