

## MACUNITY

### MINUTES

TUESDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2010.

#### **Attendance:**

Jane McIver	Sector Connect
Michelle Coates	Disability Trust
Fidelma Rogers	AANSW ( <a href="mailto:fidelma.rogers@daa.nsw.gov.au">fidelma.rogers@daa.nsw.gov.au</a> )
Birgitte Lund	Sport & Recreation
Ross Wortham	Benevolent Society CYC+
Roxanne Sheridan	Housing CC
Greg Squibb	Centrelink
Frances Jamieson	HNSW
Vanessa Kendall	Macarthur Community Options
Tamara Casey	Youth Solutions
Alana Moffett	Benevolent Society/Muru Nanga Mai
Jo Kerr	Sydney ICC
Sharynne Freeman	Argyle Housing
Catherine Parker	Dept of Premier & Cabinet (Regional Co-Ord) ( <a href="mailto:Catherine.parker@dpc.nsw.gov.au">Catherine.parker@dpc.nsw.gov.au</a> )
Mathew Ferguson	Dept of Premier & Cabinet (KTS Regional Project Manager)

**Apologies:** Debbie McCall - Community Services, Donna Fox - DEEWR,  
Mary Mann – Burnside, Denise Pritchard – Camden Council,  
Warunee Nuij – The Smith Family, Alice Wood – SSWAHS,  
Annie Lee – TAFE, Regina Nagy – SSWAHS,  
Tara Rumiz – Burnside, Wies Schwinger – Benevolent Society.

<p><b>MacUnity aims to adopt the use of the Aboriginal process as best we can when conducting meetings. The minutes hope to reflect this process.</b></p>
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### **Acknowledgment of Country**

Acknowledgment to country was read by Frances Jamieson.

### **Business Arising/General.**

Muru Nanga Mai Acknowledgement of Country book marks were handed out and Jane asked that these be used respectfully.

**NCOSS Conference MacUnity Presentation:** went very well.

**Sector Connect Website** has gone live but there is still a lot of tweaking going on i.e. Resources, Back Office. Emails will start to come out in different format. Everyone will need to re-register – when MacUnity is ready you will get a form which you will just need to click to re-register this will mean that you will start to get only the emails that are of interest/use to you rather than the bulk loads you currently receive.

Anyone that has good Links/Documents let Jane know as she can now post this herself onto the website.

### **Aboriginal Jobs Compact:**

Fidelfa Rogers spoke to the meeting on the job of ‘establishing Jobs Compact’. Currently there are about 20 employers signed up for regional area

(Eastern Subs/Western Sydney/South West Sydney). It is a case of mustering resources that are out there already. (JSA/Educational/Employment Agency)

NSW – No budget as such. DEEWR has the budgets and resources. 25<sup>th</sup> May meeting had 80 – 90 people attend, 27/28 to come to Steering Committee. Have had two (2) meetings on how to ‘get working’ one in Campbelltown and one in Blacktown. Blacktown 2 year mentoring – working with JSA’s/Business etc. Accor, Racing Industry (20 Aboriginal stable hands etc.) trying to get a focus group working together.

What role can MacUnity have to assist the Aboriginal Jobs Compact Steering Committee?

Getting the right groups of people together – JSA/Education/Local + Federal Government/Housing, it’s about developing a plan.

Servicing of contracts – don’t know how well this is checked.

Look at someone from MacUnity being represented on the Aboriginal Jobs Compact Steering Committee as work is needed on other barriers to gaining employment as well as jobs. We must look at ‘Closing the Gap’ initiatives and we need mentoring/support. Retention is the big thing we need to work on. This is why MacUnity can play an important role.

A number of MacUnity members indicated interest in being on both groups and will report back.

**Mentoring Progress in Housing:** Meeting was advised on the mentoring program in Housing – they have run their programme for 4 years and it is very successful.

**Centrelink** – run an Aboriginal mentoring/training course in Australia through Tribal Warriors. Staff have been through this training and will now set up mentoring programs as a result.

Suggested that a formal invite be extended to Uncle Ivan and Uncle Dave Bell to meet with group.

**Dept. Premier & Cabinet** – Advised that a new Mentoring Kit was being written and would be rolled out to all government agencies.

MacUnity trying to develop a continuum of care for young people by making linkages between long and short term projects. It is not helpful to start and stop courses / programs.

Need to get the link between the Mentor Program (DEEWA/JSA's etc.).  
Expectations – some programs just about the build up etc and not about the promotion.

**Greg Squibb** advised on the Buddy at work – Buddy at home programme.

Public Sector – doing their part in getting this up and running. Private Sector – have set ups with DEEWR etc.

MacUnity is getting the runs on the board – if we continue like this we may get a mentoring programme up and running.

Some MacUnity members to attend the Jobs Compact to follow through. (non government person needed to attend).

**Benevolent Society – Ross Wortham** advised on the following: Campbelltown Communities for Children and C4C Plus. (Flyer handed out)

Target: Kids 0 – 12 years and their families. C4C focuses on Rosemeadow & Ambarvale and aims to work on building collaboration, building on community strength and existing infrastructure of organisations, networks and resources. Working with NGO/Government looking at service integration in the area.

