

# Latrobe Health Innovation Zone Charter:



## The Latrobe Health Innovation Zone Charter

### The Charter

This Charter is a shared commitment to values, principles and actions. Its signatories commit themselves to driving innovation and change to improve health and wellbeing.

### The Latrobe Health Innovation Zone

Following the Hazelwood Mine Fire Inquiry, Latrobe City was designated as a Health Innovation Zone by the Government of Victoria in 2016 to improve health outcomes in this region. The Latrobe Health Assembly and Latrobe Health Advocate were established to promote and support innovative co-designed health and wellbeing models and programs.

### Before we start

The Charter acknowledges the members of the Latrobe communities who took part in creating the charter.

The Charter recognises and reflects the energetic commitments of Latrobe communities working to promote health, strength and unity.

The Charter builds upon the insights provided by the people who live, work and study in Latrobe, and who have taken part in studies, inquiries and consultations over time to improve the health and wellbeing of the region.

The Charter recognises the Latrobe Health Assembly and Latrobe Health Advocate have unique roles to play in promoting health and wellbeing in Latrobe communities. It recognises that they have shared responsibilities for collaborating with these communities to achieve their goals.

The Charter recognises that employment creation and educational opportunities are foundational to improving health and wellbeing in Latrobe city.

### The Framing of the Charter

The Charter is written in collaboration with Latrobe communities and organisations dedicated to a sustainable health innovation zone.

The Charter is a living document and may change over time to reflect the changing needs and priorities of Latrobe communities.

The Latrobe Health Innovation Zone consists of the Latrobe City local government area. Within this zone, action is inspired by the Charter's values and principles.

The Charter recognises that many things outside of health systems and services affect people's health and wellbeing. The places where people are born, grow, live, work, age and the distribution of money, power and resources are all important factors that shape health and wellbeing outcomes of individuals and community.

The Charter is for people in Latrobe to shape opportunities in decision making and to control the circumstances through which health and wellbeing is built and promoted.

## **What is the LHIZ Charter and who is it for?**

The Charter is for people who live, work and study in Latrobe, and the service providers, governments, organisations and health stakeholders who work with them to help achieve their health and wellbeing goals.

The Charter is a statement of the values and guiding principles that the people of Latrobe have identified as important to their health and wellbeing.

The Charter gives voice to community aspirations and guides stakeholders in planning and delivering better health and wellbeing outcomes. It uses a process of co-design that actively engages with individuals and organisations.

The Charter supports the roles of the Latrobe Health Assembly and the Latrobe Health Advocate to enable community-led solutions and approaches for improving health and wellbeing in Latrobe communities.

## **How was the Charter Created?**

The Latrobe Health Innovation Zone Charter was co-designed through a series of community and stakeholder workshops, surveys and collaborative discussions.

The Charter reflects the beliefs and aspirations of these participants.

## Charter Values and Guiding Principles

### Values

The communities, organisations and governments who endorse the Charter support the health and wellbeing values of Latrobe communities by:

1. Reflecting community views of health and wellbeing in their health promotion actions;
2. Embracing holistic and inclusive community views to take action to improve health and wellbeing;
3. Developing and resourcing new approaches, and finding new solutions to the health challenges facing individuals and communities in Latrobe; and,
4. Using community led and innovative approaches to work together to improve health and wellbeing in Latrobe communities.

### Guiding principles

The Latrobe communities, organisations and governments who support the aspirations of the Charter will:

1. Work locally and in collaboration with individuals, families and communities, including those who are marginalised and under-represented, to ensure people have choice, control and a voice in developing the supports and services they need in their lives;
2. Work with First Nations communities and health service providers to improve health and wellbeing;
3. Do something different, try new approaches, learn from mistakes in order to create new and innovative health and wellbeing models and programs;
4. Be fair and transparent by doing as we say and saying as we do and follow through on commitments to Latrobe City communities;
5. Communicate in plain language to build trust and respect among individuals, families, communities and service providers;
6. Seek to improve the lives of everyone, especially the most vulnerable and disadvantaged;

7. Develop equitable access to the most appropriate supports and services for all people in Latrobe;
8. Grow and nurture collaboration and coordination between agencies to develop new ways of delivering services, that cut across boundaries to best meet the needs of each person; and,
9. Use a co-design model of health service to shift how we think about and organise health services in Latrobe and create innovative approaches to their design and delivery.

## Who will meet the aspirations of the Charter?

The Charter requires the commitment of communities, organisations and government to achieve better health and wellbeing in Latrobe. It recognizes that the Latrobe Health Assembly and the Latrobe Health Advocate have unique roles to play in promoting health and wellbeing, and shared responsibilities for collaborating with Latrobe communities to achieve these goals.

The Latrobe Health Assembly will provide input and direction for health initiatives within the Latrobe Health Innovation Zone. It will facilitate new ways of working to enable the community, local and state-wide agencies and government to work together to improve health and wellbeing in Latrobe.

The Latrobe Health Advocate will provide independent community-wide leadership within the Latrobe Health Innovation Zone by enabling, mediating and advocating for health and wellbeing.

The following groups are committed to meeting the goals of the Latrobe Health Innovation Zone Charter:

- Latrobe Community Members
- Government Agencies and Departments
- Health and Wellbeing Service Providers
- Community Support Services
- Community Service Organisations

The Charter provides new opportunities for community collaboration to improve health and wellbeing in Latrobe.