



Co-designing an Intergenerational Arts Program for South Australian Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) Communities

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Table of Contents

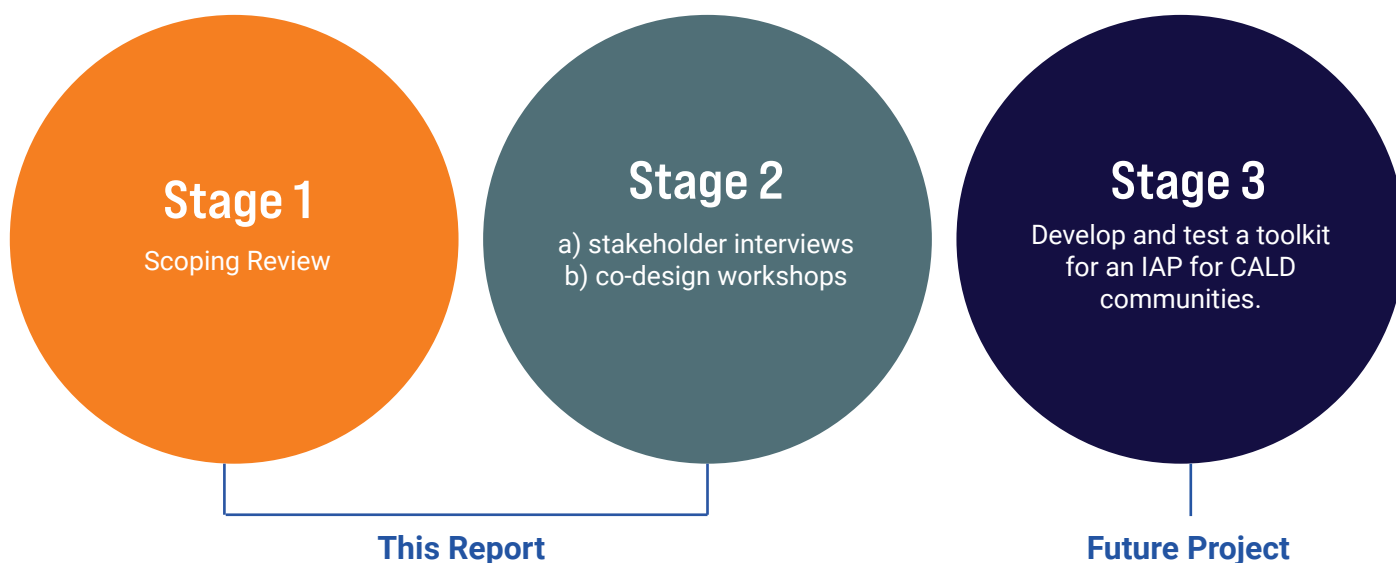
Executive Summary	01-02
Background/ Introduction	04-06
Discussion/Insights/Interviews	07-13
Workshops	14
Co-Design Workshop 1	14-16
Co-Design Workshop 2	17-18
Summary	18-20
References	20-21



Executive Summary

The goal of this project is to develop an Intergenerational Arts Program (IAP) for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) communities in South Australia (SA). The program focuses on enhancing services within neighbourhood and community houses and centres (NCHCs) to support older CALD individuals experiencing social isolation and related mental health challenges. Funded by a Global Arts and Health Alliance Grant (GAHA) in 2023, this research project aims to lay the foundation for co-designing an intergenerational arts initiative for CALD communities. This report details the twelve-month project's methodology, analyses key findings, and provides recommendations for future actions.

This project is across three stages and the funding from Arts and Health Alliance cover the first two stages.



The overarching research question across stages one and two was: **What are the existing gaps, weaknesses, and strengths of Intergenerational Arts Programs for CALD communities in South Australia?**

This question was interrogated through a scoping review and a series of interviews with stakeholders across Adelaide CBD and geographically close regional centres, including Mount Barker Council, Adelaide Hills Council, Port Adelaide Enfield Council and Unley Council, the South Australian Multicultural Association, COTA, Act Now Theatre and the Overseas Chinese Association SA.

The scoping review is focussed specifically on programs targeting CALD communities.

Interviews with stakeholders were conducted across community centres, councils and organisations, where there was experience or interest in intergenerational arts programs for CALD communities. Data collected indicated that cultural organisations focus on strategies and communications for culturally diverse groups while councils observe that attendance at their programs reflects the demographic of their constituent. Inclusion strategies across all organisations tends to target isolated individuals from varied backgrounds and ages. Attendance by people from CALD backgrounds in council or community programs is mostly incidental as is intergenerational participation in family events hosted by councils. Targeted intergenerational programs have on the whole, been inspired by the ABC documentaries *Old People's Home for Teenagers/ Four-year-olds* (ABC, 2019) and supported by the JOY training program offered through the Australian Institute for Intergenerational Practice (AIIP, 2024).

