INFORMATION SYSTEM

An outcome of the Early Years Inclusion Project: July 2021

BACKGROUND

This information sharing system was developed as one outcome of the Early Years Inclusion Project, which sought to increase access to neighbourhood houses for families and children where disability is a barrier to engagement and participation in local choices.

The project also delivered a tool kit and a workshop which brought together specialist disability agency staff and neighbourhood houses.

From the outset of the project, neighbourhood houses were unclear about the 'demand' for services. What do these families and children, under the age of nine and living with a disability, want from neighbourhood houses? How many families... with what needs are out there?

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The project has developed an 'information system' which ensures that every six months Neighbourhood Houses Barwon network is provided with information sourced directly from families via the key specialist provider in the region. The idea is for neighbourhood houses and community / specialist providers to share this information and develop new opportunities in local communities.

A project supported by the Victorian Department of Families, Fairness and Housing

Designed, researched and published by:



Roger Hastrich Pty Ltd

PREAMBLE

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In addition, neighbourhood houses are generally not aware of the needs of these families. As a universal service, open to all in the community, neighbourhood houses are expected to understand and meet the needs of a diverse range of people within our diverse communities. Little wonder that few neighbourhood houses in our region have extensive experience with the disability community.

The purpose of this project was to explore the opportunities (rather than the barriers) that would bring together neighbourhood houses and families and the services specialising in disability support.

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- 3. Publishing a simple tool kit of ideas
- 4. Convening a major workshop to strengthen relationships between houses and providers, with a long term view to build partnerships that would generate local initiatives to meet local needs.

A further outcome of the project has been the design, development and trialling of this information system to increase awareness of the needs of these families and the opportunities for neighbourhood houses across the region.

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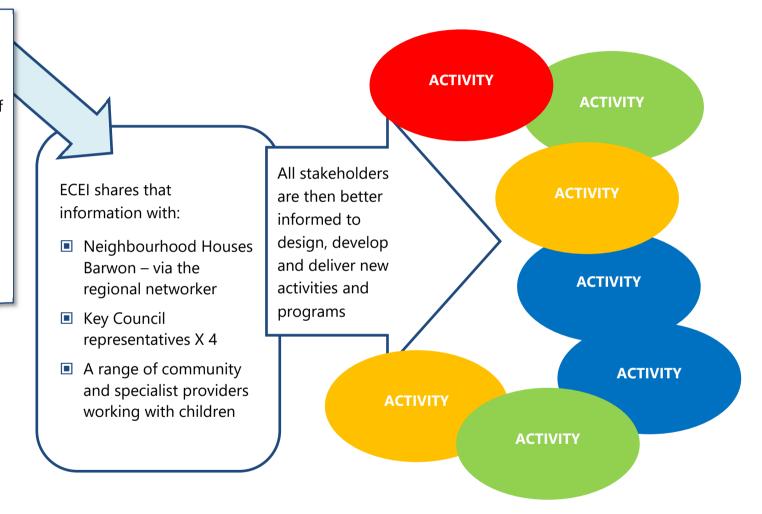
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Every six months the Barwon NDIS partner will collate and share information regarding the needs of families across all four Council areas of the region:

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This information system brings together a series of linked elements:

