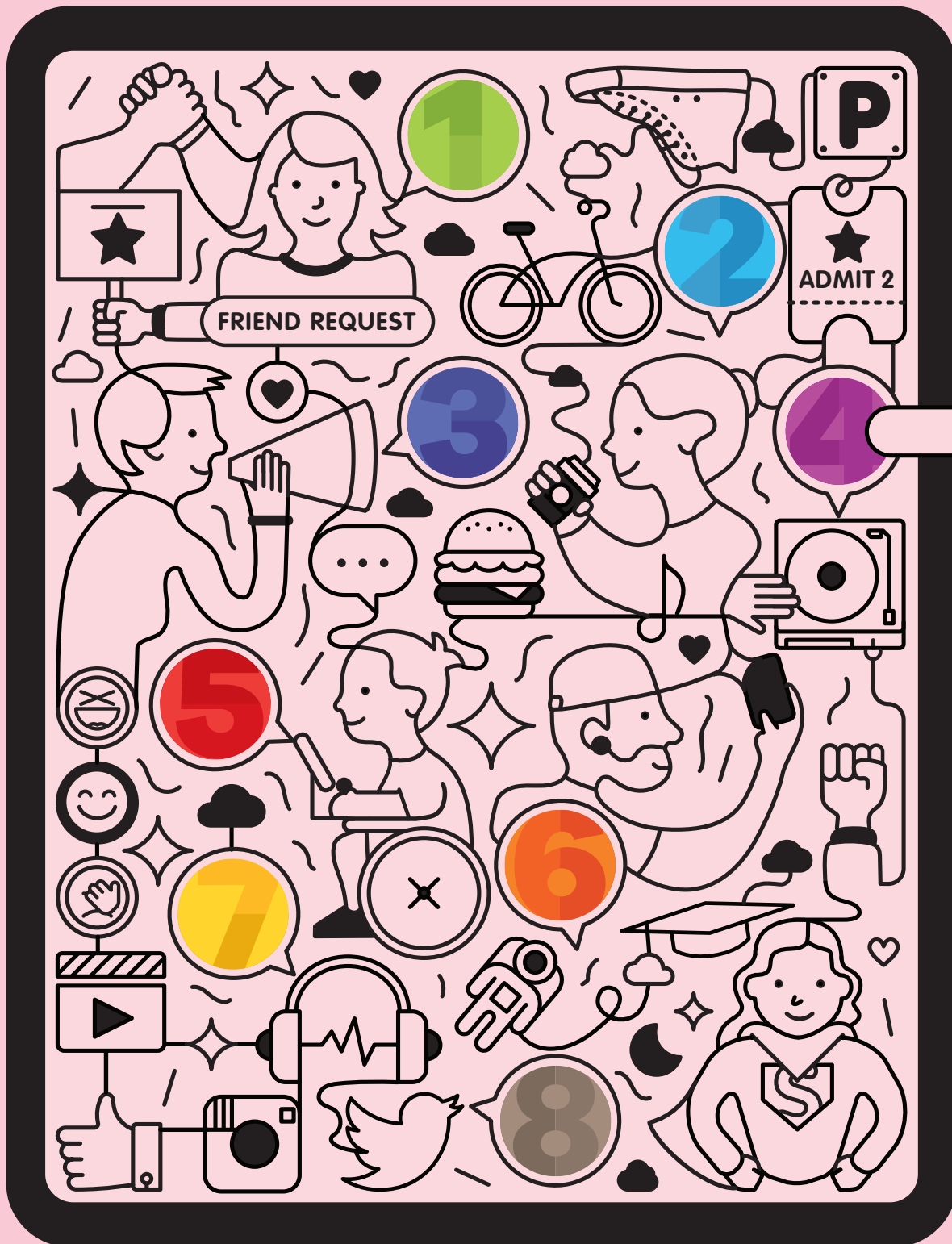


STRONG YOUTH PEER NETWORKS



STRONG YOUTH PEER NETWORKS

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This workbook has been co-produced in collaboration with a group of young people who are passionate about peer networks and the benefits they bring.

In particular, we acknowledge the contribution of the following people:

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This workbook complements the ***Strong networks: connecting the beads together*** guide and sits alongside existing online resources on the Peer Connect website www.peerconnect.org.au.

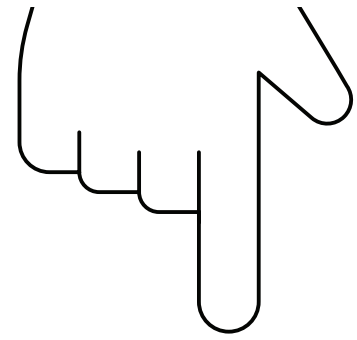
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PeerConnect respectfully acknowledges the traditional custodians of the lands and waters of Australia. We are committed to inclusive communities.

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WELCOME



Welcome to this workbook, a resource created in collaboration with young people who run peer networks in South Australia.

This workbook is designed for:

1. People who want to set up a youth peer network and are looking for ways to engage young people
2. People already involved in youth peer networks who are looking for ways to keep their peer network strong.

By drawing on the experiences of peer networks and the young people involved, this workbook will take you through a range of ideas about how to get young people engaged in your network. This includes having a safe space for youth and promoting open youth-to-youth interactions. The significance of language and communication, together with creating a youth-friendly atmosphere and energy, is so important when it comes to enhancing leadership development amongst young people.

This is not a recipe book. It is a guide to support you in getting started and help you to think through how your network is going, along with what you can do to make it stronger.

To help you find your way around, the workbook is organised into eight sections:

1. Why peer networks are important
2. Starting a youth peer network
3. Keeping young people engaged
4. Creating a youth-friendly atmosphere and vibe
5. Importance of language and communication
6. Using motivational tools and empowerment approaches with young people
7. Using diverse media to get the word out
8. Developing leadership

STRINGING THE BEADS TOGETHER

This workbook organises these eight sections into beads onto a string, making it easier to move from one to the next. As you read through you might be looking at how to start a youth peer network or you may already have one but want to learn more about language and communication, for example.

Each bead represents an aspect of youth peer networks you might want to work on. You can either work on all of them, one at a time starting from the beginning, or you can go straight to the bead that makes most sense to your situation.

