

MINUTES

GREATER DANDENONG YOUTH NETWORK

Homelessness and material aid

Thursday 6 June 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 WAYSS <i>Anette Edmundson, Coordinator Youth Programs Dandenong</i>	<p>Anette E-B, WAYSS, Coordinator Youth Programs (Dandenong) provided a comprehensive overview of the range of WAYSS programs and services available to young people.</p> <p><i>This included:</i></p> <p>Private Rental Access, assistance with rent in advance, client debt assistance to pay-down debt, or to assist those in urgent need of buying essential provisions, a brokerage worker can sit down with the client one-on-one to assess support requirements.</p> <p>Youth Support Service – Step Ahead Program – supported accommodation, engage in intensive support, where the young person is willing to engage in education and training (for young people aged 16-24 years).</p> <p>Emergency Youth Accommodation – education, employment and training. Residential support and case management. Residents can stay for a period of up to 6-weeks. *linked to programs.</p> <p><i>For further, more detailed information – see accompanying power point presentation.</i></p>
Presentation Rough Sleeper Initiative <i>Emma Murray, Coordinator – Rough Sleeper Initiative</i>	<p>Emma Murray from Launch Housing presented to network members an overview of Launch Housing’s Rough Sleepers Initiative (RSI).</p> <p>The program provides an assertive outreach service to people sleeping rough across five-locations, including Dandenong. RSI supports individuals who often have complex needs, are vulnerable and the majority have experienced long-term homelessness. RSI assertive outreach workers provide an assessment and intake into the homelessness system*, case management, assistance with emergency accommodation, and a pathway into crisis accommodation and permanent housing.</p> <p>Outreach workers can also provide assistance by reconnecting clients to pre-existing homelessness services or establish new supports. If required, it can also link rough sleepers to other services. This initiative has an integrated health response, with support from qualified Bolton Clarke nurses to assess clients’ health needs as required. This is a critical feature of the RSI model, as rough sleepers often experience systemic barriers to accessing housing support. Without a stable home, it is difficult for people sleeping rough to</p>

	<p>access health care, especially ‘primary care’ such as a nurse or health centre. This can have serious health implications for people experiencing long-term homelessness.</p> <p>Eligibility - People experiencing primary homelessness (i.e. ‘sleeping rough’) across five council areas, including Greater Dandenong.</p> <p>Referral - The team provide assertive outreach to people currently sleeping rough. They help as soon as possible, usually within 24 hours.</p> <p>Contact - Rough Sleepers Initiative Tel. 8598 1170</p> <p><i>For further, more detailed information – see accompanying power point presentation.</i></p>
<p>Presentation</p> <p>Material Aid and the impact of SRSS cuts <i>Therese Watson, Community Development Funding Officer, City of Greater Dandenong</i></p>	<p>Therese Watson, from Greater Dandenong Council’s Community Development Funding team, presented to the network on the collective impact occurring locally to address cuts to Status Resolution Support Services (SRSS). There are more than 2,000 people locally on Bridging Visa E. Full time students are not eligible for SRSS. 166 people have exited from SRSS in the last 12-months. Over 600+ people in the local community have no income 6% of young people 12-25 years are on SRSS 400-500 people in our community are on SRSS but are at risk of being exited. People seeking asylum that have arrived by air cannot apply for SRSS until their substantive visa expires. An estimated 30 000 arriving by plane nationally this financial year. The adverse impact of this government policy position was the catalyst for establishing the Greater Dandenong Community Aid Consortium. The remit of the consortium is to develop a shared agenda and undertake data collection and analysis to establish an understanding of the issues and in turn provide a strong advocacy position.</p> <p>Collaborating with stakeholders. The People Seeking Asylum at Risk of Destitution (PSAARD) Task Force invite you to join their Winter Wish List aimed to assist people seeking asylum and rough sleepers in our community. The Appeal will start on the 1st of June 2019 and continue through to the end of Refugee Week. Items will be distributed to people through the Greater Dandenong Community Aid Consortium Members.</p> <p>Food Items Olive oil - chick peas - kidney beans - lentils (orange) - flour - basmati rice - vegetable oil - tinned tuna - sugar - brown sugar - coffee - Tea - coconut milk - dates - sultanas - long life milk - Halal snacks - Instant noodles (the cup type you pour boiling water over, this is specifically for those in our community that might be rough sleeping)</p>

