

MINUTES
GREATER DANDENONG YOUTH NETWORK
Understanding consent and responding to sexual assault

Thursday 17 June 2021

9.30am – 11.30am

ONLINE MEETING

ITEMS	NOTES
Welcome	All welcomed and Traditional Owners acknowledged.
Guest Speaker Bridget Hansen <i>Community Education</i> <i>Victoria Legal Aid</i>	<p>Bridget presented an overview of young people, consent and the law.</p> <p>For the VLA education kit on 'sex, young people and the law', please visit the website as information is updated should there be any changes to the law. Resources including videos are available from this link as well. https://www.legalaid.vic.gov.au/find-legal-answers/free-publications-and-resources/sex-young-people-and-law-education-kit</p> <p>Key messages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young people are eager to learn about this and want to understand their rights • The law applies to all relationships, including same sex relationships, and no matter how long the partners have been together • Ideally consent education should be delivered at year 8 or 9 level, by year 10 many students are already sexually active. Sex is legal at 12 years old (with conditions) and so content becomes relevant at a younger age. • Consent is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Free agreement - Shared understanding - Words, actions and body language (all in sync and sending the same message) - Able to be withdrawn at any time <p>Tips for talking with young people about consent:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use clear language and definitions. Being too vague can lead to confusion. • Give examples

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use inclusive language and pronouns (they/them) so that all young people feel a part of the conversation • Keep sessions interactive and engaging • Provide a list of supports (eg: SECASA, Lifeline, legal services) <p>For more information or to organise a presentation to a group of young people, contact Bridget on bridget.hansen@vla.vic.gov.au</p>
<p>Guest Speaker</p> <p>Peta de Burgh <i>Counsellor/Advocate</i> <i>South East Centre Against Sexual Assault (SECASA)</i></p>	<p>SECASA provide support and counselling for people who have experience sexual assault or family violence.</p> <p>Peta provided an overview of how to respond to disclosures of sexual assault, with a focus on purposeful disclosures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make sure you are in a safe space (physically, emotionally, psychologically) • Allow the client to speak at their own pace • Don't ask for details • If you can't respond at that moment, still acknowledge that you have heard the young person and that what they have said is important to you. • Remain calm • Validate what the person is telling you • If unsure what to do, tell the person: "I don't know what to do but I want to keep you safe" • If the assault is recent, ask if the person needs or wants a medical check • Don't do anything without the client's consent (eg: involve police) – however consider your professional responsibilities. • Remember it is not up to you to investigate – just show that you believe them and validate what they are saying <p>Further advice is available from SECASA or SOCIT (Victoria Police – Sexual Offences and Child Abuse Investigations unit).</p> <p>For more information or referrals, contact SECASA intake on 9928 8741.</p>
<p>Consultation</p> <p>Aishling Fagan <i>City of Greater Dandenong</i> <i>Youth and Family Services</i></p>	<p>City of Greater Dandenong has prepared a draft Youth and Family Strategy 2021-2026. This is now on public exhibition to ensure that it reflects the priorities of young people and families in the local community.</p> <p>As valued stakeholders, GDYN members were provided with the opportunity to give feedback on the draft strategy.</p>

