

Macarthur Youth Services Network

Wednesday, 3rd February 2010

1.

WELCOME:

Meeting opened 10.15am

Venue: Wollondilly Shire Council, Picton Chair: Rachelle Barber; Minutes: Trish Ceulen

APOLOGIES:

Mark Scambary

Karen Badans

Maria Esma

Shane Rolls

Jonathan Christley

Alexis Stonebridge

Veronica Macdonald

Deborah Hulks

Birgitte Lund

Tracy Dunn

Sally Berry

Michelle Williams

Dallas Watt

Camden Youth Liaison Officer

IPC Employment

Camden Youth Services

Campbelltown Police

Campbelltown TAFE

Uniting Care Burnside Reconnect

Uniting Care Burnside

Uniting Care Burnside Reconnect

Communities Division, Sport and Recreation

Break Through Mentoring

Youth Solutions

Wingecarribee Shire Council

Camden Council Youth Activities Coordinator at Narellan

Youth Services

ATTENDANCE:

Christine Sedgwick

Kelly Watson

Leatrice Todd

John Hayes

Jodie Grundy

Vivien Tait

Rachelle Barber

Gay Hardwick

Kate Dixon

Luke Roki

Robyn McClung

Cindy Davies

Silvia Tedeski

Lee Rowell

John Bartle

Larissa Emslie

Shareen Banu

Justin Famularo

Erin Hoffman

Tom McDonald

Trish Ceulen

Anglicare SWS Young Carers Program

Forum Sentencing Campbelltown Court

Department of Juvenile Justice

Department of Juvenile Justice

Camden Council Youth Services

Campbelltown Youth Services Uniting Care Burnside

Wollondilly Shire Council

Wollondilly Shire Council

Campbelltown Council Youth Services

Community Links Wollondilly

Vinnies Youth Housing Macarthur

Vinnies youth Housing Macarthur

Haven project MDS

Manager Community Links Wollondilly

Community links Wollondilly

MTC Work Solutions – Youth Connections

MTC Work Solutions – Youth Connections

MTC Work Solutions – Youth Connections

Macarthur Diversity Services Initiative

Macarthur Diversity Services Initiative

Sector Connect Inc.

3. GUEST SPEAKERS:

Gay Hardwick and Rachelle Barber: Wollondilly Youth Hub at Tahmoor Community Centre, Tahmoor.

This has been funded through Federal Government, Bradcorp and Wollondilly Shire Council – Section 94 Development Fund. Wollondilly Youth Advisory Committee has been involved with proposal

- Youth Services will be delivered from this space
- Tender process for the facilitation / management of the Tahmoor Community Centre – UnitingCare Burnside was successful and will manage the whole Centre with Community Links Wollondilly continuing to be located within this building.
- Youth Hub will have music / sound recording studio, large open use space for activities, office space, and kitchenette and outside space.
- Youth space will be available for organisations to utilise and deliver services and activities at no cost – negotiated through UnitingCare Burnside and Wollondilly Council.
- Community link Wollondilly will provide Youth Services from the Youth Hub
- Fit out is underway with some areas to be staged as funds become available e.g. Sound / music studio,
- Proposed Open Day and showcase opportunity 9th April. Invitations will be distributed closer to April.

4. Youth Service Review for Macarthur and Service Directory:

As part of the YSMD project a Youth Services Directory has been produced. This was unable to go out to public release to be reviewed and as such there are some inaccuracies in service programs and descriptions. Most of the information that was collated had been taken from the local councils on line directories and as such some information is now out of date. Remember information is only accurate on the day it has been entered and it is up to services providers to maintain information to Councils for updates. The Directory will be sent to Councils to review and it has been requested by agencies attending today that they have the opportunity to review and check the details contained in the Directory prior to release. Trish will take this information back to Jane McIvor for her decision. The second part is how can this online directory be maintained and updated with information?? The feedback from MYSN is that local councils are resourced to provide this community service information and that some arrangement would be required for this to occur. Wollondilly Shire Council is currently compiling a youth service directory and Wingecarribee has SHYSE. Further discussion will be required once Directory is released.