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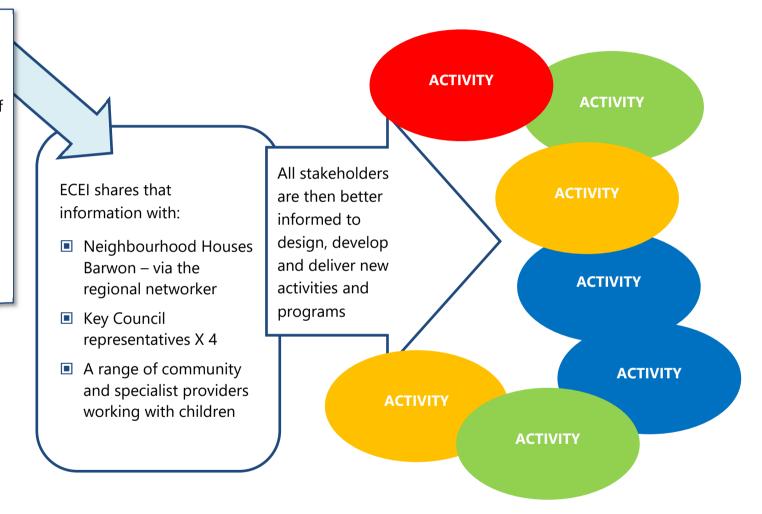
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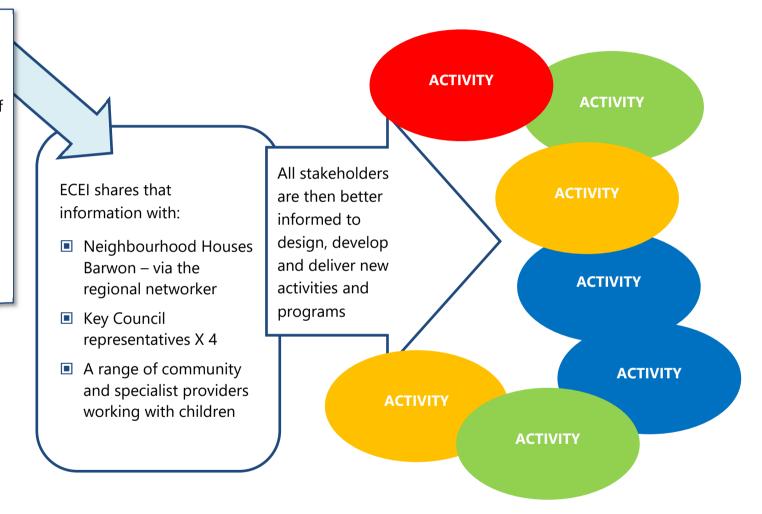
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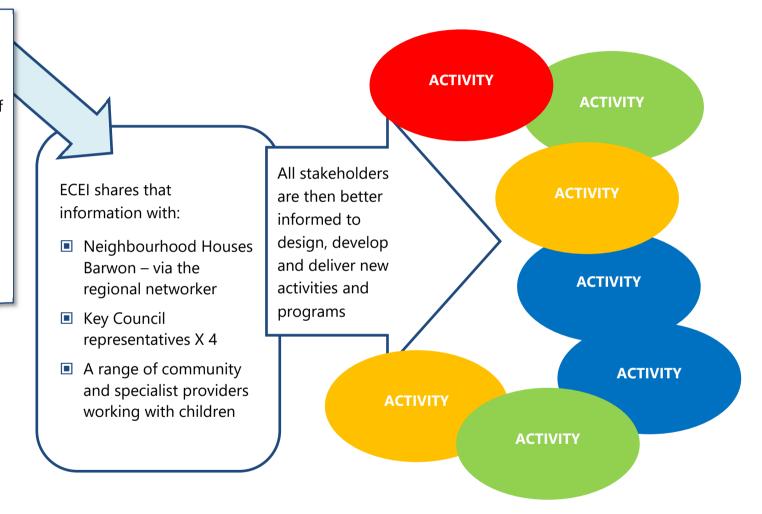
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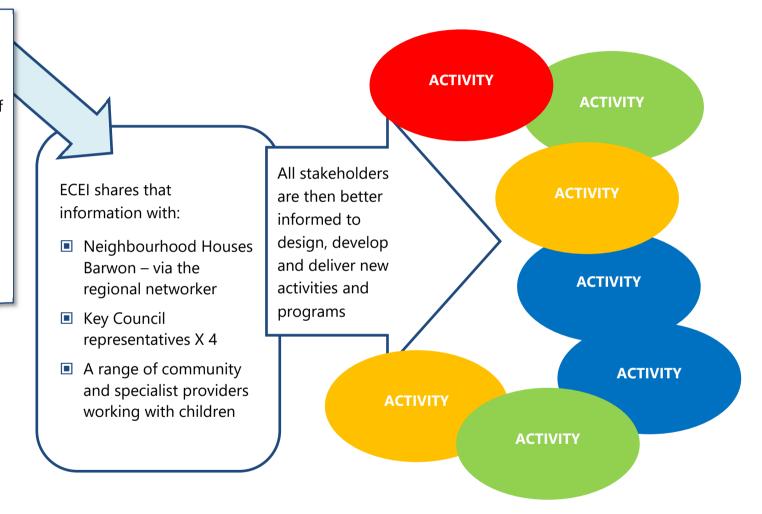
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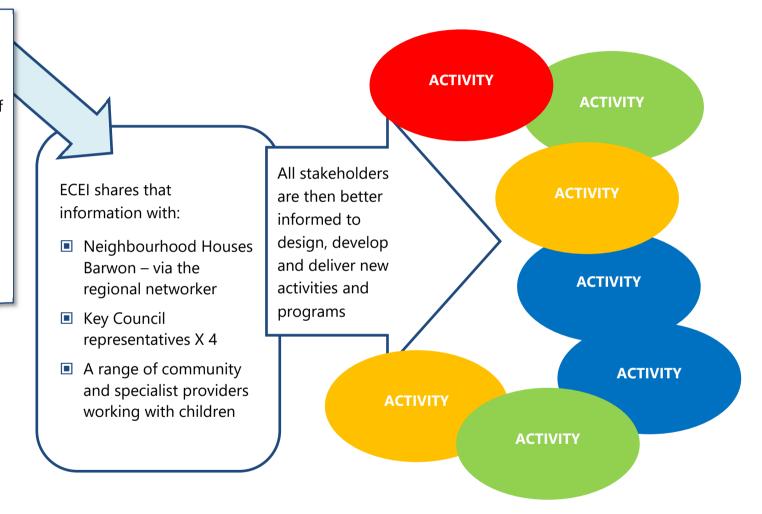
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- Proportions of age / gender
- Extent of current waiting lists
- Emerging trends what families are looking for next



CONCLUSION

This information system brings together a series of linked elements:

- Neighbourhood houses want to know more about local families
- As an NDIS partner BCYF have a role to increase the 'capacity' of the community to meet the needs of these families in the communities of their choice
- Community organisations and specialist providers working with children will be in a position to work with neighbourhood houses more effectively

Even more importantly, families and children will have greater access to a broader range of opportunities than before.

This may reduce travel time, as previously parents had to drive long distances for supports.

This may build local, informal networks of parents.

This may enable a broad range of new group in the community to connect with both neighbourhood houses and families.

The project acknowledges:

The support of the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing

The member Neighbourhoods Houses of the Network

BCYF, as the Barwon ECEI partner

Those Councils and specialist providers who contributed to this project.

July 2021

INFORMATION SYSTEM

An outcome of the Early Years Inclusion Project: July 2021

BACKGROUND

This information sharing system was developed as one outcome of the Early Years Inclusion Project, which sought to increase access to neighbourhood houses for families and children where disability is a barrier to engagement and participation in local choices.

The project also delivered a tool kit and a workshop which brought together specialist disability agency staff and neighbourhood houses.

From the outset of the project, neighbourhood houses were unclear about the 'demand' for services. What do these families and children, under the age of nine and living with a disability, want from neighbourhood houses? How many families... with what needs are out there?

THE NEED

THE SYSTEM

The project has developed an 'information system' which ensures that every six months Neighbourhood Houses Barwon network is provided with information sourced directly from families via the key specialist provider in the region. The idea is for neighbourhood houses and community / specialist providers to share this information and develop new opportunities in local communities.

A project supported by the Victorian Department of Families, Fairness and Housing

Designed, researched and published by:



Roger Hastrich Pty Ltd

PREAMBLE

This project arose from a desire to increase access to neighbourhood houses across the Barwon region for children aged 0 to nine years and their families, where a disability has been a barrier.

A consultation process for the project revealed that parents of these children were often exhausted and acutely aware of being judged. Combined, these barriers were liable to reduce the likelihood of parents reaching out to community services, such as neighbourhood houses.

In addition, neighbourhood houses are generally not aware of the needs of these families. As a universal service, open to all in the community, neighbourhood houses are expected to understand and meet the needs of a diverse range of people within our diverse communities. Little wonder that few neighbourhood houses in our region have extensive experience with the disability community.

