Thursday 21st February 2019

Wyndham Workers  
with Young People Network

Minutes

1. Welcome & Introductions

by Trudy Chitty, Youth Project Officer – Wyndham City Council Youth Services

Acknowledgement of the Kulin Nation

“I wish to acknowledge the peoples of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Owners of the land on which we are gathered and pay respect to their elders, past and present. I also wish to pay respect to any Elders from other communities and acknowledge any future young leaders who are here”

1. Presentation – Resilient Youth Advisory Group

Presented by Alaina Kumpis, Seth and Hayli

Phone: 1300 669 600

Email: [Alaina.kumpis@whitelion.asn.au](mailto:Alaina.kumpis@whitelion.asn.au)

Website: <https://www.whitelion.asn.au/>

The Resilient Youth Advisory Group was put together to give young people a voice in their local community.

Preliminary youth issues discussion:

Not leaving the house

* Causes: Gaming, Social anxiety, nothing else to do, no friends
* Solutions: More youth focused sites, young person mentions ‘Aeroplane Park’ in Braybrook that lots of kids and young people hung out at that was fun and successful

Mental Health Issues

* Solutions: Mental health education in schools as part of curriculum, focusing on teaching about illnesses, de-stigmatising mental illness, what happens when you go through it, recovery, coping skills, (YP said they would want to learn how people defeat mental illness).

Youth Homelessness

* Causes: Kicked out of home, peer pressure, unsafe environment, financial problems, LGBTQI+, life choices, religious beliefs
* Risks: Illness (mental/physical), danger, malnourishment, AOD, lack of opportunities.

AOD Use

* Causes: It’s ‘cool’, ‘fun’, easy to access (perhaps parents or peers), rebelling, mental health, unemployment, isolation, predators.

As young people involved in RYAG we identified the following four issues that were important to us.

* Employment
* Mental Health Issues
* Youth Homelessness
* Misuse of Alcohol and Other Drugs

Video Presentations followed

*Attachment – Presentation attached*

1. Presentation – Community Support Groups Program (CSG)

Presented by Poly Kiyaga

Phone: 03 8742 4013 or 0434 178 753

Email: csg@wyndhamcec.org.au

Website: https://www.wyndhamcec.org.au/

CSG BACKGROUND

* Victorian govt est. CSG Projects in 3x LGAs:
* Wyndham CEC auspice CSG Wyndham
* CMY auspice CSG Melton/Brimbank
* CMY auspice CSG Dandenong/Casey

PROJECT PLAN

* To support young people in South Sudanese Community and their families
* To link South Sudanese young people and their families to activities and services
* To engage young people into education and training
* To connect parents with the school environment in Wyndham
* To create activities that promote improved health and wellbeing
* To encourage the community to participate in programs that promote social cohesion

LOCAL REFERENCE GROUP

* Local Reference Group has been set up
* To support initiatives that address issues
* And needs of the Wyndham South Sudanese community

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

* Strengthening South Sudanese Youth
* Conduct Youth Outreach
* Facilitate Parenting Programs
* Explore employment pathways
* Link with sports and recreation activities
* Coordinate referrals to appropriate services

MANAGEMENT OF THE PROJECT

* Wyndham CEC to manage project in Wyndham
* Program Manager
* 2 x Project Officers
* 3 x Youth Workers
* Emphasis on individuals and groups

*Attachment – Presentation attached*

*Attachment – FAQ Sheet attached*

1. Information Sharing/Who you are/What you do -

Name: Marita Hagel

Agency: Melbourne City Mission (MCM)

Position: Family Violence Specialist

Email: [mhagel@mcm.org.au](mailto:mhagel@mcm.org.au)

Website: <https://www.melbournecitymission.org.au/>

* Therapeutic Programs
* Training for staff
* Meet with Schools, youth groups, refugees and High Schools.
* Small Team covers larger metro area, but not Melbourne.

Name: Sasi S-Kumar

Agency: Brainlink

Position: Support Coordinator NDIS

Contact: 1800 677 579 or 03 8761 9232

Email: [cm@brianlink.org.au](mailto:cm@brianlink.org.au)

Website: <http://www.brainlink.org.au/>

* Working with clients with brain impairments/disability.
* ADI – clients from the slow to recover programs.
* Funded by the Government.
* Transitioning into NDIS.
* Cover the North and West of Melbourne.
* Ages 0 to 65 years.

