

Southern Community Church of Christ and Cheltenham Community Centre Partnership

Southern Community Church of Christ and **Cheltenham Community Centre** have worked in creative partnership since 1986. Because both organisations believe they can achieve more together than they can working alone, they are committed to celebrating and developing the unique and diverse contributions that each organisation brings to the partnership.

Together, SCCC and CCC seek to enrich the experience of community for all people, offering access to a broad range of activities, programs, opportunities and resources to enable people of diverse backgrounds, abilities and interests to live life to the full.

The creative partnership between SCCC, a faith-based organisation, and CCC, a secular organisation, is grounded in their shared values (see below) and their shared mission to strengthen, resource and support the wider community. Each organisation brings expertise in some specific program areas (see below), and together they deliver a range of exciting partnership projects (see below). Through this creative partnership, CCC and SCCC have been able to develop, initiate and conduct a broader range of programs, offer a more meaningful experience of community, and provide a more expansive network of resources for the community.

Our **partnership projects** include:

- **Customer Service:** provision of a centralised, cohesive, and effective customer service to the community and all groups who use the facility
- **Festivals:** our Multicultural Festival of Creative Arts in March, Biggest Morning Tea in May, Children's Festival in October, and occasional breakfasts, concerts, forums and workshops
- **Soul Café:** our multicultural World Wednesday lunches in our community café
- **Cheltenham Labyrinth Garden:** development and maintenance of a labyrinth garden
- **Cheltenham Activity Hub:** working with other facility-based groups and organisations to further develop the scope and impact of resources and programs accessible through the SCCC/CCC facility
- **Facility Planning:** maintenance and development of the property and facility to support the life and program of the centre

In pursuit of the above SCCC and CCC hold to the following **shared values:**

- **welcoming:** a place where all people are welcomed, affirmed and invited to bring their whole selves, their dreams, their gifts and abilities, their vulnerabilities and their ideas.
- **learning:** a place where the concept of life-long learning is encouraged and resourced through the provision of programs, events, resources, networks, companionship and more, and where learning for life effectively integrates the journey of body, mind and soul.
- **creativity:** a place where the creativity of all people is stimulated through music, art, story, craft and more. All creative effort will be celebrated not judged.
- **harmony:** a place of unity in diversity, where people of all cultures and backgrounds experience genuine acceptance and freedom in a healthy and harmonious community