Looking at providing new service – Vulnerable families and children who should be the target (falling through the gaps) open to opinion and suggestions from members to assist. 'Closing the Gap' and profile (on website). (flyer handed out on Closing the Gap).

### **Disability Care:**

168 hours respite care – 45 years and over.

Funding must be used in 12 month period.

Anyone interested talk to Michelle Coates.

**Indigenous Jobs Market – (Flyer handed out at meeting)**

On 7<sup>th</sup> September 2010 this training/careers Expo will be held at Mount Druitt. A number of schools have put on buses to take kids there. Great opportunity as there will be lots of jobs available on the day.

Wendell Sailor and other NSW State of Origin players will attend on the day – guest speakers will be sharing their career pathway stories. Over 80 exhibitors will be promoting their current job vacancies. Free BBQ and entertainment.

**Keep Them Safe Workshops** - There are to be 3 workshops across Sydney, will bring non government together with government.

Macarthur }  
Blacktown/Liverpool/Fairfield }      Approx. November 2010.  
Aboriginal Service Focus }

Keen to make sure there is an inlet to work with the sector.

DPC South West Sydney – workshop.

Agreement Aboriginal Focus would be a benefit. Has been strongly endorsed by regional managers of Premier & Cabinet.

**Sport & Recreation Workshop** - September clubs, governance issues/risk factors.

**Agenda:**

**Muru Nanga Mai –**

Yura Ngalaya Project Community Service Support Programme. Some people have not quite got the idea of what it is about – where does it fit etc.

Intake and Referral service wanting to fill the gaps and find the hidden Aboriginal community rather than duplicate current projects that already refer.

Family Fun days to be run quarterly across the region to promote the service and raise awareness with the Aboriginal community. Have done staff presentations to Housing /Centrelink in case they have Aboriginal clients they are unable to support.

Building relationships – need Muru Nanga Mai (MNM) to go to Sport & Recreation Fitness Programme. Jane to follow this up with staff.

Need to make sure Yura Ngalaya project posters and advertising material are out there and would appreciate members of MacUnity advertising the service.

Looking at JSA's picking up job ready people.

Talked about putting a team into Midnight Basketball – but that's not how this program runs – it's based on individuals taking part and being put into teams on the night. Aim still to have a group of Aboriginal young people attend with adult volunteers.

Suggestion that MNM do a drop of leaflets to schools or a Newsletter to be given out to the Aboriginal children.

Suggestion from attendee – that a flyer/newsletter would not be very appealing to the younger people. Need to look at something different i.e. card or fridge magnet. Youth need to talk on this. MNM staff to take up suggestions.

Face book & Twitter on Sector Connect's website – we would need to look at protocols etc.

Muru Nanga Mai need to promote that there is free internet at their 3 sites also.

Need to look at design of the poster - maybe approach design warehouse or local business to donate time to us.

Dept Of Service – Preferred companies for design – Catherine Parker to follow up with detail and advise Jane with detail. Suggestion made to maybe approach a local artist - painted picture with story behind it may be a good idea to pursue.

**Family Fun Day – Claymore September 18 2010, details to be emailed to Jane.**

**Hidden Carers Programme** – Sarah Redfern School September 7<sup>th</sup> 2010.

**Current Youth Projects:**

Open discussion on the list (handed out) of Current Youth Projects and additional possible linkages.

**Wilma Women's Group:**

Suggestion that Yvette from Claymore would be a very good connection. DEEWR linkage, Jobs Compact.

Go to AES – once in the system will get a lot of support.

**SSWAHS /Muru Nanga Mai Young Men's Group:**

Suggestion that DEEWR has a program that could be useful.

**Sport & Recreation – TIG:**

Above group have a data base of 100's of people in the area that are trained – contact Sport & Recreation if you need a trainer. A suggestion was made to do a form so people can tick a box if it is ok to refer them to other organisations as a trainer) Youth Attainment & Transition/MTC linked.

**Minto Building & Construction:**

DEEWR funded a second course – Fidelmea Rogers to advise contacts.

**TAC Plumbing/Carpentry Course:**

DEEWR has contract with Master Builders to take on trainees.

**Current Youth Projects:**

Our calendar on the website will have all information for future Events.

**Winter School:**

Advised that UNI NSW is running a winter school programme whereby a student can attend UNI for 1 week free. Nora Gilly is the contact and there are 150 spots available - students need to apply. This week empowers the kids and shows them that they can go to Uni and achieve.

**C 4 C :**

Paul ask that some people from MacUnity attend September meeting – (we did have hands raised on the day to say they will attend) - good linkage with current Youth Project.

**Work Ventures – Airds High School:**

Advised that these areas had received some good funding

**MacUnity Collaborative Approach:**

Open discussion on scenarios presented by Jane.

Must focus on gaps/contacts.

Main stream services have to be made more aware of serving Aboriginal people.

Develop a Newsletter and increase promotion.

Now measurements have to be much clearer and therefore we will be able to see what numbers are going through.

It was advised that Jane should bring the 'Scenarios' back to the next meeting so more time could be spent on them. The effect of using the scenarios was not really useful in the time left.

Next meeting: 19<sup>th</sup> October 2010.

Venue: Eaglevale Leisure Centre (Library)  
Cnr: Feldspar Road & Emerald Drive,  
Eaglevale.