

# Armadale Youth CAN (Collaborative Action Network) Meeting minutes

9 <sup>th</sup> Armadale Youth CAN Meeting		
6.15.2016	10:00am – 12:00pm	City of Armadale, Function Room
Chair	Ashleigh Tapper – Community Development Officer - Youth, City of Armadale	
Co-Chair	Karina Chicote – Manager of Place-Based Strategies, Save the Children	
Minute taker	Hannah Woodward – Youth Partnership Project, Save the Children	
Apologies	Tilly Prowse (Life without Barriers), Jim Hauraki (Hope Community Services,) Kelli Gould (Department of Corrective Services), Rachel Hard (Communicare), Charmaine Porter (Communicare), Janine Daniels (Dale Christian College).	
Attendees (as below):		
Name	Position	Organisation
Laura Miller	Social Worker	Wanslea Cusp
Kim Bryce	Youth Crime Intervention Officer	WA Police
Dee Hale	Youth Crime Intervention Officer	WA Police
Lee Hayes	Business Relationship Manager	Centacare Employment and Training
Rachael Paldon	Youth Leadership Round Table	Save the Children
Courtney Marie Fare	Youth Engagement Team Leader	Save the Children
Steve Dyson	Team Leader – YFSS	Save the Children
Jillian Betts	Community Development	Minawarra House
Kylie Smith	Student	Minawarra House
Sheryl Naidoo	Case Worker	Mercycare Reconnect
Shingie Dumba	Outreach worker	Mission Australia
Kaitlyn Traynor	Outreach worker	Mission Australia
Marg Buckman	ETM	Department of Education
Rebekah Milnes	Coordinator Community Development	City of Armadale
Acknowledgment of country, welcome and roundtable introductions		
10.00-10.10am	Ashleigh Tapper/ All	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AT gave initial welcome and thanked everyone for attending.</li> <li>• The group gave round table introductions on their name, organisations and position (see list of attendees above)</li> <li>• KC gave the acknowledgement of country.</li> <li>• The group used activity time to meet each other and as introductions</li> </ul>		
Ice-Breaker Activity “What is privilege”		
	Ashleigh Tapper	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- AT facilitated a Privilege Walk activity with people taking steps forwards or back on behalf of a youth character based on different privilege statements. The purpose of this activity was to challenge perceptions of young people and also reframe the concept of ‘privilege’.</li> <li>- Followed up with a video on What is Privilege: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hD5f8GuNuGQ">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hD5f8GuNuGQ</a></li> </ul>		

# Armadale Youth CAN (Collaborative Action Network) Meeting minutes

## Acknowledgement of Armadale Youth CAN Achievements to-date

Ashleigh Tapper

AT outlined a number of action items we have ticked off the CAN priority focus areas list.

- **Focus area 2; Strengthen genuine relationships with young people**  
GOAL 2.1b: CAN to partner with AYIP to deliver a celebration event during National Youth Week 2016.  
*Artbeat was successfully delivered for National Youth Week 2016.*
- **Focus area 3; Greater collaboration and improved partnerships within the youth sector**  
GOAL 3.1d: CAN to develop new youth programs and activities that are mutually beneficial as needs arise using existing resources by building greater partnerships and undertaking collaborations with each other.

*Examples where this has been achieved includes: City of Armadale's Perfect Imperfections Young Women's Program, Ignite Basketball and Save the Children's One Step Closer Program. All of these programs rely on partnership and collaboration to run successfully.*

- **Focus area 4; Greater access to resources and funding that support collaboration for the youth sector**  
GOAL 4.1a: CAN members to provide 'Letters of Support to other CAN members when applying for youth activities grants and funding.  
*CAN have all pitched in letters of support for each other when applying for funding. EG. CoA Girls program (Headspace, Save, Cecil Andrews, WAPOL), CoA acted as reference for a Headspace tender.*

