



1000 Play Streets: Protecting the Child's Right to Play

Play Australia celebrates the 1000 Play Streets movement, after the campaign achieved global recognition, by receiving the Child's Right to Play Award at the International Play Association (World) Conference in Glasgow 2023.

1000 Play Streets aims to build stronger communities, by empowering Australians to reclaim their quiet residential streets as important places, for all neighbours, to connect and play.

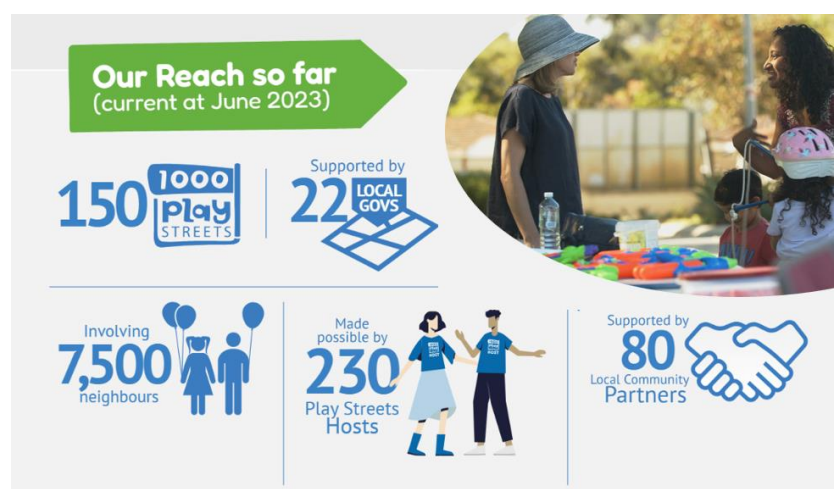
A central focus of the movement is to protect the Child's Right to Play, as recognized by Article 31 of the United Nation's Convention on the Rights of the Child, by preserving quiet residential streets as essential play environments for children.

The 1000 Play Streets movement is inspired by the work of our global neighbour, Playing Out UK, who assert that *"being able to play outside freely and safely with other children close to home is not an extra or something nostalgic from the 80s, like going to a roller disco. It's a fundamental way that young people build physical and mental health... Not having access to this or to safe public space is a social justice issue"* (Ingrid Skeels, 2021).

Play Australia fiercely agrees with this sentiment as we look toward the future and seek to further grow the movement, by building important partnerships across our national play system, acknowledging that a strong relationship with Local Government is essential, to open more streets for play.

Play Australia thanks everyone involved in the movement thus far, particularly our Local Government Partners and our Research Partner in Centre for Sport & Social Impact at La Trobe University, as it's been a big team effort to get to this point.

We also thank Australian Sports Commission, Office for Recreation Sport & Racing and Wellbeing SA for funding the movement and to Playing Out UK for the inspiration.



To access our latest information and download our FREE 1000 Play Streets Toolkit for Australian Local Government, please visit: <https://www.playaustralia.org.au/1000-play-streets>