The purpose of this project was to explore the opportunities (rather than the barriers) that would bring together neighbourhood houses and families and the services specialising in disability support.

The project has involved four stages:

- Scoping the project with neighbourhood houses, which
 revealed that several houses had considerable experience in
 their local community with families in the situation; whereas
 other houses were unsure of where to start.
- 2. **Consultation with service providers**, which highlighted the needs of families and some enablers to increasing access.
- 3. Publishing a simple tool kit of ideas
- 4. Convening a major workshop to strengthen relationships between houses and providers, with a long term view to build partnerships that would generate local initiatives to meet local needs.

A further outcome of the project has been the design, development and trialling of this information system to increase awareness of the needs of these families and the opportunities for neighbourhood houses across the region.

WHAT IS THE THINKING BEHIND THIS 'INFORMATION SYSTEM'?

Neighbourhood houses across the Barwon region have expressed an interest in knowing more about the needs of children and families where disability is a barrier to participation.

There are some clear challenges here:

- Disabilities are varied, numerous and complex neighbourhood houses are universally available to everyone, but there is no capacity to 'specialise' in disability
- Some neighbourhood houses have limited experience with people living with a disability, let alone children and families where disability is a barrier to participation and engagement
- Neighbourhood houses have a limited knowledge of specialist providers across the region, and it seems that specialist providers have limited knowledge of neighbourhood houses
- Neighbourhood houses are great local venues for all sorts of activities...but what activities?
- Neighbourhood houses are keen to welcome these families – but have no direct resources.

The overall goal of this information system is to provide background information to both neighbourhood houses and specialist providers that would improve planning, development and delivery of a wide range of new activities and programs.

The critical source of information is the Early Childhood Early Intervention (ECEI) program which is an initiative of the NDIS and delivered by Barwon Children Youth and Family Services.

Each year ECEI staff support over 1,000 children who are experiencing developmental delay or the effects of a disability (with or without diagnosis) with a view to understanding and then meeting the support needs of the child and the family. Preferably these support needs should be met in the local community of choice.

Naturally, the information collected from each family is confidential.

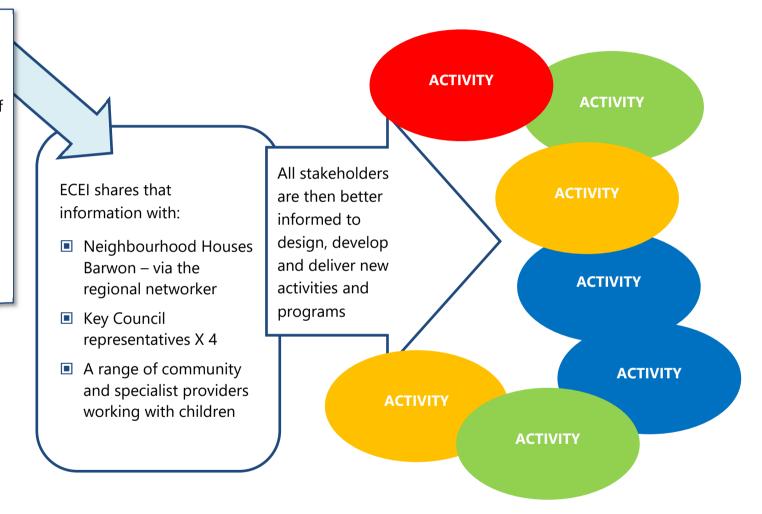
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Every six months the Barwon NDIS partner will collate and share information regarding the needs of families across all four Council areas of the region:

- Proportions of age / gender
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July 2021

INFORMATION SYSTEM

An outcome of the Early Years Inclusion Project: July 2021

BACKGROUND

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A project supported by the Victorian Department of Families, Fairness and Housing

Designed, researched and published by:



Roger Hastrich Pty Ltd

This project arose from a desire to increase access to neighbourhood houses across the Barwon region for children aged 0 to nine years and their families, where a disability has been a barrier.

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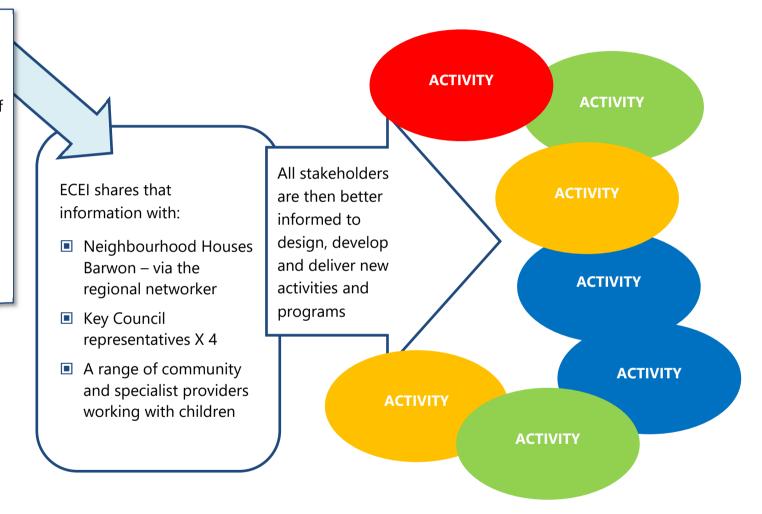
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July 2021

EARLY YEARS INCLUSION

INFORMATION SYSTEM

An outcome of the Early Years Inclusion Project: July 2021

BACKGROUND

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A project supported by the Victorian Department of Families, Fairness and Housing

Designed, researched and published by:



