

'Mulbeam Madness' Nudgee College Community Leadership Program

Purpose:

Nudgee College students increase their leadership skills and provide a positive contribution to the local community by delivering a free, fun and active after school program aimed at primary school students in Boondall.

Partnership Members:

- Nudgee College
- Brisbane City Council (BCC)
- Zillmere Community Centre - YACCA program
- Zillmere PCYC

Context and Goals

Nudgee College had been providing volunteers to Brisbane City Council's Homework Help program at Zillmere library, however, the number of participants was low. Partners felt a program involving more physical, hands-on activities might have greater success in engaging local young people. Nudgee College was keen to provide their students leadership opportunities in the local community, and contribute to an engaging and accessible initiative that created positive outcomes for local young people.

The Partnership's Approach

Partners consulted with community stakeholders, including primary schools and youth service providers, and developed an active after-school mentoring program called *Mulbeam Madness*. The program involves Nudgee College students mentoring primary school aged participants, with supervision and referrals from BCC, Zillmere PCYC and the YACCA program.

" We get to go out, meet new people, and when we see them around again, we feel more a part of the community "

Nudgee College mentor/boarding student

Partners were mindful to develop a program that would be accessible and of interest to the local community, with planning around location and time of delivery taking these factors into consideration.

Mulbeam Madness is youth-led, including the naming of the program (after its location at Mulbeam Park) and the facilitation of activities.

Benefits

- Approximately 40 Nudgee College students have developed their leadership and mentoring skills in this program, as well as gain skills in working with younger children.
- Over 100 local primary aged young people and their parents have participated in an active, enjoyable and inclusive program after school in 2013.
- Participants have learned positive behaviours from the student mentors, and developed teamwork skills through the activities.



Next Steps

The program plans to broaden the range of activities offered by incorporating art and music. Through its youth-led approach, students will develop promotional material, including flyers and a Facebook page, during program time. BCC will also work with the Partnership Broker to replicate the program in other parks across Brisbane, to provide an opportunity for more young people to be actively involved in their local community.

Support from the Partnership Broker

The Partnership Broker worked with partners to identify a shared goal and develop the program design. They also assisted partners with community consultation, to ensure the program met their needs. The Broker utilised their strong connections with schools, community, parents and families and media to promote the program (including arranging a visit by the Queensland Reds) and build interest in its early stages.

TOP TIP

Consultation with a range of stakeholders provides valuable input to the design of a program, and helps ensure it meets the local community's interest.