

# Community Health Planning



**Local government budgets are increasingly being called upon to support the delivery of local health services through the construction, maintenance and subsidisation of medical services.**

**healthy communities through strategic local investment**

This investment often occurs in an environment where local government is the funder of last resort and integration with State and Federal service providers can be problematic. 361 Degrees' community health plans are particularly useful in identifying local health needs and the capacity of local services to meet community expectations. These plans are useful when local governments are considering:

- Local health investments
- Reviewing existing expenditure in health service delivery
- Preparing submissions for funding of local health infrastructure

The community health plan includes practical and realistic health goals that are negotiated with the local community, local health service providers and local government with liaison with state and federal agencies. Reflecting the diversity of rural communities, each plan is different. They can however share common elements which might include:

- Demographic analysis
- Accident and emergency services
- Aged care services
- General practitioner services
- Primary health and community services, including allied health
- Service foundations including workforce, telecommunications, volunteers and transport

each 361 Degrees community health plan is prepared by professional consultants with extensive experience in the health sector and community engagement

In 2011, 361 Degrees completed an extensive consultation with community, councillors, and health professionals on the provision and access to health services in the Shires of Wyalkatchem and Koorda. The final report created a firm foundation for future health planning in the region. Tangible outcomes that included:

- A subsequent audit of the financial sustainability of a shire-supported general practice service.
- The commissioning of a detailed and comprehensive aged care study to assess the feasibility of increased aged care infrastructure.
- Discussions with private sector health providers regarding investment in local health infrastructure.
- Site planning for the construction of additional independent living units within the region.
- Short listing for funding for the development of a primary health care site.

**361°**  
Exploring New Boundaries

For further information contact 361 Degrees Stakeholder Engagement Services

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