5. Planning for 2010:

- Venues for second half of 2010 were decided, Trish will send out document with the February minutes
- March – focus on Aboriginal youth and services with representatives from MacUnity.
- July will be a drive to Wingecarribee Shire to review and visit Youth Services in the region. A mini bus will be arranged through Camden Community Connections and another mini bus as required, depending upon numbers attending.
- Continue to arrange guest speakers.

6. Items Without Notice:

Larissa Emslie: Youth Connections Coordinator

MTC Youth Connections - is a new programme funded by the Department of Education,

Employment and Workplace Relations. It aims to provide a service to assist young people who are most at risk of disengaging or who have already disengaged from education, training and/or family and the community.

Youth Connections will provide a safety net for young people who have disengaged or are at risk of disengaging from education, and will offer flexible case managed support and services that recognise the role that family and the community play in a young person's wellbeing and development.

To be eligible, young people should be between the ages of 11-19 years and be an Australian citizen, permanent resident or on a humanitarian visa. Each young person will be assessed by a Youth Connections Consultant to determine eligibility within the service. The Youth Consultant will then work with the young person to design a Re-engagement Plan to assist the young person re-engage with education, training or employment while working on other barriers the young person may be experiencing.

Community Links Wollondilly will also be involved in this program.

Trish: Dean Williamson has resigned from his position with Campbelltown Council Youth Services and I would like to thank Dean for his valued contribution to MYSN during 2009.

8. Information Share:

Deborah Hulks: Reconnect program, Uniting Care Burnside

Phone: 46283199 Email: dhulks@burnside.org.au

Macarthur Reconnect has vacancies for case work/mediation.

Working with young people (12-18 years) and their families where there is conflict at home with the focus on preventing early homelessness for young people. Working through issues of conflict with parents and young people, offering strategies and support in achieving solutions to strengthen family relationships.

Reconnect has a short term (3months casework & 2 sessions mediation) and early intervention focus

For more details please contact:

Deborah or Alexis 46283199

Jodie Grundy: Camden Council

Phone: 4645 5021 Email: jodie.grundy@camden.nsw.gov.au

The *Support for Young Persons Special Achievers Program* is to support gifted and talented young people under 23 years who live in the Camden LGA. The program provides a once only grant of up to \$500 to assist to meet the costs of participation in a cultural, academic or sporting event representing NSW or Australia. A special achiever, for the purposes of this program, is one who has been selected on merit, to represent NSW or Australia in their chosen field of endeavour. This definition includes young people with disabilities. No more than one donation will be granted to any applicant under this program. Applications are received at any time. For more information about this program, please contact 46455021 or email youth@camden.nsw.gov.au

Koori Flow is a project initiative from Camden, Campbelltown and Wollondilly Councils that aim to increase awareness and engagement for young aboriginal people 9 – 18 years. Koori Flow is funded by the Commission for Children and Young People's Better Futures Strategy and involves building stronger access to youth services for Aboriginal young people in the Camden LGA. The project also aims to build connections between young aboriginal people and the wider Camden community. For more info about Koori Flow please contact Richard, Arts Harmony Project Worker for on 4645 5106 or Leo from Muru Nanga Mai on 0448 375 653.

The *Donations for Charitable Purposes Program* addresses monetary and in-kind donations to

individuals, not for profit community groups and organisations in the Camden LGA. It is intended to provide a clear and consistent process for the determination of requests for one-off monetary and in-kind donations from Council to individuals, community groups or organisations for charitable purposes. Applications of up to \$500 will be accepted throughout the year. Applications will be accepted from individuals, not-for-profit community groups or organisations working or residing within the Camden LGA, or where the donation is to provide direct benefit to residents of the Camden LGA. Applications are to be for one-off donations. Applications for recurrent funding, including operating expenses, refundable bonds or insurance will not usually be considered. For more information about this program, please contact 46455021 or email youth@camden.nsw.gov.au

Erin Hoffman: MDSI

Term 1 Activities Program for 2010 – would you please forward to your young people from Culturally Diverse Backgrounds?

