

Manningham Business Excellence Awards



We were thrilled to receive a Highly Commended Award at the Manningham Business Excellence Awards, held at Manningham City Council. This is a wonderful recognition of the amazing contribution the Community House makes to the people of Park Orchards.

This is a great honour and acknowledges businesses that achieve positive outcomes in their business and community.

We would like to thank our staff, board members, volunteers, trainers and of course students for all you do to make our organisation an integral part of the local community.

We offer a variety of community classes, free clubs, vocational education and training, childcare and volunteer opportunities to empower our community members to live a life they love.

The POCH&LCI Vision is to have Strengthened Community Participation, Capability Enhancement and Wellbeing. Our Mission is To Provide Opportunities for Equitable Community Engagement Through Social, Recreational And Learning Activities. We help people achieve their individual goals, whatever their goals may be. We provide our community with the skills and activities they need in a nurturing environment that empowers community members to live the life they love.

We value Belonging, Integrity, Diversity, , Sustainability and Respect and strive to incorporate these values into our daily practice through:

- embracing those with all abilities into our programs, as well as providing specific courses for those with a disability
- providing opportunities for over 40 volunteers to give back to their community.
- our proactive approach to implementing new and redeveloped programs and services that are responsive to our community's needs
- eliminating the use of disposable cups and coffee pods

Our organisation has grown year on year since 2011, and we have out grown our small weatherboard house on Park Road. As such, we have just installed an environmentally friendly building at the rear of our current neighbourhood house. This will provide care for 115 children per week in the daytime and a great space for community activities in the evening and weekends. This building has a 10000-litre water tank, LED lighting, and will soon have solar panels and a community garden, featuring fruit trees, herb and vegetable gardens.

We continually

- Grow our business to meet community needs.
- Research the needs of both our immediate and broader community and implement their suggestions for courses and activities
- Seek feedback from our current participants regarding their experience with us and use this information to inform our future directions
- Review and improve our marketing procedures to ensure our community knows what we offer

Ultimately, we provide the community with the skills and experiences they need and want to enhance their lives. By providing the activities we do in the local area, we build community capacity and lifelong connections between the people of Park Orchards and the greater Manningham region.

The benefits of our business in Park Orchards to the local community are numerous.

- Financially, it is cost effective and time efficient for people to participate in their local area, without having to drive out of the area for services they require and activities they want
- Building community connections strengthens a community's resilience and ability to cope with adversity
- Providing free and low cost activities removes financial barriers to participation, which gives more members of our community the opportunity to participate and connect with their neighbours.

Our next intention is to provide the families of Park Orchards with much needed long day care. We will provide more free activities in health and fitness, to ensure our community continues to enjoy good physical health.

