



Feel free to tap into anything we do if it's useful to you.

MY SUPERPOWERS: I have a curious mix of community development, business innovation, communications and big event experience that is oddly handy in the Neighbourhood House sector.

ABOUT ME: In my spare (lol) time my husband and I have a small business and farm, running a butcher shop and paddock to plate farming operation. In various roles I'd often worked with chambers or volunteer resource centres. I had often discussed with colleagues that Neighbourhood Centres were a stronger model and likely to play a key role in communities in the future. Joining Clunes Neighbourhood House was my chance to test that theory. Not sure what skills I have that might be handy to you, but I know it isn't time management! Apologies in advance because I am a shocker!

NH SECTOR EXPERIENCE:

I have been with CNH for 8 years, and in this time key focuses have included:
VOLUNTEERING: we are a for-volunteering organisation, as this has been identified as a key need for our community. Our volunteers are essential in helping us achieve what we are after.
TIGHT GOVERNANCE: our governance structure is highlevel, promotes strong engagement, development and turnover for committee members.

TOP SKILL AREAS:

- Annual/ Business Planning
- Building Partnerships
- Community Development, Consultation and Capacity Building
- Food Relief/ Security
- Grant Writing
- Healthy Aging
- Social Prescribing
- Strategic Planning
- Volunteer Management & Program Development

NH INITIATIVES:

FOOD SECURITY: we have an emphasis on enabling local food access and exchange in a low socio economic community
SOCIAL ENTERPRISE: BOOM SE is our multipurpose income generating initiative - arts shop front, office space sub let, meeting venue and accommodation
HEALTH AND WELLBEING: currently we drive Attitude, Ageing Well, working with Central Highlands Rural Health, Council and WestVic PHN to pilot community lead approaches to healthy ageing.

BEYOND THE HOUSE...

I started my career with the DHS in Disaster Recovery, then relocated to Queensland to work with the Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre, pitching for national and international conferences. I'm not extroverted enough to be a true saleswoman and eventually found myself at the Australian Institute of Management Qld & NT working with regional businesses and corporations-where I learnt a lot about innovation, start-ups and collaboration. I did a short stint with Brisbane Powerhouse negotiating sponsorships and philanthropic contributions before throwing myself at Volunteering QLD. After some time on their board I stepped in the General Manager position there for another ten years, working for some of that time from Mackay before moving to Victoria. During that time my bestfriend and I also launched an original content production company supported by a network of 21 writers that produced content (mostly digital) for companies like MYOB, Coca Cola Amatil and Bosch.