

WRITE YOUR LEGACY

VISIONING AND CREATING IDEAS

THIS TOOL WILL HELP YOU TO:

- ★ identify your key values, and develop greater personal authenticity and purpose
 - ★ think about what you want to be remembered for
 - ★ consider what, if anything, needs to change in your life
 - ★ set goals to plan and create the legacy you'd like to leave.
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HOW TO:

- 1 Imagine you've lived a good life and you are now very old. Picture what you've done during your life. This is your life as you hope to have lived it. You can use the following questions to guide you.

What did you enjoy doing?

What was most memorable about you?

What did you do for work?

What did you accomplish?

Do you have any regrets?

What really matters to you in the end?

What was the most important thing to you in your life?

What advice would you share with someone younger?

What did people admire in you the most?

What kind of relationships did you have?

What was your greatest passion?

What legacy will you leave behind you?

What are you proudest of?

- 2 Write a letter to your 'current' self (or some imaginary grandchildren), sharing your memories, your advice and the legacy you will leave behind you.
- 3 Set out some goals on how you intend to achieve your legacy. Then, make it real!

If you'd like to use the tool on a less personal project or organisational level, you can imagine a project completion party or a farewell from a group or organisation. Swap the idea of the letter to a thank you speech.

If you are using this tool with a group, individuals should work separately then come together to present their legacies. You can do this by comparing legacies with someone in the group, and taking note of the key elements you value and want to achieve. These elements could help to create your project vision.

Note: There are some great variations on this visioning tool. For example, you may like to imagine there are five significant people talking about your life at your 90th birthday party. Who do you hope would be there? What do you hope they would say about your life? If you feel safe enough, imagine it's your funeral instead of your birthday party.



BRING IT TO A MAKE CHANGE HAPPEN MEETING

Report back

While your vision may be personal, publicly affirming your values and vision can kickstart a deep process of bringing your vision into reality. Explain the tool and how you found using it. What worked? What might you like help with? You may read out your letter or notes to the group.

Practice run

If you plan to use this tool for group visioning, you might like some practice and support from your Make Change Happen group. Explain the purpose of the tool and describe the context they are to imagine (e.g. a celebration speech at your Make Change Happen group's end of year party). Follow the variation for groups with a few minutes for individual writing and a few minutes to share and draw out themes.

WRITE YOUR LEGACY

IMAGINE YOU LIVED A GOOD LIFE. PICTURE WHAT YOU WILL LEAVE BEHIND.

COMBINE THIS TOOL WITH:

- Grow your Vision Tree
- Pool Your Ideas

NOTES

Adapted from: Kate Harris, Centre for Sustainability Leadership (www.csl.org.au)