

**MANNING VALLEY INTERAGENCY
MINUTES OF MANNING VALLEY INTERAGENCY MEETING**

Date: 1 April 2009

At: Department of Community Services, Taree 2430

Present: Caron Watkins (MVNS), Patricia Fredrickson (Salvation Army), Ellen Carter (St Vincent De Paul), Catherine Vaara (Lifeline Mid Coast), Cathy Braiding (Centrelink), Bernadette Sexton (MVNS), Jo Fischer (MCYCS), Cath Randell (GLM Community Options), Pauline Smith (Salvation Army – Moneycare), Peter Glencross (Engaging Fathers), Amy Hogan (MSS - NILS), Natalie Drury (Catholic Care Brighter Futures), Susan Livermore (Catholic Care Brighter Futures), Derek North (LINC), Les Adamson (MVNS), Katrina Gibney (TAFE Student), Roslyn Williamson (TAFE Student), Lorraine Murray (TAFE Student), Jennifer Ferguson (TAFE Student), Inge Ernst (TAFE Student), Brent Reeves (TAFE Student)

Apologies: Alan Rodgers, Ros Britton, Jennifer Croaker, Kylie Temple, Barbra Lawrence, Judy Davidson James, John McVean, Sandy Brooks,

Time Commenced: 1:10

Time Finished: 2.45pm

Chairperson: Caron Watkins

Minute Taker: Bernadette Sexton

<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>DISCUSSION</u>	<u>ACTION</u>	<u>ACTION BY</u>
<u>Minutes Meeting</u>			Minutes Accepted
<u>Business Arising</u>	Nothing to report		
<u>Standard Agenda Items Interagency Project</u>	<p>Services expo – Work in progress. Expo to be run in September, date to be arranged. More information as things develop.</p> <p>Service Providers Information and Training Day to be held Tuesday 5 May. Should services wish to participate they must commit to the whole day. One person per service. The day involves networking, guest speakers, referral processes, how better to use the Taree Services Directory. Caron to send out email asking for an overview of each participating service to provide to those attending.</p>		

	<p>Counselling services guide -I hopefully be completed by end of June</p> <p>Lynne doing a feasibility study on a possible expansion of food bank locally. Will keep all posted on updates as they arrive</p>		
Formalising Interagency	Existing format to stay		
Transport sub committee	<p>Caron heard from 10 organisations via questionnaire who are willing and able to share transport resources. If your organisation has not yet completed survey please send it in ASAP. Information will go to sub committee.</p> <p>Transport Sub Committee to meet early May.</p>		
<p><u>New Business</u> CDAT</p> <p>Lunchtime networking</p> <p>Services Expo Sub committee required</p>	<p>CDAT – Community Drug Action Team. Next step is to involve community members and to access funds to address issues of drug use locally eg. Forster group, poster on back of toilet doors, guest speaker Paul Dylan.</p> <p>Meeting this week 4pm Thursday 2.4.09 at Onslow House 16 High St Taree. For more information call Caron</p> <p>Lunchtime Networking – Trial - if people want to come ½ hr earlier to Interagency and undertake 1/2hr of networking then feel free to come along and bring your lunch. Caron to confirm this is OK with DOCS and will email regarding outcome</p> <p>If this is ok - trial will start as of June meeting.</p> <p>Sub Committee Services Expo – Meetings to begin within next 2 months. Needing good ideas and ways of getting community involved. Please let Caron know if you're interested on being on sub committee</p>	<p>Phone call to Docs re earlier arrival time</p>	<p>Caron</p>

<u>Correspondence In</u>	Nil		
<u>Correspondence Out</u>	Letter to MRRH General Manager – Caron sent letter to GM of hospital enquiring about transport availability. No return correspondence received as yet.	Letter sent	
<u>SERVICE REPORTS</u>			
MVNS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Pride Worker (3 months) to commence employment shortly based at The Meeting Place on the housing estate. Work involves working with juvenile justice clients and beautification of Bushlands area • Homework group recommenced. New name Kidzone. Running Wednesday 3.30-5pm at Marjorie St Cottage • Received more funding for Emergency Relief to assist clients more substantially in the short term over next 3 months • Possible purchase of fridge/freezer for food storage so will be able to cover the times when food vouchers run out • Funding tender to be submitted to continue service. Implications of this that service may go to Port Macquarie. Caron requested interagency meeting provide support letter. Group agreed to provide support letter 	Provide letter of support	Lynne
Women’s DV Court Assistance Scheme			
St Vincent de Paul	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short staffed – lost two people due to ill health • Inundated with unemployed people requesting assistance • Few extra EAPA vouchers 		

Centrelink	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amendment from previous minutes - Anyone can ring Centrelink call centre to speak with social worker • Ph: 131794 (call centre social workers) • Fact Sheet re Centrelink recognising same sex relationships (handout provided) • As of 1st July same sex couples required to tell Centrelink they are in a same sex relationship 		
Salvation Army Moneycare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some Telstra vouchers • EAPAs • New store Manager – Danielle • Seeing lots of people who have lost their business and unhappy clients • Clients appear to be spending govt. stimulus on debts <p>Encourage workers to refer clients</p>		
LINC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 45 volunteers in community providing housekeeping entertainment, company etc • willing to accept referrals • Hopefully by end of year will have agencies established in Forster and Port Macquarie 		
Brighter Futures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New worker Susan Livermore early childhood facilitator introduced • Service working at capacity 		
No Interest Loans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waiting list approx. 8 weeks from first contact to initial meeting • Please inform clients that a waiting list exists when making referral 		
St Vincent (Wingham)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lots of transitional youth and unstable accommodation 		
TAFE – Peter Glencross	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to flyers “Tackling the sharp end” – training around domestic violence with a focus on males • Anger Management course for men – looking for volunteers to? 		

<p>Mark Norris – GTCC mentoring program</p> <p>GLM Community Options</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth Mentoring boys 7 – 13 years • Recruiting for male mentors • Mark to forward flyer/info – April/May <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide case management and services to frail aged in Great Lakes/Gloucester region • Open for referrals 		
<p>Lifeline</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to handout for suicide prevention training • ASSIST – 2 day workshop • Suicide Talk – 3hr training • ASSIST workshop at Kendall in June • Increase in calls to Lifeline re. impact on economic downturn on clients 		
<p><u>NEXT MEETING</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please note: As the Service Providers day will be on Tuesday 5th May – there will be no meeting on the 6th • Enquiries: Manning Valley Neighbourhood Services Inc. PH: 6553 5121, Email mvns@mvns.org.au Web: www.mvns.org.au 		