

Case study | Enriching a Hub

Growing a Hub—ways to make it thrive

Learn more about Community Hubs with these real-life examples. In this case study, Fahriye Yilmaz, coordinator of Coolaroo South Primary Hub, tells us how she's working with her school and community to grow and sustain her Hub.

What was the challenge?

Looking for new funding opportunities is a priority. But more importantly, a Hub can't grow if it operates in isolation from the school. It can't grow if the school's leadership team and teachers don't know what you're doing at the Hub. We try to embed the Hub through the whole school and we work actively with school staff. When our seed funding ran out the school was able to find new funding sources for us.

What worked? What didn't?

We're working with the school on the KidsMatter mental health and wellbeing program, a school-based program that's added an extra layer of community engagement. We also attend the school's professional development sessions once every few months. I'm invited to the staff meetings to give a rundown on what we're doing, what programs are going on, what topics our parenting workshop is covering. The reality is that parents sometimes go to a teacher if they have a problem. So teachers are able to refer parents to us. When Hub workers feel isolated from the school this sort of thing doesn't happen.

"Schools need to examine how they operate and find ways to embrace their hub."

Your advice?

Build a strong relationship with the school staff. Keep your networks with other services going, attend as many professional development sessions as you can. Be active in the community and part of a cluster of Community Hub workers.

View all case studies at
www.communityhubs.org.au/resources

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Community Hubs is a national program that links families and their preschool children to services and support, learning opportunities or the wider community. Community Hubs makes it easier for families to access the assistance they need by bringing local education, health, community and settlement information and services into a familiar and friendly place such as a school or community space.

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