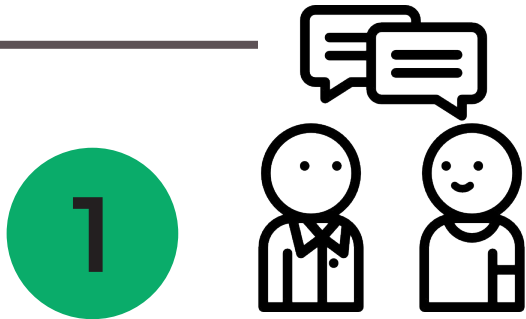




getting
started

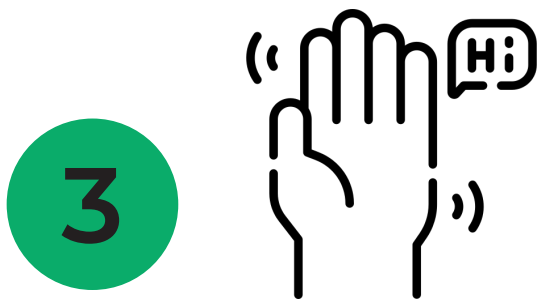
How does a Street Team work?



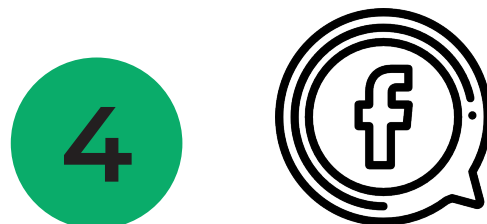
Get in touch with the people on your street using our resources to help you get started.



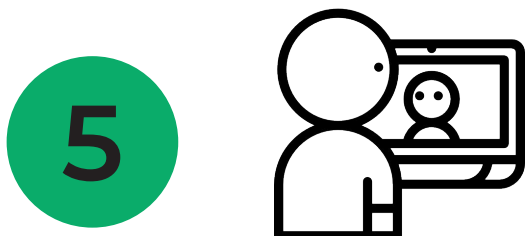
Set up a communication channel so you can all stay in touch.



Work with your Street Team to make sure neighbours know each other, help each other and maybe even have some fun together!



Connect with other Street Teams on our Facebook group and reach out to the Vic Park Community Centre to share ideas and resources.



Keep connecting within your Street Team to support people and make those activities happen.

What is a Street Team?

A Street Team is a group of neighbours who come together to support each other and connect.

It's being a neighbour (sometimes a helper – but also a helpee)

At any time in our lives, each of us could be someone who gives help or someone who needs help. A Street Team starts as a point of connection and becomes a way for us to get to know each other, help each other out and build a network of neighbours.

It's very local

Street Teams encourages you to focus on the people in your immediate area - your street or block, 20 households or so. It's easier to notice those doing it tough and to connect at this scale. Being close by makes helping more practical!

It's open to everyone

A Street Team extends the invitation to everyone in your street. Of course, not everyone will want to join in and that's totally fine! Some people might want to be actively involved and some may just want to connect to get to know people and that's fine too. Sometimes the people who need the most help are the least likely to ask, so getting to know each other is a good first step towards noticing ways to give each other a hand.

It turns connection to action

Once you've met the people in your street, your Street Team will find ways to come together and support each other. You might do things like:

- Organise fun activities in your street
- Get communal resources going - maybe a herb garden for all to pick from?
- Check in on people who live alone, especially older people who might need some help or a friendly face to pop in for a cuppa
- Help neighbours by sharing skills and tools, providing tech support or dog walking
- Make meals to share with neighbours, especially if you notice someone who would appreciate a home cooked meal and a chat
- Share recommendations for local resources (the GP you love, the local kindy, the best restaurants on the strip, where to recycle difficult items)
- Help out with verge replanting and other projects.

Who is running all of this?

You are! But we are here to help, providing resources and encouragement so that you and your Street Team can revive that village feeling in your Carlisle street.

And who are we? The **Vic Park Community Centre** is a small non-profit organisation that has operated out of the Leisurelife complex since 1993. Like so many centres, we are adapting to changes in our communities - we've hosted many a playgroup in the past and we have 2 rooms for hire, but we realise that now the power of community is on the street. So we're coming out of our centre to meet you on your street to make the connection happen.

The Street Teams initiative was created by **Chorus**, a local community organisation that believes in activating local communities to provide connections and informal care.

Carlisle Street Teams will support you and your team with resources, helpful tips and a Facebook group where you can connect with other Street Teams to share ideas and keep each other motivated. We want to make Western Australia a more caring place to live, one street at a time, starting right here in Carlisle.

Getting your street team started

1

Read the Pack

Have a look through this pack and get ready to connect with your street.

2

Create a communication channel for your group

Create your communication channel – a Facebook or WhatsApp group will be great for the tech savvy. Something like “Star Street Team” (so it's easy to find). You'll need to work out a way to keep those without social media connected through phone calls or visits.

3

Make your cards

In your pack are some cards that you can leave in people's letter boxes.

