



## Online Resources for Support Groups

### Starting a Support Group



#### **Yahoo! - Free Online Group**

<http://groups.yahoo.com>

A place where people with a shared interest meet, get to know each other, and stay informed. Your group gives you instant access to:

- Shared message archives
- Photos and photo albums
- Group event calendars
- Member polls and shared links

#### **Collective of Self- Help Groups (COSHG)**

<http://www.coshg.org.au>

COSHG has lots of useful information on starting a group as well as running workshops for people who are starting Self Help Groups or the issues that you need to deal with during the life of a group.

#### **ConnectGroups Western Australia**

<http://www.connectgroups.org.au>

ConnectGroups – Support Groups Association WA (previously Western Institute of Self Help (WISH) Inc) is a unique not-for-profit, community-based organisation that provides support and assistance for individuals and support groups with start-up, ongoing development, advocacy and networking.

#### **Starting a Support Group**

<http://www.mentalhelp.net/selfhelp>

This guide has been developed to act as your starting point for finding every type of national, international, model and online self-help support group that is available. The self-help groups contained in the database that you can access by keyword in the box at the bottom, can help you find and/or start a support group in your community.



## Computer Resources

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### Green PC

<http://www.greenpc.com.au>

Green PCs are recycled personal computers that are refurbished and repackaged into usable, Internet-ready computers, and then made available to low-income communities, individuals and community organisations. The only qualification for an individual or family to have access to a Green PC computer is that they be holders of current Health Care Cards or are able to verify their low income status in some other way.



## Software

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### Adobe Software: In-kind Product Donations

<http://www.adobe.com/ap/aboutadobe/philanthropy/index.html>

As part of Adobe's ongoing, innovative community relations programs any non-profit community organization is eligible to receive up to 3 products per year free of charge. These donations are intended to provide long-term support for successful service programs.

### Free PDF Creator – PrimoPDF

<http://www.primopdf.com>

Convert to PDF from any application by simply 'printing' to the PrimoPDF printer - it couldn't be easier! Within minutes, you can create high-quality PDFs by converting from Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and virtually any other printable file type.

### Ministry Blue: Discounted Computer Software.

<http://www.ministryblue.com/software.html>

Designed for Charities, churches, missions, not for profits etc (In Australia Only)

### Nonprofit Open Source Initiative (NOSI)

<http://www.nosi.net>

Connects nonprofits to software solutions that help them more effectively meet their missions of positive global change. We connect and strengthen physical



communities of non-profit users and software developers by convening and facilitating innovative technology events.

We connect and strengthen virtual communities of non-profit users and developers through the Social Source Commons, which maps out available software tools and related information resources. And we provide capacity building services, working with software developers to produce better tools for nonprofits, and with nonprofits to better leverage these tools.

### **OpenOffice.org - Produced by: OpenOffice.org Project**

<http://www.openoffice.org>

OpenOffice.org 3 is the leading open-source office software suite for word processing, spreadsheets, presentations, graphics, databases and more. It is available in many languages and works on all common computers. It stores all your data in an international open standard format and can also read and write files from other common office software packages. It can be downloaded and used completely free of charge for any purpose. Non-profit users see also:

[http://why.openoffice.org/why\\_nfp.html](http://why.openoffice.org/why_nfp.html)

### **Word/Excel/PowerPoint File Viewers - Our Community Pty Ltd**

[http://www.ourcommunity.com.au/tech/view\\_software\\_package.do?articleid=1400](http://www.ourcommunity.com.au/tech/view_software_package.do?articleid=1400)

Produced by: Microsoft

Microsoft provides free programs that allow you to view and print documents created with Word, Excel or Powerpoint versions 97 or 2000. Users can zoom, view page layout, headers/footers, footnotes, and annotations. Download links are provided below.

The viewer applications are available for Windows 2000 Service Pack 4, Windows Server 2003, Windows XP.



## **Grants and Funding**

### **Collecting Money - Fundraising**

<http://www.commerce.wa.gov.au/ConsumerProtection/Content/Business/Charities/>

Any organisation or club collecting money or goods from the public for charitable purposes needs to be licensed under the Charitable Collections Act. There is no fee required for a licence, however each of the Principal Executive Officers must provide a NATIONAL POLICE CLEARANCE.

### **Grants LINK - Commonwealth of Australia**

<http://www.grantslink.gov.au>

This website helps you find funding available under a variety of grant programs for individuals, businesses and communities to help you to develop solutions to local and national problems, fund ideas and initiatives or provide assistance in times of hardship.

## Managing Community Groups



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### **The Community Management Centre – A to Z of Resources**

[http://www.ourcommunity.com.au/management/view\\_help\\_sheet\\_list.do?categoryid=374](http://www.ourcommunity.com.au/management/view_help_sheet_list.do?categoryid=374)

The national resources gateway - is for community groups seeking information and resources on every aspect of how to manage a community group.

## Technical Resources



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### **TechSoup – The Technology Place For Nonprofits**

<http://www.techsoup.org>

TechSoup Global is one of the most comprehensive technology resources for NGOs in the world. Working with corporate donors, including Microsoft, Adobe, Cisco, and Symantec, TechSoup provides nongovernmental organizations, nonprofits, libraries, and community-based organizations with the latest professional hardware, software, and services they need.

## Websites



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### **CommunityGuide**

<http://www.communityguide.com.au>

All local Community Groups and Sporting Clubs may register for a website of up to 10 pages on CommunityGuide to promote their organisation, activities, events, etc.

You will receive your own login and password to the CommunityGuide website builder so that you can update and change your information at anytime.

As the CommunityGuide is regularly indexed daily by all the major search engine robots, your organisation will be promoted in all the Major Search Engines just by being a part of CommunityGuide.

**This is a Free Service - We do not charge any fees for recognised Community Groups, Sporting Clubs or non profit associations.**

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