Although arts programs were the initial focus of this research, data collected on intergenerational activities and healthy aging initiatives also provided valuable insights. This information highlighted the gaps and strengths of both historical and current program designs and their outcomes. The focus of the research has therefore broadened throughout the project to probe programs that involve intergenerational activities and those that considered inclusion measures in their programming and outreach.

From those key stakeholders surveyed, the research team brokered relationships leading to immediate invitations to facilitate co-design workshops from firstly a culturally specific group and secondly a council experienced in integrational programs. These organisations hosted pilot workshops from which we collected data to inform stage three – developing and testing a toolkit for CALD intergenerational Arts programs. The interview process garnered enthusiasm and support from several councils, including Unley, Port Adelaide Enfield, Mount Barker and Campbelltown, who are keen to work with the research team to facilitate and develop co-design workshops and tools for sustainable programs. In **stage three** we will scale up the project to develop and test a toolkit for Intergenerational Programs for CALD Communities.

Background

The Government of South Australia, Department of Premier and the Cabinet, define CALD as -

Culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD), refers to the wide range of cultural groups that make up the South Australian population and our communities. The term acknowledges that groups and individuals differ according to religion and spirituality, racial background and ethnicity as well as language.

(Government of South Australia, Department of Premier and Cabinet, 2024)

The term CALD was adopted in the late 1990s as a replacement for Non-English-Speaking Background (NESB) to serve as a broader, more inclusive, and adaptable descriptor (OMI 2024). The research team found the definition of CALD was expanded during the research project to adapt to inclusion targets across different councils and associations. Our scoping review revealed the term CALD encompasses not only First Nations peoples but also LGBTIQ+ communities, as themes of diversity and inclusion emerged within our qualitative thematic analysis. The data from the scoping reviews also revealed inclusion of isolated, lonely and unconnected demographics expanded the CALD definition to include women aged 50+ and Youth, depending on the demographics of each geographical location. The definition for CALD communities in this research was therefore developed in conversation with communities throughout the study.

There is evidence that people from CALD communities across all generations in Australia experience isolation, disconnection and accessibility barriers resulting in poor mental health (Georgiou et al. 2023). This project identifies a need for dedicated research and development into existing and potential intergenerational arts and movement programs for CALD communities. Intergenerational programs benefit both young and old through connection and learning (Gulano et al, 2018; Jarrott, 2021), whilst arts and movement activities encourage doing together (Barton, 2021) and the appreciation of skills and knowledge. Challenges experienced by CALD communities could be addressed and overcome through the implementation of programs that encourage connection through activities that promote mutual understanding and connection through storytelling and creativity through arts and movement activities.



CALD Seniors

Intergenerational services provided outside the normal confines of aged-care settings present novel inclusion and wellbeing opportunities for CALD seniors within NCHCs. This research addresses a gap in design, implementation, management and evaluation of intergenerational arts programs for CALD communities in South Australia. Recent research on older people highlights that many older Australians from CALD communities experience higher levels of disadvantage than older Anglo-Australians, and that is 'likely to affect their experience of aging' (Federation of Ethnic Communities' Councils of Australia 2015). Older CALD Australians are found to have poorer socioeconomic status, limited social participation and lower levels of digital technology use compared to their Anglo-Australian counterparts (Middleton et al. 2024).

CALD Youth

CALD youth in South Australia need resources and opportunities to fully participate in social, cultural, economic, and political life. Best outcomes are achieved by engaging and collaborating with community to foster positive awareness of multicultural youth. This approach leads to increased support, skill development, and improved overall wellbeing for young people (Multicultural Youth SA, 2024). Cultural diversity as an experience is recognised as a social connector for youth (Act Now, 2024). Efforts to foster meaningful connections between CALD youth and elders can greatly benefit both groups. Initiatives that promote cultural exchange, intergenerational dialogue, and mutual understanding strengthens community cohesion and supports the transmission of cultural heritage across generations, as evidenced in the scoping review (Peng, et al. 2025). Arts and movement programs bring people together and serve to foster connection through activities and events. The benefits of intergenerational arts programs on mental health and wellbeing through community engagement and social interaction, skills development and cultural exchange are well documented (Grogan, 2020).

Intergenerational Arts Programs

The research team has identified a gap in the targeted delivery of Intergenerational Arts Programs (IAPs) for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) communities. Evidence from scoping reviews suggests that while some programs incorporate both intergenerational and CALD elements, this overlap is often incidental and primarily occurs within family relationships. This does not fully align with the definition of intergenerational practice outlined by Jarrott et al. (2019, 2022), which specifies interactions between non-familial generations—youth aged 25 and under and older adults aged 50 and over.

