

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

Date: 4 March, 2009

At: Greater Taree Library, Taree 2430

Present: Caron Watkins (MVNS), Sonja Pope (Community Options), Patricia Fredrickson (Salvation Army), Ellen Carter (St Vincent De Paul), Catherine Vaara (Lifeline Mid Coast), Beck Thompson (Centrelink), Jenny Hadfield (MVACTG), Bernadette Sexton (MVNS), Robert Cooke (Centacare), Jo Fischer (MC Youth Career Service), Kerry Perkins (MRRH Social Work Dept), Stacey Lewis (CH – Child and Family), Di Deak (MDEA), Kylie Temple (Community Partnerships Against DV), Christie Critchley (NSW Police), Lou Webber (MVNS – DVCAS), Judith Conning (MRRH Oncology), Anne Jones (St VDP Wingham),

Apologies: Amy Hogan, Linda Lee, Sandy Brooks, Jennifer Croaker, Melissa Garton, Barbra Lawrence, Derek North, Bree Dennis

Time Commenced: 1:10

Time Finished: 2.45pm

Chairperson: Lynne English

Minute Taker: Caron Watkins

<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>DISCUSSION</u>	<u>ACTION</u>	<u>ACTION BY</u>
<u>Minutes Meeting</u>			Minutes Accepted
<u>Business Arising</u> 1.Training Calendar –	<p>Caron has asked for quotes from CCWT for training for Accidental Counsellor and will also seek quotes for Law for non Lawyers which are 2 practical workshops which would be of benefit to many workers.</p> <p>As yet we haven't received any information about relevant training to put into a calendar so given that MNCRCSD have sent out asking for input and the possibility of DOCS training unit providing training, we will wait and see if a calendar is necessary</p> <p>Training needs are also being identified through MYSST interagency</p>		

<p><u>Standard Agenda Items</u> Interagency Project</p>	<p>Services expo - It has been decided to combine this with council for their cultural services day in May. More information as things develop.</p> <p>The Service providers information and training day will go ahead on 5th May and more info to come asap</p> <p>Counselling services guide will hopefully be completed by end of June</p> <p>Still attempting to establish the parameters for a food bank and whether or not the current one could be more extensive (way to make more substantial). Currently the costs involved in transport are passed on to clients.</p>		
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<p>Formalising Interagency</p>	<p>Caron looked into Association vs Incorporation and basically we are already operating as an association which just means that there is no formal process and no legal obligations.</p> <p>Incorporating would mean a lot of stringent and accountability processes which would make it unlikely to be adequately resourced. Under the current structure we are able to do everything that we could do as an incorporated body in relation to advocacy and even applying for funding under the auspice of MVNS.</p> <p>It was agreed by those present that we remain as we are currently.</p>		
<p>Transport sub committee</p>	<p>Meeting was held, next meeting in 3 months time. 2 private bus bus services also attended.</p> <p>It was agreed that there needs to be a collation of which services have their own buses to transport clients and whether or not they are wiling and able to share these resources.</p> <p>Caron has developed a questionnaire to determine this. Returning the questionnaire does not obligate a service to share – at this stage we are just determining what is ‘out there’</p> <p>The committee identified some issues which may impact on clients and services eg Sometimes community transport used when patient transport would be more appropriate</p> <p>Caron tabled a letter to go to the General Manager of the hospital in relation to the patient transport and parameters around its access and use.</p>	<p>Send letter</p>	<p>Caron</p>

GUEST SPEAKERS
Domestic Violence Services in the GTCC area-

Kylie – Community Partnerships Against Family Violence

ph: 6583 2155 / 0434005037
 Initiative funded since February and based in Port Macquarie and outreaching to Taree, Forster, Gloucester

Overview –

- Mon-Fri service
- Cooperate with community partners
- Not wanting to duplicate services
- Provide case management
- 2 Workers from MDEA co-opted to work with clients from Taree Police station
- Covers Manning/Great Lakes command (includes Gloucester) and to Nambucca
- Have a history of running an unfunded project out of Port Macquarie police station over last few years in partnership with police and health

MNC 3000 reported incidents of domestic violence - 2000 in Manning Great Lakes

90%/10% brokerages program for perpetrators

Di - Lyns Place/Manning District Emergency Accommodation

24 hr service ph: 1800 ?

- DV case management of clients mostly by the same worker
- Continuum of services as have always existed
- Other services –
- Group for women on Mondays - multicultural
- Weds - children and mums group

<p>Louise - Womens Domestic Violence Court Assistance Scheme - Manning Valley Neighbourhood Services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thursday - parenting group and budgeting • Residential services - crisis centre for up to 6 weeks • 2 exit houses up to 12 months • 1 exit house up to 6 months • Specialist DV counsellor - M, t F for residential and non residential clients • Take mums and kids (boys up to 13) • Provide childcare for mums who have appointments etc • School holiday programs for kids • Looking at performing a play written by one of their workers in November (16 days) • Provide assistance to women and kids attending court for AVO's • Safe room located in Taree Court House • Provide support and advocacy • Tailor AVO's to what they need to keep them safe • Private applicatants - can assist in getting legal support • Referrals <p>S/C Kristy Critchley – Domestic Violence Liaison Officer - 65520326</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Based at Taree ○ Job shares with Ros Lovell ○ Bulahdelah - Johns River - Gloucester ○ Oversee police are investigating domestic violence in most appropriate manner ○ wanting to ensure communication is kept open b/w police and services ○ Trying to ensure appropriate referrals 		
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	If in doubt about which service to refer clients experiencing DV to - Refer to Taree police station and they will refer out if appropriate		
<u>New Business</u>	Nil		
<u>Correspondence In</u>	Nil		
<u>Correspondence Out</u>	Nil		
<u>SERVICE REPORTS</u>	•		
St Vincent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Telstra vouchers • Some EAPAs 		
Centrelink	<p>Household stimulus package begin 11/3/09</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Quite a few different packages - Some services held up due to Vic. Bushfires - There is a Social worker call centre available for services to contact if necessary – not available to clients 		
Salvation Army	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Telstra vouchers • EAPAs • 1/3 clients are new 		
Catherine Vaara – Lifeline MC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applying for funding for Living Works workshops One will be held in Harrington 27/28 March \$50 		
Community Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taxi vouchers are available • Ring Jenny for parameters - 65211100 • Often also have spare seats in vehicles going to Newcastle • Train vouchers are also available • Also providing a bus from Forster - Taree for dialysis clients 		

Catholic Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At capacity with client numbers • Wanting to change contract with DOCS and change number of clients but not negotiable until Wood report is finalised/implemented 		
St Vincent (Wingham)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • Lots of transitional youth and unstable accommodation 		
Social Worker - Oncology	Can access up to \$300 for clients (Cancer diagnosis) to assist with a variety of bills IPTAAS also available		
Social Worker – Manning Rural Referral Hospital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General • Maternity risk clients flagged early and work through pregnancy • Also provides social work role for renal patients • 		
Child and Family -	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child and Family counselling 0-18 Waiting list 2-4 weeks		
<u>NEXT MEETING</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1pm, Wednesday 1st April 2009 at DOCS • Enquiries: Manning Valley Neighbourhood Services Inc. PH: 6553 5121, Email mvns@mvns.org.au Web: www.mvns.org.au 		