

### Respecting Community Capacity: A Health Promotion Framework

#### “Sharing our knowledge and wisdom.”

One of the challenges of health promotion is how to access and promote the voices and capacities of the most marginalised and disempowered population groups in our communities. It is through listening to population groups that we can identify relevant and sustainable health promotion initiatives. In the words of one refugee, “It’s about hearing our stories, and sharing our knowledge and wisdom.” The aim of this framework is help explore people’s experiences in a way that, most importantly, respects people’s voices and capacities; and that also recognises the impacts of structural factors on population health.

	<b>INDIVIDUAL POPULATION</b> Group of interest	<b>ORGANISATIONAL</b> Social and work groups, infrastructure, systems, processes, protocols	<b>COMMUNITY</b> Mainstream participation, access to resource, cultural, social and economic inclusion	<b>SOCIETY</b> Representation in government, law and media
<b>STRENGTHS</b>	<i>What unique experiences and skills does this population group have?</i>	<i>What structures are currently in place that will support this population group?</i>  e.g. services, support groups	<i>What current community activities can help promote the experiences and skills of the population group?</i>  e.g. local council health and service planning, community events	<i>What mechanisms exist to support the representation of this population group?</i>  e.g. government consultation groups, lobby groups, non-government organisations
<b>CHALLENGES</b>	<i>What are the particular challenges this population group faces to full participation?</i>  e.g. poverty, experiences of trauma	<i>What barriers might prevent you from working with this population group at an organisational level?</i>  e.g. service providers lack time or specialist expertise	<i>What barriers does this population group experience in trying to access community resources?</i>  e.g. discriminatory attitudes, fear	<i>What barriers does this population group face to exercising active citizenship?</i>  e.g. barriers to education, stereotypes, discrimination
<b>OPPORTUNITIES</b>	<i>What issues and areas of action are most important to the population group to promote their health?</i>	<i>What could we do at an organisational level to better work with this population group?</i>  e.g. service training, peer group education, work policy development, accreditation	<i>How can the mainstream community contribute to working with this population group?</i>  e.g. volunteers, schools, community education	<i>What can we do to better support the active citizenship of this population group?</i>  e.g. promote diverse and alternative role models, mentorship systems
<b>RESOURCES</b>	<i>What does this population group have that they could contribute?</i>  e.g. time, skills, knowledge	<i>What existing structures could help to achieve opportunities?</i>  e.g. education and employment training	<i>What resources are currently available?</i>  e.g. social clubs, community groups	<i>What resources can help to support this population group to be more fully represented in society?</i>  e.g. government round tables, support policy submissions

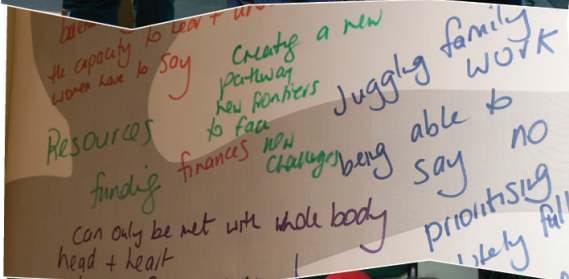
# BEYOND SYMPTOMS

Women's Health Needs Analysis for Melbourne's West

Respecting Community Capacity: A Needs Analysis Process



## Process values



### Strengths-based

Recognises women's knowledge, skills and lived experiences

### Population-based

Focus on population groups of women with poorest health outcomes

### Joint participation

Community women and service providers working together. Includes case studies and joint workshops.

### Gendered resources

The framework will be used by community women and service providers to workshop gendered resources to promote women's right to health, safety and well-being.

The resources will identify population-based statistics, important issues, questions to ask in planning and evaluation, and where you can get help.

For more information on Beyond Symptoms, the health promotion framework and the Beyond Symptoms needs analysis process, please contact Joy Free, Women's Health West Researcher on 03 9689 9588.