The need for such programs varies across councils, influenced by factors such as demographics, infrastructure, and the presence of cultural organizations in each geographic area. The research design takes these variations into account, aiming to capture the unique characteristics and requirements of different councils and organizations.

City Councils and Cultural Organisations

Councils and government-funded arts and health organisations represent the needs of community organizations and cultural groups. Local Councils in South Australia are the closest level of government to communities. They play a key role in decision-making and delivering services. Each council is unique, covering different geographic locations, sizes, populations, and environments. Councils provide essential services while planning for future needs and growth to ensure that suburbs and regions are liveable and thriving (Local Councils South Australia, 2024).

Cultural organisations consulted include arts-based organisations supported by the Arts Organisations Programs Funding (AOP, 2024). The purpose of this funding is to “support a thriving ecology for arts and culture, which empowers South Australia’s makers and creators, and enables arts and culture to enrich the lives of all South Australians” (AOP, 2024). Healthy aging organisations are supported federally through the Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP, 2024) or the Office of Aging Well, South Australian Government (2024). The Office for Aging Well works to fulfill the government’s commitment to supporting South Australians to age well by facilitating relationships between government, non-government, and community organisations to support older people to remain active and engaged. The South Australian Multicultural Commission is a statutory body that reports to the Minister for Multicultural Affairs and supports programs for diverse cultural groups (SAMC, 2024)

Methodology



The project employed an integrated, multidisciplinary approach to prioritise evidence-based and community-centred design, management, and operation of intergenerational services and projects. The research team adopted community-based participatory research (CBPR) and co-design methods.

CBPR, is a collaborative approach that fosters equitable partnerships between community members, academics, and other stakeholders. It focuses on leveraging research and data to build on community strengths and priorities, ultimately developing strategies to enhance health and social equity (Wallerstein et al., 2018). This approach aligns closely with co-design principles, emphasising collaboration with community partners to tackle health disparities and social hierarchies, with the goal of translating research findings into meaningful actions for change (Wallerstein, 2020).

Co-design is a participatory practice whereby the design process including workshops and ideation is conducted as a joint activity. Based on the Design Council UK's Double Diamond framework for Innovation (Design Council, 2019), it employs a variety of creative arts and design activities such as storyboards, making tasks and prompts, shaped to fit a particular set of questions.

Participants are guided through the workshop activities by experienced researchers to co-develop strategies and creative tasks (Grindell et al, 2022; Peng & Keuh, 2022; Zabar et al 2024).

Interviews were planned and conducted before co-design workshops. The aim of the interviews is to probe deeper insight into recent and current programs for intergeneration arts programs and query access and inclusion of CALD individuals and communities. These interviews included representatives from local councils such as Burnside, Campbelltown, Fabrik - Adelaide Hills, Mount Barker, Port Adelaide Enfield, and Unley. Additionally, cultural organisations such as Act Now Theatre, the South Australian Multicultural Commission, the Overseas Chinese Association of South Australia, and COTA (Council on the Aging) were included.

Two co-design workshops were then planned and conducted with older people, high school youth, program facilitators, community centre volunteers, working with the researchers.

Discussion and Insights

Interviews enabled stakeholders to discuss their experiences and goals through a reflective lens in balance with organisational policy and community insights. An expanded view of inclusion was reflected differently across constituents. The researchers have developed an understanding of access goals and strategies through the interview process. The interviews were analysed in consideration of: Gaps and Strengths in current programs.

Findings centred around organisational priorities and incidental inclusion.

Cultural organisations work on access strategies and communications to culturally diverse groups to provide support, services and activities. Communication strategies range from understanding which platforms are used by specific cultures, direct outreach, and cross organisation collaboration. For cultural organisations, intergenerational practice is often incidental and made possible through family connections.

On the other hand, councils observe that their programs reflect the diversity of residents. Targeted outreach is directed toward specific age groups and isolated individuals rather than cultural groups, therefore cultural diversity is incidental.

A key finding was those councils who have implemented Intergenerational programs, like Unley and Port Adelaide Enfield have been highly influenced by the ABC Documentaries Old Peoples Home for Four Year Olds and Old Peoples Home for Teenagers. Interest in these programs has encouraged council workers – mostly with Aging or Youth portfolios to attend the Australian Institute for Intergenerational Practice's Joy Program to gain knowledge and skills to facilitate Intergenerational programs.

The data analysis of the interviews with key stakeholders defined the gaps, weaknesses and strengths in the current intergenerational services.

Gaps and weaknesses of current intergenerational arts programs for CALD communities:

1. Activity Design for Young Children:

There's a noted deficiency in programs that facilitate interaction between the very young (under 5 years old) and older generations. Current activities generally revolve around free play and story-time, which do not promote shared experiences across age groups. A suggestion has been made to incorporate old such as rotary phones into play spaces to encourage playful sharing across generations.

