

## Better Together: The Value of NHT Membership

Being a member of NHT means being an active partner in strengthening the collective power of the Neighbourhood House Network.

Members work together with NHT to shape advocacy priorities, inform policy positions, and influence decisions that affect Neighbourhood Houses across Tasmania. While the outcomes of this collective advocacy benefit the broader sector, members play a central role in setting the direction, contributing expertise, and guiding the work undertaken on behalf of the broader network.

### 1. Advocacy and harnessing collective power

#### Advocacy

- Lobbying and campaigning collectively and in partnership to policy and decision makers.
- Liaising with key government agencies on matters important to Houses.
- Consultation and opportunities for input on issues common across communities, lobbying as a united member-voice to State and Federal decision makers.

#### Collective Opportunities

- **\*NEW!** Literacy Funding to support community literacy initiatives and improve access to Neighbourhood Houses through the NHT Perpetual Literacy Fund.
- **\*NEW!** Disaster preparedness and participation funded project for completing or reviewing emergency plans
- Collaborative submissions for funding to work in communities, e.g. *Community Connector Program*.
- Interface to Government and funders in response to specific events, e.g. *Resilience and Recovery Tasmania's emergency extreme weather grants*.
- Access to preferred providers and "group buy" opportunities. such as insurance, HR consultants, EAP providers, and auditors.
- Discounted workwear, uniforms and merchandise with [ID Clothing](#).
- Corporate donations and sponsorship (e.g. free refurbished laptops/monitors).
- Other opportunities or suggestions from members.

#### Additional membership benefits through:

- *Australian Neighbourhood Houses and Centres Association (ANHCA)* membership, with access to ANCHA's annual grant programs and Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) fund, and joining 1000+ other Neighbourhood Houses in national advocacy on issues of joint interest.
- *Volunteering Tasmania* membership (normal value \$165 - \$385)
- *Tasmanian Chamber of Commerce and Industry* membership (normal value \$440)

#### State-wide Representation on Committees and Councils

- Neighbourhood House input into policy submissions, strategic processes and initiatives. Recent examples - Community Sector Peaks Network, Disaster Recovery Partners

Network, Tasmanian 20-year Preventative Health Strategy, Change for Children 10-year Strategy, Tasmanian Volunteer Strategy, Food Secure Tasmania.

## 2. Engagement

### Communication and promotion

- *The (every other) Monday* – fortnightly member-only newsletter
- NHT staff available via phone or email to answer questions and provide information
- The Neighbourhood House Brand Story and Toolkit
- Neighbourhood House Week promotional campaign and merchandise
- Coordinated media and activities to promote Neighbourhood Houses

### Partnerships and projects

- Working with community sector and corporate stakeholders, for example *Building a Safer Network* with Working It Out, and *The Healthies* with Health Promotion organisations.

### Consultations, and forums

Regular regional and statewide opportunities for members to connect, share, discuss, and contribute including:

- Free twice-yearly Statewide Leader's Forums for Managers/CEOs.
- Quarterly Regional Consultation Meetings.
- Online forums for Chairs and other board members, Managers, Community Gardeners, Community Connectors, Eating with Friends Coordinators.

## 3. Learning and development

### Annual NHT Conference

- One of the highlights of the year – connecting with other members and partners, learning and professional development, and lots of fun!

### Resources

- Suite of Neighbourhood House specific policies and procedures.
- Handbook for Neighbourhood House Boards.
- Community Development Toolkit.
- House operation guides.

### Training, workshops, and other sessions

- Free or heavily subsidised *Learning and Development Program* on key topics for example:
  - Leadership and governance,
  - Human Resources,
  - Place-Based community development,
  - Inclusion, cultural safety, and
  - Health and wellbeing.