

# It's good that they're listening

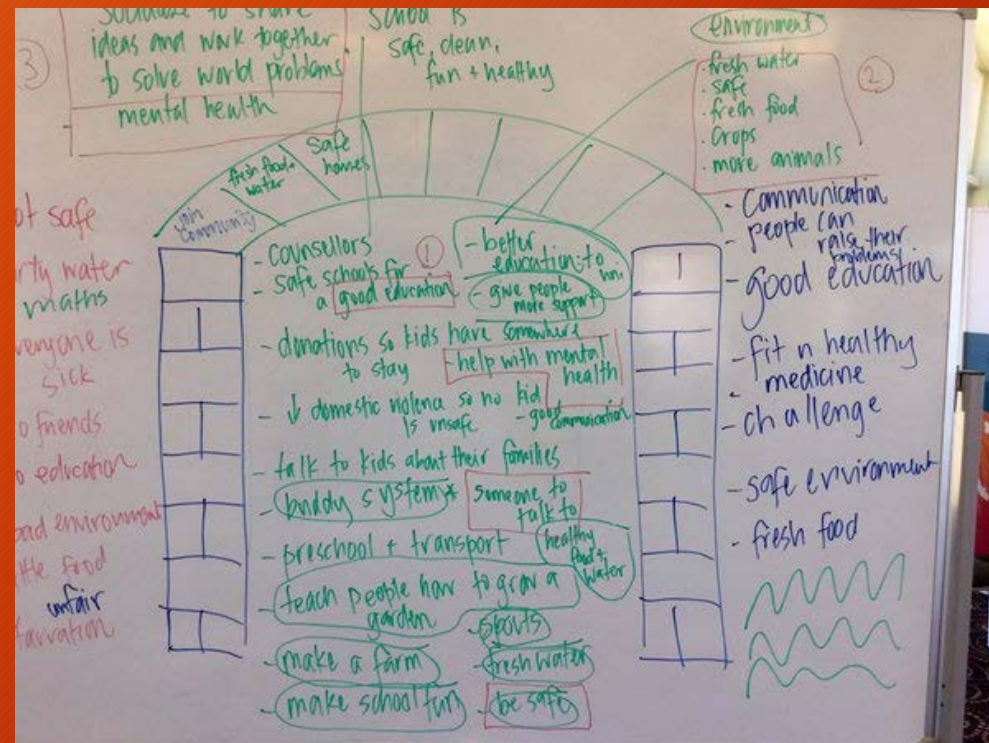
Consultation with children by Megan Mitchell & Tim Moore  
(with the awesome help of Josh Mapstone and Kevan Horder)

At the Caring for Country Kids Conference 2016



# What we did

- What are children's rights and why are they important?
- Children's right to participate and their right to have their views taken seriously
- What makes a (un)healthy community?
- What needs to be done to help unhealthy communities become healthy?



# What is a “healthy community” like?

- It's fun, you don't have to worry about things, people get along and care for kids
- Good education
  - Means you can have lots of opportunities and can have a kickstart in reaching your dreams
  - Schools need to be a safe place for kids: it might be the only place where they don't have to worry about their and their families' problems
  - Schools can help you exercise, play sports, learn about good food and have fun

# What is a “healthy community” like?

- Safe environments:
  - Don't have to worry about violence, drugs, alcohol, things that make you feel scared
- Enough healthy food, fresh water
- Everyone is fit and healthy and support each other to be healthy
  - Kids learn to be healthy as kids so that they're healthy adults

# What is an unhealthy community like?

- No one feels safe: there's lots of violence and people hurt each other
- There's not enough clean water or healthy food
- No one looks after one another
- Kids don't have any friends
- The schools are no good and children can't follow their dreams
- There's starvation
- There's not enough medicine or doctors to help sick kids

# What would need to happen for an unhealthy community to become a healthy one?

- Make sure that there are lots of safe schools for a good education (it's good to learn and it's good that school is a safe place for those kids who don't have anywhere else that safe)
- Donations so that kids have somewhere to stay (maybe like a raffle or everyone who goes to the bank donates money for homeless kids)
- Domestic violence is stopped so no kid is unsafe
- Talk to kids about their families and what they think would help
- Have buddy systems in schools so that no kid feels unsafe and they can get help when they need it
- Good preschools: and transport so that little kids can get there, especially if parents don't have a car

# What would need to happen for an unhealthy community to become a healthy one?

- Teach people how to grow a garden and give out free seeds
- Make school fun so that kids want to go. Then they can be safe and do exercise
- Have free food for kids at school who don't have any money
- Help young people do well in school so that they can go to university. That's the only way that they will be able to change their situation
- Give people more support because theres lots of people who hurt themselves, are depressed or suicide. There's not enough around
- Make sure that every kid has someone they trust they can talk to
- Make sure that there's lots of healthy food and water
- Make sure there's lots of sports groups around so that kids and adults can get healthy

- “Socialise to share ideas and work together to solve world problems”







- “It’s good that so many smart and powerful people care enough about kids... It was good to have a say... I hope they listen”