

MACUNITY

MINUTES

TUESDAY 15TH FEBRUARY 2011

Attendance:

Alana O'Sullivan	Forum Sentencing – Dept. Justice & Attorney General
Fidelma Rogers	Aboriginal Affairs NSW – Job Compact
Ricky Lyons	Sport & Recreation
Luke Roki	Community Links Wollondilly
Chris Bush	YWCA NSW
Jonathan Christley	Campbelltown TAFE
Andrew Putt	Dept. Premier & Cabinet
Mathew Ferguson	Dept. Premier & Cabinet
Karen Chisnall	Families NSW – Sector Connect
Mandy Edwards	MAX Employment
Karen Badans	MAX Employment
Brianna Crawley	Health Promotion
Veronica Macdonald	Uniting Care – Burnside
Sharynne Freeman	Argyle Housing
Leo Dynevor	Muru Nanga Mai
Fay Nelson	Aboriginal YARNN Employment
Alice Wood	SSWAHS
Jodi' Lee Charnock	MDSI
Robert Wallace	Traxside
Jane McIvor	Sector Connect
Maria Matriano	Sector Connect (Volunteer)

Pam McCorriston

Sector Connect (Volunteer)

Apologies:

Gregg Squibb – Centrelink, J o Kerr – ICC, Annie Lee – TAFE, Birgitte Lund – Sport & Recreation, Ross Wortham – The Benevolent Society, Wies Schuiringa –The Benevolent Society, Paul Harkin – The Benevolent Society, Alana Moffitt –The Benevolent Society, Debbie Roberts – Youth Solutions, Tamara Casey – Youth Solutions, Chyne Griffiths – SSWAHS, Genevieve Marchian – YWCA, Camden Council, Angela Lonergan, Campbelltown City Council, Aboriginal Comm. Development Office Campbelltown City Council, Doris. Campbelltown City Council.

MacUnity aims to adopt the use of the Aboriginal process as best we can when conducting meetings. The minutes hope to reflect this process.

Acknowledgement of Country.

Acknowledgement to country was given by Ricky Lyons.

Jane McIvor thanked Burnside for the catering of our meeting.

Business Arsing/General:

Jane advised she will be absent at next meeting (19/4/11) due to travel overseas visiting her sick mother.

Mandy Edwards will become the new Aboriginal representative for MacUnity.

TAFE Project: Jonathan Christley advised there is movement but it is slow – Belinda Hawker is not available on Tuesdays to attend MacUnity meeting.

‘Woolwash’ Airs – This project is learning about the area & its significance

Still trying for an Aboriginal Identity teacher – Gregg Squibb was assisting but he has been sent to Queensland due to the flooding crisis – Jonathan has been following up with Gregg’s manager.

The position was for 20 hours per week but now reduced to approx. 18 hours.

Jane Mclvor asked if Sector Connect could advertise the position – Jonathan said they could make a recommendation to put up advert on S.C. website.

Jonathan asked if Sector Connect / MacUnity had any ideas on how to help with transition.

Suggestions made:

That new person needs to have a mentor plus strong support at all times.

Qualifications in welfare would be a good asset.

Look at Western Sydney Uni's program – Employment & Engagement.

Advertise through the Koori Mail.

Jane made a suggestion that Jonathan talk to an Aboriginal person within the unit – Jane said she will check with Centrelink.

S.W.O.T.S. analysis done at December meeting – This will be followed up at the next meeting in April.

Information share:

Muru Nanga Mai AGM will be held on Wednesday 23 February 2011 at the Multicultural Hall at Surrey Street, Minto. Arrive from 9.30 am for tea/coffee meeting to start 10am.

Health Service –

Close The Gap: 25th March 2011 at Koshigaya Park, Campbelltown. Services will have interactive stalls and the day's theme will be 'Make Your Mark'. This is an opportunity to come together there will be food/entertainment/health etc.

Compiling a list of interested people/organisations interested in advertising through Koori Radio.

Official invites to be sent out through Sector Connect website.

Anyone who is interested in having a stall should advise Brianna Crawley at Health Promotion.

Community Links Wollondilly:

Luke advised that Koori Flow had linked with Apology Day for this event on 17th February 2011. This will be held at Mount Annan Botanic Gardens.

Workshops also being run in Ambarvale linking in high schools, i.e. Thomas Redall High School, Robert Towson High School, Camden & Picton High Schools and ending in a Gala Day with TIG Traditional Indigenous Games and Life skills, which will be open to community.

Lyrebird Exercise Class Information Session: Leaflets handed out with details of this session which is an opportunity for Indigenous residents to plan & develop a local Macquarie Fields exercise activity class.

Date: Monday 28th February 2011

Time: 10.30 – 11.30am

Location: Mallee Rose Cottage, 6 Mallee Place, Macquarie Fields.

For more information contact: Lisa on 02 9754 6880.

