Moree CLSD Meeting Notes

23 May 2019

Our CLSD Program partnership priorities and actions

Screening young people at the Barwon Learning Centre for fines

- ALS and Legal Aid NSW have agreed to work on a screening and referral process. The CLSD Program Unit is working on an Memorandum of Understanding for the process. Still have to secure agreement from Barwon Learning Centre (BLC). Martin B notes that helmet offences, most common for young people which has a fine of $360 per offence. Note also that the Child Wellbeing Unit children get referred to Miyay Birray – another opportunity to intervene re fines while they are engage with MB.

Actions

- Continue to work on an MOU with the Barwon Learning Centre
  - Go to AECG meeting in 12/6 for consultation (Noeline)
- Seek to do an MOU with Miyay Birray as well to catch wellbeing kids (Kate).

Young people and WDOs

There is some confusion about the availability of WDO sponsors for children.

Action

WDO lawyer at Legal Aid NSW to provide WDO providers for children and young people to Noeline (Lynne Worrall)

Access to drug and alcohol treatment

Ros Laws advises that a submission was made to the Ice Inquiry, and that they invited to attend Dubbo community consultation (2-4 June). Submission included access to detox facilities. Also exploring options re Backtrack. MB comments that she gives advice to clients that is easier to get to into a rehabilitation services after being in prison for a short period as it gets over the detox barrier.

Domestic violence services

Tamara from the WDVCAS advises that they are commencing new outreach clinics in Boggabilla and Mungindi for victims.

Noted that the funding for the ACE Program has ceased – no more Community Safety funding. ACE program – not a lot of referrals from ASU. If it doesn’t have a magistrate strongly supporting them referrals won’t happen. Education side of ACE worked well

Noeline – WYP seems to be going well (Immediate and 1st mention)

SHAE has a men’s program – WYP make referrals to that program

Current challenges issues and requests

Funding for programs

Glenn from MB notes that Upstart Program ceasing in July because no more Community safety funding. This program runs 5pm-8pm and is working closely with PCYC.
Tamara suggests Safe State program funding and Our Watch as possible alternative sources of funding.

**Impact on tenants of transition of management of social housing to Homes North**

Noeline reports that some tenants are receiving letters telling them to move unregistered vehicles, she has referred them to the civil clinic. Note that there was not a lot of community consultation. Noeline has been in touch with the Tenant Union for affected tenants

**Justice Advocacy Service**

A new service for people with cognitive impairment having contact with police and criminal justice system. Opportunity to train volunteers to act as advocates for people with cognitive impairment – IDRS will provide training.

**Justice Reinvestment in Moree**

Jenny Lovric advises that they have Identified a need for someone on the ground to progress JR in Moree and that the ALS is looking for money for this purpose.

**Breach of domestic violence orders**

Martin advises that Police are being more proactive around compliance. Understand difficulties where partners want to stay together in contravention of AVO however when seeking an ADVOC on behalf of a PINOP Police can base fear of domestic violence by the victim on information from police only. More victims are prepared to make statement and police are also collecting evidence from body worn cameras and with DVEC.

Breach of no contact and no alcohol orders are probably the main breaches. From June 2018 to date there have been in the New England Police District:

- 207 legal actions
- 206 fines.

**Addressing level of fines in the Moree region**

One suggestion is to have another outreach day at the Moree Local Court focusing on addressing fines. An alternative suggestion is to offer services at the Community Connect Outreach that will be held on 19 September 2019.

**Action**

CLSD Partners who are involved in helping people with fines to participate in the Community Connect day. Noeline to contact Terry at Revenue NSW to see if he can participate. Kate to contact BDM about fee free birth certificates.

**Driver knowledge course offered by the PCYC**

The drive knowledge course run by PCYC needs more participants to keep their funding. Clontarf have a car that can be used by learner drivers but the challenge is for people with low/no literacy. High rate of school suspension having an impact on literacy of some young people.

One suggestion is for the BLC to act as a suspension school.

Ros shared that the Council is discussing whether to run an education forum
Nicole: JR is holding an education form in Bourke – designing solutions and processes. Forum needs to be driven by community.

Issues include:

- Parents are frustrated when plan to return to school does not happen.
- Parents don’t realise children are suspended – parents aren’t told.
- See kids who can’t get enrolled – transient kids moving between schools. Re-enrolment can be challenging for young people who are on bail. Risk Assessments – that need to be performed in order to get enrolled delay enrolment.
- Other educational options not offered.
- For example, last week Moree Junior high had 1/3 students suspended or absent.

Action

Form subcommittee to develop action plan - Noeline to convene, members to include Jason (Police), JR (Jenny L and Nic) and Ros Laws.