

Newcastle Community +



Newcastle Youth Interagency 28
28.5.2015

@ **Multicultural Neighbourhood Centre**
3 Illalung Road, Lambton NSW 2299

-Minutes-

Attendance:

See attached PDF Marked- Sign in Sheet

Apologies: Marcell Power

May's NYI was co Facilitated and agenda set by NYI Tonkoh Kamara from NSS

Northern Settlement Services

Tonkoh Kamara- Multicultural Youth Worker

NSS offers many services and program not limited to - Complex Case support,
Refugee support, respite, brighter futures, including general support

Northern Settlement services offer Information and referral
Assistance to emerging and established groups with project planning and
management.

Room & basic conference equipment for community activities.
Information sessions, workshops & cultural awareness training for corporate or
educational groups.

EAPA -Emergency assistance with electricity, gas and water accounts Tax Help
taxation return assistance to people with low incomes (July-Oct).

Legal Clinic provided by Hunter Community Legal Centre
Outreach field visits by officers from Department of Immigration & Citizenship
They have many programs and services please see website for details

<http://www.nsservices.com.au/>

Settlement Services International

Debbie Carstens and Dor Achiek

Debbie Carstens

Newcastle Programs Co-ordinator
8 Chaucer Street Hamilton NSW 2303

Ph: 02 4969 3399 Fx: 02 4961 4997 M: 0421 849 419 E: dcarstens@ssi.org.au

SSI provides a range of services that help clients to successfully integrate into the NSW community, in the areas of humanitarian settlement, asylum seeker assistance, accommodation, foster care and disability support.

SSI provides refugee settlement services and asylum seeker assistance through two federally-funded programs: Humanitarian Settlement Services (HSS) and Status Resolution Support Services (SRSS).

SSI's Multicultural Foster Care Service is funded by the NSW State Government, as is Ability Links NSW, which SSI delivers in partnership with The St Vincent De Paul Society and UnitingCare. It provides support to people with disability, their families and carers by helping to link them with their communities.

We also self-fund a range of initiatives to provide further support to these groups, including an enterprise facilitation program for refugees and community engagement programs for asylum seekers.

SSI services that run in Hunter/Newcastle are the SRSS (asylum seeker) program and Multicultural Foster care. (see slides for details)

Dor Akech Achiek

Youth Projects Coordinator

Youth Collective

P: 02 8799 6700

M:0412 915 680 E: dachiek@ssi.org.au

Dor Achiek came from Sydney to speak with us about SSI youth projects such as Youth Collective more detail is presentation attached to minutes

Youth Collective group has been formed as a way of bringing a voice to the young people who come from CALD. Their objectives are :

The Youth Collective sets out to achieve following objectives

- Champion youth participation
- Capacity building for youth leaders
- Give voice to multicultural youth
- Offer space for service collaboration
- A leadership in research on multicultural youth issues
- Improve equity in access to services for regional multicultural youth

An example of an issue that has been brought to the group was that there is only one college in Sydney that specifically caters for migrants or refugees that have had their schooling interrupted, however there are many more migrants/refugees living in regional areas in NSW that do not have access to this, how do they bring this out to all areas of NSW?

From this CYDP is working with Dale from Multicultural centre and Dor to transport local young people to Sydney for the meetings to enable regional voices.

Newcastle High School

Amy King

Great tips on how to make contact for Projects and Partnerships in schools successfully:

Student Support Officers are an initiative of the State Government and are available in 50 NSW schools. These positions are essentially Youth Workers or Social Workers in schools who work within the welfare team with the Counselor and Head Teacher Welfare. The focus of the position is to work with students transitioning into High School, working on cyber-citizenship with students, and creating referral pathways for students and their families to access a broader range of services in the community. I bring services into the school to run groups like Drum Beat & Shine, run groups myself focusing on resilience and character strengths, and meet one on one with students.

Issues that SSOs commonly deal with include: peer conflict, inappropriate online behaviour, homelessness, referring students with anxiety or depression symptoms to our school counselor or headspace.

Currently there are SSO positions in the following Hunter Schools: Newcastle High, Toronto High, Maitland High, Cessnock High and Tomoree High.

When working with schools a few recommendations are:

- Don't go straight to the top and try and to meet with the Principal or DP, they are generally the most busy people in the school. For most services, the HT Welfare would be a good starting point. I am happy to meet with services who are offering programs or to talk about how we can create effective referral pathways for our young people.
- Have some documentation which outlines your program or service. Perhaps email it through as well.
- Ensure your team are appropriate people to be in a school with young people and follow the school's guidelines and protocols. (Supplying school with working with children Numbers, taking rolls at each group etc shows that you are professional and legitimate. - You would be surprised how many groups try to get in without having made sure their volunteers are suitable.)
- Ask the school where their areas of need are, and see how you can work to fill the gaps.

STARRTS

Jo McGregor

'Newcastle Unity in Diversity'



On Saturday 13 June 2015, Come walk with us from Newcastle Museum to Civic Park and Celebrate the Unity in Diversity festival, for all people of diverse cultures, for Australia's first nations people, Refugees and Asylum Seekers, for migrants, new and all Australians, for everyone.

It's our town's positive response for acceptance and respect for diversity. Let's come together to celebrate, listen to music, share food, share stories and dance! Aboriginal smoking ceremony, Lord Mayor Nuatali Nelmes to open the festival, Indonesian band, African drumming, henna, hair braiding, badge making, photo booth, Father Rod Bower, Children's activities, face painting, Belly dancing, Tibetan food stall, Ethiopian coffee and food, and lots, lots more.

