

MINUTES

GREATER DANDENONG YOUTH NETWORK

Bringing together the youth and education sectors:

Working collaboratively to support young people

Wednesday 7 August 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.
<p>Presentation</p> <p>Student Support Services Model <i>Nicole King and Hanna Szczepanski, Department of Education and Training</i></p>	<p>Nicole King provided an overview of the Student Support Services (SSS) model:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are 6 SSS teams in the Southern Metropolitan Area (employed by DET) who implement state, regional and local priorities • Teams are multidisciplinary and include psychologists, speech pathologists and social workers • SSS objectives include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - support the delivery of quality universal services for all students, with extra effort directed to ensuring education and health and wellbeing services are accessible to, and inclusive of, the most vulnerable and disadvantaged - target the delivery of individual support services to those who require specialised expertise, assessment and intervention in order to overcome barriers to learning - develop the capability of schools to design health, learning, development and wellbeing strategies that focus on improving education and health and wellbeing outcomes - collaborate with multidisciplinary professional practice teams and build partnerships with community services to meet the needs of schools and students and their health, wellbeing and learning goals - respond to critical incidents involving students, staff and school communities. • All work undertaken by the SSS team is assigned a priority level between 1 (most urgent) and 4 (least urgent) • Key contact meetings take place fortnightly between the school and SSS staff member to discuss possible referrals. • Priorities in the Southern Metropolitan area include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Management of complex cases - Inclusion of students with complex needs and behavioural challenges - Chronic absenteeism

	<p>- Marrung Plan</p> <p>Hanna Szczepanski provided an overview of the priorities for schools in the Dandenong area. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting students who are at risk of disengaging • Improving school attendance • Promoting trauma informed practice in schools • Implementing the Marrung plan to support the needs of Koorie students <p><i>For further information – see accompanying power point presentation.</i></p>
<p>Activity</p>	<p>Network members were invited to contribute to a ‘stock take’ of programs and services, including those offered to local schools. <i>A summary of the information gathered through this activity has been collated and is attached to these minutes.</i></p> <p>Schools representatives were invited to identify emerging needs or ‘gaps’ in services for their student cohort. <i>A summary of these key themes was shared later in the meeting.</i></p>
<p>Presentations – Case Studies</p> <p>Greater Dandenong Family Support <i>Paula Glover, Case Manager</i></p>	<p>Paula Glover provided an overview of the Greater Dandenong Family Support team and how they work with schools to support students and their families.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council has delivered Family Support services for over 12 years • The team works with 160 families per year; referrals are via Child First • The key role is to respond to parenting needs and build parenting capacity; generally working with families for 3-6 months • At an initial visit with the families, the case manager collects a ‘Consent to Exchange of Information’ form, enabling them to liaise with schools and other services to gather further information to support the assessment of the families’ needs • Schools are a valuable source of information for family support workers, as the child/young person spends a significant amount of time with them • Schools can also help to identify strategies that are working well at school, that could be tried in the home environment • Family support workers can help the school to build a relationship with parents, where this may have been difficult in the past
<p>Presentations – Case Studies</p> <p>Keysborough College <i>David Pfeiffer, Community Partnerships and Chantelle Johnson, Student Wellbeing</i></p>	<p>David Pfeiffer provided an overview of Keysborough College</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keysborough College is a two campus college, totalling over 1800 students (expected to grow with the opening of a new primary school in Keysborough South) • The welfare team consists of 18 staff (including part-time roles) • A Community Partnerships role was established in 2015, to act as a conduit between the school and external agencies