2. Outreach to Isolated Individuals:

A few councils identified challenges in engaging isolated individuals who are not residents of aged care facilities. Communication barriers, particularly in employing diverse languages and cultural nuances such as preferred communication platforms (email, text, radio) in outreach materials, contribute to this issue.

3. Engagement of Diverse Communities:

Outreach efforts are hampered by the lack of culturally diverse language options and culturally relevant signage in communications and marketing materials. This limits the effectiveness of outreach to diverse communities.

4. Broadening the View of CALD Communities:

There's an opportunity to expand the definition of CALD communities to include those who are isolated within a community, thus broadening the targeted demographic and potentially enhancing the reach and impact of programs.

5. Program Attendance and Acceptance:

There is a perception that community centres and councils may not fully recognize or accept that attendees to programs should represent a broad spectrum of their communities, including across age and CALD demographics. This could be limiting the scope and reach of outreach efforts.

6. Need for Intergenerational Arts Programs:

While there are events and activities that facilitate some level of cross-generational interaction, such as music sharing at youth concerts or craft activities, there is a noted gap in more interactive arts-based activities that involve both doing and creating together. This suggests a need for programs that are not just about sharing or viewing but about making and experiencing art collaboratively across generations.

7. Mentorship Opportunities:

Arts and cultural officers from councils emphasized the value of mentorships within the arts sector. Mentorships that connect older, more experienced artists with emerging ones could serve as a vital component of intergenerational arts programs. These relationships can provide guidance, foster artistic growth, and facilitate meaningful cultural exchanges between generations.

8. Lack of Dedicated Inclusion Officers:

Many councils lack designated inclusion officers responsible for developing targeted strategies to engage CALD communities effectively. This absence limits the ability of councils to initiate and maintain outreach programs tailored to these communities' unique needs.

9. Insufficient Demographic Data:

There is a noted deficiency in the availability of data concerning the cultural composition of specific geographic areas. This gap in data makes it challenging for councils to design, implement, and evaluate services that accurately meet the shifting demographics of their regions.

10. Underutilization of Existing Community :

Resources: While some councils recognize established community groups representing a specific cultural demographic, there is uncertainty about the role of local government in leveraging these resources for broader community services.

11. Connectivity and Knowledge Gaps:

Some organisations have successfully located and communicated with discrete community groups over time, councils themselves often lack direct contacts or connections. Councils generally depend on the diversity of their boards for outreach, however which can result in uneven and potentially ineffective community engagement strategies.

"To connect with residents who may be living on their own feeling isolated that are just not connected to anything and just getting the word to them is difficult. We're hoping once we go back to Enfield Community Centre, we're going to do a bit of a marketing push and try and really promote it a bit more. It's been it's been a little while since we've really put it out there. You know I've done letter box drops in the area. Then there's discussions. You know, a lot of I didn't realize how many people say no junk mail on there on their letterboxes, which was an issue for me."

"We did have an arrangement and we do still have one going with a place called ACH Milpark A where kinder kids a class of kinder kids who are 4 go along and have I'll call it a play date. And it's excellent. There's activities, there's art. Like the energy in the room and the joy and the activity is wonderful. But you do tend to have older people sitting around. Watching, doing a little bit of, you know, playing ball or trying to engage with the children, but there's not really opportunities for meaningful connection."

"You know if you've got older people that don't have, you know, social media, we're relying on their kids or grandkids to sort of get that information to them or if they've got no junk mail, how do we get around that?"

"You know, as a younger person rocking up and seeing a whole lot of 70 year old sitting around doing their watercolours, is it going to enthuse them to become a member of your arts organization."

Connection with living artists and practicing artists and increase their skills. But for me, where I get excited, it's about mixing those generational things. Even in the sense that some of their high school teachers are people under 30, you know which to me is young in that intergenerational sort of gear, and they're working with the 15 year olds so. Yeah, you know, it's a nice partnership."

"I think it's also as individuals as well, not just communities like big thing is individual contact. Even just our core artists that we work with just sort of acknowledging their preferences like some people prefer a phone call, some prefer a text, some people yeah for Facebook and you know and just being really mindful of that. So you know some people will respond to you in. 2 seconds if. You, you know, text Facebook them, but never if you e-mail them you. Know like it's like no response for a while."

"A community group that they would otherwise perhaps still be, you know, hold anguish or hold discontent for back in their country of birth. So it has been a few conversations. I know that I've mediated a few conversations like that and they've been difficult, but there's been a real gratefulness on both sides of those groups coming together in that they do realise that Australia has given them an opportunity for peace and an opportunity to you know, draw a line in the sand and say, you know what, we can't carry on that burden of discontent that you know, identified us, you know, that was a big concern for us back in our homeland, whether it be Greece, Italy. Israel."