Name: Suzanne Shaw

Agency: Brainlink

Position: Manager Community Liaison Officer

Contact: 1800 677 579 or 03 8761 9232

Email: [sshaw@brainlink.org.au](mailto:sshaw@brainlink.org.au)

Website: <http://www.brainlink.org.au/>

* Been with Brainlink for 12 years and currently the Manager Community Liaison.
* Based at Monash and Royal Melbourne.
* Victorian state-wide program.
* Support families of people with brain injuries while on the hospital ward.
* 2012 pilot program at Royal Hobart Hospital being rolled out.
* Support network for carers.
* Organises complimentary sessions, family retreats, day activities.
* Funding is predominantly in the east, trying to shift to cover north/west also.
* There are 300 to 400 families through the service a year.

Name: Anthony Shaw

Agency: Wyndham City Council Youth Services

Position: Breakaway

Contact: (03) 8734 1355

Email: [anthony.shaw@wyndham.vic.gov.au](mailto:anthony.shaw@wyndham.vic.gov.au)

Website: [www.wyndham.vic.gov.au](http://www.wyndham.vic.gov.au)

* Disability support program for 5 to 17 year-olds run on a Saturday.
* Program is currently running until the end of the year.
* Waiting to see where the program is headed with the NDIS rollout.
* Q Program – for gender diverse youth in Wyndham.
* Centre based and excursions.
* Support base for other services.
* Wynbay football program run on a Wednesday.
* For disengaged youth that have issues with AOD.
* Play or support capacity within the program.

Name: Rhonda Velkovski

Agency: EdConnect

Position: Western Liaison Officer

Contact: ****1800 668 550****

Email: [rhonda.velkovski@edconnect.org.au](mailto:rhonda.velkovski@edconnect.org.au)

Website: <http://www.edconnectaustralia.org.au/>

* Recruit and train volunteers to help disengaged youth.
* Learning support goes into school to support groups of students, teachers, breakfast clubs.
* Mentoring program for one on one support.
* Looking for 12 month commitments from its volunteers.
* Run across the western region and in 2019 we started running from Melton and Wyndham.
* 3 liaison staff running across the North, West and Geelong.

Name: April Dendle

Agency: TRY Mentoring

Position: Program Coordinator

Contact: 03 8545 9504

Email: [april.dendle@try.org.au](mailto:april.dendle@try.org.au)

Website: <https://trymentoring.org.au/>

* Volunteer programs - one on one and group programming, for one hour a week.
* April works across the west.
* Five other programs run across the Melbourne.
* Group programs are run out of Werribee/Wyndham.
* Always looking for volunteers.

Name: Jocelyn Gemoh

Agency: CaPSS

Position: Lead Practitioner

Contact: 03 9311 9542

Email: [jocelyn.gemoh@aus.salvationarmy.org](mailto:jocelyn.gemoh@aus.salvationarmy.org)

Website: <https://www.salvationarmy.org.au/sashs/programs/children-and-parenting-support-service-capss/>

* Early intervention and prevention.
* Funded to fill gaps in the community.
* Program is up to 12 years but can help older youth.
* 12 to 18 month programs. Predominantly parenting programs.
* What are the gaps.

Name: Liz An Hi

Agency: CVGT Australia Ltd

Position: Business Development Specialist

Contact: 13 2848

Email: [lahhi@cvgt.com.au](mailto:lahhi@cvgt.com.au)

Website: <https://www.cvgt.com.au/>

* Disengagement Employment Service Provider.
* Funded by the Federal Government.
* To train and get people into employment.
* Based on disability, but can look at other barriers, mental health, physical barriers.
* Run in Werribee, Sunshine, Melton and Bacchus Marsh.

Name: Kerryn Williams

Agency: Department of Education Training - Navigator Program

Position: Navigator Coordinator

Email: [Williams.kerryn.l@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:Williams.kerryn.l@edumail.vic.gov.au)

Website: <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/navigator.aspx>

* Based in Footscray for disengaged children.
* Funded by the Government and Anglicare.
* To overcome barriers and get children back to school.
* Recognise the barriers and build capacity with schools to assist children to stay at school.
* 30% or less attendance waiting list.
* Pilot has finished and has been rolled across the state.
* New case worker to also support CALD children.

Name: Mary Jeffrey

Agency: Salvation Army – Werribee Office

Position: Youth Worker

Email: [mary.jeffrey@aus.salvationarmy.org](mailto:mary.jeffrey@aus.salvationarmy.org)

Website: <https://www.salvationarmy.org.au>

* Youth and children’s programs.
* Connect with other services.
* Receives no funding and is run by volunteers.
* Connected to Werribee Secondary.
* Runs the T2 Breakfast Club.