## Direction of the CAN: Going forward

Karina Chicote

- **Ongoing funding approved**
  - KC explained the funding situation for the YPP
  - Funding was up as of 30 June 2016
  - We have received a funding extension for 1 year, but with less than half the resources we initially had and will be looking more about what this means with the YPP Executive on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June.
- **Karina opened the floor for discussion to find out from CAN members how they are feeling so far and their comments, feedback and enquiries in general about CAN:**
  - KB commented on wanting to see more of a working partnership on the ground. The few occasions when it has worked has been great – i.e. AYIP (including school holiday program). But there needs to be more of that. It needs to be more collaboration rather than cooperation in referrals and information sharing etc.
  - WAPOL also expressed concerns that their focus is young people on the bottom of the spectrum that are high need and might not be as immediately impacted by some CAN initiatives as more privileged youth.
  - RR said there needs to be more understanding from young people about what they see from this in their communities and what they want.
  - MB – CAN has provided a good framework, needs more feet on the ground. CAN will be vital to the Aboriginal Youth Expenditure Review when it comes into play. SMHSRMF is meant to be doing that, but they aren't the people on the ground, so this is important. There is uncertainty in funding, reforms etc. & funding is disjointed, so CANs are important to be able to work together and provide stability in this time, and in the future as partnership will be essential future funding.

# Armadale Youth CAN (Collaborative Action Network) Meeting minutes

- RM said the full intention of YPP was to have vertical integration between Executive & CANs through the Summit – Summit underpins youth action plan, with sector/can workshops also. The idea is two-way reporting to provide the executive a report to take to managers forum to affect change. BUT- at the end of the day we also want tangible outcomes that will affect youth without the red tape of the process.
  - AYIP is a small example of what could be achieved by CAN – especially the way they have shared information on specific young people needing the most support, across organisations to better help those young people.
  - Executive level people aren't involved with the CANs on a practical level and we need to think about how this can happen. The people attending CAN might not have the level of authority to action some of the specific things we are talking about.
  - Key people aren't attending. This needs to be actioned ASAP - it was suggested CAN approach managers at an executive level requesting they provide the staff to be at the CAN for example Perth Transport Authority, DCPFS etc.
  - Initial work to get all the agencies on board so far is a shining example of our good progress, even if it has been hard and a bit slow to get everyone around the table.
  - The group agreed there is a long way to go, but we have improved collaboration since the project commencement.
  - CF gave an example; at the One Step Closer program they have 13 organisations that are out every month at the program. In addition to this organising community events together is really easy – this has been a significant growth and a big shift.
  - Revisiting the notion of joint trainings is something the CAN want to revisit.
- **Discussion continued regarding thoughts on the regional action plan for Armadale's CAN:**
    - CF said appropriate levels of management required to get traction on each action needs to be considered and plans need to be made as to how we are going to achieve them.
    - JB raised there is a gap for the very bottom level disadvantaged young people. It comes down to working in the home & family dynamics. We need to engage & build trust, but then you need to go into the homes. Lots of the strategies on the Action plan aren't necessarily helping this situation.
    - WAPOL said this is not always the issue and most effective strategy. There often isn't a family or home structure in place for those 5% of high need young people that they would normally look to work with. Homes, family, school life is often too fractured and transient in nature to be able to use that approach.
    - CF said we can't underestimate what we are doing at an early intervention and primary prevention level.
    - Group questioned whether the CAN is a place to lobby for the needs of our area – again coming back to the accountability and where our feedback is going/ process involved.
    - The WAPOL Intensive Family Support Program was raised as a good example of a needed program. Project is over but this is an example of us raising issues from the bottom up.
    - Life without Barriers is coming to Armadale in the new financial year with the MST program. Tillie will be bringing her team to future meetings and hopefully presenting at the Armadale Youth Network. MST is another good example, for 12-15yr olds with a model of support available 24/7. A really good example & opportunity.
    - Opportunities for us to work with life without barriers in the CAN framework, share our knowledge and what we know etc.

