



## Minutes

**MONDAY, 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2009**

**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 30 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), Vera Boston (North Yarra Community Health), Maureen Chesler (DHS), Victor Bilous (Mary of the Cross), Chris Hunter (BSL), Julie Borninkhof (Melbourne GP Network), Belinda McNair (DHS), Jade Sinclair ALERT Innerspace), Amanda Olle (Good Shepherd Youth and Family Service), Christa Grapentin (YSAS), Sarah Batty (Turning Point), Kasey Elmore (NRCHC), Sandra Fox (NRCHC), Paul Dietze Burnet Institute, Ben Righetti (Neighbourhood Renewal), Liz Tehen (Melbourne Group Network), Tom Wilkinson (Victoria Police), Anna McDonald Yarra & Yarra Access Centrelink, Bobbi Cheetham (The Wellington Centre).

**2. APOLOGIES:** Nicola Cowling (ANEX), Clare Lethlean (Hanover), Sharon Simon (Neighbourhood Renewal), Chris Hardy (NYCH).

**3. ACCEPTANCE OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:**

The Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted.

**4. GUEST SPEAKERS:** Paul Dietze, Burnet Institute, made a presentation on Intranasal Naloxone research for people who have overdosed and its potential for non-health professional usage. Included in his talk was information that there is a double blinded study this year at the Kings Cross MSIC. Paul also mentioned intranasal programs in New Mexico and New York. At the moment there is nothing that YDHF can do but he will contact us when there is.

**If you would like a copy of Paul's presentation, you can get one by sending him an email [pauld@burnet.edu.au](mailto:pauld@burnet.edu.au)**

**5. REPORTS**

• **Executive Committee**

• **Executive Committee Members for 2009**

The Executive Committee for 2009 is Monika Schwartz (NRCHC), Morgan Scholz (NJC), Pier Moro (HepC Victoria), Meghan Fitzgerald (FLS) plus Peter Wearne Chairperson (YSAS) & Vera Boston Auspice Representative (NYCH)

• **Supervised Injecting Centre – Expression of Interest**

The working party is preparing an Expression of interest to go out to 2 or 3 research bodies seeking a Position Paper

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

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- **Worker of the Year Award Nominations**

The award committee has met and made a decision. The receiver of the Award will be announced at the Community Forum on the 31<sup>st</sup> March.

- **Drinking Alcohol in Public Places Community Forum - March 3<sup>rd</sup>**

The Forum is tomorrow at 12.30 at Richmond Town hall

- **Council briefing on 16<sup>th</sup> March**

We have been invited to brief Councillors on the services available etc for drug users in the City of Yarra

## **6. CURRENT ISSUES**

- **Current drug use patterns**

Victoria Police have had a special Drug Unit operating in the area; Alcohol abuse is very prevalent; Quite a bit of Heroin and Speed around; Xanax is still a problem as are Unisom Gel caps; There was a fatal overdose in the Richmond estate laundry recently.

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

- World Hep C Day 19<sup>th</sup> May
- 24<sup>th</sup> March HepC Discussion with Danny Jeffcote (Innerspace NYCH)
- Post graduate study grants are still available from DHS
- DHS Blueprint discussion this Friday at Preston Theatre
- Turning Point are conducting a survey on the use of Pharmacotherapy drugs.

## **8. OTHER BUSINESS**

- **March 31<sup>st</sup> Community Forum** – YDHF Oration; AGM & Presentation of the 'Worker of the Year Award 2009'.

## **9. WORKER'S REPORT for February**

The workers report was tabled

## **10. NEXT MEETING: - Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> April 2009 at 12.30 pm in the Meeting Room of Mary of the Cross Centre 7 Brunswick Street Fitzroy.**

**Guest Speaker:** Steve Watson Team Leader, Day Program at Windana will speak on their new non-residential alcohol and other drugs rehabilitation program.