



Together We Can Help Our Young  
People Live Their Best Lives

## PLANET YOUTH BLUE MOUNTAINS TERMS OF REFERENCE 2021

### VISION

All young people are active, healthy and thriving, connected to their families and communities, and achieving their full potential.

### MISSION

Our mission is to collaborate in a process of transformative change by embedding primary prevention approaches which enhance young people's health, relationships, environment and wellbeing.

### MOTTO

Together we can help our young people live their best lives

### FRAMEWORK

While public bodies and non-profit organisations are already working together to improve outcomes for young people, evidenced-based prevention needs greater priority. Planet Youth provides an opportunity for all stakeholders to change the way they think about prevention and their role in it. Agencies and organisations – big and small – must consider what they can do within their remit, either directly or indirectly. This includes reassessing their activities with a view to minimising risk factors and maximising protective factors. While stakeholders will approach Planet Youth in different ways, ultimately the shared objective is to achieve better outcomes for young people.

Prevention activities are more likely to succeed when they are systematic, evidence-based and collaborative. While the need for prevention is increasingly recognised, it often occurs in an ad hoc manner. Planet Youth urges all stakeholders - from national and local government to public bodies, schools and community-based organisations – to play their part in prioritising prevention in an integrated and holistic way.

## **GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

1. Apply a primary prevention approach that is designed to enhance the social environment
2. Engage and empower stakeholders to make practical decisions using local, high-quality, accessible data and findings
3. Integrate researchers, policymakers, practitioners, parents and stakeholders into a unified team dedicated to solving complex, real-world problems
4. Match ambition to the scale of the problem, including emphasising long-term actions, systems changes and investment.
5. Adopt the principles of collaboration to solve complex problems that cannot be solved by single organisations or siloed approaches
6. Emphasise community action and embrace schools as the natural hub of community efforts to support the wellbeing and development of young people
7. Recognise solutions that are specific to Aboriginal families

## **OBJECTIVES OF PLANET YOUTH IN THE BLUE MOUNTAINS REGION**

1. Improve outcomes and opportunities for young people across the program's four domains
  2. Deliver a wide range of evidenced-informed prevention activities which address risk and protective factors
  3. At local, regional and national level, build and maintain a strong, collaborative, well-informed partnership of community, schools, agency and political stakeholders
  4. Build strong brand recognition and stakeholder involvement throughout the Blue Mountains LGA
  5. Secure sustainable investment for development and coordination of Planet Youth in the Blue Mountains
  6. Capture learning and track activities in order to inform the future development of Planet Youth
  7. Develop a strategy for sustaining Planet Youth linked to relevant national, state and local policies
  8. Working with Aboriginal families and Elders to ensure Planet Youth is relevant to and empowering for Aboriginal families
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