Macarthur Diversity Services – Hippy Program. (Leaflets handed out)

Home Interaction Program for Parents & Youngsters (HIPPY)

Two programs will be running –

Rosemeadow – commencing February 2011

Claymore – commenced March 2009.

This is a two year (60 week) home based childhood enrichment program. Children can start at age 3 1/2 to 4 1/2 years old. HIPPY helps parents learn many things i.e.

- How to be more involved in their children's learning
- Understanding more about child development & the way children learn
- How to encourage a love of learning in children.

HIPPY helps children by:

- Preparing them for school
- Building self esteem

The program has home visits as well as group meetings for parents anyone wanting any further information should contact Julie Dannevig or Jodi-Lee Charnock on 02 4627 1188.

Campbelltown Community Development & Support Expenditure (CDSE): (Leaflet handed out)

Jane advised that the 2011 funding round was now open and anyone that is interested should attend the information sessions.

Sessions are Tuesday 5th April at 4pm and 6pm promptly. These will be held at Campbelltown Catholic Club, 22 Camden Road, Campbelltown. It is strongly suggested that all potential applicants attend an information session.

Closing date for applications is FRIDAY 6th MAY 2011. All application for funding must be lodged with **Sector Connect, PO Box 3477, Narellan 2567.**

All enquiries: Jane McIvor 4648 5933 OR Angela Lonergan 4645 4577.

NSW Aboriginal Community Care Gathering Committee. (Letter passed around for info).

A formal invitation issued to speak at the above conference to be held in Wollongong the 8th to 10th March 2011. The conference is entitled **Challenge Change and Choice** and they are looking to attract some key note speakers to present to their delegates how an improved future through recommendations with policy development will encourage mainstream services to implement their committee guidelines, and thus generate improved service provision for Aboriginal communities. Anyone interested should contact **June Riemer at NCOSS on 9211 2500 ext 102 or email june@ncoss.org.au.**

Leo Dynevor – Presentation

Leo introduced himself as a Kululla Wakka Wakka man. He talked of his back ground and family and how he had learned. Leo apologised about his hair needing uncut but went on to explain that he was growing it to have a painting done in traditional style for his family and their future history.

Leo's presentation covered different areas of Aboriginal life (see link below):

http://www.sectorconnect.org.au/assets/pdf/resources/macunity/MacUnity_Aboriginal_World.pdf

Important aspects:

'The Three Worlds'

PHYSICAL	HUMAN	SACRED
Sky/Moon/Stars	Ceremonies	Stories

Animals	People	Healing
Land	Family Relationships	Care of Country
	Rules of behaviour	Punishment
	Capacity to adapt to change	Law/Lore

Aboriginal World:

Creator

Law

Elders

Community

Elders decide on law and punishment.

Respect:

Connection

Aboriginality

Family first/tribe

It's all about knowing the person – stats does not matter, you need to know yourself.

Group Work (teaching how to connect / work with the Aboriginal Community):

The attendees broke up into groups – and each had topics to discuss. At the end of the set time there was an informal sharing of information and each person felt that these 'Think Groups' had been an excellent idea.

Discussion covered:

Session 1: MAKING THE CONNECTION (find common ground / connections)

Conversation starters:

- Who are you?
- Where are you from (family / state / country)
- Likes & dislikes
- Hobbies
- Do you know any Aboriginal people personally (how do you know them & where are they from)

Session 2: BUILDING THE RELATIONSHIP

Discuss with your group the topics below:

- What do you know about the events below?

- What do they mean to you and your family?
- Build the connection by discussing these points

PAST SIGNIFICANT ABORIGINAL EVENT

Group 1: Freedom Ride

Group 2: Vincent Lingari (Wave Hill Stand Off)

Group 3: Stolen Generation

Group 4: Referendum: Rights for Aboriginal People

Group 5: Mabo

RECENT SIGNIFICANT ABORIGINAL EVENT

Group 1: Apology Day

Group 2: Closing the Gap

Group 3: Generation One

Group 4: Reconciliation Week

Group 5: Aboriginal role models / opportunities in sport

Session 3: USING THE RELATIONSHIPS TO IMPROVE ABORIGINAL ENGAGEMENT

Discuss with your group:

- Success / issues in engaging the Aboriginal community in your work
- Areas where you would like to improve Aboriginal engagement
- How you could improve Aboriginal engagement and introduce one person into your service
- How could the group / network help you further

Bring feedback on how you have gone to the April meeting including both success and issues that you encountered

The network will provide support to address any issues encountered

Fay Nelson from YARNN Employment advised that there would be a documentary done by National Geographic on the life of 'Chicka' and that this should be ready about December this year.

Next meeting: Tuesday 10 May 2011
 (please note change of date due to Leo and Jane being away in April)
 10am – 1pm
 Eaglevale Leisure Centre (library)
 Emerald Drive
 Eaglevale