

Community-Centred Practice – An Introduction Readings and Resources

Communities

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Community development

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<http://www.urban.org/community/combuild.htm>

Howe, Brian and Cleary, Rev Ray (2001), **Community Building: Policy issues and strategies for the Victorian Government**. Melbourne, Victoria: Victorian Department of Premier and Cabinet.
<http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/pdfs/Howe2.doc>

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http://www.lgcsawa.asn.au/news_view.asp?feature_id=9

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<http://www.jrf.org.uk/knowledge/findings/socialcare/534.asp>

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Social support

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Rationale for community-centred practice

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Hayes, A. and Bowes, J. (1999). Children, families and communities: Looking forward. In J.M. Bowes and A. Hayes, A. (Eds.). **Children, Families, and Communities: Contexts and Consequences**. South Melbourne, Victoria: Oxford University Press.

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Family-centred community building

Doherty, W.J. (2000). Family science and family citizenship: Toward a model of community partnership with families. **Family Relations**, **49** (3), 319-325.

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Erickson, M. F. and Louv, R. (2002). The Family Re-Union initiative: A springboard for family-centred community building, locally and nationally. **Family Process**, **41** (4), 569-578.

Schorr, L.B. (1997). **Common Purpose: Strengthening Families and Neighborhoods to Rebuild America**. New York: Anchor Books, Doubleday.

Scott, D. (2001). Building communities that strengthen families. **Family Matters**, No. **58**, 76-79.

Reinventing human services

Adams, P. and Krauth, K. (Eds.). (1995). **Reinventing Human Services: Community- and Family-Centred Practice**. New York: Aldine de Gruyter.

Cavaye, J. (2000). **The Role of Government in Community Capacity Building**. Brisbane, Queensland: Department of Primary Industries.
<http://www.health.qld.gov.au/capir/documents/19721.pdf>

Edgar, D. (2001). **The Patchwork Nation: Re-thinking Government – Re-building Community**. Sydney, NSW: HarperCollins Publishers.

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Methods and tools

Cox, E. (2002). **The Social Audit Cookbook: Recipes for auditing the way we connect.** Melbourne, Victoria: The Lance Reichstein Foundation.
http://www.communitybuilders.nsw.gov.au/download/social_audit_cookbook.pdf

Department of Sustainability and Environment and Department of Primary Industries (2004). **Effective Community Engagement: Workbook and Tools.** Melbourne, Victoria: Community Engagement Unit, Resource and Regional Services Division, Department of Sustainability and Environment.
<http://www.cbt.infoxchange.net.au/cbrs/CommEngageWorkbook.pdf>

This workbook describes a practical process for building the capability of individuals and groups to engage effectively with stakeholders and the community. It includes tools and resources underpinned by principles, concepts and tested models to develop purposeful and effective engagement plans that respect and are inclusive of the diversity of stakeholders and community.

Department for Victorian Communities (2004). **Getting to Know Your Community – A Guide to Using Local Data.** Melbourne, Victoria: Office of Community Building, Department for Victorian Communities.
<http://www.dvc.vic.gov.au/doc/Local%20Data%20Guide.pdf>

This guide describes all the community statistics on local communities produced by state government, and shows how communities can compile a profile of their own community.

Department of Victorian Communities (2004). **Indicators of Community Strength in Victoria.** Melbourne, Victoria: Strategic Policy and Research Division, Department for Victorian Communities.
http://www.dvc.vic.gov.au/doc/040804_community%20strengthening.pdf

This report covers key community strength indicators, including community safety, involvement and participation.

Hawe, P., King, L., Noort, M., Jordens, C. and Lloyd, B. (2000), **Indicators to Help with Capacity Building in Health Promotion.** Sydney, NSW: NSW Health Department.
<http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/pubs/i/pdf/capbuild.pdf>

Barriers

Botes, L. and van Rensburg, D. (2000). Community participation in development: nine plagues and twelve commandments, **Community Development Journal**, **35** (1), 41-58.

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<http://www.jrf.org.uk/knowledge/findings/socialcare/534.asp>

Simpson, L., Wood, L. and Daws, L. (2003). Community capacity building: Starting with people not projects. **Community Development Journal**, **38** (4), 277-286.

Examples

- **The patch approach**

National Resource Centre for Family-Centred Practice
http://www.uiowa.edu/%7Enrcfcp/publications/patch_approach.shtml

National Child Welfare Resource Centre for Family-Centred Practice
<http://www.cwresource.org/hotTopics/commCollabs/patch.htm>

US Department of Health and Human Services
<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/opre/patch.htm>

Adams, P. and Krauth, K. (1995). **Working with families and communities: The patch approach.** In P. Adams and K. Krauth (Eds.). *Reinventing Human Services: Community- and Family-Centred Practice.* New York: Aldine de Gruyter.