Roger Hastrich Pty Ltd

Consultancy service 0419 583 561 rh@rhastrich.com www.rogerhastrich.com

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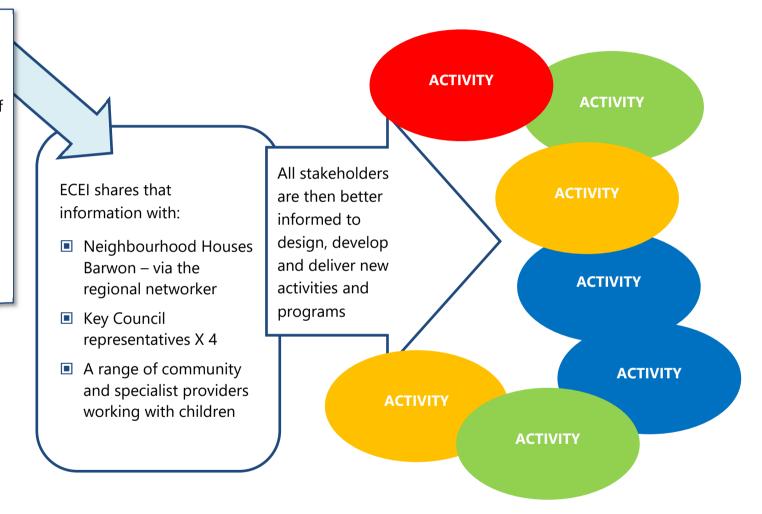
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Those Councils and specialist providers who contributed to this project.

July 2021

EARLY YEARS INCLUSION

INFORMATION SYSTEM

An outcome of the Early Years Inclusion Project: July 2021

BACKGROUND

This information sharing system was developed as one outcome of the Early Years Inclusion Project, which sought to increase access to neighbourhood houses for families and children where disability is a barrier to engagement and participation in local choices.

The project also delivered a tool kit and a workshop which brought together specialist disability agency staff and neighbourhood houses.

From the outset of the project, neighbourhood houses were unclear about the 'demand' for services. What do these families and children, under the age of nine and living with a disability, want from neighbourhood houses? How many families... with what needs are out there?

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A project supported by the Victorian Department of Families, Fairness and Housing

Designed, researched and published by:



Roger Hastrich Pty Ltd

Consultancy service 0419 583 561 rh@rhastrich.com www.rogerhastrich.com

This project arose from a desire to increase access to neighbourhood houses across the Barwon region for children aged 0 to nine years and their families, where a disability has been a barrier.

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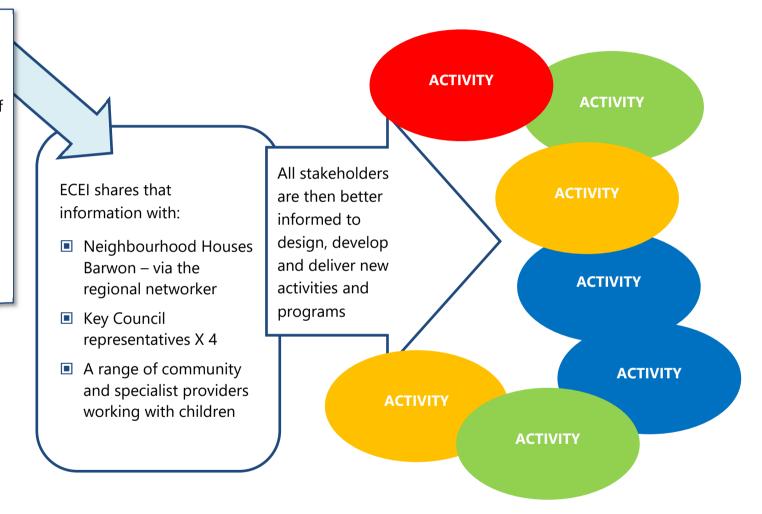
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Every six months the Barwon NDIS partner will collate and share information regarding the needs of families across all four Council areas of the region:

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July 2021

EARLY YEARS INCLUSION

INFORMATION SYSTEM

An outcome of the Early Years Inclusion Project: July 2021

BACKGROUND

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A project supported by the Victorian Department of Families, Fairness and Housing

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This project arose from a desire to increase access to neighbourhood houses across the Barwon region for children aged 0 to nine years and their families, where a disability has been a barrier.

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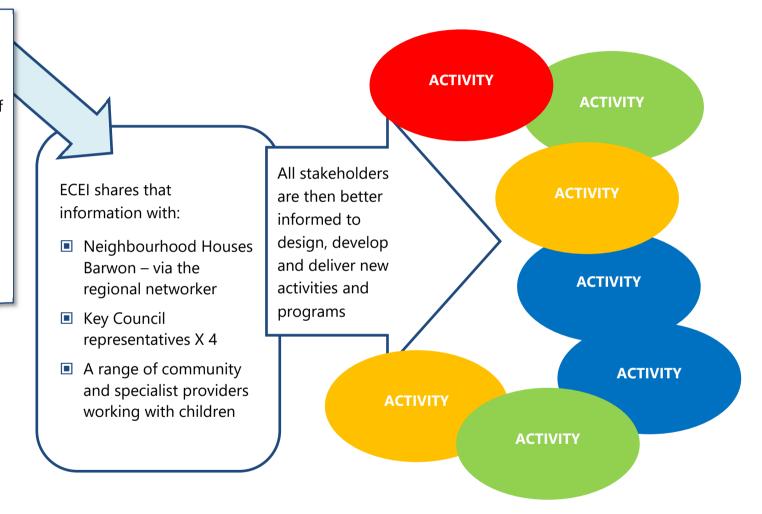
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July 2021

EARLY YEARS INCLUSION

INFORMATION SYSTEM

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Each year ECEI staff support over 1,000 children who are experiencing developmental delay or the effects of a disability (with or without diagnosis) with a view to understanding and then meeting the support needs of the child and the family. Preferably these support needs should be met in the local community of choice.

