

MINUTES
GREATER DANDENONG YOUTH NETWORK
Youth United Against Family Violence
(End of Year Review and Evaluation)

Wednesday 4 December 2019

9:30am – 11:30am

City of Greater Dandenong Council Chambers - Level 2

225 Lonsdale Street, Dandenong - Corner of Lonsdale and Walker Streets

ITEMS	NOTES
Welcome	All welcomed and Traditional Owners acknowledged.
Presentation Youth United Against Family Violence - Project Background <i>Catherine Maine and Jess McKenna, Greater Dandenong Youth and Family Services</i>	<p>Youth United Against Family Violence:</p> <p>A local youth-led campaign that seeks to raise awareness of the impact of family violence through the eyes of young people. The young people have developed a series of three adverts with a focus on raising awareness of intimate partner violence, image-based abuse and bystander behaviour.</p> <p>Catherine and Jessica (from Greater Dandenong Youth and Family Services) provided the background to this project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth United Against Family Violence was developed to provide a platform for young people to be included in discussions and decision-making related to family violence prevention. • A youth specific approach was warranted because evidence shows that young women aged 18-24 years are the most vulnerable to family violence. They are more likely than other age groups to have experienced family violence in the past 12 months. • In addition, it was recognised that young people can also be indirectly affected by family violence. Children are witnesses to more than a third of family violence cases. • Exposure to violence in the family increases young people’s risk of mental health, behavioural and learning difficulties; and, in the case of boys particularly, of perpetrating violence as adults. • 10 young people were recognised as passionate community champions and advocates, and invited to form a working group.

- The first five weeks of the project were capacity building sessions to educate the group about the prevalence of family violence, its causes, and the impacts of this issue on our community. This included looking at gender inequality as a driver of family violence.
- Participants had the opportunity to explore their own attitudes and gender biases in a safe and respectful space.
- From the capacity building sessions, the youth ambassadors were able to pinpoint the key themes for their campaign. They workshopped story lines, narrowing down the concepts for each advert.
- Momentum Studios Australia were contracted to support the film production phase of the project. Momentum presented the story boards to the group and took on their feedback regarding the shoot location, proposed camera angles and lighting, the set design as well as costume and make-up.
- The young people led the development of the scripts, ensuring that the ads represented young people’s real experiences.
- The filming took part over 1.5 days, with all members of Youth United Against Family Violence attending the film set. Young people identified their areas of interest prior to the filming days and were provided with the opportunity to gain hands on experience.
- Following the filming, Momentum Studios attended group sessions to consult with young people through every step of the process. The group guided editing decisions to ensure that the final adverts were true representations of the young people’s vision.

Youth ambassadors **Tash and Fred** then introduced each advert.

Advert 1: Image-based abuse and bystander action

Evidence of need:

- 1 in 5 Australians have experienced image-based abuse
- Young people are at a higher risk of image-based abuse with 1 in 3 young people aged 16-19 reporting an incident
- 1 in 4 young people think that if a woman sends a nude image to her partner then she is partly responsible if he shares it without her permission

Background:

- This advert also features bystander action. The group unanimously decided that the active bystanders should be male because they wanted to empower young men to be part of the solution.
- The call to action “*don’t stand by, stand up*” aims to empower and encourage young people to recognise and call out abusive behaviour.

Advert 2: Family violence in the home

Evidence of need:

- 60% of women who had experienced intimate partner violence reported that children were witness to the abuse.
- 1 in 9 young people report having witnessed violence towards their mother by a partner before the age of 15.

Background:

- The aim of our next advert was to shine a light on the experiences of children and young people affected by family violence.
- Children who live in homes affected by family violence are often the ‘silent’, ‘forgotten’, or ‘invisible’ victims of domestic violence.
- Witnessing violence can include so much more than seeing physical abuse. It can involve: hearing the violence; being forced to spy on a parent; being informed that they are to blame; and intervening to stop the violence.

