

10 Tips for Creating an Inclusive Event

Know your community

- Understand the demographics of your community, keeping in mind underrepresented groups to make sure everyone is included.

Collaborate

- Collaborate with organisations that work with specific groups such as refugees and people seeking asylum, migrants, people with disabilities, people living with a mental illness, people experiencing family and domestic violence and other faith communities etc.
- Involve your local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders community leaders and/or elders.

Plan

- Ensure you have a diverse range of people involved in planning the event.
- Nominate 'community champions' from diverse backgrounds to champion the event in your community.
- Consider how to be inclusive of people of all abilities e.g. hiring an Auslan sign language interpreter for deaf community members, choosing a venue with a hearing loop, access for wheelchair and walking aid users, sensory activities for children or adults with autism spectrum disorder etc.

Invite

- Encourage Salvos from Corps and other local Mission Expressions to invite their family members and friends, remembering those from diverse cultural backgrounds.
- Invite other faith, church and community groups in your area, particularly those from migrant backgrounds and those that conduct services in languages other than English.
- Send a personal invitation to organisations working with vulnerable groups and ask them how they would like to be included.
- Consider how invitations and promotional material can be made accessible to all by using Accessible Communication e.g. Consider using large print & contrasting colours for hardcopies or a video invite with auditory information for people with visual impairment and with captions for people hard of hearing

A community event is great way to gather a diverse range of people together and get to know your local community better. Remember to think about how you might keep in touch with people after the event and what opportunities there might be to collaborate into the future.