	<p>Consultation is open until Friday 9 July. For any members wishing to participate in consultation following the meeting, please visit https://youth.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/community-engagement/youth-and-family-strategy-2021-2026-consultation or call Youth and Family Services on 9793 2155.</p>
<p>Information Sharing</p> <p><i>All attendees were encouraged to share an update via the meeting 'chat' or verbally.</i></p>	<p>Updates shared during the meeting</p> <p>Georgina - EACH Morning all, Georgina from EACH Adolescent Family Violence Service in Narre Warren Covering Southern Region for 12-17 year olds and their families/carers georgina.cook@each.com.au 0448577485.</p> <p>Marijo Pozega – EACH Morning everybody. Marijo here from the Adolescent Family Violence Service at EACH, which is part of the Pathways to Resilience Program. We work with young people 12-17 and their families. marijo.pozega@each.com.au for any questions/inquiries.</p> <p>Jane Bridges – St Vincent De Paul Hi everyone, I'm new to the network. Jane from St Vincent De Paul Society Education Programs. I coordinate the tutoring program at Dandenong on Saturdays. Program runs each Saturday during term time tutoring Grade 3 -12 . Please contact : jane.bridges@svdp-vic.org.au 0499 500 686. Currently open face to face!</p> <p>Monique - STREAT <u>Taste of STREAT (Youth):</u> A 2 hour interactive workshop for young people (and accompanying workers) who are interested in STREAT's Ready to Work program and keen to learn a little bit more about the program to help them decide if it's right for them. Date: Friday 25th June 10:30am - 12:30pm RSVP by: 18th June <u>Taste of STREAT (Community Orgs):</u> A 2 hour information, networking and pizza session run by STREAT Youth Programs for Team Leaders and Managers of relevant referral services who are keen to learn more about STREAT's programs. Date: Thursday 1st of July 11am - 1pm RSVP by: 24th of June <u>Intro to Work</u> - an eight-week individual program for people wanting to access hospitality or horticulture focused work experience with weekly individual support. This is a roll-in roll-out program that runs throughout the year. Accepting referrals now! If you are interested in learning more about STREAT - Please contact me via email - Monique.vitiritti@streat.com.au</p>

Vanessa Gigliotti – Greater Dandenong Libraries

Morning all. Vanessa Gigliotti - Programs and Outreach Support at Greater Dandenong Libraries vanessa.gigliotti@cgd.vic.gov.au

Libraries have reopened to normal hours (following the circuit breaker lockdown) but with reduced services. Programs moved to virtual and masks required in the buildings. Time limits and people limit apply however it will be easing as restrictions are made. Spaces can still be used to study and access computers. More info: <https://www.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/covid19-libraries>

Sara Elagha – Greater Dandenong Libraries

Good morning all, Sara Elagha here, Children's and Youth Services Librarian at Greater Dandenong Libraries
sara.elagha@cgd.vic.gov.au

Neysa Charlton – Centre for Multicultural Youth

Good morning all. Neysa from the MY Education team at the Centre for Multicultural Youth (CMY). Our team supports education learning support programs for young people from migrant and refugee backgrounds. I can be reached at ncharlton@cmy.net.au
The MY Education team is hosting a free forum on July 20th for those who work in education and education learning support programs for young multicultural people. We have a number of sessions being presented from experts in the field, stakeholders, and program coordinators. You can read more and register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/lbb-forum-2021-supporting-learning-in-a-changing-and-challenging-world-tickets-157437171819> and share with others working in the education sector for multicultural young people

Crystal - SMRC

Hi, Crystal here from the Southern Migrant & Refugee Centre Crystaln@smrc.org.au youth careers support, workshops and development for newly arrived Young people

Sean Ariki – Le Mana

Morena whanau, Sean Ariki from LeMana CMY I am a Youth Facilitator or worker you can say. contact details is sariki@cmy.net.au

Sara Kwestroo – Monash Health

Morning all. Sara here from the Better Futures program @ Monash Health. We also have the Youth Health Hub program at Monash Health running out of 122 Thomas St Dandenong where we have exercise physiology, counselling, dietetics, music therapy and a range of services - all at no cost. For a referral form email youthtriage@monashhealth.org or email me sara.kwestroo@monashhealth.org - happy to provide further info

Paora Te Paki – Le Mana

Mōrena everyone Paora Te Paki from the CMY Le Mana Pasifika project if you need any supports with Māori and Pasifika young people please reach out ptepaki@cmy.net.au 0400937404

Toby Laverick - headspace

Hey everyone, Toby Laverick - Community Engagement Coordinator headspace Dandenong toby.laverick@each.com.au

Bianca Sayers – DJCS

Hi Guys my name is Bianca Sayers I am an Advanced Case Manager at Pakenham corrections and the youth portfolio holder. I'll be in and out today so have my camera off

Bianca.Sayers@justice.vic.gov.au

Alissa Franklin – St Kilda Gatehouse

Hi All, Alissa here I am the Group Work Coordinator from St Kilda Gatehouse's Young Women's Project. We work with young women ages 12-25 who are at risk of sexual exploitation through Outreach and Group Work support.

alissa@stkildagatehouse.org.au for questions about programs and referrals@stkildagatehouse.org.au for any referrals.