- **RAINmakers**

Briar-Lawson, K. and Lawson, H.A. (2001). Families as experts and partners in the development, implementation, and evaluation of family-centered policies and practices. In K. Briar-Lawson, H.A. Lawson, C.B. Hennon, and A.R. Jones, **Family-Centered Policies and Practices: International Implications.** New York: Columbia University Press.

- **Pathways to Prevention Project**

<http://www.griffith.edu.au/centre/kceljag/>

Homel, R., Elias, G. and Hay, I. (2001). Developmental prevention in a disadvantaged community. In R. Eckersley, J. Dixon, and B. Douglas (Eds.). **The Social Origins of Health and Well-Being.** Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.

- **St. Luke's Shared Action Project**

<http://www.stlukes.org.au/archived/shared.htm>

Linda Beilharz (2002). **Building Community: the Shared Action experience.** Bendigo, Victoria: Solutions Press.

Australian resources

- **communitybuilders.nsw**

<http://www.communitybuilders.nsw.gov.au/>

Coordinated by the NSW Department of Community Services, this site is an interactive electronic clearing house for everyone involved in community level social, economic and environmental renewal including community leaders, community & government workers, volunteers, program managers, academics, policy makers, youth and seniors.

- **Community Building – Communities Growing Together**

<http://www.communitybuilding.vic.gov.au/>

This site is designed to support the Victorian Government's Community Building Initiative. It aims to inform and connect people involved in community building projects across Victoria, and to assist those who want to find out more about community building approaches.

- **Community Engagement in the NSW Planning System – Planning NSW, 2003**

<http://www.communitybuilders.nsw.gov.au/builder/participation/censw.html>

This reference is designed for practitioners in the NSW planning and development system who are keen to improve the quality of community engagement at local, regional or State levels.

- **Stronger Families Learning Exchange**

<http://www.aifs.gov.au/sf>

The Stronger Families Learning Exchange is funded under the Australian Government Department of Family and Community Services (FaCS) Stronger Families and Communities Strategy 2002-2004. It aims to contribute to the formation of an evidence base from which to inform policy, practice and research in strengthening families and communities. It is managed by the Australian Institute for Family Studies, and comprises the Stronger Families Clearinghouse and an Action Research Training and Support Team.

Other resources

- **The Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) Institute**

<http://www.northwestern.edu/ipr/abcd/abcdtopics.html>

ABCD is co-directed by John McKnight and John Kretzmann, Northwestern University. They argue that community assets are key building blocks in sustainable urban and rural community revitalisation efforts. The site includes asset mapping tools and resources.

- **Bowling Alone**

<http://www.bowlingalone.com/>

This site is based around Robert D Putnam's book *Bowling Alone* (2000) which explores how people in the USA have become increasingly disconnected from their communities and democratic structures, and discusses ways in which they may reconnect through the building of social capital.

- **Communities That Care**

Communities that care US website:

<http://www.channing-bete.com/positiveyouth/pages/CTC/CTC.html>

Communities that care UK website:

<http://www.communitiesthatcare.org.uk/>

Communities That Care. This is a structured prevention planning system developed by David Hawkins and Richard Catalano in the US and subsequently adopted in the UK and elsewhere. It helps communities develop an integrated approach to promoting the positive development of children and youth and to preventing problem behaviours, including substance abuse, delinquency, teen pregnancy, school dropout, and violence. It involves the systematic identification and measurement of risk and protective factors in communities, and the selection and use of appropriate evidence-based interventions by a community prevention board. It is a model that can be adapted for different communities, but is relatively 'top-down' and 'formula-driven' compared with other approaches to community-building. It also depends upon working with community spokespersons, rather than through direct consultation with families.

Fiske, G. (1999). **Communities That Care: A Prevention Approach to Build the Resilience of Young People in Our Communities.** A Report of the Study Visit of *Communities That Care* in the US and UK. Melbourne, Victoria: Department of Human Services.

- **The Community Tool Box**

<http://ctb.ku.edu/index.jsp>

The Tool Box provides over 6,000 pages of practical information to support your work in promoting community health and development. The core of the Tool Box is the topic sections that include practical guidance for the different tasks necessary to promote community health and development. Each section includes a description of the task, advantages of doing it, step-by-step guidelines, examples, checklists of points to review, and training materials.

- **The World Bank – Social capital**

<http://www.worldbank.org/poverty/scapital/index.htm>

This web site contains definitions, abstracts of articles and links to research papers on social capital.