

## Greater Albury CLSD Program meeting

23 August 2023 1.30pm to 3.00pm, Albury Library & Museum & Teams

### MINUTES

**Present:** **Ellie Hass** (Legal Aid NSW), **Rohan Harrison** (Legal Aid NSW), **Navinesh Nand** (Legal Aid NSW), **Gabby Maginnes** (HRCLS), **Raissa Butowski** (HRCLS), **Lola Imawan** (Legal Aid NSW), **Rebecca Bryant** (VERTO), **Shannon Le Lievre & Olivia** (CFCW Intereach), **Liz Collins** (HRCLS), **Melinda Carlyle** (UMFC), **Tanya Jones** (ADACAS), **Anthony Nguyen** (HRCLS), **Suzie Eastman** (Murrumbidgee LHD), **Cynthia House** ((MLHD), **Romani Blue** (Ombudsman NSW), **Michelle Conroy** (One Door), **Kathie Makeham** (Service Australia), **Alison Maher** (HRCLS), **Colette Quin** (CLSD Regional Coordinator, HRCLS), **Kate Halliday** (Legal Aid NSW), **Eleshia Shelton** (Woomera Aboriginal CoOp), **Tracey Whatley** (The Personnel Group), **Ellen Tilbury** (PIAC), **Emma Bastable** (PIAC), **Leanne Mearns** (One Door), **Seema Sanghi** (Legal Aid NSW)

**Apologies:** **Betty Egan** (DFV Coordinator NSW Police) **Margie Tickner** (Albury Anglicare), **David Whitehouse** (HRCLS), **Sue Beddowes** (LAC–Linker Intereach), **Karlee Hirt** (HRCLS), **Rosemary Hill** (CSO Intereach), **Brett Cunningham** (Service NSW), **Scott Boyle** (Anglicare), **Cassandra Campbell-Smith** (JSA), **Kerrily Jeffrey** (FRS), **Kathryn Henderson** (FRC), **Renee Wilson** (VRB), **Julie Bye** (EWON), **Heidi Wilkie** (Services Australia), **Loretta Caunt** (Intereach), **Beth Kennedy** (Legal Aid NSW), **Beth Kennedy**, **Helen Sheather** (MHHD), **Veronica Hall** (DJC), **Andrea Georgiou** (YLA), **Georgina Brown** (Intereach), **Phillip Stone** (Edward River Council), **Sheylyn Moran** (Thurgoona Community Centre), **Vanessa McKay** (Vinnies), **Jane Cipants** (Legal Aid NSW), **Rebecca Cooper** (Service NSW), **Damien Morgan** (DCJ), **Wendy Howard** (Albury Court), **Jess Blum** (UMFC), **Laurel Stanton** (Vinnies), **Scott Boyle** (Anglicare), **Jenny Rawlings** (DCJ), **Michelle Head** (Albury City), **Andrea Ryder??** (HSP - Red Cross), **Kira Pace??** (YES Unlimited), **Kim Richardson** (YLA), **Tracey Barkley** (NDIS), **Diana Elliott** (VRB), **Erin Kerr** (Pogson, Cronin, Kerr Solicitors), **Sue Beddowes** (Intereach),

Agenda item	Discussion	Action/Outcome
<b>1. Opening, Acknowledgement &amp; Introductions</b>	<p>Colette welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the almost spring edition of Greater Albury CLSD meeting either in person or online.</p> <p>Acknowledgement of Country – Greater Albury CLSD – Colette read I would like to acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we work and meet.</p>	

	<p>I pay my respects to their Elders, past, present, and emerging, and extend my respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are here today.</p> <p>I recognise the enduring relationship that Aboriginal people have with Country across our Greater Albury CLSD region.</p> <p>As a worker in the legal sector, I acknowledge the discrimination and disadvantage that Aboriginal people, families, and communities have experienced, and continue to experience in our legal system.</p> <p>Our work to achieve a just society for all, comes from a foundation that values and respects Aboriginal custodianship of this country.</p> <p>These include the Wiradjuri people in the Albury region, the Wamba Wamba Perrepa Perrepa people in Edward River LGA including Deniliquin and the Bpangerang people in the Federation LGA including Corowa.</p>	
<p><b>2. Meeting Purpose &amp; Agenda</b></p>	<p><b>Purpose:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Empower legal practitioners and community workers with knowledge of the legal implications of The Voice Referendum, so that they can educate the community.</li> <li>• Networking and sharing information.</li> </ul> <p><b>Agenda:</b></p> <p>Colette introduced Ellen Tilbury and Emma Bastable from the Public Interest Advocacy Centre (PIAC) – to present on the First Nations Voice to Parliament -</p> <p>The aim of the session is to provide CLSD partners with information on the legal facts and implications of the Voice - the session is not purposed to tell people how to vote. It is hoped the session will arm attendees with the legal and historical knowledge needed to make an informed decision. In order to maintain a safe space for all those who attend the meeting we ask that political opinions are left outside of the meeting.</p> <p>Ellen and Emma indicated at the outset they are, and PIAC are supportive of The Voice.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The place of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the Australian Constitution, including the significance of the 1967 referendum.</li> <li>• The momentum for constitutional recognition of First Nations Australians from 2007.</li> <li>• The First Nations Dialogues and the Uluru Statement from the Heart, leading to the call for a First Nations Voice.</li> </ul>	

