

# Community Development Tips and Resources.

## Some useful tips for initiating and building relationships with young people

- **Be genuine.** Approach it as a partnership, valuing the contributions of young people and respecting what's important to them.
- **Be meaningful.** When consulting with young people, it should be on a topic that's important to them. They should be able to influence the process and see an outcome.
- **Provide young people with skills.** It's important to make sure young people are trained to be able to do the activity. Otherwise, they may feel overwhelmed and disconnected.
- **Timing, location and accessibility.** The location you choose is important if you want young people to participate in the engagement process. While some consultations work better in school hours, it might also be necessary after hours or on the weekend. Ensure that the venue is accessible (e.g. close to public transport, wheelchair accessible).
- **Out-of-pocket expenses.** If possible, ensure young people are reimbursed for any out-of-pocket expenses. This way it's accessible to those with a low income or no income.

Read more in the Toolkit: [community.adf.org.au/get-started/toolkits](https://community.adf.org.au/get-started/toolkits)

Topic	What it covers	Location
LDAT resources to support your community development work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A Practical Guide: Building Successful Local Drug Action Teams</li><li>• Engaging Multicultural Communities Guide</li></ul>	<a href="https://community.adf.org.au/ldat-program/about/key-ldat-resources">community.adf.org.au/ldat-program/about/key-ldat-resources</a>
What does it mean to involve the community?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Community led: driven by the community, which identifies an issue and mobilises to address that issue</li><li>• Community based: often driven by external people or organisations, which assist the community to identify issues, helps guide action and is often project focused</li><li>• Benefits of involving the community</li><li>• Barriers to involving the community</li><li>• Community involvement is an important measure.</li></ul>	<a href="https://adf.org.au/insights/prevention-communities-key">adf.org.au/insights/prevention-communities-key</a>
When are community approaches effective?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Understanding local needs</li><li>• Utilising data based on local risk factors</li><li>• Implementing evidence-based prevention practices.</li></ul>	<a href="https://adf.org.au/insights/prevention-communities-key">adf.org.au/insights/prevention-communities-key</a> <a href="https://adf.org.au/talking-about-drugs/parenting/talking-young-people/algorithm-young-people/community-approaches">adf.org.au/talking-about-drugs/parenting/talking-young-people/algorithm-young-people/community-approaches</a>



Alcohol  
and Drug  
Foundation



Australian Government

Local Drug Action Team Program

Topic	What it covers	Location
Community-based alcohol prevention programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A program case study</li> </ul>	<a href="https://adf.org.au/insights/do-community-alcohol-prevention-programs-work">adf.org.au/insights/do-community-alcohol-prevention-programs-work</a>
Engagement to put strong and connected communities on the public agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Raise awareness among influential groups</li> <li>• Identify relevant community organisations you might partner with</li> <li>• Establish key contacts/ gatekeepers within those organisations to champion the issue</li> <li>• Promote the benefits of strong and connected communities on individuals, families and the broader community</li> <li>• Take time to explain how community cohesion and connectedness protects against alcohol and other drug-related harms</li> <li>• Establish 'what's in it' for the community organisation.</li> </ul>	<a href="https://community.adf.org.au/get-started/toolkits/strong-and-connected-communities/delivering">community.adf.org.au/get-started/toolkits/strong-and-connected-communities/delivering</a>



Figure found at: [communityfirstdevelopment.org.au/community-development-framework](https://communityfirstdevelopment.org.au/community-development-framework)