	<p>Hygiene products Razors - deodorant - toothpaste - shampoo - conditioner - soap - toothbrushes - toilet paper - washing powder</p> <p>Clothing Socks – beanies - underwear (men, women and children) – gloves - scarves</p> <p>Babies Nappies - baby wipes – baby formula</p> <p>Cleaning Products Detergent – disinfectant – toilet cleaner – cleaning clothes – washing powder</p> <p>Grocery vouchers</p> <p>For enquiries and donations collection, please contact Therese Watson therese.watson@cgd.vic.gov.au or tel. 8571 1456</p>
<p>Information Sharing</p>	<p>Josh Baron, CGD Youth & Family Services Flagged upcoming July school holiday program for young people 12-25 years Bookings open Monday 11 June http://youth.greaterdandenong.com/ Also highlighted Council’s ‘Holiday Activities Committee’. This is a leadership program for young people aged 12-16 years, where they help to plan a series of activities to take place during the holidays and develop the skills required to ‘peer lead’ these activities. Program to be held Monday evenings, 4.30pm – 6.30pm For registrations please contact Josh on 9793 2155 or Joshua.Baron@cgd.vic.gov.au</p> <p>Laura Sanderson, Peninsula Community Legal Service Promoted the ‘Work and Development Permits (WDPs) which is an accredited initiative which allows clients to work their fines debt. Under a WDPs, eligible people engage with a ‘sponsor’ that will monitor their time spent in an activity to clear their fines debt. A sponsor can be a health practitioner (doctor, nurse or psychologist) or organisation (government agency, not-for-profit organisation, general practice or for-profit organisations). For enquiries contact Laura Sanderson e: lsanderson@pclc.org.au</p> <p>Victoria Legal Aid, Michelle Nguyen and Bridget Hansen Offer community education and awareness sessions regarding the law. Topics include ‘Street Law’ young people understanding their legal rights and responsibilities when dealing with police and protective services officers (PSOs) in Victoria; ‘Sex, Young People and the Law’ young people understanding their legal rights and responsibilities and make informed decisions about sex and relationships. For enquiries contact Michelle Nguyen and Bridget Hansen, tel. 9767 7111 / e: michelle.nguyencung@vla.vic.gov.au</p>

	<p><i>Karmen Dayal, Good Shepherd</i> The Financial Capability and Wellbeing Program, assists clients with building their money management skills, knowledge and confidence. It is a free and confidential service. The program offers both individual sessions and group financial education workshops. A current workshop on offer is raising awareness on the pitfalls of 'After Pay'. Eligibility criteria, receiving a commonwealth allowance/payment, newly arrived migrant/non-citizen-refugee, or a woman experiencing family violence. For more information or to get in touch, contact financialcapabilitysouth@goodshep.org.au</p> <p><i>Jo Thitchner, Concern Australia</i> Handbrake Turn, hands on practical automotive training, 7-week program, 3-days per week. For 15-21 year olds. For more information contact JoThitchner, jo.thitchener@concernaustralia.org.au</p> <p><i>Terry Jepson, The Bridge Employment</i> The Bridge Employment assists job seekers and workers in the Southern and Peninsula Region of Melbourne to overcome barriers to employment. For more information contact Terry, tjepson@thebridgeinc.org.au</p>
Next Meeting	<p>Date: Wednesday 7 August 2019 Time: 9.30am – 11.30am Theme: Bringing together the youth and education sectors: working collaboratively to support young people 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
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