Feedback from Key Stakeholders

Strengths of Intergenerational Arts Programs for CALD Communities:

1. Mutual Advocacy Against Ageism

Intergenerational programs have proven successful in reducing age-related stigma. These initiatives encourage younger and older participants to overcome initial fears of each other, ultimately fostering mutual advocacy against ageism.

2. Advocacy Against Racism

Devised theatre strategies have been effective in uniting people from diverse cultural backgrounds. These programs create shared experiences that foster empathy and understanding, reducing cultural biases and promoting inclusivity.

3. Fostering Community Connection and Mutual Understanding

Intergenerational arts programs have been noted for building meaningful relationships and mutual respect between generations. These connections help bridge cultural and generational divides, fostering a sense of community. Some programs have been shown to increase involvement in local initiatives and enrich family life through connections made in both formal and informal social activities.

4. Promoting a sustainable and resilient communityh Movement and Culturally Safe Practices

Programs combining physical activity with culturally safe practices demonstrate how movement serves as a universal language, transcending cultural boundaries. Participants feel empowered, particularly in mono-cultural settings.

5. Improvements in Physical and Mental Health

Programs using creative activities, such as devised theatre, have been recognized for their ability to bridge generational divides. These initiatives also positively impact participants' physical and mental well-being, as engagement often leads to increased activity and reduced isolation.

"The intergenerational program provides joy and engagement for people that are living in these arrangements (aged care), they don't always see their family. They don't always get out as much as perhaps they would either like to or used to for those that attend, they love it. It changes their week. It does connect them with families."

"They didn't want the program to end. We had a reunion last Wednesday and they everybody came and they were so excited to see each other and we went to lawn bowls again and we asked them what kind of impact the program has had on them. How they look at people of another generation and how they interact with people from the other generation and...Jim...he was an older participant, he said. He's not afraid to talk to young people now. Because he realizes that. That they're just like him, only a different age. And then a younger person. Said made a similar comment and said that she doesn't hold back to engage with an older person. And that when she does, she's happy to smile. So one of the outcomes that we had hoped for was that they become advocates against ageism."

"when you have a play group, you have a parent or caregiver with a younger child. Could be a baby, could be a four year old, and very often the parent connects with the older person as much as the child. So you've got 3 levels of generations, and then if a connection is made, then the family can continue to connect with that older person outside of the formalities. And, you know, Christmas cards and popping by for a cup of tea can happen. And that can really change someone's life."

"The first intergenerational thing was just bringing them all together as a performance. So there was a night of monologues and for both of them I used the ensemble. So whilst they were monologues it was also group work because they would have a monologue and an ensemble behind them, kind of as a chorus, I guess. And it was, it was just really quite moving actually. They really loved being around each other."

"Our Theatre for Global Majority Project started off as kind of a weekly workshop series and that was very much Open Access to anyone from POC, you know, CALD Communities. And so that's kind of the main program that we have when we're talking about intergenerational. That's the one again where it is diverse in the sense. Attendees are diverse in the sense of generations."

"There were very different challenges, but they each thought that they were helping the other one. So the young people thought the older people can't hear, so they wanted to help them. They realised they weren't very agile. So the young people thought - we can do all the movement stuff. The older people could see young people had issues with their behaviour management or their emotional regulation or their focus. So they could see that that was a challenge with these people and they could help them with that. And yeah, so it was a lovely way for them to both feel empowered to help others."

"It's like they find their tribe, don't they, find their people. But just I think the biggest thing is the sense of belonging, like a sense of a space. You know, our main priority is about how do we create a space. You know, no space can be entirely safe for everyone, but actually, how do we create a space where people can be themselves and that's, you know, a big thing."

"Self-empowerment of people to be able to speak within their own communities in their own spaces, all the kind of spaces that they navigate, advocate for themselves and to share their, to share their knowledge, share their creativity and be able to make work and foster a career as well. Make societal change, you know, with regards to representation, so they're seeing more and more work that come from this community and seeing leaders."

"The music the crafts in and around, you know, significant times of the year, Christmas and Easter, there's some rituals, you know, in terms of painting eggs and stories and fasting. And all of those things. So having someone educated or having someone who's, you know lives and breathes that part of, you know, that culture."

"so, you know, isolation's massive, it can be really massive, generally for a lot of our community. Things even you know that come with massive families that can still people can still feel very, very isolated and so yeah, that kind of group bonding and connection and over oppression actually over kind of shared experience is quite significant and important like you can see it's so wonderful."