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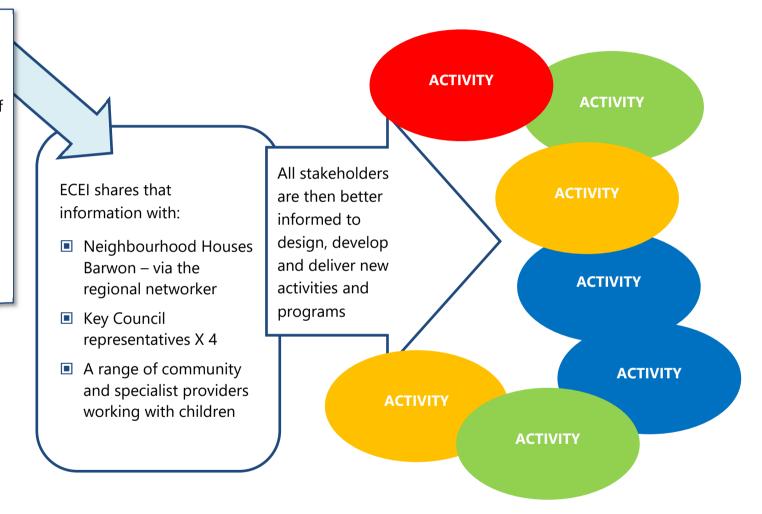
ECEI is, however, able to provide broad community information in addition to new data sets published by the NDIS.

This information system enables ECEI to share information every six months to build the capacity of neighbourhood houses, community supports, specialist providers and families.

THE INFORMATION SYSTEM AT A GLANCE

Every six months the Barwon NDIS partner will collate and share information regarding the needs of families across all four Council areas of the region:

- Proportions of age / gender
- Extent of current waiting lists
- Emerging trends what families are looking for next



CONCLUSION

This information system brings together a series of linked elements:

- Neighbourhood houses want to know more about local families
- As an NDIS partner BCYF have a role to increase the 'capacity' of the community to meet the needs of these families in the communities of their choice
- Community organisations and specialist providers working with children will be in a position to work with neighbourhood houses more effectively

Even more importantly, families and children will have greater access to a broader range of opportunities than before.

This may reduce travel time, as previously parents had to drive long distances for supports.

This may build local, informal networks of parents.

This may enable a broad range of new group in the community to connect with both neighbourhood houses and families.

The project acknowledges:

The support of the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing

The member Neighbourhoods Houses of the Network

BCYF, as the Barwon ECEI partner

Those Councils and specialist providers who contributed to this project.

July 2021

EARLY YEARS INCLUSION

INFORMATION SYSTEM

An outcome of the Early Years Inclusion Project: July 2021

BACKGROUND

This information sharing system was developed as one outcome of the Early Years Inclusion Project, which sought to increase access to neighbourhood houses for families and children where disability is a barrier to engagement and participation in local choices.

The project also delivered a tool kit and a workshop which brought together specialist disability agency staff and neighbourhood houses.

From the outset of the project, neighbourhood houses were unclear about the 'demand' for services. What do these families and children, under the age of nine and living with a disability, want from neighbourhood houses? How many families... with what needs are out there?

THE NEED

THE SYSTEM

The project has developed an 'information system' which ensures that every six months Neighbourhood Houses Barwon network is provided with information sourced directly from families via the key specialist provider in the region. The idea is for neighbourhood houses and community / specialist providers to share this information and develop new opportunities in local communities.

A project supported by the Victorian Department of Families, Fairness and Housing

Designed, researched and published by:



Roger Hastrich Pty Ltd

Consultancy service 0419 583 561 rh@rhastrich.com www.rogerhastrich.com

This project arose from a desire to increase access to neighbourhood houses across the Barwon region for children aged 0 to nine years and their families, where a disability has been a barrier.

A consultation process for the project revealed that parents of these children were often exhausted and acutely aware of being judged. Combined, these barriers were liable to reduce the likelihood of parents reaching out to community services, such as neighbourhood houses.

In addition, neighbourhood houses are generally not aware of the needs of these families. As a universal service, open to all in the community, neighbourhood houses are expected to understand and meet the needs of a diverse range of people within our diverse communities. Little wonder that few neighbourhood houses in our region have extensive experience with the disability community.

The purpose of this project was to explore the opportunities (rather than the barriers) that would bring together neighbourhood houses and families and the services specialising in disability support.

The project has involved four stages:

- Scoping the project with neighbourhood houses, which
 revealed that several houses had considerable experience in
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- 2. **Consultation with service providers**, which highlighted the needs of families and some enablers to increasing access.
- 3. Publishing a simple tool kit of ideas
- 4. Convening a major workshop to strengthen relationships between houses and providers, with a long term view to build partnerships that would generate local initiatives to meet local needs.

WHAT IS THE THINKING BEHIND THIS 'INFORMATION SYSTEM'?

Neighbourhood houses across the Barwon region have expressed an interest in knowing more about the needs of children and families where disability is a barrier to participation.

There are some clear challenges here:

- Disabilities are varied, numerous and complex neighbourhood houses are universally available to everyone, but there is no capacity to 'specialise' in disability
- Some neighbourhood houses have limited experience with people living with a disability, let alone children and families where disability is a barrier to participation and engagement
- Neighbourhood houses have a limited knowledge of specialist providers across the region, and it seems that specialist providers have limited knowledge of neighbourhood houses
- Neighbourhood houses are great local venues for all sorts of activities...but what activities?
- Neighbourhood houses are keen to welcome these families – but have no direct resources.

The overall goal of this information system is to provide background information to both neighbourhood houses and specialist providers that would improve planning, development and delivery of a wide range of new activities and programs.

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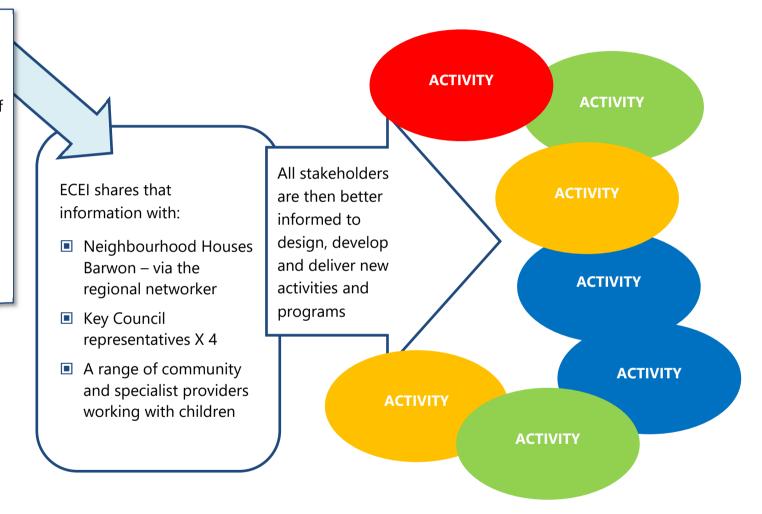
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THE INFORMATION SYSTEM AT A GLANCE

Every six months the Barwon NDIS partner will collate and share information regarding the needs of families across all four Council areas of the region:

- Proportions of age / gender
- Extent of current waiting lists
- Emerging trends what families are looking for next



CONCLUSION

This information system brings together a series of linked elements:

- Neighbourhood houses want to know more about local families
- As an NDIS partner BCYF have a role to increase the 'capacity' of the community to meet the needs of these families in the communities of their choice
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BCYF, as the Barwon ECEI partner

Those Councils and specialist providers who contributed to this project.