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Useful resource to be aware of - Framework for Improving Student Outcomes. See https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/management/improvement/Pages/FISO.aspx <p>Chantelle Johnson then provided an overview of how the school identifies priorities and required supports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The wellbeing team conduct an annual survey of staff and students; this provides an evidence base to identify needs and support services required (changes annually) Supporting the transition from primary to secondary school remains an ongoing priority <p>David and Chantelle shared their tips for services seeking to engage schools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be patient, schools are busy places Facilitate as much as you can - make it easy for schools to engage Provide relevant information 'upfront' so schools know what's involved and what's required Outcomes - be clear on how what you are offering will benefit students (this is especially important if it involves students leaving school or giving up class time) If there are too many 'steps' to getting students involved, this will be a barrier (i.e. onerous permission forms requiring parental consent) Prefer opportunities for collaboration, not just "come in and leave" programs Be easy to contact - have a streamlined contact point, don't leave schools on hold, or have different staff chasing up different information
<p>Presentations – Case Studies</p> <p>Le Mana Pasifika Project <i>Temese Leilua, Centre for Multicultural Youth</i></p>	<p>Temese provided an overview of how the Le Mana program is working with schools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Le Mana now working with 9 schools across Casey and Dandenong Deliver a 10-week in-school program for Pasifika young people, looking at connection to culture Have focused program to start at year 7, with early intervention Program outcomes have included increased self-belief, improved engagement in school and enhanced support networks for the young person
<p>Feedback</p>	<p>Youth and Family Services staff, Aishling Fagan and Yohana Jury, provided an overview of the key themes to emerge from the earlier discussion-based activity. School representatives were asked to identify their priority needs and gaps, which included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A need for a focus on early intervention programs (preventing disengagement before it occurs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited alternative education options, particularly years 7 to 9 Requires sustained engagement between services and schools over a period of time Need to have more focus on prevent issues before they arise or addressing 'early warning signs'

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absenteeism and school refusal an ongoing challenge – again, earlier intervention is required (Navigator program starts at 12 years old) and working with families is critical to gaining traction • Gaming addiction – need specialised responses (currently referring young people to headspace); parents also require support with managing this at home. • Mentoring programs are in demand (including from parents, wanting to link their young people with mentors) • Mental health – anxiety, self-harm, suicidal ideation • Behavioural issues
<p>Information Sharing</p>	<p>Amy Marshall, Whitelion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Y4Y pre-employment program for young people 18-24 years; commencing in Dandenong on 26 August (5 weeks) • Young people participate in training to develop employability skills, whilst also exploring paid opportunities in the Gig Economy to gain real world experience • For more information contact Amy.Marshall@whitelion.asn.au <p>David Ogden, Dandenong High</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seeking service providers to host a stall at the upcoming wellbeing expo to be held on 27 August. If interested contact walker.kaye.k@edumail.vic.gov.au <p>Munira Yusuf, Australian Muslim Women’s Centre for Human Rights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emerging Muslim Voices program - a social justice program designed for young Muslims to enhance their skills as advocates in tackling social and political issues and engaging with the media. • For more information contact munira@muslimwomenscentre.org.au <p>Steph Graham, Mission Australia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth Learning Pathways, offers a range of workshops, one to one education and employment support and case management, aimed at young people who are “at risk” or engaged in the youth justice system • Six week Spring Mash Up program commencing 27 August, participants will gain a first aid certificate, obtain their learners permit, learn skills for the workplace and take place in a range of workshops (including barista skills, recording, digital story telling and more) • For more information contact 9213 2512 or ylp@missionaustralia.com.au <p>Kelly Clem, Good Shepherd Financial capacity workshops for young people and families. To find out more visit https://www.goodshep.org.au/find-a-service/ or email kclem@goodshep.org.au</p>

Ian Dubbeld, Concern Australia - Handbrake Turn

- 7 week automotive pre-apprenticeship program; upcoming Dandenong courses commencing 27 August, or 22 October
- For more information visit <https://www.concernaustralia.org.au/hand-brake-turn/>

Temur Rezaie, Centre for Multicultural Youth

- Envision program - offers free information sessions and leadership workshops for newly arrived young people (12-25 years). Program supports young people to learn about life in Australia, make new friends and connect to support services.
- To find out more contact Temur on 8594 1566 or trezaie@cmv.net.au

Bede Selleck, YSAS

- Empower program has recommenced on Wednesdays, offering a drop in program for young people between 4pm and 7pm.
- To find out more contact BSelleck@ysas.org.au

Crystal Naismith, Southern Migrant and Refugee Centre

- MAP program - 10 week program commencing in late August; young people will develop skills in leadership and teamwork, as well as delivering a community project with the support of mentors.
- For more information contact Crystal - crystal@smrc.org.au

Monique O’Keeffe, City of Greater Dandenong

- Community Support Grants are now open; funding of up to \$20,000 is available for community groups and organisations to carry out programs, projects and events that will benefit the Greater Dandenong community.
- For more information including funding guidelines, visit <http://www.greaterdandenong.com/document/31989/community-support-grants-program>
- Council is also now releasing the Partnership Grants Guidelines, ahead of these grants opening in early 2020. (Please see guidelines attached to these minutes.)

