

People are our priority

MacKillop Family Services resulted from the re-founding in 1997 of seven agencies previously managed by the Founding Orders.

Since the formation of MacKillop, three Strategic Planning processes have occurred.

The primary focus of the first Strategic Plan, entitled 'Building Community', was enabling the first generation of MacKillop Family Services to determine the early directions of the new organisation.

The second Strategic Plan, entitled 'Moving Forward', was very influential on the development of the organisation. While there is some unfinished business from the second plan which has been taken up in our new plan, in general all directions were pursued with a high degree of loyalty and enthusiasm.

Our third Strategic Plan, entitled 'People are our Priority' comes from our sense that the shape of the organisation has changed and will continue to do. This is inevitable as the external environment changes, the needs of the community change, and MacKillop Family Services continues to develop as an organisation.

What is our Vision for the next five years?

Our Vision for the next five years grows out of our sense of MacKillop Family Services being an organisation in which people provide and find a sense of belonging and connectedness. Acknowledging that we work in an environment that



demands formal processes and compliance more than ever before, we also want to work with a professional discretion which gives priority to the needs of people.

"...people are our priority..."

Our Vision is for an organisation where people are our priority and our values are evident in our process, relationships and practice. As such

- our practice will be strongly focussed on the needs and aspirations of the children, young people and families we work with, emphasising partnership, participation, and advocacy;
- our staff, carers and volunteers will be valued, informed, supported and connected across the organisation;
- we will promote strategies which build and strengthen communities.

In developing the organisation we commit to

- the achievement of professional standards and accountability in our work;
- seeking innovation, creative change and new opportunities;
- growing through research, innovation, partnership and invitation;
- being true to our heritage and creating an identity of our own.

Mary MacKillop is quoted as saying "Never see a need without trying to do something about it".

It is clear that as MacKillop Family Services faces the future, we are indeed addressing unmet needs.