



Minutes from NIHHN Meeting Thursday 14th April 2016

Chair: Anne from PS Family Support

Minute Taker: Astrid Gearin (CYDP)

Coordinated: Astrid Gearin (CYDP)

Attendee's: See attached

Apologies: Ann Fletcher PSFANS, Kate Ormonde & Fiona Edwards NOVA.

Acknowledged the traditional owners of the land

- ❖ **Minutes and actions of the previous meeting revised and approved**
NHHIN- 1st Harmony Wilson, 2nd Richard Harrison

- ❖ **Guest Speakers-** No speakers for this meeting as Key Topic business to finalise was put in its place in this agenda
 - **Key Topics**

Terms of reference accepted by NHHIN- 1st Barbara Stacey, 2nd Joel Shakespeare

ROLES:

2016/17 Chair of the NHHN – Chair position is still **vacant** and requires filling at next General meeting.

Samaritans One Point will Chair June 9th meeting.

Astrid to support One Point in the agenda and planning the next meeting.

Minute Taker - Human Services Outreach Team- currently Richard Harrison will be the NGO representative as a Minute taker for the 2016/17. Astrid to forward minute's template to Richard.

- **Homelessness NSW & NHHIN: Do you have Housing Debt Hunter Community Consult.**

NHHIN has been working with Homelessness NSW planning a 3 phase consult that will gather data relating to debt with Housing NSW. The purpose of this is to use the data to aid in lobbying government around more effective solutions to reduce financial hardship for those people experiencing a debt to Housing NSW.

3 phase consult that will include **1.** Face to face consults with community, **2.** snap shot period where SHS and emergency relief services will gather data to be reported back to Homelessness NSW and lastly **3.** Engaging sector workers to communicate on their experiences in supporting people who have had debt to Housing NSW.

ACTION- Phase 1 will be taken place at Soul Café and Hamilton South with x2 NHHIN Members discussed Astrid Gearin Housing NSW Social Policy Officer Chris Hartley.

Soul Café Consult- 11.30am-1pm

Hamilton South, 1.30pm- 3pm

CYDP will check with Homelessness NSW to funding for the BBQ.

Astrid to create a promotion flyer with more details.

Harmony Wilson from One Point is also available to support as other NHHIN member and will form part of consultation collection group

❖ **The Big Question!** (today's question was put to the floor to suggest)

Can NHHIN support ABS in gathering Census while maintaining safety, respect and dignity to homeless members of our community?

NHHIN compile responses & send to peaks and relevant politicians and stake holders for them to action when required.

NHHIN Members shared The Bureau of Stats have employed a contractor (Chad- no other details at this time) to gather data for Census between 9-15th August in the Hunter region, plans communicated are HHCD and Soul Café as locations to collect data. NHHIN raised concerns about privacy and the people we support first. NHHIN considered members can support Chad in his work in regards to getting his required data and making sure our clients are supported. It is in our interest to get it done correctly Soul Café a good idea yes but maybe our community sector could support Chad in asking these questions at locations where we know people may be and gather.

Action-

Astrid to enquire with Homeless Persons legal service and how they have worked with the ABS and then take then approach ABS representative (Chad) to the next NHHIN Meeting.

❖ **Project and Committee updates:**

- District Homelessness Implementation Group (DHIG)/SHS operations Group
 - Update – Ann Fletcher from RTNC not at meeting and no one available to discuss
- This Way Home Project Update-
 - This Way Home Project is looking at facilitating groups & training with tenants such as *Smart Recovery* through *Samaritans and Mental Health First Aid*
- Hunter Homeless Connect Day Update-
 - 9th August HHCD, A book of stories to be printed, crowd funding was part of this plan. Rego opportunities for services will be in May.
- Homeless Committee Working group Update- (NCC) - NA
- Sector Service updates or partnerships suggestion –
 - Mary Street CARE- A Consumer advisory group are looking x4 consumers who are women with women who have experienced homelessness. Street Care would like to highlight the experiences of women with children if possible. 40 min interview \$20 gift cards for participants. Flexible in getting information and would like to do it in partnership with consumers support worker. Purpose for policy to be put fwd to cabinet later in the year. Over 16yrs.

Mary is available Monday's all day and after 3:30pm Tuesday to Friday.

She is also happy to be available out of business hours.

Mary Sullivan Street Care.
0410240018
marysullivan02@gmail.com

Details attached

❖ **New Business**

Speaker or presentation suggestions for next meeting?

Richard Harrison raised concerns around ICE and how services and community can get support and information. Would like some information at the next NHHIN. Samaritans Recovery Point are running sessions for users and family around ICE.

ACTION- Chair to make contact about them attending the next NHHIN. Sophie Hedges spoke about being able to access a staff member from health to talk about treatment opportunities, rehab and how the health systems can and does support users and families.

❖ **END OF NHHIN ORDINARY MEETING 11:30am**

Next NHHIN Meeting to be held:

Thursday 9th June 2016, TAFE- Parry St, Newcastle West C.S4, 10.00am – 11.30 am