

## PROJECT SUMMARIES

### WORKING GROUP: Pregnancy – 3 years

#### Objectives

1. Improve access to information to and awareness about existing family and children's services for new parents
2. Promote opportunities and develop strategies to build and enhance links and relationships between services and projects
3. Increase awareness about child / family friendly access throughout the local business community
4. Increase support options for parents through informal/ peer parenting groups

#### Indicators

1. Increase breastfeeding rates
2. Increase the number and rates of parents reading to their children

<b>PROJECT TITLE</b>	<b>SUMMARY</b>	<b>TIMELINES</b>
Develop information Packages for new parents	Develop / expand antenatal information kits and develop strategies to co-ordinate there distribution	2004 Priority
Develop links with other services to promote reading	Work with existing programs who are currently promoting child / parent reading (i.e. ROAR, Libraries etc) to develop strategies to co-ordinate new and existing service delivery across Ballarat.	2004 Priority
Promote the work of the Breast feeding Association	Develop formal links with the Breastfeeding Association to promote their activities more broadly	2004 Priority
Expand new mums / parents groups	Work with relevant groups to promote existing groups for new mums/parents groups .Explore opportunities to develop new groups and/or look at innovative ways to promote relationships between different groups	2004 Priority
Promote Family / Child friendly access throughout Ballarat	Increase awareness about the importance of ensuring that services, businesses, public venues etc are family friendly and develop strategies to improve family access across Ballarat.	Project Plan late 2004 /early 2005

## WORKING GROUP: 4 – 8 years

### Objectives

1. Promote and support the expansion of flexible parenting Programs
2. Increase awareness about and access to kindergarten
3. Enhance the transition of pre-schoolers to school
4. Enhance links and relationships between services, networks and projects working with 4-8 year olds

### Indicators

1. Increase participation rates of children attending pre-school
2. Increase immunization rates
3. Increase the rate and number of parents reading to their children

PROJECT TITLE	SUMMARY	TIMELINES
Enhancing flexible parenting programs	Promote existing parenting programs and resources available to all families of 4 - 8 years olds. Provide opportunities to strengthen links between service providers and explore the possibility of additional collaborative parenting projects.	2004 on-going
Promoting Kindergartens	Work collectively with Kindergartens, Schools and other service providers to promote the benefits of kinder and explore the barriers to access	2003 Priority <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pilot Project Wendouree West</li></ul>
Building links with service providers, projects and networks	Promote links within and between existing networks and specific services to promote the <b>Best Start</b> objectives and enhance information sharing about issues relevant to the Early Years	Early Priority

## WORKING GROUP: Health & Safety

### Objectives

1. To promote the health & wellbeing of families and communities
2. To enhance child safety

### Indicators

1. Promote community / local safety
2. Enhance Children's diet & Physical activity
3. Increase awareness of child safety issues and products
4. Reduce unintentional injuries
5. Increase awareness of about health & safety information and services

<b>PROJECT TITLE</b>	<b>SUMMARY</b>	<b>TIMELINES</b>
Organize a Family Play Day	Work collectively with a broad range of services to hold a Family Play Day in Ballarat. Provide a showcase of low/no cost activities that promote play ,safety, physical activities and healthy eating	2004 Priority
Promote existing, and support the development of further pram walkers groups and walking groups	Work with existing groups to support and promote their groups to the wider community. Explore opportunities to establish further walking groups in specific areas or for specific groups. Develop innovative ways to link groups together for broader benefits i.e./ walking pram groups with older persons walking groups etc	2004 on-going
Enhance the safety of children within the Delacombe public housing estate	Support and expand upon the existing Safe Start project which is working to enhance the safety of children within the Delacombe Housing Estate	2003 Priority
Develop strategies to sustain the successes of the Safe Start project	Identify the priorities and on-going opportunities for Ballarat in regards to children's safety based on Safe Starts Program Plan	April 2004

## WORKING GROUP: Linkages

### Objectives

1. Improve access to information to and awareness about existing family and children's services for all people
2. Promote opportunities and develop strategies to build and enhance links and relationships between services and projects
3. Contribute to the development of Policies that contribute to the enhancement of positive outcomes in the Early Years

PROJECT TITLE	SUMMARY	TIMELINES
Develop a Ballarat Early Years Guide	Develop a free guide for families and services that outlines services available within the Early Years in Ballarat	2004 Priority
Hold an Early Years Expo	Plan and facilitate an Early Years Expo to showcase Ballarat Early Years Services	2004
Develop an Early Years Website	Explore opportunities to develop an Early Years Website that is accessible to families and services within Ballarat	2005
Contribute to the development of a Ballarat Early Years Plan	Participate in the development of a Ballarat Early Years Plan which will act as a guiding document for the development and direction of service provision, policy formation and principles underpinning the Early Years within the local area.	July 2004

## WORKING GROUP: Publicity & Promotion

### Objectives

1. Increase awareness of **Best Start** and its activities throughout Ballarat
2. Resource **Best Start** Projects to ensure that they promote their activities in the best possible way

PROJECT TITLE	SUMMARY	TIMELINES
Develop a communications strategy	Develop standards, protocols and strategies to strengthen the local identity of <b>Best Start</b> in a way that is accessible to all.	2004 Priority
Resource <b>Best Start</b> Working Groups and Project teams	Work closely with existing groups to identify opportunities to enhance and support their objectives	On-going