July 2021

EARLY YEARS INCLUSION

INFORMATION SYSTEM

An outcome of the Early Years Inclusion Project: July 2021

BACKGROUND

This information sharing system was developed as one outcome of the Early Years Inclusion Project, which sought to increase access to neighbourhood houses for families and children where disability is a barrier to engagement and participation in local choices.

The project also delivered a tool kit and a workshop which brought together specialist disability agency staff and neighbourhood houses.

From the outset of the project, neighbourhood houses were unclear about the 'demand' for services. What do these families and children, under the age of nine and living with a disability, want from neighbourhood houses? How many families... with what needs are out there?

THE NEED

THE SYSTEM

The project has developed an 'information system' which ensures that every six months Neighbourhood Houses Barwon network is provided with information sourced directly from families via the key specialist provider in the region. The idea is for neighbourhood houses and community / specialist providers to share this information and develop new opportunities in local communities.

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Designed, researched and published by:



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This project arose from a desire to increase access to neighbourhood houses across the Barwon region for children aged 0 to nine years and their families, where a disability has been a barrier.

A consultation process for the project revealed that parents of these children were often exhausted and acutely aware of being judged. Combined, these barriers were liable to reduce the likelihood of parents reaching out to community services, such as neighbourhood houses.

In addition, neighbourhood houses are generally not aware of the needs of these families. As a universal service, open to all in the community, neighbourhood houses are expected to understand and meet the needs of a diverse range of people within our diverse communities. Little wonder that few neighbourhood houses in our region have extensive experience with the disability community.

The purpose of this project was to explore the opportunities (rather than the barriers) that would bring together neighbourhood houses and families and the services specialising in disability support.

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There are some clear challenges here:

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- Some neighbourhood houses have limited experience with people living with a disability, let alone children and families where disability is a barrier to participation and engagement
- Neighbourhood houses have a limited knowledge of specialist providers across the region, and it seems that specialist providers have limited knowledge of neighbourhood houses
- Neighbourhood houses are great local venues for all sorts of activities...but what activities?
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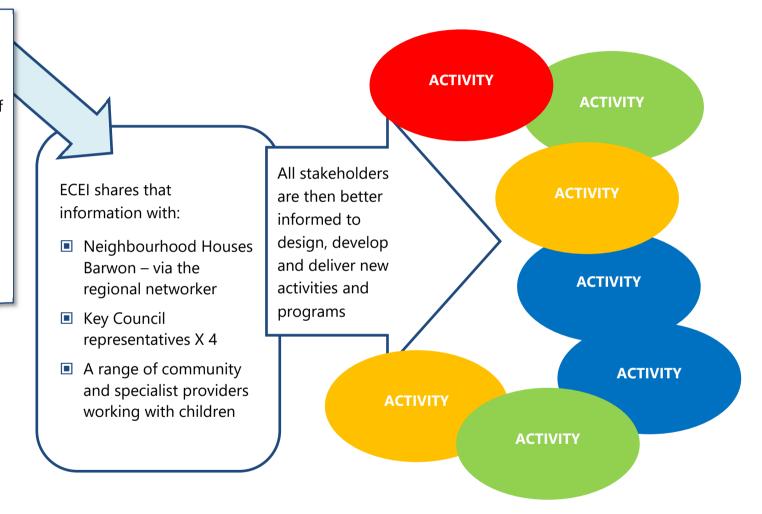
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Every six months the Barwon NDIS partner will collate and share information regarding the needs of families across all four Council areas of the region:

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Those Councils and specialist providers who contributed to this project.

July 2021

EARLY YEARS INCLUSION

INFORMATION SYSTEM

An outcome of the Early Years Inclusion Project: July 2021

BACKGROUND

This information sharing system was developed as one outcome of the Early Years Inclusion Project, which sought to increase access to neighbourhood houses for families and children where disability is a barrier to engagement and participation in local choices.

The project also delivered a tool kit and a workshop which brought together specialist disability agency staff and neighbourhood houses.

From the outset of the project, neighbourhood houses were unclear about the 'demand' for services. What do these families and children, under the age of nine and living with a disability, want from neighbourhood houses? How many families... with what needs are out there?

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THE SYSTEM

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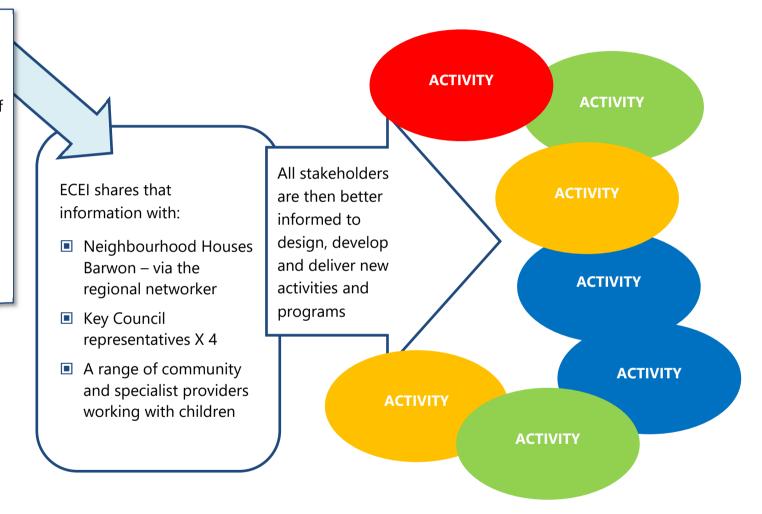
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EARLY YEARS INCLUSION

INFORMATION SYSTEM

An outcome of the Early Years Inclusion Project: July 2021

BACKGROUND

This information sharing system was developed as one outcome of the Early Years Inclusion Project, which sought to increase access to neighbourhood houses for families and children where disability is a barrier to engagement and participation in local choices.

