

**Submission by Community Focus Assoc Inc  
to draft research report on  
Contributions of the Not for Profit Sector**

- Establish a reporting system that is specific to and appropriately reflects the service purpose by designing a data collection form that best reflects area of practice such as Participation, Citizenship, Capacity, and Community as a framework for measuring probable outcomes.
- Develop a consistent system of consultation and collaboration with the NFP regional areas through government and peak bodies, on proposed or planned changes and development. Provide realistic time frames for informing the sector of issues and proposals, and appropriate response periods to support opportunities for collaborative regional feedback.
- Incorporate flexibility back into the funding process by accepting submission based applications the present system is directive, prescriptive, and restrictive with an inbuilt bias to large organisations, stop unwarranted competition policy that serves no-one in the long term. Resource positive and productive initiatives such as consultation, collaboration, partnerships, cooperation, and sharing of resources within and between sectors to better develop and serve our community needs.
- Adequately resource existing services before funding others, recognize the valuable contribution of the small organization as well as the larger organisation support small organizations for they bring direct experiential relationships that exact robust approaches that can direct innovation and creativity within the sector. Small organization frequently have a greater capacity for flexibility and diversity which can establish effective long term wellbeing for individuals and their community
- We have managed to apply for and receive tax benefits and considerations, standardization could be beneficial, simplifying this process and the regulations that govern the decisions would be a great move. Our tax status as an organization appears to have had little recent impact on the business sector, we suspect the economic climate has inhibited the development of responses from business to our organization, businesses are more focused on volunteer contribution than financial at this stage, but that may change if confidence is re-established.