Mondays: Boys Indoor Soccer (We are putting teams together now – so let me know if you're interested!)

Tuesdays: 2.30 – 5.30pm 'Drop-in' to Jessie Thompson Building (A little building near MDSI, on Browne Street – which is the same street as Centrelink), hang out with the youth workers, play the wii or get the sports gear out. We have internet and a computer – we also are running HOMEWORK HELP 3-5pm every 2nd week!

Wednesdays: Girls gym and fitness program running every second week, boxing (for everyone) at PCYC on the other weeks...

Fridays: We will be heading to Liverpool Street Uni where they are running 'Freestyle Fridays' where they will be having workshops on - Rhyme foundations

- MCing
- Freestyling
- Battling
- Song Writing
- Special guest tutorials by the world's best!
- ..and more.

<http://www.facebook.com/l.php?u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2F%3Fref%3Dhome%23%2Fevent.php%3Fid%3D268233483489%26ref%3Dts&h=a3b1534784b0d2dc9bcf7b9e67297a54>

For excursions (everything apart from Drop-in), young people will need a permission note – and to let us know they are interested so we can save a seat on the van.

For the record, if you want to find us on facebook – search by my email: erin@mdsi.org.au

And our bebo site is: www.bebo.com/mdsiyouth

Silvia Tedeski: The Haven Project –Macarthur Disability Services

Colin Garrad (part time youth focus)

Phone: 4621 8400 Fax: 4628 4006

The Haven Project is made up of a consortium of 5 organisations- BCD Community Care, The Disability Trust, Macarthur Disability Services, Community Links Wollondilly and Anglicare as the lead agency. The Project covers the four LGA s across Macarthur and Wingecarribee. I am based at Macarthur Disability Services and I cover the Camden and Campbelltown Areas. Colin Garrad is also based at MDS two days a week and covers the same area. Colin has a youth focus and aims to support young carers aged 12-18.

The Haven Project is able to provide a range of resources and planning for time out for carers of a person living with a severe mental health illness. It is aimed at allowing carers to focus on their needs for wellness and recreation. We can help carers plan a personal respite experience tailored to the individual needs of the entire family. We provide flexibility and choice to ensure carers have access to a range of activities and experiences.

Rachael - Wollondilly Shire Council have Youth Advisory Committee YAC and are currently working on the Youth Area Action Plan and require updates from service providers.

Currently compiling the report looking at Barriers to Young People and Participating in Activities – a survey had been conducted with over 250 responses.

Trish – Sector Connect

Training Calendar for Workers from February – June 2010 has been developed and this has been distributed via email. Upcoming training includes Fundraising for Not For Profit Organisations – this will be delivered by Our Community and this is a fantastic opportunity and is FREE. This will be held at Wests Leagues Club on Wednesday 17th March so please register with Sector Connect. Also there will be an Information Session from Prime Learning on Thursday 25th February which will highlight opportunities of training including Project Management, OH&S, and traineeships. Again please contact Sector Connect to register your interest.

Trish will be only working seven hours per week (due to university commitments), with the focus for the Interagencies including MYSN. Training coordination has been passed to Jeanne and Jeanne will now be in Sector Connect office more hours per week, so for any enquiries for training please contact Jeanne on 4648 5933.

Meeting closed at 12:15 pm.

Next Meeting: Focus: Aboriginal Youth and Service Provision - session presented by MacUnity Members. This will be the focus for the majority of the meeting time as activities and active discussion will take place.

Camden Youth Services

Level 1 Narellan Library, Cnr Elyard and Queen Street Narellan.