

### Social Cohesion Requires a Long-Term Commitment

Key Initiatives to Advance Cohesion

Advancing Community Cohesion Conference
July 2015



# Evidence guides investments

Scanlon/ Monash Index Program -Community Hubs

**Evaluation** 



### "Habit is stronger than reason"



"THE HABITS THAT TOOK YEARS TO BUILD, DO NOT TAKE A DAY TO CHANGE" -SUSAN POWTER

believe-toachieve.tumblr.cor



#### Elements of social cohesion

- 1. There are shared values, mutual respect and common aspirations
- 2. It applies to a community which also has shared goals and responsibilities and in particular a readiness to co-operate
- 3. It is an ongoing process



## Key initiatives to advance cohesion

- Build community belonging
- Facilitate participation
- Build capacity
- Involve partners to achieve impact and scale
- Long-term commitment
- Improve the five domains of social cohesion, and
- Create opportunities and networks for leverage



#### Scanlon Foundation Initiatives

- Cultural Diversity in the community
  - Community Foundations
  - Community Hubs
- Cultural Diversity in the workplace
  - A Taste of Harmony
  - Australian Industry Group
- Cultural Diversity in schools
  - Department of Social Services



Though the road is long and never ending, the potential for impact is great and the journey is worth the effort