

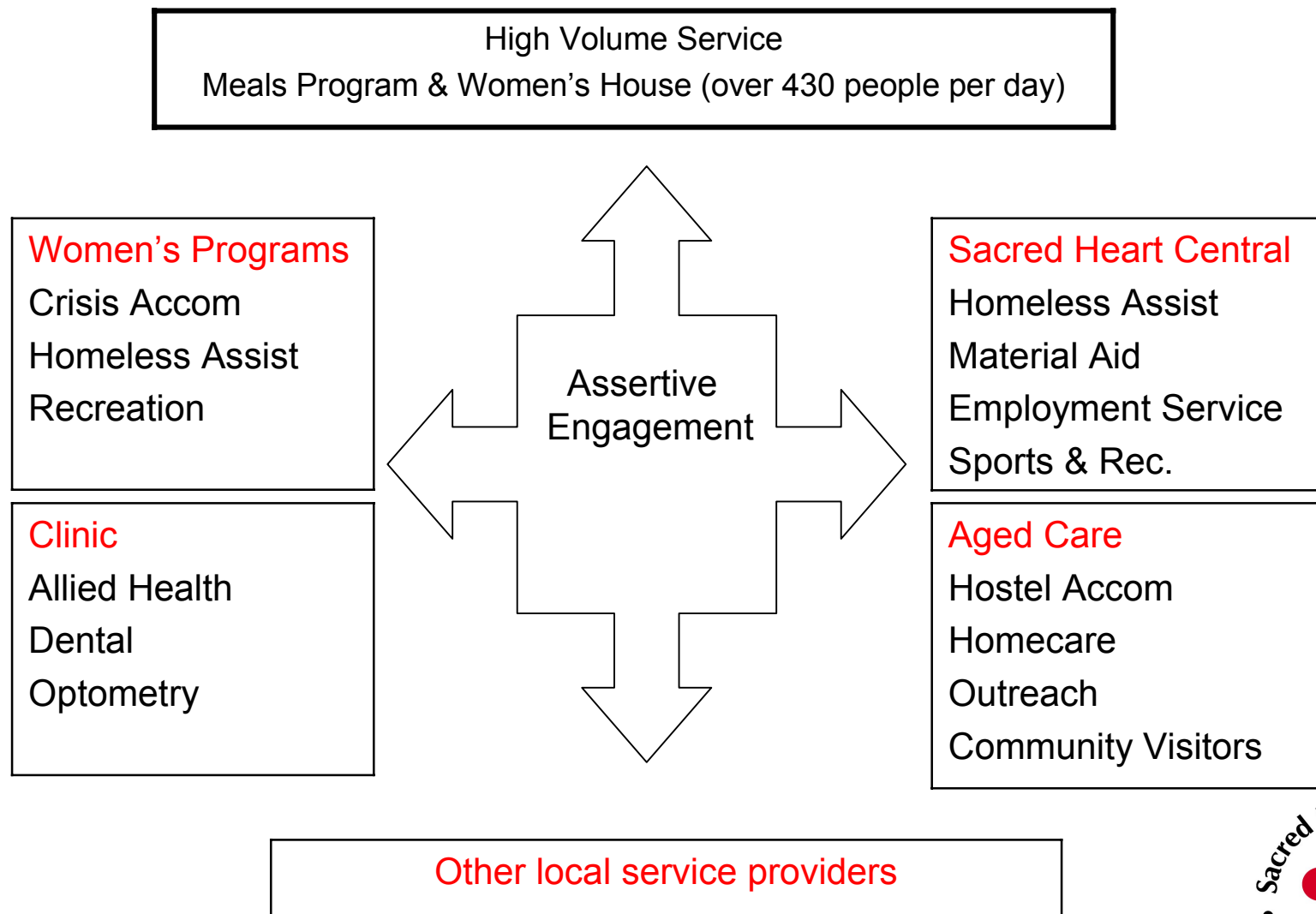
STATE ELECTION 2006: SPHERES OF INFLUENCE

Tackling Difficult Issues
Homelessness & Mental Health

A partnership between Sacred Heart Mission
and The Alfred Hospital



Sacred Heart Mission - Integrated Service Response



Key Directions highlighted in Strategic Planning Process

- Responding to people with complex needs
- Developing Partnerships
- Research & Advocacy

Outcomes

- Focussed our energies
- Improved accountability
- Created discussion within the organisation
- Increased the potential to capitalise on opportunities
- Talked about what we were doing and what our priorities are



HIGHLIGHTED AN AREA FOR IMPROVEMENT

- CAPACITY TO RESPOND TO MENTAL ILLNESS

- Access to the Mental Health system
- Skills of Staff
- Relationship with local mental health providers
- Clients experiencing severe crisis but unable to provide or access appropriate response
- Unable to intervene when issue at early stages

ACTIONS TAKEN

- Put energy into establishing stronger relationships
- Training for staff
- Explored ways in which we could work more closely with The Alfred



BREAKFAST



Next Steps

Demonstrate the Demand

- Data Collection - unmet need
- Research

Development of a Service Delivery Model

- Meetings with local mental health providers – taking a partnership approach
- Coming to an agreement with key stakeholders on what the service should look like

Proposal

- Distribution of proposal for comment so that it was endorsed and supported by key agencies



Lobbying Phase

- A clear “sell message”
- Met with regional DHS representatives – provided valuable feedback on model and agreed to talk to head office
- Met with Regional Director of DHS
- Met with Mayor & CEO of City of Port Phillip
- Met with local members of parliament
- Met with Minister Thwaites - asked him to talk to Minister Pike
- Talked about it every opportunity

AIM: to secure support at all levels of Government



Keys to Success

- Clear proposal which was well researched and showed clear unmet need
- The service proposed could be linked to a coordinated strategy
- Credibility
- Partnership approach – we did not seek to do it ourselves
- Willingness to continually refine the model of service delivery
- Relied on already established relationships – DHS, local service providers, politicians
- Timing