Feedback from Key Stakeholders

Co-Design Workshops

Co-design workshops were conducted in two different contexts, providing insights into the gaps and strengths of engaging intergenerational groups in arts programs. One group, from a culturally specific background with little experience in intergenerational activities, highlighted opportunities during school holidays when grandparents and children spend more time together. Another group, more experienced in intergenerational programs, contributed valuable feedback on gaps and strengths but did not represent a culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) demographic.

Workshop 1: School Holiday Program

The first co-design workshop focused on an intergenerational group within a CALD environment, targeting activities for school holidays when older adults often engage in child-caring roles.

The workshop, attended by 43 participants, included older adults, youth, and volunteers from similar cultural and linguistic backgrounds. It was structured around two key activities: a movement warm-up paired with an augmented reality (AR) experience and a discussion on intergenerational program design.

1. Movement Warm-Up and AR Experience

The warm-up activity emphasized non-verbal communication through physical movement, set to accessible and enjoyable music. Participants engaged in scalable group exercises, encouraging interaction across generations.

The AR component introduced participants to an immersive experience using hand-held devices and headsets, designed to overlap in shared physical space. This encouraged social interaction and reduced hesitation in adopting new technology.

2. Value Proposition Co-Design

Participants engaged in discussions to identify intergenerational service needs, challenges, and potential gains. The outcomes informed the design of new intergenerational arts programs tailored to the group's specific cultural and logistical needs.



Value Proposition

Pain Relievers

- Improved transport and mobility support services
- Digital literacy programs tailored for older adults
- More social engagement opportunities to reduce loneliness
- School holiday programs that include intergenerational activities
- Language support through translation services and English learning programs
- Increased availability of activities, programs, and spaces
- More funding and resources for community initiatives
- Strategies to encourage youth participation in OCASA intergenerational programs
- Clearer communication channels for easier access to information
- Alternative recreational activities for youth to balance gaming habits
- More targeted programs and activities designed for children

Gain Creators

- Creating a welcoming and inclusive environment for all ages
- Designing programs that foster safety, social connection, and belonging
- Promoting health, wellbeing, active ageing, and engagement opportunities through exercise and movement programs
- Encouraging sustainable lifestyle choices through education and engagement
- Supporting and developing cross-community programs that foster inclusivity and share information among South Australian communities
- Offering opportunities for CALD members to learn about Australian culture and history while increasing access to culturally appropriate services
- Organizing social events and group activities to help people make new friends
- Facilitating food-sharing experiences to strengthen community bonds
- Offering workshops and training to develop new skills and hobbies
- Integrating creative technologies into learning and engagement programs
- Promoting a sustainable and resilient community

Products and Services

- Transport and Mobility Services:** Road signage designed for ease of use by older adults, along with travel apps that are user-friendly and offer multiple language options
- Language Tools and Services:** Comprehensive language support services and tools for better communication
- Intergenerational Programs:** More activities and programs specifically designed for both young and old to engage together Community
- Sustainability and Wellbeing Programs:** Increased programs focused on sustainability and promoting community wellbeing



Customer Profile

Pains

- Old people:**
 - Lack of support with transport and mobility
 - Difficulty using digital technologies
 - Loneliness and social isolation
 - No school holiday programs designed for older adults
 - Language barriers
 - Limited activities, programs, and available spaces
 - Insufficient resources and funding
 - Low engagement from younger generations in intergenerational programs organised by OCASA
 - Difficulty accessing information
- Youth:**
 - High engagement in gaming, leading to potential addiction
 - Lack of activities and programs specifically designed for children

Customer Jobs

- Create more opportunities to bring people together
- Group and peer support
- Discover more access to transportation and mobility services
- Individual arrangements to support attendance at group activities and programs
- English language learning opportunities
- Access to translation services and apps
- Word-of-mouth networks for information sharing
- Enhanced support for Chinese cultural events and festival celebrations

Gains

- Supportive and welcoming environment
- Sense of safety and social connection
- Improved health and wellbeing
- Sustainable lifestyle choices
- Inclusive and multicultural community
- Opportunities for exercise and active ageing
- Making new friends and social connections
- Enjoyment of food sharing experiences
- Access to culturally appropriate services
- Opportunities to learn new skills
- Exposure to new creative technologies

Workshop 2: Intergenerational Program Evaluation:

A second workshop expanded on an existing intergenerational program, focusing on identifying gaps and strengths to inform sustainable future designs. Participants included older adults, youth, and stakeholders with lived experience. Activities explored potential improvements and ideas for innovative programs.

1. Ideation for Future Programs

Participants envisioned intergenerational spaces offering diverse activities like art, music, and nature based experiences. Themes of inclusivity, shared understanding, and belonging emerged strongly.

2. Activity Design and Prioritization

Groups classified activities based on their feasibility and resource demands, emphasizing the importance of affordable and accessible options. Larger infrastructure projects were acknowledged as long-term goals.

