

Bubup Womindjeka Intergenerational Project



Presenter Heather Kerr

**Bubup Womindjeka Family and Children's Centre
Port Melbourne**



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FROM VISION TO ACTION

Acknowledgement of country

Today in Hobart would like to say thank you to the
Muwinina people for letting us share your land
We promise to look after it, the animals and the people too
Hello land
Hello sky
Hello me
Hello friends



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The project is an initiative of the Social Health and Inclusion Port project and jointly funded by Star Health and Bupub Womindjeka Family Children Centre.



We aim to:

foster connections and respectful relationships between different generations in our local community,

contribute to positive learning experiences for young children

develop acceptance of diversity within our society

create an inclusive community for all ages.



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A project to create connections between the aged and young.

The InterG pilot was devised as a five week trail adapted from the more common approach between kinder children and residents in aged care as currently viewed on the ABC programme;

“Old people’s home for 4 year olds.”



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Recruitment of volunteers for the pilot

Our partner, Star Heath had an established volunteer program and oversaw the recruitment of the four volunteers for the program.

The process included:

volunteer role description

promotion of the program to existing volunteers and to the broader community

police and WWC check

one on one interviews

registration, once successful, to the volunteer program



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What are the expected benefits ?

To the children

confidence building

improved communication skills through
conversation

Better relationships with older people and
increased understanding of seniors

An older role model outside of the family



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What are the expected benefits ?

To the seniors

- Increased social connection
- Increased sense of purpose
- An opportunity to share skills and knowledge
- Increased understanding of the younger generation
- Increased physical activity



What are the expected benefits ?

- **To the community**
- Increased community cohesiveness
- Increased social connections
- Increased the valuing of seniors and elders in the community



Star Health Role

help provide the evidence

to promote and recruit older residents
to participate

to write up the project and to assist in
the monitoring and evaluation

potentially scale-up the project across
the City of Port Phillip and
Stonnington

Bubup Role

to pilot the project

work with the kindergarten children
and teachers to integrate the pilot
into the curriculum.

will provide liaison on the day

provide data about the project
objectives where necessary.



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Initial data collected from some of the children

*The children were asked a series of questions to gain some base line data
Rather than ask what do you know about old people, which I believe is prejudicial, I asked*

*“ I want you to think about what you know about people who have had lots and
lots of birthdays”*

**“my grandma, she is very wise, she knows a lot of things
my grandma had a birthday at my house and my little
brother ran away
she is very wise, she knows how to make people happy
they have wrinkly skin, because they are very old
they are going to heaven
they are different people”**



The first visit

The first five minutes



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What we have enjoyed so far



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Working Together

InterG's becoming more relaxed and engaging with the children

One on one



Scaffolding



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As the trial progresses the InterG's become relaxed and reveal their personality



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The initial 5 week trial was so successful that all participants wanted to continue and so it was extended to 10 weeks.

Bubup was very keen and committed to continue with InterG's so we began recruiting interested active retiree's through community groups such as CWA, Rotary and a local gardening group.





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