



## MINUTES

MONDAY, 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2009

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

### **1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:**

**Chairperson:** Peter Wearne (YSAS); There were 37 in attendance including – Danny Jeffcote (North Yarra Community Health), Victor Bilous (Mary of the Cross), Andrew Atkinson (Victoria Police), Vera Boston (NYCH), Elyse Maurelli (BSL Coolibah Centre), Dawn Stark (Bridge Withdrawal Unit), Binh Chu (MHSS), Sarah Kerwick (VAADA), Marcelle Kayrooz (Youth Projects), Maureen Chesler (DHS), Barbara Taylor (DHS), Michael Gorman (Victoria Police), Oliver Markovski (Victoria Police), Quyen Mai (Mary of the Cross), Linda Cropley (RDNS HPP), Hui Zhou (Fitzroy Legal Service), Dean McWhirter (Victoria Police), Fay Edebohls (Turning Point), Monika Schwarz (NRCH), Kasey Elmore (NRCH), Chris Hardy (NYCH), Amanda Olle (Good Shepherd), Carolyn Pickett (BSL), Christine Sammut (BSL), Paul Bowman (Dept of Ed & Early Childhood Development), Ben Sacco (Dept of Ed & Early Childhood Development), Damon Brogan (Harm Reduction Victoria), Rob Stoll (JSS Connexions).

**APOLOGIES:** Joe Morris (YDHF), Bernie Lane (DHS), Pier Moro (HepC Vic), Renate Uzubalis (Reckitt Benckiser), Michele Lee (Victorian Legal Aid)

### **2. ACCEPTANCE OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:** The minutes were accepted as written.

### **3. GUEST SPEAKER:** Inspector Dean McWhirter presented on trends in Crime in the City of Yarra over the past 12 months particularly tho relating to Alcohol and Other Drugs, figures show that crime rates have decreased in the City of Yarra, presentation included a description of various Police projects including "Eviction Project". Dean McWhirter will provide an altered copy of the power point presentation (Attached)

The following link will give everyone access to the Yarra Police Service Area (City of Yarra) current crime statistics. <http://www.vicpolicenews.com.au/myplace.html>

There were concerns raised around the Eviction Project, were people who are charged with trafficking in their family home are reported by Police and DHS evict them. Peter Wearne will follow up with DHS to provide information on the Eviction Project and the processes.

Dean emailed an explanation about the DHS Eviction Project from the Police perspective: That before anyone is evicted the issue of families /children is considered and child protect/child support and disability services are all communicated with, however overwhelmingly either people with children usually leave before being evicted or their children are usually cared for through extended families

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*A community based response to alcohol and other drug issues*

Yarra Drug & Health Forum  
4 Johnston Street, Collingwood, 3066  
Phone: 9468 2819 Fax: 9417 1499 Mobile: 0419 521 075  
Email: joe.morris@nych.org.au

and are not exposed/involved re the illegal activity associated by the tenants - these issues should be able to be addressed by Pravin Ram (The Office of Housing Regional Manager).

#### **4. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT**

##### ***Supervised Injecting Centre Working Party***

As you know Burnet Institute are preparing the Position Paper and will have it finalised by the ANEX conference in October. As required we have retained overall copy write but given permission for Burnet to use the final document in some presentations. The contract will be signed between Burnet and NYCH as NYCH is our auspice as we are not incorporated.

#### **5. CURRENT ISSUES**

InnerSpace and North Richmond CH have reported business as usual. YSAS has reported an increase in heroin use in poly-drug use pattern amongst young people. YSAS Bendigo has seen an increase of referrals with heroin use. Police reported seeing people use OxyContin and Xanax is still readily available.

#### **6. UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM MEMBERS PRESENT**

Overdose Awareness Day on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> August. Innerspace is having a Memorial Day on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> August. InnerSpace is having a Police Open on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> August 2009 and have announced that Dr Fran Bramwell (pharmacotherapy prescribe) has joined Innerspace.

Families Supported Playgroup at the Napier Street Child and Family Resource Centre, 134 Napier St, Fitzroy Children 0-5 years old and family members are welcome. Also available to come and talk to groups about the program.

July Census – Opiate Replacement Therapy – over 300 clients, reflecting the demand services are experiencing. Innerspace are seeing 2 clients a day requesting pharmacotherapy. A new prescribing Doctor has commenced at Innerspace.

Staff from the Victoria Police Drug and Alcohol Strategy Unit are working on training packages for Police and are keen to include agencies and develop contacts.

Good Sheppard – Applications for a .5 AOD family worker closes on the 10.08.09 and interviews are to be held on Friday 14.08.09.

Fitzroy Town Hall – Thursday 06.08.09 at 6.00pm Traders and Residence Meeting regarding public drinking and drug use. Local residence, traders and service providers are all welcome.

#### **7. OTHER BUSINESS**

Sophie Gale from the City of Yarra was unable to speak about the “City of Yarra Municipal Public Health Plan” due to the process of council and she will present at the next meeting.

Rebecca Winter – Will give a brief report paper on Supervised Injecting Facilities in three months. Report will be ready Late October/ Early November.

**8. WORKER’S REPORT** – There were no points raised for discussion and the report was accepted.

**9. NEXT MEETING: - Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> September 2009 at 12.30 pm in the Meeting Room of Mary of the Cross Centre 7 Brunswick Street Fitzroy.**

**Guest Speakers:**

Thuy Bui (North Richmond Community Health), YDHF Worker of the Year, 'Harm Minimisation in Vietnam'.

Sophie Gale from the City of Yarra will speak about the "City of Yarra Municipal Public Health Plan".