Tarryn – Monash Health Dual Diagnosis Service

Good morning all - Tarryn from Southern Dual Diagnosis Service with Monash Health. Our next Combined Network Meeting is on 30th June 1-2.30pm. We have Leanne Van from Monash Health's Primary Health Clinic presenting on Naloxone (opioid overdose medication), the Needle Syringe Program, the Primary Health Clinic and HepC. If you'd like to join or be added to our distribution list, email sdds@monashhealth.org.

Cara Tizon – Red Cross

Good morning everyone, Cara here from Red Cross Youth Justice on Wurundjeri country.

We have WorkREDi, an employment support program for young people in the justice system and a youth advisory group for those with lived experience of the justice system.

ctizon@redcross.org.au/0403992189

Karen Vergara / Stephen Jenkinson – Whitelion

Whitelion's Breakthrough Mentoring program aims to assist young people who are aged 16-25 and have barriers to employment such as experience with homelessness, youth justice or out of home care, to gain and maintain meaningful employment.

karen.vergara@whitelion.asn.au - 0481 984 750

Navida Aslam – Catholic Care

CatholicCare Victoria in Dandenong helps in the employment of young people, counselling and family dispute resolution
Dandenong Office – call 8710 9600

Anita - Neami Noble Park YRR

For further information about YORS - Youth Outreach Recovery Service, providing outreach to young people in the Dandenong, Casey and Cardinia region 16-25 years old, experiencing mental health symptoms. Pls email me for further info, or to have a chat about a potential referral, anita.khalil@neaminational.org.au

Bess - Big Issue Street Soccer

Bess from Big Issue Street Soccer - women's soccer program at JC Mills on Tuesday 4-6pm. Feel free to email me on bschnioffsky@bigissue.org.au if you have anyone who might be interested as players of volunteers :)

Sean Ariki – Le Mana

Free music and dance programs on Fridays 8pm – 10pm in Dandenong and Narre Warren
For further information contact sariki@cmy.net.au or mobile 0401061907

Additional Updates

Whitelion – Larita Academy

Whitelion are launching the Larita Academy - <https://www.larita.com.au/> for 16 to 24 year olds

Over three exciting days on **July 13th, 14th and 15th** participants will engage in workshops created and facilitated by successful members of the business community providing insight into a range of different topics including entrepreneurship, growth mindset, digital and financial literacy, to help kick start participants pathways to work. The workshops will be run in and around central Melbourne, easily accessible by public transport.

Following the workshops, young people will continue to develop these skills and strengthen their Larita Academy community via soft skills workshops, 1-1 Goal Setting sessions and supported group work with their Whitelion Pathways to Work Youth Worker. There will also be follow up half day workshops and exciting opportunities such as work experience within the LK Group.

If you know a young person who is aged 16-24 who you think would benefit from this unique opportunity, please direct them to our website (<https://www.larita.com.au/>) where they can apply for a full scholarship to the Larita Academy right now.

Reminder to network members: for promotion of programs/services in the monthly eNewsletter please send a short blurb to kylie.wilmot@cgd.vic.gov.au

Next Meeting	<p>Tuesday 17 August 2021, 9.30am – 11.30am</p> <p>Guest Speaker: Dr Evita March, Federation University</p> <p>Topic: Young people and technology</p> <p>For further information please contact Kylie Wilmot, Youth Development and Community Engagement Officer on 9793 2155 or email kylie.wilmot@cgd.vic.gov.au</p>
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