George Bonnici, Nepean Industry Edge Training (NIET)

- NIET offer workshops and short courses, Cert III through to Diploma level
- Offers an alternative pathway to university
- For more information visit <https://niet.com.au/> or contact george@niet.com.au

Leah Riches, MOIRA Youth Services

- Life and Living Skills program (three-days per week, for two –weeks) commencing September school holidays (based in South Yarra)
- Topics include budgeting, resumes, self care and more

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free program, lunch and travel passes included • For more information visit https://moira.org.au/news-and-events/f-y-i-program-fun-young-informed or lriches@moira.org.au <p>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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September edition deadline – 16 August • October edition deadline – 20 September
Next Meeting	<p>Date: Thursday 10 October 2019 Time: 9.30am – 11.30am Theme: Young people, mental health and technology – navigating a digital world Venue: Dandenong Council Chambers – Level 2 225 Lonsdale Street, Dandenong</p> <p>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>

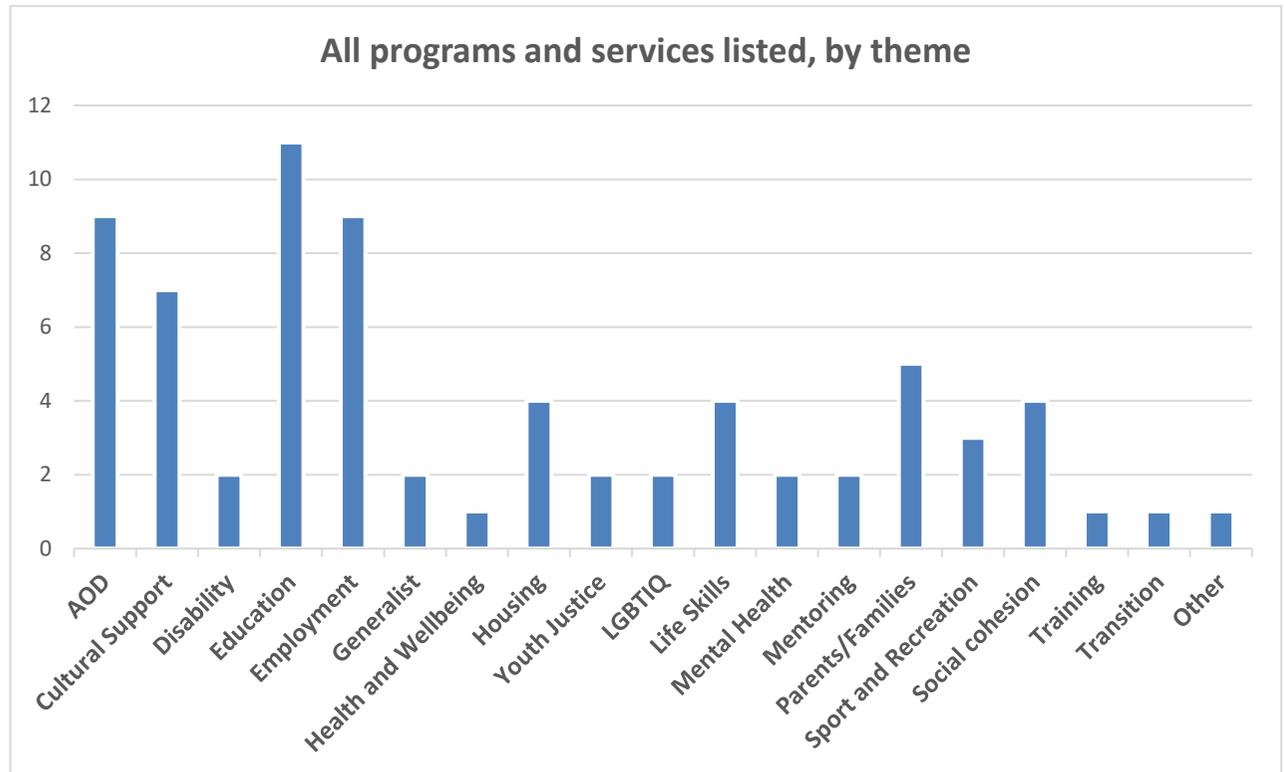
MAPPING SERVICES AND PROGRAMS

PART ONE

Network members were invited to list their programs, events and services as part of a 'stock take' of activities.

These have been grouped by theme to present an overview of the focus areas represented on the day.

Note: this is not intended to represent an exhaustive list of all services available to young people in the City of Greater Dandenong. The information has only been collected from those agencies/service providers in attendance at this meeting.

