



Active Roma Partnership Agreement

Between

Roma Regional Council

and

Queensland Health

Towards improving the wellbeing of people in the Roma community

Vision

Roma residents will have an improved state of physical, mental, spiritual, social, environmental and economic wellbeing through increased opportunities for active living.

Mission Statement

“Inspiring a healthy, active community”

Parties

Roma Regional Council
Queensland Health (South West Health Service District & Southern Area Population Health Service)

Purpose

The purpose of this partnership is to assist the Roma Regional Council and Queensland Health to work collaboratively to improve wellbeing for people in the Roma community through the concept of active living.

Principles

The partnership between the Roma Regional Council and Queensland Health will be underpinned by a common recognition of the effectiveness of whole-community development approaches in enhancing wellbeing.

The partnership is based on the following principles:

- Communication which embraces the spirit of partnership
- Relationships which embrace the spirit of cross-sector and whole-of-community collaboration
- Recognition of opportunities to work collaboratively and pursue joint outcomes
- Building capacity of groups, organisations and communities to meet the demand for physical activity
- Develop leadership within groups, organisations and communities
- Foster partnerships between lead agencies to increase effectiveness and reduce duplication
- Facilitate co-operation between Council, schools, community and government agencies to maximise opportunities and capitalise on strengths

Roles

All of the key stakeholders are committed to working collaboratively to improve the wellbeing of the Roma community.

Role of Roma Regional Council

- The Roma Regional Council is committed to the long-term social, environmental, cultural and economic wellbeing of the people, who live, work and visit the community of Roma. Roma Regional Council has a focus on the development and maintenance of facilities, amenities,

environments and services that support active living and policies and planning for development that enhances the walking, cycling and active living opportunities within Roma.

Role of Queensland Health

- South West Health Service District provides health services to towns and surrounding shires of Roma, Injune, Mitchell, Wallumbilla, Surat, St George, Mungindi, Dirranbandi, Cunnamulla, Charleville, Quilpie, Thargomindah and Augathella. The South West Health Service District is committed to the philosophies of Primary Health Care via the promotion of healthy life styles, seeking to reduce the burden of disease through partnerships with the community, and breaking down barriers, which prevent clients from adopting healthy lifestyles.
- Southern Area Population Health Services advocates for policies, environments and services that support quality health and wellbeing practices and outcomes, and contributes to the development, implementation and evaluation of strategies which prioritise increasing physical activity.

All parties are committed to working with the Roma community to enhance wellbeing. This will be achieved through ongoing, collaborative, effective working relationships across appropriate levels in the respective organisations to ensure complementary work programmes and implementation of initiatives.

Shared Priorities

The parties agree that collaboration will focus on the priorities of active living.

In addressing the shared priorities all parties will:

- Support and develop practices, policies and initiatives that increase involvement in physical activity from infancy, to nurture a lifelong practice
- Raise awareness of the benefits of being physically active
- Establish and promote practices that include physical activity as a means of improving social cohesion and community participation
- Support joint research to monitor and evaluate initiatives with a focus on wellbeing and improving community physical activity
- Support culturally and physically appropriate health and physical activity opportunities being available and accessible for all people living in the Roma community
- Raise awareness of the health risks associated with obesity, diabetes and other non-communicable diseases and the role of physical activity in the prevention of these
- Recognise the importance of formal education in developing understanding, skills and positive attitudes related to wellbeing and physical activity

Outcomes of the Partnership

The desired outcomes of this partnership are:

- Enhanced co-ordination of initiatives and resources which support active living
- Enhanced alignment of each agency's strategies, policies and priorities in relation to active living

Implementation

A sense of shared purpose founded on quality relationships and open channels of communication will help to ensure that the activities of each organisation are aligned and mutually enforcing.

The implementation of this partnership requires:

- Monthly meetings, including planning meetings to develop an annual work plan and work towards shared priorities and outcomes
- Sharing of relevant information, enhancing alignment of policies, priorities and services and working towards shared outcomes
- Sharing relevant research and policy advice to promote best practice in programme innovation
- Mutual exchange on relevant media and public communication issues relating to the partnership
- Active Roma decision-making and responsibilities to be shared evenly with equal representation from the two partner organisations where possible

A joint work plan will be agreed and reviewed annually. Each party agrees that it will perform the services agreed in action plans developed.

Problem Resolution

Any disputes will be resolved quickly and at the lowest appropriate level. When disagreements occur, staff from all parties will work together in good faith to identify the reasons for disagreement and to identify what can be done to achieve agreement. Where agreement is not possible, management will be advised of the disagreement and the reasons for it and will be asked to make judgements necessary to resolve the issue. If the problem is ongoing, an independent third party agreed upon by the parties will be appointed to assist the parties to seek a resolution.

Term, Review and Variation

This partnership will take effect on 1st July 2008. It shall be reviewed annually however may be revised at any other time at the request of the CEO of the Roma Regional Council, the District Manager of the South West Health Service District or the Manager of the Southern Population Health Services. This partnership shall not be modified unless agreed upon by the listed representatives of all parties. Any modification to this memorandum of understanding must be signed and authorised by the Mayor of the Roma Regional Council, the District Manager of the South West Health Service District and the Manager of the Southern Population Health Services.

Maintenance of the Partnership

Each party will appoint a Designated Co-ordinator in respect of this partnership who is responsible for dealing with day-to-day matters related to the administration and operation of this partnership and coordinating reviews of the partnership to ensure it remains current.

The Designated Co-ordinators for this memorandum are:

Roma Regional Council

- Roma Town Development Officer

Queensland Health

- South West Health Service District - Program Coordinator Healthy Lifestyles
- Southern Area Population Health Service - Senior Health Promotion Officer- Physical Activity

Designated Co-ordinators may be changed by notification in writing. Such notification must be made without delay.

Signatories

Roma Regional Council

Mayor – Roma Regional Council

Date: _____

Queensland Health

District Manager – South West Health Service District

Date: _____

Manager - Southern Area Population Health Services

Date: _____