4

Do a door-knock, or leave cards in the letterbox

If you feel comfortable, go door to door and knock to say hi. Have a chat and ask if people want to be involved. Leave one of the cards if no one answers, or if you're not comfortable door knocking.

5

Fill out your Street Team map

Fill out your Street Team map, collect phone numbers and help people join your communication channel. Identify people like the elderly who might need some help in the future. Phone numbers will be really important if you aren't able to door knock in the future.

6

Open the lines of communication

Send a message to your new Street Team WhatsApp or Facebook group. Use phone numbers to text an invitation to the group. This will be your main channel to coordinate help and to make sure everyone has the support they need.

7

Fill us in

We will give you a call a week after you register to see if you need any support and so we can find out where you went. (We just want to keep track of which Carlisle houses are in a team so we can make sure people aren't hitting the same patch!)

What should I say? A guide to a great door knock.

Yep – door knocking is for people selling stuff, right? It feels a bit weird, but you can do it! Be brave and start your team.

Knock loudly enough to be heard

Because we aren't used to it anymore, our knocks can be a bit tentative. Knock loudly enough (but not so loud that they think you're the cops).

Step back from the door to give your neighbour plenty of space

If no one answers, leave a card.

Be yourself

We've given you some ideas on what to say, but above all be yourself!

Say hi!

"Hi, my name is Jess, I'm from number 36. We are starting a Street Team so we can get to know each other better and look out for each other. I'm wondering if you'd be interested in connecting?"

Explain the team

"We want to connect the neighbours in the street using Facebook and some phone calls. There might be some people in the street who might need extra support or who are a bit lonely, plus it will be great if we all get to know each other a little better! The Street Team will help us to support each other and maybe plan some fun things too"

Use this time to get people's info on the map and to sign them up to your online group

Notice if they might need help

We might all need some help from time to time but some are particularly vulnerable. Older Aussies, people who are isolated, single parents. Ask some questions but be sensitive, no one wants to feel like a victim:

"Are you currently working?"

"Do you have people around who can help you out if you need anything?"

Make an offer of support

We are noticing that most people don't really want to ask for help – we prefer to be self-reliant, so don't expect requests for help at this stage, that'll come later.

"If you need anything, here is my number, I'm honestly really happy to help out if things get tough for you."

"Would you mind if I checked in with you every now and then, just to check everything is all good? What's the best way?"

"I'll see you online?"

Leave a card

Leave behind one of your connection cards so they have your details.

Street Team record

This record will help you track the basic things you'll need in connecting the people on your street. If you have a way that suits you better, go for it!

Draw your street map (if it helps) – add the house numbers

[illegible]

Street Team record

[illegible]

Hi Neighbour!



**Street Teams
Carlisle**
streetteamscarlisle.com

My name is _____

I live locally at _____

We are starting a Street Team in Carlisle so we can get to know our neighbours and look out for each other. I'm wondering if you'd be interested in connecting? We will make sure people on our street know each other, feel comfortable asking for and offering help, and maybe organise fun things on the street.

My phone number is _____

and I'd love to hear from you. If you need anything now, don't hesitate to ask. Text me and I can add you to our group chat. If you don't have the internet, we can connect by phone, feel free to call me!

Town of Victoria Park

The Town can help with issues related to infrastructure, waste, lost pets. It provides Library services, gym, pool, and it supports several community groups. Phone (08) 9311 8111 during business hours or (08) 9311 8188 for emergencies after hours.

Victoria Park Community Centre

We are your local community centre, and we facilitate Street Teams in Carlisle. Next door to Leisurelife, we have rooms for hire, free meals on Monday evenings, playgroups, yoga classes and even an orchestra. Phone (08) 9361 1999 or visit vicparkcc.org.au

Meals on Wheels

Harold Hawthorne Community Centre here in Carlisle offers Home and Community Support - including meals on wheels for people over 65. Phone (08) 9479 1155 or visit www.hhcentre.org

Community Services

Chorus provides aged care, disability and mental health services, and their head office is on Planet Street. Phone 1800 264 268 or visit www.chorus.org.au

Books on Wheels

Town of Victoria Park Library operates a books-on-wheels service to residents and their carers who are physically unable to visit the library. Phone (08) 9373 5500 or email vicparklibrary@vicpark.wa.gov.au

Star Street Uniting Church

Offers emergency food relief for those in need. Phone (08) 9479 3218 or visit www.unitingchurchwa.org.au/victoriapark/

Carlisle Community

A private Facebook group with more than 2,000 members for general community discussion: ask questions, seek advice, debate the origins of Carlisle's infamous Toast Ghost. Visit www.facebook.com/groups/CarlisleCommunity

Buy Nothing Carlisle

Around 900 Carlisians are part of this private Facebook group where they give away, receive, share and lend stuff among neighbours, and express gratitude. Visit www.facebook.com/groups/194518371331710/

**...stick me to the fridge in
case I'm needed later**

Formal Services Information

If yourself or someone you know might be in need some extra assistance. Here's a list of formal services that might be able to help.

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