3. Reflection and Recommendations

Key priorities included creating safe, inclusive spaces and expanding programs using novel technologies like AR and VR. The concept of forming a community working group to drive intergenerational initiatives was highlighted.

Key Gaps and Strengths Identified

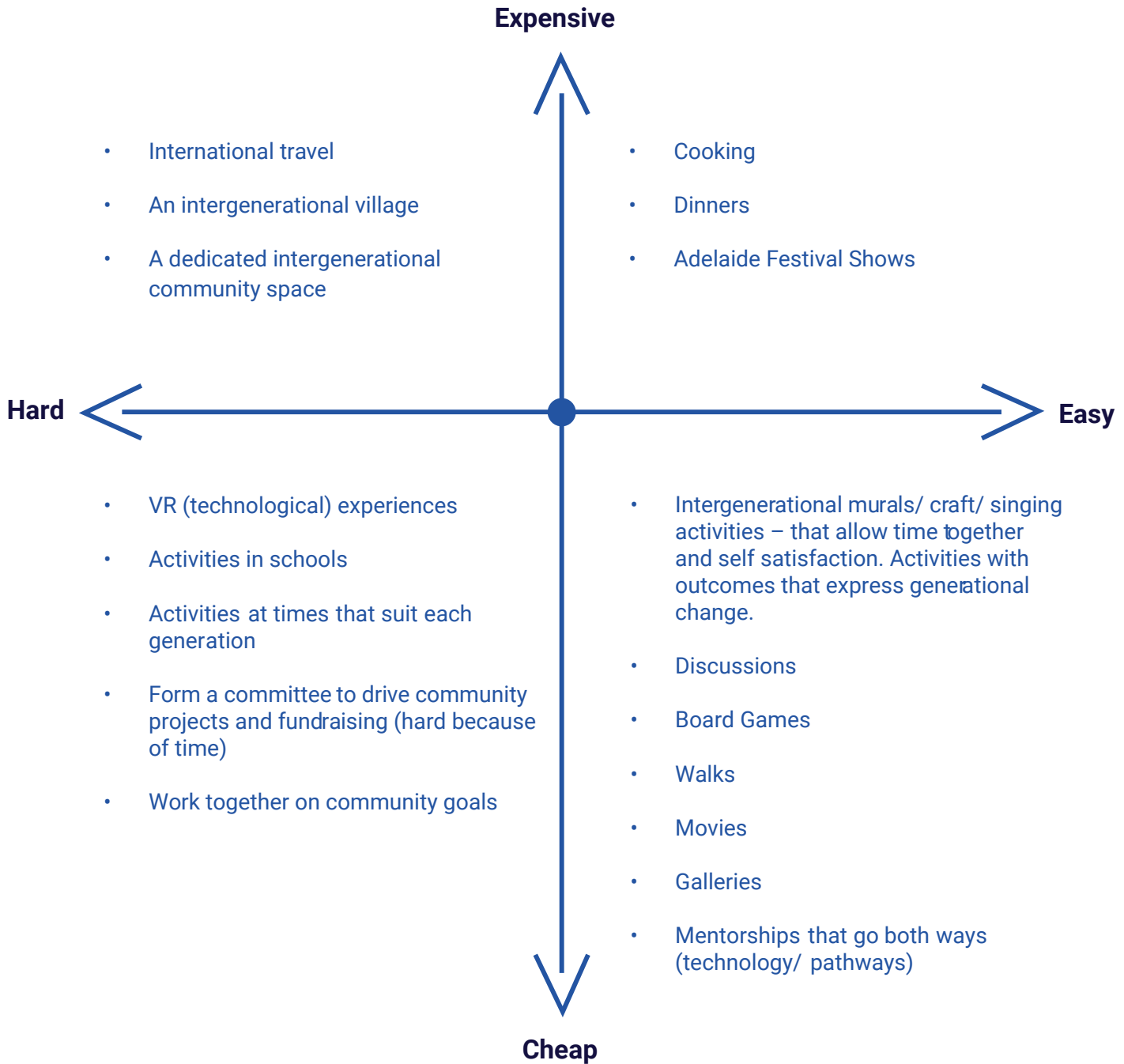
Engaging Youth: Strategies to engage younger participants were noted as crucial, particularly in culturally specific programs.

Cultural Sensitivity: Sharing cultural insights and strategies between programs could enhance inclusion efforts across different communities.

Movement and Technology: Activities incorporating movement and easy-to-use technology were highly valued for fostering interaction and shared experiences.

In conclusion, participants expressed a strong desire for programs that promote connection, community, and understanding while avoiding the siloing of social groups by age. They emphasized the need for shared experiences that support intergenerational learning and mutual support.

Activity Design and Prioritisation:



Groups classified activities based on their feasibility and resource demands, emphasizing the importance of affordable and accessible options. Larger infrastructure projects were acknowledged as long-term goals.

