

DALBY INTERAGENCY MEETING

Held at the **MYALL YOUTH AND COMMUNITY NETWORK CENTRE**
18th May, 2010.

Meeting Chaired and opened by Carolyn Tillman at 12.15pm

Attendance: Judy Chapman (Waminda Services); Lyn Clancy (MYCNC); Ingrid Hubner (Ozcare and Ministers Fraternal); Annette Jasinski (Lifeline Dalby); Karen Farnham (Relationships Qld); Stewart Mulligan (Waminda Services); Penny Parker (Q Health); Leigh Plummer (DoC CSO); Stephanie Smart (community member representing Mental Toolbox); Carolyn Tillman (WDRRC);

Apologies: Wendy Ambrose (ADFQ); Marie Byrton (St. Vincent de Paul); John Forrest (Centacare); Annie Johnston (QPS); Betty Noble (Ozcare); Cheryl Outen (ATSILS); Damien Plackett (DoC Disability Services);); Kim Raine (TASC); Leisa Rees (MYCNC); Jayne Swift (Ozcare); Jodie Taylor (WDRRC); Raelene Ward (Consultant Centre for Rural & Remote Mental Health Qld); Norman Wotherspoon (Centrelink).

Carolyn Tillman opened the meeting at 12.15pm, welcomed all and invited those new to the Interagency to address the group. Stephanie Smart addressed the group on the "Mental Toolbox" seminar to be held in Dalby and this was followed by a very detailed full and helpful description of the work currently being carried out by Waminda Services at present and others on the drawing board.

Judy Chapman and Stewart Mulligan – Waminda Services advised the meeting of the programs relating to autism being worked on at Waminda -

- "Waminda has been providing people with a disability from students to adults for 32 years.
- Our research suggests that autism is a very prevalent disability in our community and there is little support for those affected outside the city.
- Some stats on Autistic spectrum - a Waminda survey last year revealed there is 1 child in 53 school children in the region from Jondaryan to Charleville was medically diagnosed with Autism. We have no idea of how many pre-schoolers – unless children are in the school system and/or have a diagnosed disability (or obtaining such), or are registered with Disability Services, figures will not reflect them.
- Government figures had 1:160 children with ASD until recently (a Courier Mail article showed Education Queensland agreeing with the 1:53 occurrence rate).
- New Waminda Child Care Centre (My Little Hero's Learning Centre) will be for **all** children but will provide a special program for children with ASD. The childcare centre will be long day care, operating 6am to 6pm and open to all children (with and without a disability) from age 3 to Prep.
- Usual childcare ratios (1 staff member to 5 children) will operate for the centre. Additional staff will be employed for the early intervention programs, which will operate on a 1:1 or 1:2 ratio. These intervention programs will run at a block of time between 9am and 3pm
- In addition to the childcare, there are spaces available for after-school children (to Yr12) to continue with the social/behavioural intervention programs that have been running since March 2008.
- In addition to the light and sensory room at our Dalby office, plans are underway to establish a mobile sensory room, to cover remote areas in the Surat Basin. This will ensure that people have access to intervention facilities and not have to travel to the city or go without treatments.
- New legislation stipulates that as of 2011, a childcare centre have a registered school teacher on staff to deliver a pre-prep program to 4/5year olds. My Little Hero's director is a qualified primary school teacher with qualifications in special education.

- We are looking to join the Federal Government's ASD Early Intervention Provider Panel in a partnership with an OT, speech therapist, psychologist and other specialist staff.
- We are undertaking Observational Reporting for presentation to schools, doctors and paediatricians, and can offer family/sibling support and information through our resource centre which includes a lending library of specialist books on ASD and related matters.

Lyn Clancy – MYCNC wishes to remind all services that they may place meeting or other important dates on the MYCNC website as well as the MYCNC website – phone Lyn with details. Please check MYCNC website for MYCNC latest.

Ingrid Hubner (Ozcare Dalby Supported Accommodation Services and Ministers Fraternal) – is standing in for Jayne while she is away – has Womens refuge accommodation for homeless families – still waiting for the 2 houses – the refuge accommodation is only for people from out of Dalby – women in the refuge can access help from DV Connect –

- anyone wishing to access the Ministers Fraternal can do so through Ingrid on her Yahoo address.

Annette Jasinski – (Lifeline Dalby) is a Rural family support officer working within the Family Support Program and is currently running two programs through the schools;

- Visits 28 schools;
- Tree of Life is working with Children;
- Parents Under Pressure is working with rural health;
- Provides young men's support; and a
- Mindfulness program;
- Counselling is provided at Yarraman and Laidley, Highfields and Crows Nest but not in Toowoomba.
- Provision is available by appointment and referrals are welcome. Clients may self-refer.

Karen Farnham (Domestic & Family Violence Prevention Service) working within the area of Court Support and is in Dalby most Mondays or upon request – details of assistance provided are

- Co-ordinating with DV strategy groups
- Counselling
- Assisting with DVO applications;
- Court Support
- Toowoomba only – program for Alternatives to Aggression program in Men which deals with perpetrators of DV.

Penny Parker (Qld Health) has recommenced monthly visits as required to Miles, Taroom and Wandoan.

Leigh Plummer (Department of Communities) – is CSO supporting funded service providers – has previously worked with Ozcare and Carers Qld. Suggested that the "Hypothetical" show covering DV issues to be held in Toowoomba could be very interesting for those working in DV.

Stephanie Smart (representing Mental Toolbox) phone 0417 421 133 – stephsmart@bigpond.com – attended meeting mainly to re-assure the group that the Mental Toolbox seminar is not about mental illness, rather a Life Coaching tool to provide positive changes to mindsets around health, wealth, relationships, communication and success in business. James Greeshields,

an ex serviceman currently facilitating workshops for ex servicemen returning from overseas service will be presenting as will Paul Blackburn and his wife Mary. The cost is \$197 for the three day seminar in Dalby, the first of its kind outside capital cities.

Carolyn Tillman (WDRC) – gave an update on the new MYCNC multitenancy building in Dalby which is due to open in August. Space is available for agencies, both as full time tenants or for visiting services. MYCNC hopes that a number of services will operate from the building which should assist both consumers by being able to attend multiple services in one visit, and service providers with ease of referrals. Commercial kitchen, conference rooms and activities rooms will be available for tenants and any other organisation which may require the space. If you have any queries, please contact Lyn on phone 4662 0152.

Meeting closed at 1.30pm

Next meeting will be held at MYCNC on Tuesday the 15th June 2010 at noon.

Attach – Members Contact Details