- The referendum proposal we will be asked to vote on.
- The practical implications of the Voice – how will it work and what will it do?
- Q & A session

The Voice will enable the 1<sup>st</sup> nation's peoples to assume their rightful place in our constitution and give them substantive recognition based on their status as the 1<sup>st</sup> nation's people and not based on race.

The constitution needs to be amended to make the Voice valid as the constitution does not recognise our nation's 1<sup>st</sup> peoples. .

Modest, substantive, reasonable and unifying.

The Voice will enable our 1<sup>st</sup> nation's people to consult and engage on anything that affects them to better enable the Government to make better / more informed decisions in relation to health, education, employment and housing.

The Voice will be legislated.

End: CQ advised that if attendees were here for the presentation alone, then they are more than welcome to leave the meeting and just as welcome to stay with us.

Ice breaker:

**Around the room in 15 minutes** (2.25pm) – an opportunity to get to know each other and connect with new members-

- What would you like partners to know about you or your service?
  - A recent achievement for you or your service
  - Your wish for the future of you or your service
- Marg Tickner (Apology) advised that the new referral address to Albury Anglicare is [alburyfc@anglicare.com.au](mailto:alburyfc@anglicare.com.au), Wagga and surrounds - Riverina email address stays the same.
  - Colette attended the CLSD Coordinators Conference at the start of August. The focus was on building better partnerships. It motivated Colette to get to know you all much better than simply chairing these meetings. Colette would like to meet you individually in your environment to learn more you.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Anthony- CEW for HRCLS in a health justice partnership with AWAHS. Achievement Wills day at AWHAS. Hoping to have an even better birth certificate event by the end of the year.</li> <li>- Ellie – new to her position, hoping to build the NSW Team – new homeless lawyer will join the team.</li> <li>- Nav provides advocacy in relation to civil matters. The service meets need, but Nav would like to identify and service the areas in the region most in need, i.e. outlying regions.</li> <li>- Kate H manages the drive to increase access to justice through CLSD &amp; NSW LA partnerships. The renewed MOU between BDM – NSW to provide free birth certificates is exciting. She would like to see smaller conversations happen.</li> <li>- Rohan deals with the criminal side of NSW LA. Achievement was the allocation of a mental health program and justice health nurse in the region. He hopes to expand the team / service to keep meeting need.</li> <li>- Lola - new state-wide specialist service which aims to provide holistic and trauma-informed legal services to individuals who have experienced sexual harassment and/or discrimination in the workplace. Helped a client before the Human Rights commission to get \$\$ but most especially to be heard. Hope to continue good work in the future.</li> <li>- Gabby works with Anthony. Wills day was a highlight. Looking to make a connection with ALS.</li> <li>- Rebecca – provides assistance in relation to tenancy matter. Albury is going to sit once a month which save having to travel to Wagga. Looking to employ another person to assist with the workload.</li> <li>- Raissa is a generalist lawyer with HRCLS. She hopes to fill clinic spots and build better relationships with outreach parties.</li> <li>- Liz is a Family Lawyer with HRCLS attached to regional NSW – Deniliquin, Finley Corowa. Achievements are building relationships and having a presence in the region. Hopes to proactively continue to assist the most vulnerable.</li> <li>- Eleshia – have been in her position with Woomera for 4 weeks. They have achieved organising to have a fair in November. She hopes to have other services attend the event and build connections.</li> <li>- Michelle Conroy and Leanne Mearns care for carers in the Murrumbidgee LHD. Have been flat out and really want to collaborate to provide better access to services.</li> </ul>	
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- Tracey – disability employment provider. Have recently formed a partnership with a psychologist as of the 30.8.2023. Wish to provide a more holistic service including streamlining referral pathways.
- Kathie her team provides a suite of services through services Australia, the achievement has been finally getting back into the community and continuing to provide targeted service and support where needed.
- Shannon and Olivia continue to be busy providing support to their community. The highlight has been an event for migrant workers in relation to their rights and language etc. would love to have a Birth certificate day in her community.
- Cynthia – is a counsellor for Federation LHD. She has recently made a connection with CQ and LC and hopes to start making referrals and making lasting connections through the CLSD.
- Seema – Is the project manager CLSD. Birth certificate events have been a highlight. Loves digging and finding out what the problems are and relishes the opportunity to resolve those issues. Looks forward to making services more accessible locally.

