

## COMMUNITY SECTOR ROUNDTABLE

### MINUTES OF MEETING

Tuesday 12 July 2011

Large Executive Conference Room, Level 2  
Department for Child Protection  
189 Royal Street, East Perth

Meeting commenced at 9:30am

#### 1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed members to the Community Sector Roundtable meeting.

##### Present

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| Mr Tony Pietropiccolo | Centrecare Inc   |
| Ms Sue Ash            | UnitingCare West   |
| Ms Cheryl Barnett     | Department for Child Protection                              |
| Ms Kay Benham         | Department for Child Protection                              |
| Ms Irina Cattalini    | WACOSS   |
| Ms Les Evans          | Ngnowar Aerwah Aboriginal Corporation                        |
| Mr Neil Hamilton      | AccordWest   |
| Mr Basil Hanna        | Parkerville Children and Youth Care Inc                      |
| Ms Anne Moore         | Women's Council for Domestic & Family Violence Services (WA) |
| Ms Tricia Murray      | Wanslea Family Services Inc                                  |
| Mr Ashley Reid        | MercyCare  |
| Captain Ken Smith     | The Salvation Army   |
| Ms Rae Walter         | Ngala  |
| Ms Julie Waylen       | Department for Child Protection                              |

##### In attendance

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| Mr Terry Murphy    | Department for Child Protection |
| Ms Sandra Flanagan | Department for Child Protection |

##### Apologies

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| Mr Ross Kyrwood | Mission Australia               |
| Mr Steve Glew   | Department for Child Protection |

#### 2. Minutes of meeting held 14 June 2011

The minutes from the Community Sector Roundtable meeting held on 14 June 2011 were confirmed as an accurate record of the proceedings.

#### 3. Election of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson

**Resolution:** Mr Tony Pietropiccolo was re-elected as Chairperson, Mr Basil Hanna was elected as the Vice Chairperson. These positions are for a period of 12 months to 30 June 2011. Mr Pietropiccolo and Mr Hanna will remain members on the Ministerial Advisory Council on Child Protection as representatives of the Community Sector Roundtable.

It was queried if an update from the Ministerial Advisory Council on Child Protection (MACCP) could be included on the CSR agenda at regular intervals and if CSR members could have access to the MACCP minutes. Members agreed to request that this query be included on the next MACCP agenda.

**Action:** Ms Flanagan to request the above item to be included on the July MACCP agenda.

#### **4. Business Arising**

##### **4.1 Leadership and Partnership Forum – date, agenda items, guest speakers.**

Ms Waylen advised that the date has been set for the Leadership and Partnership Forum – 9 November 2011. Suggestions for agenda items and guest speakers are to be forwarded to Ms Flanagan. Further discussion to develop the draft agenda to take place at the next meeting.

**Action:** Members to forward suggestions for agenda items and guest speakers for the Leadership and Partnership Forum to Ms Flanagan. This item to be included on the next agenda.

##### **4.2 Standards Monitoring**

Mr Hanna advised that the Out of Home Care Standards have been developed through a collaborative process between DCP and the non-government sector. They are known as *Better Care Better Services*. Importantly, the sector has ownership of the Standards. The next step is to implement a continuous improvement methodology with the system to ensure the Standards are being implemented and reviewed appropriately throughout the sector.

The Alliance put forward a proposal to the Department identifying six members of the Alliance - Wanslea, Parkerville, Mercy Care, Life Without Barriers, Anglicare and UnitingCare West - committed to providing 7.5 hours (termed auditing hours) each week to work with DCP to undertake the audits/external assessments.

The Audit Team is now looking at scheduling audits over a twelve month period so that organisations and auditors will know in advance when and where the audits will take place. Some organisations have already received their pre-assessment notice.

All members of the Audit Team will all be trained in the processes. Ideally each audit will have a DCP representative and non-government representative collaboratively undertaking the audit. It is anticipated that this process will be finalised and signed off in the next few months.

Mr Hanna was concerned that the National Standards would supersede the State Standards, however he has been assured by Minister Macklin, Federal Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs that this will not happen. The Department reports against the National Standards not the NGO's.

**Action:** Ms Flanagan to distribute the Standards document with the minutes.

### **4.3 Secondary Family Support Network - update**

#### **4.3.1 Funding/Contracting**

Ms Waylen advised that the Department is working with the Department of Finance to develop the templates for government procurement of human services from the not-for-profit sector. The Department of Finance, Funding and Contracting Services (FaCS) Unit, are the custodians of the standardised procurement templates, including standard terms and conditions. These templates have replaced the Standardised Service Agreements formerly available from the State Supply Commission's website. The new template can be accessed on the Department of Finance website <http://www.finance.wa.gov.au/cms/content.aspx?id=12652>

The templates are still under review and will be modified as required. Both the Department for Child Protection and WACOSS have been providing detailed feedback on the templates. A good working relationship has been established with the Department of Finance with shared understanding of DCP/community sector funding processes and requirements. The Inter-Governmental Partnership Forum will consider the templates and on-going concerns at the August meeting.