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PREAMBLE

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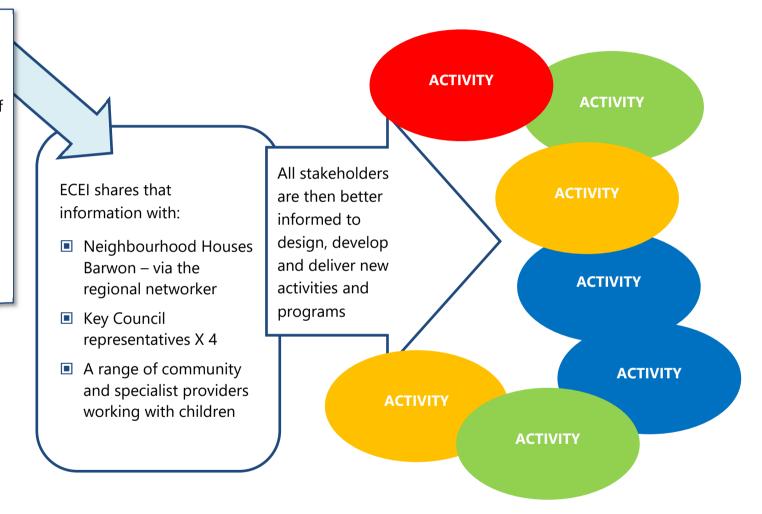
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- Proportions of age / gender
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This information system brings together a series of linked elements:

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EARLY YEARS INCLUSION

INFORMATION SYSTEM

An outcome of the Early Years Inclusion Project: July 2021

BACKGROUND

This information sharing system was developed as one outcome of the Early Years Inclusion Project, which sought to increase access to neighbourhood houses for families and children where disability is a barrier to engagement and participation in local choices.

The project also delivered a tool kit and a workshop which brought together specialist disability agency staff and neighbourhood houses.

From the outset of the project, neighbourhood houses were unclear about the 'demand' for services. What do these families and children, under the age of nine and living with a disability, want from neighbourhood houses? How many families... with what needs are out there?

THE NEED

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Designed, researched and published by:



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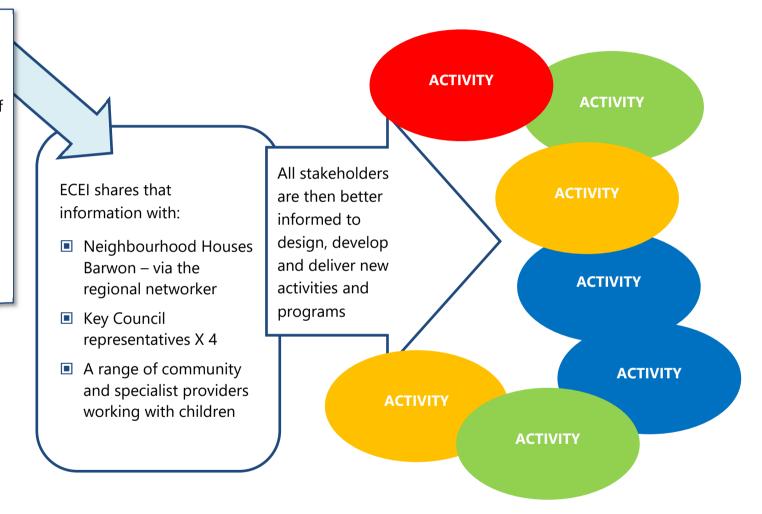
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EARLY YEARS INCLUSION

INFORMATION SYSTEM

An outcome of the Early Years Inclusion Project: July 2021

BACKGROUND

This information sharing system was developed as one outcome of the Early Years Inclusion Project, which sought to increase access to neighbourhood houses for families and children where disability is a barrier to engagement and participation in local choices.

The project also delivered a tool kit and a workshop which brought together specialist disability agency staff and neighbourhood houses.

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- Neighbourhood houses are great local venues for all sorts of activities...but what activities?
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The overall goal of this information system is to provide background information to both neighbourhood houses and specialist providers that would improve planning, development and delivery of a wide range of new activities and programs.

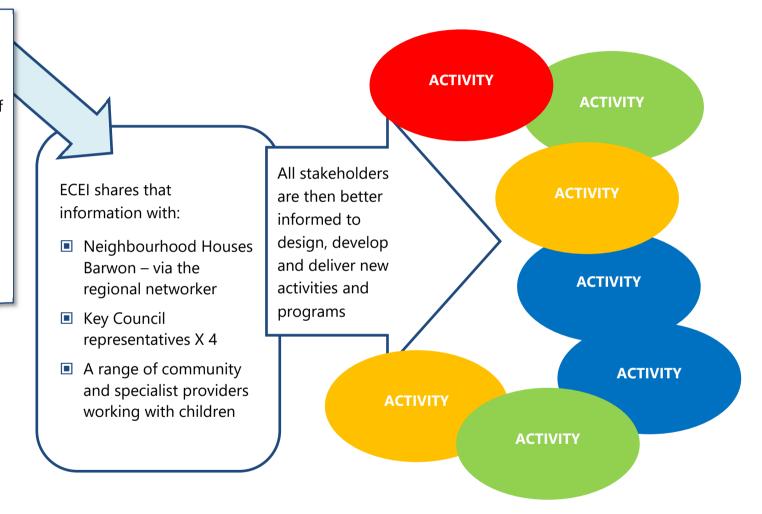
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- Proportions of age / gender
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This information system brings together a series of linked elements:

- Neighbourhood houses want to know more about local families
- As an NDIS partner BCYF have a role to increase the 'capacity' of the community to meet the needs of these families in the communities of their choice
- Community organisations and specialist providers working with children will be in a position to work with neighbourhood houses more effectively

Even more importantly, families and children will have greater access to a broader range of opportunities than before.