It became apparent that dialogue needs to occur in relation to gaps in services to our community, how the services/professional in the room work together and compliment each other to improve outcomes for our local communities– How do we do this? Further opportunities for conversation outside of the CLSD.

**5. 2023 current projects update (2.55pm)**

Cut It Out- update on planning for the events

Cut it Out domestic and family violence workshops – A planning meeting occurred on the 28 July 2023 between HRCLS, WDVCS, Yes Unlimited and DJC.

Looking at an event in Albury in October and then up to and including 16 Days of Activism in Deniliquin and Finley ( possibly Corowa)

Having lots of activities and mentors to stimulate conversation.

All the normal topics as well as awareness of the room / confidentiality.

Michelle from One Door indicated interest in assisting with this in Deniliquin.

Corowa Intereach very keen to assist in their patch.

Cynthia House keen to be a mentor in her towns.

	<p>Further free Birth Certificate available – Plans for an event at AWAHS  Free NSW and Victorian Birth Certificates – we have been allocated 80 free NSW Birth certificates (with the possibility of more). Currently planning an event at AWAHAS in November.  Would other organisations / locations benefit from free certificates?  Intereach keen – come up with some dates and then get the word out.  NSW LA  Have a cross border focus.  Services Australia happy to be part of the event, to set up MyGov address  Centrelink issues on the day.  Include LHC.</p> <p>WDOs – Database and priorities  WDOs and Fines – Further discussion required – it’s a big project.  -Deniliquin – increase WDOs and WDO sponsors.  -Albury – increase number of 18-24 year olds on WDOs rather than using centrepay. Suggested contact with Youth organisations (YES Unlimited), Chris Kelly DCJ and Pat Skillicorn / Tanya NSW Police.  Taree CLSD are looking at how to expand mentoring for youth – as a WDO option – If they are already connected they can get rid of \$1000 in a month.  -Corowa – Increase WDO sponsors.  -Advocate to WDO governance group about constraints on community services to act as WDO sponsors.  - WDO status at YES Unlimited and advocate for increase of young people on WDOs.  Kate to put CQ in touch with WOD team.</p>	
<p><b>6. Proposed Projects for 2023</b></p>	<p>Further projects from Action Plan 2023/2024:  - Birth certificate &amp; LCH for young people  - CLE on Centrelink Rights and Payments  - CLE on rights in police custody  - Hold regular law check ins at CLSD meetings.</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Opportunities to educate and build awareness about access to requests to the NDIS for the community, local GPs and Allied health services. Have had an enquiry from Amber Murphy – Intereach Corowa for assistance accessing NDIS – can anyone assist.</li> <li>- Improve Information sharing about what payments and services are available to women facing financial hardship.</li> <li>- Hold a focussed meeting once a year on domestic &amp; family Violence – include focus on services for men &amp; LGBTQI+ people.</li> <li>- Hold event during 16 days of activism (25.11 to 10.12.2023)</li> <li>- Hold information forum with agencies working with survivors &amp; perpetrators to inform &amp; promote referral (include men, LGBTQI+ &amp; young perpetrators)</li> <li>- Promote conversation about issues people affected by DV / FV are having - continuous-CLSD meetings &amp; Forum attendances.</li> <li>- Address legal gaps – Private Lawyers accepting F/L work, NSW care &amp; protection matters, Representation for all parties in AVO matters, raise awareness of legal assistance available to aboriginal people.</li> <li>-CLSD Operation Fines Clawback</li> <li>- Collaborate with A&amp;DLS to set up referral process for people who need wills and other documents (CQ).</li> </ul>	
<b>Other Business</b>	Grateful thanks to Anthony for all his assistance in setting up these meetings and for his IT expertise.	
<b>7. Next meeting</b>	<b>15 November 2023 1.30pm to 3pm Albury Library Museum &amp; online</b>	