Advert 3: Intimate partner violence

Evidence of need:

- 1 in 10 young people don’t know that repeatedly criticising your partner to feel bad or useless is abuse.
- 1 in 10 young people don’t know that controlling you partners social life by preventing them from seeing their family or friends is abuse
- 1 in 10 teenagers have accessed a mobile or online account of current or former partner without their knowledge
- 1 in 20 have downloaded a GPS or tracking program to a partners’ device without their knowledge

Background:

- This advert is designed to invoke the question: *“Why would you treat your partner in a way that you would not treat any other living being?”*

Following the presentation of each advert, network members were invited to provide feedback and to identify possible links to any existing programs/services for young people. This feedback will be used to inform the next stage of the campaign, including the development of further educational materials to accompany the visual resources.

Films will be made available via the Greater Dandenong website in early 2020 – GDYN members will be notified once available.

For further information about the project contact Youth and Family Services on 9793 2155 or Catherine.Maine@cgd.vic.gov.au

<p>GDYN Year in Review</p> <p><i>Kylie Wilmot, Youth and Family Services</i></p>	<p>Kylie presented an overview of the GDYN activities in 2019.</p> <p>Key activities included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery of 6 meetings: February: Understanding the Youth Sector in Greater Dandenong April: Young people, alcohol and other drugs June: Homelessness and material aid August: Bringing together the youth and education sectors October: Young people, mental health and technology December: Youth United Against Family Violence, and year in review • Delivery of a local professional development forum to address <i>youth disengagement</i> – held in May, with 90 members in attendance • Delivery of a regional professional development forum (in partnership with Casey and Cardinia Youth Services), on the topic of <i>preparing young people for an uncertain future</i> – held in November at the Cardinia Cultural Centre • Development and distribution of a coordinated calendar of local Youth Week activities • Distribution of 13 eNewsletters, with more than 450 members on the mailing list <p>Network members were invited to complete an evaluation survey, providing feedback on the outcomes from the GDYN in 2019, as well as nominating suggestions and topics to address in 2020.</p> <p>Kylie thanked all network members for their participation and support of the Greater Dandenong Youth Network this year.</p>
<p>Information Sharing</p>	<p>Simone Perkin, WAYSS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WAYSS are moving office as of Monday 9 December – will be located at 20 Princes Hwy, next to Coles. Services continue as usual following the move. • Family violence intake worker – call for assessment. If contacting the Dandenong office (ph. 9791 6111), must be located in City of Greater Dandenong. For Casey and Cardinia, contact WAYSS Berwick office (ph. 9703 0044). <p>Danilo Guerrero Diaz, Big Issue Street Soccer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Street Soccer program (for ages 16 years and older), at JC Mills Reserve, Wednesdays from 5.45pm • Seeking to establish a Women’s Soccer program from February/March 2020

Hayfa Kaassamani, Family Life Connect Program

- Low intensity mental health and wellbeing program, for people living in Greater Dandneong and aged 16 years and older
- Up to 8 sessions available over 3-4 months
- There is no waiting list, drop in available
- Located at Life Without Barriers office in Dandenong
- For more information, visit <https://www.familylife.com.au/support/mental-health/connect/>

Ali Tausif, Family Life Shine

- Program supports vulnerable children and young people aged 9-18 years, and their families
- Includes case management and soft engagement
- Includes support for children who are impacted by family violence
- For more information, visit <https://www.familylife.com.au/support/infant-and-children/childrens-wellbeing/>

Theresa Sengagga Ssali, African Women and Families Network

- Located at SMRC office in Dandenong (39 Clow Street) two days per week
- Running family violence program and providing case work with families
- For more information contact tssali@hotmail.com.au

Jess McKenna, City of Greater Dandenong Youth and Family Services

- Bookings now open for the holiday activities – featuring Luna Park, a beach day, 'Ninja Warrior' course, a movie morning and more.
- For more information, visit <https://youth.greaterdandenong.com/content/31371/holiday-activities> or contact 9793 2155

Vanessa Mendico, City of Greater Dandenong Youth and Family Services

- King of Concrete, skate competition to be held on 18 January at Noble Park Skate Park. Now taking registrations.
- For more information, visit <https://youth.greaterdandenong.com/event/4481/king-of-concrete-2020-youth-summer-holiday-activities-2020/16430> or contact 9793 2155

Robyn Campbell, Caroline Chisholm Foundation Scholarships

- Financial assistance for students to study at Chisholm; from VCAL/VCE through to Diploma level
- Looking to increase the number of scholarships provided in 2020 – referrals welcomed
- Free TAFE courses still attract student and materials fees of up to \$500 depending on the course – scholarships are available to help cover this gap.
- For more information, visit <https://www.chisholm.edu.au/cccf>

