

# Minutes

## MYSN Meeting

**Date:** 30<sup>th</sup> March 2011

**Time:** 10am-12pm

**Venue:** MDSI – 101 Queen Street,  
Campbelltown

### Attendees

- Karen Chisnall – Sector Connect
- James Kenney – Sector Connect
- Cath Brennan – Sector Connect
- Jodie Grundy – Camden Council
- Leo Dynevor – Muru Nanga Mai
- Chye Toole – Campbelltown Council
- Kate Dixon – Campbelltown Council
- Chad Ritchie – Muru Nanga Mai
- Birgitte Lund – Sport & Recreation
- Jenny Buenell – Community Links
- Karen Yuen – UnitingCare Burnside
- Erin Hoffman – MDSI
- Mal Fruean – Campbelltown Arts Centre
- Matthew Broadbridge – Anglicare Counselling
- Quincy Cheng – MDSI
- Tracey Dunn – Break Through Mentoring

### Apologies

- Stuart Balzan – Youth Solutions
- Mark Scambray – YLO Camden Police
- Rachelle Barber – Wollondilly Shire Council
- Sally Berry – Youth Solutions
- Deborah Hulks – UnitingCare Burnside
- Lily Roberts-Everett – Camden Community Connections
- Michelle Williams – Wingcarribee Shire Council
- Maria Esma – Community Services

### Confirmation of Previous Minutes

- Jodie Grundy – Camden Council
- Tracey Dunn – Break Through Mentoring

# Minutes

## Business Arising from Previous Minutes

### Crime & Safety Working Group Report

The Crime & Safety Working Group gave the MYSN network an update on their action plan and the initiatives they have been working on. They identified that Midnight Basketball may not be the best initiative for MYSN to try and facilitate in other LGAs. The group instead thought that something around the concept of "Sports & Snags" could be more realistic for the group to facilitate as it would be less resource intensive and could be duplicated across regions.

The group also discussed the Macarthur Square Strategy. The group to follow up with Jodie re: this strategy. Discussion was also had around researching the Erena Model which developed an integrated youth service within the shopping centre.

A suggestion was also made that a standing agenda item for MYSN be YLO reports on crime and safety issues being experienced in Macarthur & Wingecarribee and looking at crime statistics. A request for YLO presence at MYSN meetings will be made on behalf of MYSN to the police.

The Crime & Safety Working Group is also looking to develop an MOU so that when funding is available for projects they have identified they can apply for it. Additionally, the group is looking at practical ways to incorporate effective programs into identified strategies such as Rock & Water etc.

How does this strategy move forward?

MYSN to adopt and endorse identified priorities.

Mark Scambray to bring statistics to next meeting.

Need to further discuss Midnight Basketball Strategy (agenda item for May meeting) and look at how we can move this strategy forward or look at alternative strategies.

#### MDSI Crime Prevention Project

MDSI has developed a book resource that has collated information from a postcard survey of young people 12-25 years regarding their identified concerns in relation to crime and safety.

38% of young people identified that assault; violence and harassment were big concerns for them. While, bullying was the highest rated concern.

This project was based on a USA model, where there was a need to create anonymity and a safe way for young people to express their feelings and secrets about crime and safety. The project targeted children at schools at recess and lunch times. This book is available in both a hardcopy and electronic copy. If you would like to know more about this resource please contact Erin Hoffman at MDSI.

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## Mental Health Working Group

The lead agency for the Mental Health Working Group is no longer able to take on this role. The group discussed other people that could be contacted to take on this role including Traxside, Head Space and the Mental Health Network. This will be followed up on.

## Communication & Participation Working Group

The Communication & Participation Working Group is focusing on how we can better communicate together and how we can improve our communication with young people. An inventory of resources form is to be set-up on the Sector Connect Website and updated and reviewed annually.

The Communication & Participation Working Group is also looking at how we engage with existing groups such as YACs and reference groups and how we can incorporate their input into the MYSN network.

Another suggestion made by this group was to have a standing agenda item around positive stories of Young People in Macarthur & Wingecarribee in order to promote the good things that young people are doing in the community. This group also identified the need to promote the role of MYSN at youth forums. The group is also looking at holding a youth forum to bring services together.

Another issue identified in this group was social networking. It was discussed that we need to develop a policy framework so that we are using social media in an appropriate way to engage with young people.

A MYSN specific newsletter is going out weekly in order to better promote events happening in Macarthur & Wingecarribee for young people.

It was also identified that MYSN as a network needs to utilise local media to promote positive stories of young people and the MYSN network. As well as continually identifying people to come along to MYSN

## Transport Working Group

The Transport Working Group identified that we need an inventory of resources i.e. buses etc.

MYSN needs to lobby local and state government. This could possibly be done in a letter when all the transport issues have been identified. Western Sydney Community Forum transport project workers will be presenting at the next meeting. We need to be specific about what we need/identify as transport issues.

A transport research report called Youth Safe has been conducted. Jodie to pass this information onto the Transport Working Group.

The group is also looking at options for transporting young people from outlying areas into Campbelltown for different activities etc.

## Ethical Dilemma

### **Should we police internet use?**

A Youth Refuge recently got the internet connected for the young people living at the Refuge. Over the past few months, they have noticed young males and females using FACEBOOK, MySpace, msn, tagged etc.

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The pictures that are sent and received between all the people in cyberspace seem to be of a highly sexual nature, naked pictures are being received on a daily basis to and from the young people. Most young people say they are a lot older than they are, and post information about their favourite sex positions!

We have all the latest security systems in place, although they can't control the content of what photos and information are being passed! They just keep coming through and hidden in residents' profiles for different sites that are password protected, therefore it is almost impossible for youth workers to police and delete (without the help of young people trying to get others into trouble!!).

We feel the internet is a very important part of young people's daily communication to friends and family etc.

Management have now given us two options: stop these images from coming through or the internet gets disconnected.

What can they do? What would you do?

## **MYSN Discussion**

The MYSN group discussed having the internet available on big screens to stop young people from searching inappropriate material. The group also suggested that telling young people that it was abuse to other people around if they were looking at sexual images on the internet. The main point of the discussion was that young people need to be aware of the rules around using the internet and possibly sign an agreement prior to using the internet as education is important.

## **Guest Speakers**

Cath to follow up with Western Sydney Community Forum transport project workers to present at the next meeting.

## **3 Key Messages**

1. National Youth Week beginning in April
2. Keen to have Police and Health representatives at MYSN meetings
3. Need to look at how we can better support youth workers to work "out of hours" and how we can support Midnight Basketball

## **Next Meeting**

### **Meeting Date**

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2011

Venue: UnitingCare Burnside – Iolanthe Street, Campbelltown

Time: 10am-12pm