# Armadale Youth CAN (Collaborative Action Network) Meeting minutes

- KC said we are working with complex problems and issues that require collaboration not just cooperation and coordination and we need to be working both top down and bottom up.
- SN said individual organisations have their own focuses and levels of capacity and resources. It is important for CAN members of those organisations to work with their managers to gain management support for CAN projects.
- KC said it can't just be one person from an organisation, but it needs to be a whole organisation approach.

- **Reframing the CAN concept to 'people and spaces'**

- We are looking to reframe what we do as a CAN in terms of working towards providing safe people and safe places. These are things we can actually tangibly achieve.
- Eg. AYIP project is working, and the impact is huge. Can we expand that? Can we increase the people partnership?
- We can all work together in terms of our own expertise and skills, resources, time etc.

MORNING TEA 11.05 – 11.15AM

## 'The Loft' – CAN Major Project Proposal

Ashleigh Tapper

- **Growing Armadale Strategic Community Plan Survey Results have indicated an interest from community for a youth space and more programs for young people.**

- More than 3000 community members of all demographics were surveyed and the results indicate a high interest and need for a youth space in addition to programs for young people and a wish to reduce anti-social behaviors in streets and malls.

[http://www.armadale.wa.gov.au/sites/default/files/assets/documents/council/agenda\\_ordinary\\_council\\_-\\_29\\_march\\_2016.pdf](http://www.armadale.wa.gov.au/sites/default/files/assets/documents/council/agenda_ordinary_council_-_29_march_2016.pdf) - Survey attachment found on page 120 though official document will be released July 1.

- **Idea of creating the "The Loft" as a major focus for CAN was pitched – a proactive rather than reactive approach to collaborating for our youth.**

- City of Armadale has been given permission to utilise the mezzanine level of the Armadale Arena as a youth space including fit out of the space.
- The space will be fitted out with comfy seating, computers, printer and free access to WIFI, a TV with gaming console, small kitchenette, couches etc. This fit out will be based on community youth consultation.

- **The pitch and purpose:**

- It starts with a space, though the space is just the beginning. This project will be about more than just a funky fit out of an empty space. It transcends four walls and a door. The Loft invites young people to open a door to possibilities. CAN believes every young person has potential, promise and possibility so we would like to create "The Loft" – a platform for opportunity.
- The opportunity to:
  - come to a **safe place** in the evening.
  - access **free WIFI**, a working computer and access to printing their homework and doing research for school.
  - give **idle hands something to do** and a place to be creative.
  - build **peer support networks** outside of the pre-determined school group setting.

# Armadale Youth CAN (Collaborative Action Network) Meeting minutes

- **foster positive relationships** naturally with the designated youth reps that are rostered on that day for the 'drop-in' times.
- be around **positive role models** who will offer **support, advocacy, information, guidance** and **mentoring**.
- to **inspire young people** to be better, do better, aim higher, **realise their potential**.
  - \*All of these points were supported with specific statistics. Please email AT for further information.
- The Loft will provide a platform for young people to feel valued, included, *worthy*, capable and most importantly...  
*...not forgotten.'*
- **Resources and the model for the project:**
  - The Loft could be booked out by all CAN organisations who sign an MOU outside of drop-in times for youth-related purposes.
  - The Loft would act as a designated drop-in zone from 3.30-5/6pm week nights.
  - CAN members would rotate shifts, pairing up for one night of the week to be based at the Loft, working from the zone but also supervising the youth.
  - For example; Monday's – Headspace and CoA supervise, Tuesdays – WAPOL and Hope CS etc.
  - In addition to just offering a drop in, resources could be pulled together to offer programs for the young people in the zone each day. For example; we could offer a free tutor to roam around and help kids with homework if they needed, on a Tuesday as an example.
- **Aligning with existing CAN objectives and focus areas:**
- Focus Area 2; Strengthen genuine relationships with young people.
  - 2.2a CAN to be actively involved in the development of the designated youth space located in the arena.
- Focus Area 3; Greater collaboration and improved partnerships within the youth sector.
  - 3.1d CAN to develop new youth programs and activities that are mutually beneficial as needs arise using existing resources by building greater partnerships and undertaking collaborations with each other.
- **Community Consultation:**
  - A survey was sent out to AYN organisations and will be included in next CAN email – so far from the 32 responses the following has been ascertained:
    - 56% said they would attend the youth space to 'stay out of trouble.'
    - 56% said they would attend the space to 'meet new people and make new friends'
    - 43.75% said it would give them 'a safe place to go.'
    - 23% said they would go to the youth zone 'every day.'
  - The idea would be to have the young people who respond in addition to other youth group members, to gather at a fun forum and voice their ideas etc. so they feel their voice is being heard and taken seriously – they will have a sense of ownership of the space.
- **AT opened the floor up for discussion on this project idea:**
  - JB said the idea was great and a good way to actually work in partnerships on the ground. Mentioned she had many ideas with potential for this though needed to seek approval from the CEO.
  - This initiative will need to have MOUs which include shared values, visions and missions so we are all working on the same page and have the same