#### **4.3.2 KPMG Evaluation Forum**

Ms Benham advised that 83 people attended the KPMG Evaluation Forum. Due to the election in Victoria they were unable to release the hubs data. Trends and global operating systems were covered. Members expressed concern that the evaluation focused on an evaluation of the system not how effective the system was in terms of outcomes.

One benefit of focusing on one location for the implementation of the first network will be the valuable learning gained and the ability to make changes where necessary including building in a thorough evaluation process of the outcomes into the model.

### **4.4 National Collaboration Framework - feedback**

Mr Murphy reiterated the purpose of the National Collaboration Framework paper for the benefit of the new members.

Members commented that the Framework has been positively received. It will formalise engagement with the non-government sector and establish clear processes for collaboration throughout the sector – between both government and non-government agencies. The paper will go back to CDSMAC in mid-August.

Ms Cattalini and Ms Ash agreed to provide written feedback by the end of the week. The feedback will be from the perspective of their respective organisations.

It is important for FaHCSIA to be involved at both State and Commonwealth levels. Improved collaboration across all government departments will enhance the provision of timely and well co-ordinated responses.

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| <b>Action:</b> Ms Cattalini and Ms Ash to forward feedback to Ms Flanagan by the end of this week. |
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## 5. General Business

### 5.1 Implementation of the Sanctuary Model

Mr Murphy advised that DCP's Conceptual and Operational Framework for residential care services is largely based around the Sanctuary Model in the United States. The Department is currently organising to bring the Sanctuary team to Perth in October this year. A framework is being developed to engage the residential care sector. Mr Murphy commented this model is seen as the world's best practice in residential therapeutic care and it is pleasing that the non-government sector is keen to be involved at a greater extent than already envisaged.

The Sanctuary team currently plan to be in Perth from 17 to 24 October. The schedule is still being developed and may include three types of training: a comprehensive, practice based 3 day program; a 2 day program and a 1 day session. It was agreed that the schedule would be re-scoped to increase non-government involvement. Ms Ash and Mr Hanna agreed to be involved in a small working group, which will include Ms Fiona McMullen, Accommodation and Care Services. It was recommended that a non-government representative from the Project 23 steering group, which has been driving the reform and expansion of residential care, also be involved. The Sanctuary model has been discussed at length within that group. Ms Cattalini asked that she be kept in the loop with the development of the schedule to enable WACOSS to develop processes to ensure the sector remains engaged.

The Sanctuary Model is focused on residential care (largely Tier 2). Mr Murphy commented on the need to explore the scope of families/individuals this model may benefit such as foster care, Tier 1 residential clients.

Members discussed the possibility of non-government agencies contributing to the costs if required to ensure the non-government sector is engaged as necessary. This will be further discussed as necessary by the working group.

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| <p><b>Action:</b> Ms Flanagan to distribute Residential Care paper with the minutes. Mr Hanna and Ms Ash to be involved on working group to progress the development of the schedule for the Sanctuary team.</p> |
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## 6. Other business

### 6.1.1 Common Assessment and Referral System (CARS)

Ms Benham advised that there is nothing new to report at this stage, however members will be kept up to date with progress. It is envisaged that the next step will be the appointment of a co-ordinator, after which time it is anticipated progress will accelerate.

### 6.1.2 Children in Care

A member queried a recent national survey by CREATE which discussed children in care. The survey was based on a small self-select sample (62 out of a potential 500). This is approximately 12%, generally a sample size of approximately 30% is needed to draw reasonable conclusions from self-select surveys. The survey indicated that a number of children were unaware of the Transition to Independent Living Allowance (TILA). The Department believes that every child in care who needs to know about TILA is well informed. It should not be surprising that younger children who are not yet eligible for TILA are not yet aware of it. The Leaving Care Plan was also discussed.

This is a State priority and needs to also be a National priority. It is important that the differences between Care Plans and Leaving Care Plans are understood.

## **7. Future Discussions**

- CREATE to provide an overview of the new program Create Your Future (September/October 2011)
- WA Legislation (T Murphy, early 2012)
- Engaging Community Sector for future Secondary Family Support Services networks (Chair, early 2012).
- Hubs for health and early childhood development (guest speaker, Health Department, early 2012)
- CARS update.

## **8. Next Meeting**

The Chair thanked members for their attendance and the meeting was declared closed at 11:05am. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 9 August, 2011, at 9:30am.