This may reduce travel time, as previously parents had to drive long distances for supports.

This may build local, informal networks of parents.

This may enable a broad range of new group in the community to connect with both neighbourhood houses and families.

The project acknowledges:

The support of the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing

The member Neighbourhoods Houses of the Network

BCYF, as the Barwon ECEI partner

Those Councils and specialist providers who contributed to this project.

EARLY YEARS INCLUSION

INFORMATION SYSTEM

An outcome of the Early Years Inclusion Project: July 2021

BACKGROUND

This information sharing system was developed as one outcome of the Early Years Inclusion Project, which sought to increase access to neighbourhood houses for families and children where disability is a barrier to engagement and participation in local choices.

The project also delivered a tool kit and a workshop which brought together specialist disability agency staff and neighbourhood houses.

From the outset of the project, neighbourhood houses were unclear about the 'demand' for services. What do these families and children, under the age of nine and living with a disability, want from neighbourhood houses? How many families... with what needs are out there?

THE NEED

THE SYSTEM

The project has developed an 'information system' which ensures that every six months Neighbourhood Houses Barwon network is provided with information sourced directly from families via the key specialist provider in the region. The idea is for neighbourhood houses and community / specialist providers to share this information and develop new opportunities in local communities.

A project supported by the Victorian Department of Families, Fairness and Housing

Designed, researched and published by:



Roger Hastrich Pty Ltd

Consultancy service 0419 583 561 rh@rhastrich.com www.rogerhastrich.com

PREAMBLE

This project arose from a desire to increase access to neighbourhood houses across the Barwon region for children aged 0 to nine years and their families, where a disability has been a barrier.

A consultation process for the project revealed that parents of these children were often exhausted and acutely aware of being judged. Combined, these barriers were liable to reduce the likelihood of parents reaching out to community services, such as neighbourhood houses.

In addition, neighbourhood houses are generally not aware of the needs of these families. As a universal service, open to all in the community, neighbourhood houses are expected to understand and meet the needs of a diverse range of people within our diverse communities. Little wonder that few neighbourhood houses in our region have extensive experience with the disability community.

The purpose of this project was to explore the opportunities (rather than the barriers) that would bring together neighbourhood houses and families and the services specialising in disability support.

The project has involved four stages:

- Scoping the project with neighbourhood houses, which
 revealed that several houses had considerable experience in
 their local community with families in the situation; whereas
 other houses were unsure of where to start.
- 2. **Consultation with service providers**, which highlighted the needs of families and some enablers to increasing access.
- 3. Publishing a simple tool kit of ideas
- 4. Convening a major workshop to strengthen relationships between houses and providers, with a long term view to build partnerships that would generate local initiatives to meet local needs.

A further outcome of the project has been the design, development and trialling of this information system to increase awareness of the needs of these families and the opportunities for neighbourhood houses across the region.

Neighbourhood houses across the Barwon region have expressed an interest in knowing more about the needs of children and families where disability is a barrier to participation.

There are some clear challenges here:

- Disabilities are varied, numerous and complex neighbourhood houses are universally available to everyone, but there is no capacity to 'specialise' in disability
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- Neighbourhood houses have a limited knowledge of specialist providers across the region, and it seems that specialist providers have limited knowledge of neighbourhood houses
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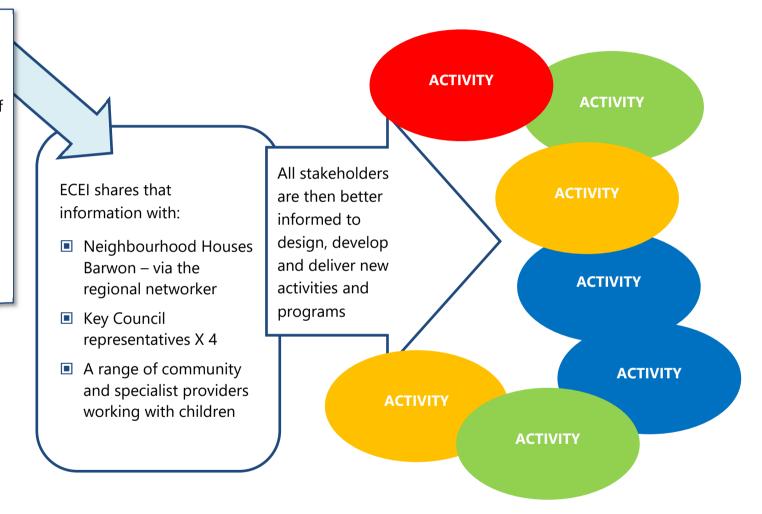
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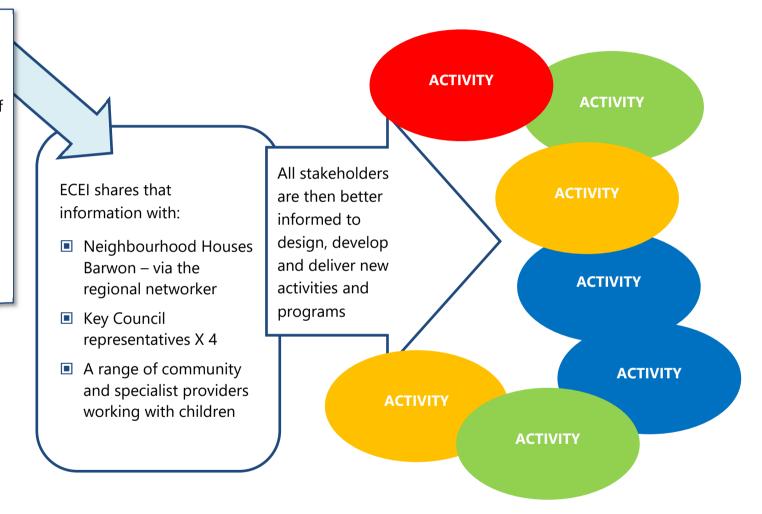
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