

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

Date: June 2009

At: Department of Community Services, Taree 2430

Present: Caron Watkins (MVNS), Patricia Fredrickson (Salvation Army), Ellen Carter (St Vincent De Paul), Sue Brown (Centrelink), Bernadette Sexton (MVNS), Jo Fischer (MCYCS), Amy Hogan (MSS - NILS), Derek North (LINC), Les Adamson (MVNS), Charissa Dower (TAFE Student - MVNS), Sara Ison (Cuppa Chat and Company), Sandy Brooks (Community Health – Mental Health), Stacey Lewis (HNEAHS – Child and Family Services), Sally Osborn (Volunteer Connections), Linda Lee (Mental Health – HNEAHS), Diane Deak (Lyn’s Place), Ros Britton (Samaritans ASSET), Lynne English (MVNS), Coleen McGowan (MVNS), Helen Holliday (Anglican Church – Blue Cross Emergency Relief), Father Keith (Anglican Church)

Apologies: Barbra Lawrence, Cath Randell, Catherine Vaara

Time Commenced: 1:05

Time Finished: 2.20pm

Chairperson: Lynne English

Minute Taker: Caron Watkins

<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>DISCUSSION</u>	<u>ACTION</u>	<u>ACTION BY</u>
Standard Agenda Items Interagency Project – updates	<p>This project is due to finish at the end of June and a report will be generated.</p> <p>CPR – community Services day – feedback received 33/38 participants.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted that even long term workers expressed having obtained ‘new’ information and new knowledge. • Service shuffle – was valuable • 100% said they would use the toolkit, • Lisa Greenwood from the library is happy to assist any service with uploading their information/profile onto the community services database. This is the preferred tool for community services and there are key things to note when putting your service information on the website – so best to consult with Lisa anyway. • Toolkit will be uploaded onto MVNS website also – www.mvns.org.au 	<p>Suggested that Lisa be invited to a future interagency meeting to go back over the website access.</p> <p>If you do have problems with the website – please write them down and advise Lisa</p>	Caron

<p>Transport sub committee</p> <p>Emergency Relief sub committee</p> <p>Community Drug Action Team (CDAT)</p>	<p>Next sub committee meeting on 16th June at 2pm. Venue to be advised. Currently mapping transport services and any subsidies, access issues etc. Will result in a profile similar to the Emergency Relief one.</p> <p>Response received from HNEAHS – basically outlining their transport services but not really addressing the question raised in original correspondence</p> <p>Held after today’s interagency – all invited There is a new ER service – Blue Cross Emergency Relief located at the Anglican Church – they will attend later in meeting to provide information</p> <p>Meeting tomorrow and every 1st Thursday at 10.30am (except July – contact Caron for further information). All welcome</p>		<p>Lynne</p>
<p><u>New Business</u> Community Services Expo</p>	<p>Organising well underway – partnership between MVNS, Valley Industries, Break Thru employment, Dundaloo and GTCC. Event to be held in September at and around the Uniting Church. Registration forms have been distributed – please fill in and return to Colleen if you are interested in participating (there are various ways of participating)</p>		
<p><u>Correspondence</u></p>	<p>Response from Hunter Health re transport - tabled</p>		
<p><u>SERVICE REPORTS</u> ASSET – Samaritans</p>	<p>Servicing clients with disabilities – all ages. Group homes and day community access</p>		
<p>Cuppa Chat and Company</p>	<p>New service auspiced by Schizophrenia fellowship –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Official launch on 17/7 • Held at Amber house • Support group meeting 7th August • 1st and 3rd Fridays – 5.50 – 8.00pm 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • based on recovery/Flourish program • guest speakers/social activities • Sarah – 6552 4445 		
MNCYCS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funded through DEWR • 13-19 year olds • assistance for education and training • kids at risk • based at Elizabeth Avenue – ATC Building • 		
LINC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No charge for services • Targets 80 – 90 year olds – isolated/lonely • Support and hospitality • Growing need for their service • Need more volunteers 		
Centrelink	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New employment services and changes 		
Salvation Army	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patricia going on holidays – office closed during this time – 1 month • 		
No Interest Loans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waiting list still reducing – now 4-6 weeks • Covers essential household items but will assist with other items as assessed • Funding only guaranteed to June 2010 • \$100 - \$1000 • referrals or clients ring direct on 6557 8275 • after loans are repaid they are eligible for another loan after a period 		
MVNS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kidzone at housing estate – need more numbers to continue this group – held Wednesday afternoons at the cottage from 3.30 – 5pm 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mural will be hung at the shopping centre with an official event on 30th June at 3.30pm • Women's Domestic Violence Court Assistance Scheme has now been allocated to a Port Macquarie service – no more details available at this stage – will advise when phone numbers etc are given • The Accidental Counsellor Training is full with a waiting list 		
MDEA/Lyn's Place`	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very busy • Hold a womens group on Modnays – not necessarily victims of DV – open to isolated women • Kids after school programs • Parenting group • Ring 65510011 for more information • 		
St Vincent de Paul -	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • busy • struggling with small amount of volunteers • seeing more families 		
Community /health – Mental Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bereavement workshop in Forster on Friday 26th June held by NALAG • POOPS – encourage people to sign up for this program which supports elderly people or people with mental health issues who have to go into hospital or care for a brief period – is not an emergency service – need to be registered (will also consider DV clients) • RSPCA – still have desexing program – FREE – But depends on individuals financial situation - \$50 for pensioners or concession card holders 		
Mental Health Consumer consultant	Also very busy – have a new ward program focussing on clients and what THEY want		

Volunteer Connections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteer refer all centre • 9.30 – 2 Mon - Thursday quiet at the moment • any not for profit service can register • International Day of the Volunteer – demystifying volunteers with a disability • 		
GTCC – Community Safety Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focussing on safer communities for Taree • Consulting with different sectors of the community and improving safety • Eg around DV – radio campaign, kids – RAP song competition for Year 5 students around shoplifting – to be performed at PCYC, CBD safety survey • 		
TCHC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child and Family – 4-6 week wait for services • Parenting seminar at Aged Care building in Albert St on Friday 12th June 		
<u>GUEST SPEAKER</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blue Cross Emergency Relief Service • Helen Holliday – Team Leader • Utilising volunteers • To be run from Anglican Church (St Johns) h in Victoria St • Partnership with Samaritans • Donations based • Food and hospitality, clothing, support, referrals and pharmaceuticals • Open Wednesdays – 11-2 at Anglican Church Latham Centre 		
<u>NEXT MEETING</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next Meeting: Wednesday July 1st 1pm • Enquiries: Manning Valley Neighbourhood Services Inc. PH: 6553 5121, Email mvns@mvns.org.au Web: www.mvns.org.au 		