See the Facebook page for event details

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Newcastle-Celebrate-Unity-in-Diversity/433801740127139?fref=photo>

SEE FLYER ATTACHED

STARTTS is a specialist, non-profit organisation that for the past 25 years has provided culturally appropriate and cutting edge psychological treatment and support to help people heal the scars of torture and refugee trauma and rebuild their lives in Australia. STARTTS is the NSW Service for the Treatment and Rehabilitation of Torture and Trauma Survivors. We provide services to assist people from refugee and refugee-like backgrounds who have experienced torture or other traumatic events before arriving in Australia.

We do this by helping individual refugees and families recover from their experiences, working with refugee community groups to foster empowerment and self-determination, and supporting other organisations and individuals working with refugees.

STARTTS is a not-for-profit charity and has been providing services to refugees since 1988. We are now one of Australia's leading organisations for the treatment and rehabilitation of torture and trauma survivors. <http://www.startts.org.au/>

Multicultural Neighbourhood Centre Inc.

Dale Garbutt- Multicultural Youth Project

The Multicultural Youth Project provides advice, referral and practical skills groups to young people aged 12-18 years from Culturally & Linguistically Diverse (CALD) backgrounds.

The project employs a youth worker to engage with CALD young people in Newcastle and Lake Macquarie and supports them in areas such as education, employment and training as well as helping to enhance their independence, safety, self-esteem and quality of life within the community.

We work in partnership with a variety of services, both government and non-government, to enable them to access services, express themselves creatively and improve their health & well-being.

<https://www.facebook.com/MNCyouthproject>

Other programs offered by the Multicultural Neighbourhood Centre Inc.

Homework Centre for Primary / High School Students with Multicultural Background Parents
Playtime for Children and Parents

Multicultural Gardening Group
Multicultural Supported Playgroup
Listening and Pronunciation English class for Non English speaking background
men and women
The Multicultural Social Group

Service and Sector updates

ORGANISATION: Community Youth Development Project- RYDON
REPRESENTATIVE: Astrid Gearin
EMAIL: cydp@samaritans.org.au **PHONE:** 49 2215 08

INFO SHARE:

During the morning interagency Training suggestions came about through discussions of projects that services were running with young people. It was suggested and then approved that CYDP would engage ABC'S Anthony Scully run and train sector in how to use narrative of digital stories when working with Young People also to support this a workshop around IT, social media, online helpful programs workshop and IT at workshop.

Sign up to the Monthly RYDON Newsletter
<http://www.rydon.org.au>

Register for RYDON Conference
<https://rydonconference2015.eventbrite.com.au>

ORGANISATION: Wicked Workshops at PCYC
REPRESENTATIVE: Colin
EMAIL: colin@wickedworkshops.com.au **PHONE:** N/A

INFO SHARE:

Astrid has been in contact with the PCYC and they are very open to start having services engage with them and use their space, to better support young people and create partnerships. Please contact Jake Chafield to discuss future possibilities
jchatfield@pcycnsw.org.au

They have contracted Colin from Wicked workshops who is in the process of building a garden and a safe space on the PCYC grounds for people to meet, learn, get involved or relax and observe.

It might be a nice space to set up a hot desk and do some work or to meet a client there rather than an office. Or say M'c Donalds.....

<https://www.facebook.com/wickedworkshops.au> <https://twitter.com/wickedworkshops>



ORGANISATION: Wesley Mission Newcastle Youth Service
REPRESENTATIVE: Aija Stoddart (via email)
EMAIL: Aija.Stoddart@wesleymission.org.au **PHONE:** 4915 3626

INFO SHARE:

‘yoga and mindfulness workshop’ we are running in the upcoming school holidays.
see flyer attached to minutes

ORGANISATION: Path 2 Change Ltd (Formerly Trading as Newcastle Youth Accommodation)
REPRESENTATIVE: Jennifer O’Sullivan
EMAIL: jenosullivan@p2c.org.au **PHONE:** 49512 144 / 04 9900 8433

INFO SHARE:

Path 2 Change provides client centred specialised support and access to Education/training and Employment opportunities. Through collaborative case-management with Specialist Homelessness Services (SHS) the Youth Pathways Program will provide targeted education, training and employment support and opportunities for young people 16-25 years that are:

- Already engaged with a SHS provider or other eligible FACS funded service and have a case plan clearly identifying strengthening links to education, training and employment as priorities
- Reside in the Newcastle, Port Stephens, Lake Macquarie and lower Hunter areas
- Are eligible for social housing
- Are leaving OOHC
- Are leaving Juvenile justice facilities
- Experiencing domestic or family violence and are at risk of homelessness

To obtain a referral please email referral@p2c.org.au or call (02) 49 512 144 for information or to speak with a caseworker.- see flyers attached

Upcoming special days/Events

Please Share via a quick email to me anything your service is doing

REFUGEE WEEK 14th- 20th June

Many event flyers attached

WORLD REFUGEE DAY 20th June

World Elder Abuse Day June 15th

International Mens Health Week 15th 20th June

RYDON Conference 29th & 30th June at Merewether Surfhouse

Ramadan 18th June - 17th July

NAIDOC WEEK 5th 12th July

Youth Health Forum- Adolescent Development Coping & Change

5th August

RVSP and program details to come