



# Latrobe Health Advocate 2023 - 24 Statement of Intent

## Vision

A strong, healthy and inclusive Latrobe community supported by leading health and wellbeing systems that are based on innovation, collaboration and the voice of the community.

## Values

Bold, Approachable, Credible, influential, Empowering, Collaborative

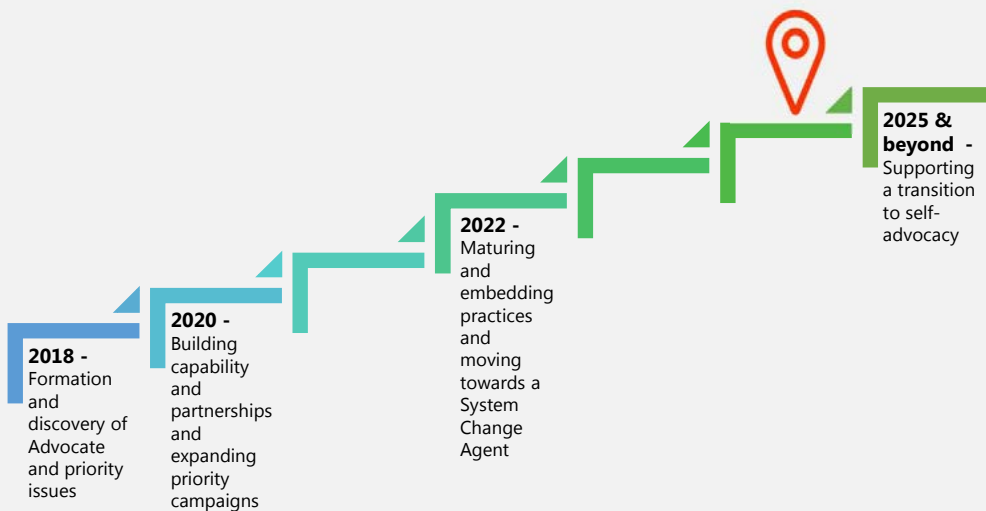
## Mission

The Latrobe Health Advocate is a catalyst of change and a trusted independent voice for the health and well-being of Latrobe communities.

## Our core objectives

- **Identify the health and wellbeing needs of the community** inclusive of diversity, culture, beliefs, gender, age and sexuality.
- **Engage and build partnerships** with Latrobe communities, key stakeholders and health partners to deliver health innovations and systems change improvements.
- **Be a community leader and advocate** that provides trusted, independent advice and insight to Ministers, the state government agencies and stakeholders.
- **Create opportunities that empower the community** to self-advocate for health and wellbeing initiatives now and in the long term.
- **Address the social determinants of health and wellbeing** and systemic changes required in Latrobe communities.

## The five year road map



## Indicators of success

- Improved community opportunities and perceptions
- Improve community connectedness and participation
- Improved health services access and design
- Improved health and lifestyle

The work of the Latrobe Health Advocate is impactful when:

- **We see better systems of health and well-being driven by**

- Better relationships
- Better mental models
- Better services
- Better supports
- Better policy
- Better integration of community voice in decision-making\*

- **Latrobe communities consider their concerns on matters impacting their health and well-being are heard by Government and other key stakeholders**

- **We have created an environment for community engagement, collaboration and innovation.**

*\* This model is adapted from The Water of Systems Change, John Kania, Mark Kramer and Peter Senge 2018*



# Latrobe Health Advocate *2023-24 Statement of Intent*

The Latrobe Health Advocate provides independent advice to the Victorian Government on behalf of Latrobe Valley communities on system and policy issues affecting their health and wellbeing. The Office of the Advocate is in year 3 of a 5 year planning cycle that intends to foster an environment for effective self-advocacy. Working alongside the Department of Health, Latrobe Health Assembly and Latrobe Health Innovation Zone (LHIZ) partners and community stakeholders develop a strategic plan and outcome measures for the LHIZ. Other priorities in 2023-24 are to track progress on addressing the social determinants of health through the production of a report card; advocate for community endorsed recommendations to improve access to services, palliative care and human connections; promote respectful community engagement in planning processes; progress issues raised by the community regarding transport; and review engagement approaches to support effective and inclusive self advocacy in Latrobe. The commitment to build on engagement through our inclusive communities work remains to address the inequities that exist for some communities, including people living with disabilities, chronic conditions, people experiencing financial stress, family violence, LGBTIQ+, culturally and linguistically diverse people, younger people, people over 60 and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

## Priorities 2023-24

### Build on the established role of the Advocate and LHIZ

Develop a mechanism to measure the Latrobe Health Advocate's impact on achieving change and inclusive engagement with the community.

Facilitate stronger links between the Latrobe Health Innovation Zone (LHIZ) partners through the production of a joint LHIZ strategic plan that includes regular output and outcome reporting to the community.

Develop a matrix of existing and emerging stakeholders to understand their priorities, challenges and opportunities for shared work.

Embed the experience of community stakeholders into tracking progress against LHIZ strategic priorities to ensure priorities remain aligned and to provide mechanisms to deal with challenges and change.

Establish a platform for shared learning.

### Elevate the voice of our community and deliver priority campaigns

Collate and align stakeholder engagement activities to assess progress on endeavours to improve social determinants of health.

Develop an ongoing feedback mechanism to collect community views on Social Determinants of Health Report Card to focus priorities and report on consequent system changes.

Work with the Latrobe Health Assembly to review their community and membership engagement model.

Strengthen the relationship with priority groups through ongoing engagement with a register of advocates to ensure their awareness and participation in community events and campaigns.

Continue to assist Government and organisations to hear the voices of communities and priority groups and support community stakeholders to develop effective self-advocacy skills.

### Advocate and influence health and wellbeing outcomes and system change

Broaden engagement across Government to ensure every Ministry is kept aware of the Social Determinants of Health priorities, progress and gaps.

Continue bipartisan engagement to build on support for the work of the Latrobe Health Advocate.

Implement the Deloitte evaluation recommendation to working closer with the Latrobe Health Assembly to better achieve and demonstrate impacts on health and wellbeing outcomes.

Develop a tracking system for outcomes of advocacy issues raised through quarterly community consultation reports to improve feedback to community members and service partners.

Continue to advocate for the implementation of community endorsed recommendations from consultations and reports into palliative care, access to services, human connections, transport and inclusive community planning.