# Armadale Youth CAN (Collaborative Action Network) Meeting minutes

- General consensus – everyone is on board with this.
- Group questioned timeframe and budget.
  - CoA's Department of Properties has committed approximately \$8000 to physical works on the space including building walls, storage, kitchenette, electrical, structural works etc.
  - AT has gathered quotes and estimates the approximate budget needed will be \$12k.
  - RM advised the group while Lotterywest seems like the obvious choice to target for a grant application, CoA is currently applying to Lotterywest for several other grants and therefore we need to be strategic about how we go about this.
  - AT said hopes to have this up and running by at least the December school holidays is the idea.
- Group questioned disability accessibility.
  - The space is upstairs but the hope is that we can put on programs inside the arena which would be accessible and inclusive.
  - The reality is, this is the space we have at the moment and while it is not ideal – we need to start small and work with what we have, with the hope this will be the catalyst for bigger things.
  - Would be great to have a disability services organisation involved in the project at some stage.
- Comment was made that the mall is where young people are – will it feel like we are just trying to shove them in a small place out the way?
  - Discussion was had regarding engagement strategies and the importance of involving these specific youth in the processes and design.
- Question: Interim, could we use the same collaborative supervision model using CAN resources and provide the drop in somewhere else including holiday's programs, and afternoon programs- such as Minnowarra House? They already have some programs going, but perhaps we can join them?
  - JB to check this with CEO.

## TO ACTION:

- AT to email info of the draft concept to all CAN members.
- AT to provide draft example letter of support to all CAN organisations and if the CAN representatives can seek Management support and provide support letters, this will increase chances for successful funding applications to get the project off the ground.
- CAN members to provide feedback, suggestions and ideas to AT via email.
- CAN members to start thinking about providing staff for a couple of hours a week to this project, and discuss with their management.

## Issues, Gaps and Opportunities

All

- Centrecare is looking to run their Skills for Education & Training Course as an outreach program in the Armadale area, if anyone knows a venue or idea of where it could be run here. Perhaps later on the Loft could be used for this.
- WAPOL are looking for 16 – 24 year old ATSI youth to join their new Aboriginal Police Cadet Program for 2016. Please see attached flyer.

# Armadale Youth CAN (Collaborative Action Network) Meeting minutes

Continued...	
	All
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mission Australia is looking to provide outreach in Armadale once a month on a Thursday. Will meet with CoA to discuss strategies and linking in with Hope's Thursday services etc. Everyone highly supported this initiative.</li><li>• MB said DoE are funding a bike workshop – work readiness program, looking for a location to hold it. Will discuss with Minawarra, CoA. Potential for CAN to assist with transport.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ It was discussed that motorbikes or go-carts might grab more attention.</li></ul></li><li>• MB informed of Young parent program in Brookman House in Langford: if anyone has people to refer, please do so. Canning will pick up form Armadale on the Bus. Needs participants pregnant and parenting school aged young people, if there isn't the numbers it will have to close.</li></ul>
Wrap up, networking and next meeting...	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• All CAN members were thanked for attending and their input.</li><li>• Next meeting date to be advised and all CAN members to action the action items discussed.</li></ul>