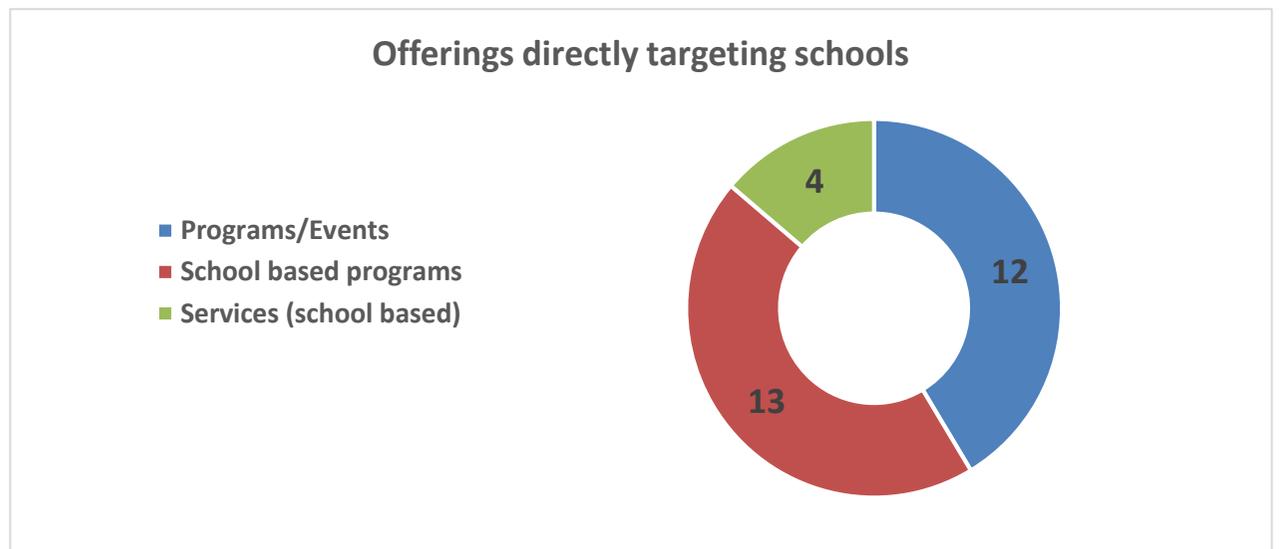


PART TWO

From the activities collated in part one, those that directly target or work with schools were distilled into the following categories:

- Programs/Events
- School based programs
- Services (school based)

Note: this does not include those services who promote directly to schools to seek referrals.



ATTENDANCE LIST

Present	Name	Agency/Organisation	Email Address
1	Kylie Wilmot	CGD Youth and Family Services	Kylie.Wilmot@cgd.vic.gov.au
2	T Zokhai	SMRC	tunsaumkhaiz@smrc.org.au
3	Mo Mawira	CMY – YRIPP	southeast@yripp.org.au
4	Urudad Salim	Monash Health	Urudad/salim@monashhealth.org
5	Yvette Shaw	DHHS	Yvette.shaw@dhhs.vic.gov.au
6	Aishling Fagan	CGD Youth and Family Services	Aishling.fagan@cgd.vic.gov.au
7	Ryan Afzali	SMRC	ryana@smrc.org.au
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9	Monique O'Keeffe	CGD Community Funding team	mokeef@cgd.vic.gov.au
10	Lynda Chapman	Noble Park Secondary College	Chapman.lynda.d@edumail.vic.gov.au
11	Denise Sadique	SEDA College	denises@seda.vic.edu.au
12	Andrew Chisholm	CGD Family Support	achish@cgd.vic.gov.au
13	Paula Glover	CGD Family Support	pglove@cgd.vic.gov.au
14	Alikki Petrellis	Chisholm TAFE/ Noble Park Secondary College	a.petrellis@hotmail.com
15	Chontelle Johnson	Keysborough College	Johnson.chontelle.c@edumail.vic.gov.au
16	Bojana Popovic	DHHS RMP	Bojana.popovic@dhhs.vic.gov.au
17	Kelly Murphy	Uniting	Kelly.murphy@vt.uniting.org
18	Helen Maher	Whitelion - SHYAP	Helen.maher@whitelion.asn.au
19	Christian Douglas	Change Life	Chrisdouglas1204@gmail.com
20	Lucas Foster	WAYSS	lucasf@wayss.org.au
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23	Oscar Persson	The Bridge Employment	opersson@thebridgeinc.org.au
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