	<p><i>Reminder to network members: for promotion of programs/services in the monthly eNewsletter please send a short blurb to kylie.wilmot@cgd.vic.gov.au</i></p>
<p>Next Meeting</p>	<p>Date: Thursday 13 February 2020 Time: 9.30am – 11.30am Theme: To be confirmed Venue: Dandenong Council Chambers – Level 2 225 Lonsdale Street, Dandenong For further information or to RSVP please contact Kylie Wilmot, Youth Development and Community Engagement Officer on 9793 2155 or email kylie.wilmot@cgd.vic.gov.au</p>

ATTENDANCE LIST

Present	Name	Agency/Organisation	Email Address
1	Kylie Wilmot	CGD Youth and Family Services	Kylie.Wilmot@cgd.vic.gov.au
2	Tristan Hunt	The Salvation Army – Transition To Work	Tristan.hunt@salvationarmy.org.au
3	Ali Tausif	Family Life – Shine	atausif@familylife.com.au
4	Catherine Maine	CGD Youth and Family Services	Catherine.Main@cgd.vic.gov.au
5	Yvette Shaw	DHHS	Yvette.shaw@dhhs.vic.gov.au
6	Helen Maher	Whitelion	Helen.Maher@whitelion.asn.au
7	Anita Khalil (Schep)	NEAMI YRR Noble Park	Anita.schep@neaminational.org.au
8	Tim Sparks	Reclink	Tim.Sparks@reclink.org
9	Hong	SECL Springvale	hmarotta@secl.org.au
10	Weda Mohseni	Uniting (Komak)	Weda.mohseni@vt.uniting.org
11	Sean Ferris	WAYSS	seanf@wayss.org.au
12	Sajid Chaudhery	Headspace	Sajid.Chaudhery@each.com.au
13	Taylah Abraham	Taskforce	taylaha@taskforce.org.au
14	George Bonnici	NIET – Nepean Industry Edge Training	george@niet.com.au
15	Munira Yusuf	Australian Muslim Women’s Centre for Human Rights	munira@muslimwomenscentre.org.au
16	Pru Chazikantis	WAYSS EYA	prudencec@wayss.org.au
17	Hayfa Kaassamani	Family Life Connect Program	hkaassamani@familylife.com.au
18	Crystal Naismith	Southern Migrant & Refugee Centre	crystaln@smrc.org.au
19	Mark Kennedy	Deakin Uni	markk@deakin.edu.au
20	Danilo Guerrero Diaz	Big Issue Street Soccer	dgdiaz@bigissue.org.au
21	Jess Elsworth	WHISE	jelsworth@whise.org.au
22	Junior Melo	SECL	junior@secl.org.au
23	Tracey Montagnat	Monash Health – YDAS	Tracey.montagnat@monashhealth.org
24	Kelvin Carbis	Uniting	Kelvin.carbis@vt.uniting.org
25	Kate Phillipson	Micare – Oakleigh	Kate.Phillipson@micare.com.au
26	Robyn Campbell	Caroline Chisholm Education Foundation	Robyn.Campbell@chisholm.edu.au
27	Richard Colquhoun	Alfred Health Carer Services	r.colquhoun@alfred.org.au
28	Lauren Booth	SECL	Lauren.Booth.au@gmail.com
29	Simone Perkin	WAYSS	Simonep-ws@wayss.org.au

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31	Chol Chol	Mission Australian	cholc@missionaustralia.com.au
32	Vanessa Mendico	CGD Youth and Family Services	Vanessa.Mendico@cgd.vic.gov.au
33	Sarah Chong	MiCare New Hope Foundation	Sarah.Chong@micare.com.au
34	Jack Simcoe	Reclink	Jack.Simcoe@reclink.org
35	Vanessa Gigliotti	CGD Libraries	vgigli@cgd.vic.gov.au
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38	Britt Tomski	Taskforce	brittt@taskforce.org.au
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43	Jess McKenna	CGD Youth and Family Services	Jessica.McKenna@cgd.vic.gov.au
44	Fred	Youth United Against Family Violence ambassador	
45	Tash	Youth United Against Family Violence ambassador	
46	Shruti	Youth United Against Family Violence ambassador	