Reflection and Recommendations

Key priorities included creating safe, inclusive spaces and expanding programs using novel technologies like AR and VR. The concept of forming a community working group to drive intergenerational initiatives was highlighted.

Informing Stage 3 – Developing a Tool Kit

Each workshop provided insights into a comprehensive picture of the gaps and strengths for IAPs, identified through a united view indicating that sharing knowledge across communities is a recommended strategy. Developing a toolkit would involve creating a comprehensive set of resources and guidelines that can be used by various councils and community organisations to implement effective Intergenerational Arts Programs (IAPs) for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) communities. This toolkit would be informed by the insights gained from the co-design workshops and would aim to bridge the identified gaps, leverage the strengths, and promote the sharing of knowledge across different communities to enhance inclusion and engagement in IAPs for SACALD communities.

Recommendations and Summary

This research has laid the solid groundwork for developing an intergenerational arts program tailored for SACALD communities. By interviewing stakeholders across Adelaide CBD and nearby regional centres and conducting co-design workshops, we have gained profound insights into the design, management and operation of these programs.

Stakeholder interviews across various community organizations revealed the importance of targeted strategies to enhance attendance and participation in these programs, particularly among isolated individuals of diverse backgrounds. Notably, intergenerational arts programs are drawing inspiration from popular media and established training programs, broadening their impact.

Through this process, we have established valuable partnerships with local councils and organizations, creating immediate opportunities to pilot co-design workshops. These workshops provide critical insights into the gaps and strengths of programs designed specifically for intergenerational groups within CALD communities. The shared knowledge across organizations holds immense potential for developing programs that are both intergenerational and CALD-focused. Activities such as movement and creative technological experiences have proven essential for engagement. The insights gained from these workshops will guide the next phase of our project, which involves developing a comprehensive toolkit for CALD intergenerational arts programs. The enthusiasm and support from local councils have been instrumental in shaping the approach for our upcoming toolkit development and delivery, ensuring that our efforts are aligned with the needs of the communities we aim to serve.

This research project has identified key gaps in providing services to CALD groups when designing Intergenerational Arts Programs. To address these gaps, several recommendations can be implemented:

Arts and Culture Practice Level

1. Designing Activities to Foster Interaction:

Develop activities that encourage interaction between very young children and older generations. For example, integrating old technologies such as rotary phones into play spaces can promote shared experiences.

2. Interactive Arts-Based Engagement:

Implement arts-based activities that involve both creating and participating together to foster deeper intergenerational connections.

3. Establishing Mentorship Opportunities:

Create mentorship programs within the arts sector to facilitate guidance, cultural exchange, and shared learning between generations.

Community Level

4. Enhancing Outreach to Isolated Individuals:

Improve communication strategies by using diverse languages and culturally relevant signage to increase engagement with isolated individuals, particularly within CALD communities.

5. Broadening the Definition of CALD Communities:

Expand the definition of CALD to include isolated individuals, ensuring that programs are more inclusive and reach those who may be socially or culturally disconnected.

6. Building Partnerships:

Collaborate with community organizations and cultural groups to co-design and deliver programs that are more inclusive and reflective of community needs.

Policy Level

7. Funding Prioritization:

Allocate resources to intergenerational programs and inclusion officers to ensure consistent and meaningful implementation.

8. Demographic Data Collection and Analysis:

Mandate the collection and analysis of demographic data to inform program design and better understand the needs of diverse populations.

9. Systematic Support for Intergenerational Initiatives:

Develop and implement policies that promote long-term support for intergenerational arts programs, ensuring they remain impactful and sustainable.

These recommendations aim to bridge gaps, enhance inclusivity, and strengthen intergenerational bonds within CALD communities. Implementing these solutions can bring numerous community benefits, such as increased involvement from under-engaged groups, enhanced social cohesion, and the development of a vibrant, multi-generational arts scene.

However, addressing these gaps requires councils to employ dedicated inclusion officers who can develop targeted strategies for engaging CALD communities. Collecting comprehensive demographic data is crucial to designing intergenerational services that meet the needs of diverse populations. Leveraging existing community resources and establishing direct contacts with community groups can also improve outreach efforts.

In conclusion, this research highlights the critical need for tailored intergenerational arts programs for CALD communities and

provides a clear roadmap for implementation. By fostering collaboration among councils, organisations and community stakeholders, we can bridge the existing gaps and promote inclusivity, cultural exchange and social connection.

The proposed solutions, supported by policy-driven changes and dedicated resources, offer a sustainable approach to building a thriving, diverse intergenerational arts program for CALD communities. These priorities will create meaningful opportunities to celebrate cultural diversity, strengthen intergenerational bonds, and empower communities to thrive together.

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