

Community Services Sector Value Proposition

What is it that the Not-for-profit Community Services Sector delivers that other organisations don't to the same extent (ie government and private sector)?

Not-for-profit Community Service organisations by definition and legal status, exist to provide community benefit and do not create a financial profit which can be distributed to "shareholders". They add value to the wider community through most, if not all of the following characteristics:

- 1. A stronger sense of community connectedness and a net contributor to social cohesion and social capital
- 2. The opportunity for people across communities to volunteer time, resources and skills
- 3. Capacity to raise donations and encourage philanthropy
- 4. A significant level of longstanding investment in assets and infrastructure for the benefit of the community
- 5. A potential partner for Corporate Social Responsibility to be embedded into for-profit organisations and where long-term partnerships can be created
- 6. A stronger degree of trust, empathy, compassion and respect with clients and in the wider community
- 7. The reinvestment of all monies solely towards their constitutional aims and objectives
- 8. The value of the financial investment by government, and philanthropic and corporate partners, is enhanced by the Mission focus of NFP entities which often includes cross subsidisation or the provision of additional services
- 9. A greater willingness to cross subsidise services so that there is broader geographical and service coverage
- 10. A higher level of preparedness by employees to work in and support the Values and Mission of the Community services organisation
- 11. A higher level of social innovation and capacity to respond to changing circumstances driven by Mission