Name: Alaina Kumpis

Agency: White Lion

Position: Outreach Co-ordinator

Contact: 0419 194 441

Email: [Alaina.kumpis@whitelion.asn.au](mailto:Alaina.kumpis@whitelion.asn.au)

Website: <https://www.whitelion.asn.au/>

* Works with at risk youth.
* Green project and camp.

Name: Reece Gains

Agency: Wyndham City Council Youth Services

Position: eYouth Operations Officer

Contact: (03) 8375 2346

Email: [reece.gains@wyndham.vic.gov.au](mailto:reece.gains@wyndham.vic.gov.au)

Website: [www.wyndham.vic.gov.au](http://www.wyndham.vic.gov.au)

* Free TAFE course for disengaged youth 16 to 25.
* Certificate II in Information Digital Media and Technology.
* Funded by the Reconnect Program Empower Grant for 2 years.
* Run in conjunction with the North Melbourne Huddle and VU Polytechnic.
* eYouth Crew
* WOW – Way Out West Competition with the Wyndham Libraries – photography competition for 12 to 25 year-olds. Prizes are awarded and then a travelling display of work travels around Wyndham. There are 4 workshops run by the libraries and a Youth Travelling workshop is being run on the 8th April 2019.

*Attachment – Flyers attached*

Name: Lisa Whyte

Agency: Wyndham City Council Youth Services

Position: Youth Project Officer

Contact: (03) 8375 2346

Email: [lisa.whyte@wyndham.vic.gov.au](mailto:lisa.whyte@wyndham.vic.gov.au)

Website: [www.wyndham.vic.gov.au](http://www.wyndham.vic.gov.au)

* Mayoral Youth Awards – provides grants of up to $500 12 time a year
* Expanding to cover every young person not just sporty or academic or community volunteers. From the winners, of each month a Young Achiever of the Year is chosen.

Name: Trudy Chitty

Agency: Wyndham City Council Youth Services

Position: Youth Project Officer

Contact: (03) 8375 2346

Email: [trudy.chitty@wyndham.vic.gov.au](mailto:trudy.chitty@wyndham.vic.gov.au)

Website: [www.wyndham.vic.gov.au](http://www.wyndham.vic.gov.au)

* Way Out West Competition in conjunction with the Libraries. Commences on March 18th for 2 months with a final exhibition that then travels across the municipality.
* Gets young people engaged that don’t necessarily want contact.
* Book of Stuff Youth Directory. Presents the book to students across the municipality, with the aim of every Year 9 student receiving a book. New book is due out in 2020.
* Wyndham Youth Task Force for 17 to 25 year-olds.
* Wyndham Workers with Young People Network.

*Attachment – Flyer attached*

Name: Jasmine Boumadi

Agency: White Lion

Position: Placement Student

Website: <https://www.whitelion.asn.au/>

Name: Caroline Duyvestyn

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services

Position: Senior Advisor

Email: [caroline.duyvestyn@dhhs.gov.au](mailto:caroline.duyvestyn@dhhs.gov.au)

Website: <https://dhhs.vic.gov.au/>

* Community support groups across Brimbank and Melton.

Name: Paige Bedggood

Agency: Wyndham City Council

Position: Counselling Student Placement

Website: [www.wyndham.vic.gov.au](http://www.wyndham.vic.gov.au)

Name: Daisy Tanielu-Savavau

Agency: IPC Health

Position: Senior Family Health Practitioner

Contact: 03 8734 1400

Email: daisy.tanielu-Savavau@ipchealth.com.au

Website: <https://www.ipchealth.com.au/>

* Role is to advocate, support and coordinate.
* Family violence and protection for people dealing with AOD.
* 5 officers operating across Wyndham, Manor Lakes, deer Park and Sunshine.

**Please contact Wyndham’s Youth Project Officer for further information regarding this network or to present:** [lisa.wyhte@wyndham.vic.gov.au](mailto:lisa.wyhte@wyndham.vic.gov.au) **or** [trudy.chitty@wyndham.vic.gov.au](mailto:trudy.chitty@wyndham.vic.gov.au) **or 8734 1355**

For information sharing please email: [wyndhamyouthnetwork@wyndham.vic.gov.au](mailto:wyndhamyouthnetwork@wyndham.vic.gov.au)

Website: [Wyndham Workers with Young People Network – click here](http://youth.wyndham.vic.gov.au/info_for_workers)

Youth in Wyndham has a Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/youthinwyndham>

Youth in Wyndham has an Instagram Page <https://www.instagram.com/youthinwyndham/>