



MINUTES

MONDAY, 6th April 2009

**Meeting held at 12.30pm in the Meeting Room of
Centacare – Mary of the Cross Centre 7 Brunswick Street Fitzroy**

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS and ATTENDANCE:

Peter Wearne Chairperson welcomed people to the Forum and asked them to introduce themselves. A total of 23 people attended the meeting including:

Peter Wearne (YSAS), Danny Jeffcote (North Yarra Community Health), Elyse Maurelli (BSL Coolibah Club), Barbara Taylor (DHS), Monica Schwartz (NRCHC), Pier Moro (HepC Victoria), Maureen Chesler (DHS), Victor Bilous (Mary of the Cross), David Watt (Victoria Police), Morgan Scholz (NJC), Kasey Elmore (NRCHC), Lindy Mills (Office of Richard Wynne MP), Keran Myers (NEXUS), Louisa Tenace (Hanover Southbank), Steve Watson (Windana), Marita Delaney (NJC), Raylene Franz (Urban Seed), Virginia Moebus (Urban Seed), Rob Stoll (JSS-Connexions)

2. APOLOGIES: Vera Boston (North Yarra Community Health), Sandra Fox (NRCHC), Chris Hardy (NYCH) Bobbi Cheetham (The Wellington Centre).

3. ACCEPTANCE OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

The Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted with the following amendment – Point 7 Turning Point are conducting a survey into Pharmaceutical drugs not Pharmacotherapy drugs.

4. GUEST SPEAKER: Steve Watson Team Leader, Day Program at Windana spoke on their new non-residential alcohol and other drugs rehabilitation program. (see Windana Day Program Process Chart attached)

5. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

- Supervised Injecting Centre – The next meeting of the Working Group is on 14th April at FooDoos. The meeting will finalise the Expression of Interest to prepare a Position Paper.
- Worker of the Year Award Nominations – Thuy Bui from the North Richmond Community Health Centre received the award for 2009.
- Council briefing on drug services in the City of Yarra etc was postponed until 20th April

6. CURRENT ISSUES

Current drug use patterns

- Sniffing Glue in the back of trams – Elyse
- Heroin usage amongst young people increasing – Peter
- Five ODs recently at Richmond – Monika
- Two ODs at Collingwood – Scott
- Alcohol a problem in older women
- A shortage of Cannabis since the bushfires

A community based response to alcohol and other drug issues

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- Xanax still a problem
- Can we get an update on Overdoses from the Ambulance Service to see if there has been a spike upwards

7. UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM MEMBERS PRESENT

- Meeting at Burnet Institute with Guest speaker speaking about the Vancouver Supervised injecting Centre – Thursday 9th April 3.30 – 5.00pm.
- HepC Week starts 18th May
- Liver Clinic starts on the 23rd April at Innerspace. The service will be once a fortnight and there will be a Doctor, Nurse and a Support Group formed.
- Seminars on Health Privacy Thursday 23rd July and Wednesday 18th November contact Fax 8601 5219 for details
- The Drug Tasking Unit Victoria Police thatv was operating on the estates has stopped operating but operations will still continue by local police.
- The Security Enhancement Project on the estates has taken place and OoH will continue to enforce the use of swipe cards to enter buildings. Some covert cameras will be installed to target some residences suspected of illegal activities.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

9. WORKER'S REPORT for March - The Workers report was received

10. NEXT MEETING: - Monday, 4th May 2009 at 12.30 pm in the Meeting Room of Mary of the Cross Centre 7 Brunswick Street Fitzroy.
Guest Speaker: Angelo Pricolo, Community Pharmacist in Brunswick and PSA Pharmacist of the Year 2008 will speak about providing pharmacotherapy.