

FRMP Quarterly Newsletter

January 2006

Number 2

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Welcome!

Welcome to the second edition of the FRMP Quarterly Newsletter! Hoping that everybody enjoyed the holiday break.

The FRMP Team has now been working together for 12 months, and what a year it has been! The uptake in brokerage applications has steadily increased in the past 6 months, and a number of exciting capacity building initiatives have begun within a number of regions across the state.

This year will continue to see the FRMP Team working in collaboration with the Youth Homelessness Sector, enhancing the continuation of family centered practice across Victoria. Looking forward to working with you all throughout 2006!

FRMP of the Month!

Keep a look out for the service nominated as FRMP of the month! November saw WRAP Youth Refuge in Sunshine nominated with a record 10 applications for brokerage funding! December FRMP goes to Salvation Army Kardinia Women's services for their innovative group program application.

Brokerage Report

FRMP Interim Guidelines were finalized in October 2005. As a response to the FRMP statewide consultations, brokerage has now broadened to include group work and recreational therapeutic interventions as long as services are able to clearly articulate how the intervention clearly supports the objective/s of the brokerage.

There is already a significant difference in the uptake in brokerage applications received since October. It is likely that this statistic reflects the effectiveness of the FRMP consultations, and a general momentum of responsiveness to the program.

FRMP Website Links

*Link to FRMP
website*
<http://www.frmp.org.au/>

*Download FRMP
Brokerage
Guidelines*
www.gatewayconnect.org/frmp/docs/BrokerageGuidelinesUpdate.doc

*Download FRMP
Brokerage
Application Form*
[www.gatewayconnect.org/database/docs/BrokerageApplicationForm II.doc](http://www.gatewayconnect.org/database/docs/BrokerageApplicationFormII.doc)

*Download FRMP
Groupwork
Application Form*
www.gatewayconnect.org/frmp/docs/applicationkit/BrokerageApplicationForm-Groups.doc

*Access FRMP
Online Directory*
www.gatewayconnect.org/frmp/maps2.asp

Brokerage statistics for the period until January 2006:

Applications accepted	143
Service accessing funds	SAAP service - 88 Youth refuge - 48 THM - 6
Regional breakdown of services accessing funds	Southern Metro - 34 Western Metro - 39 Northern Metro - 14 Eastern Metro - 13 Hume - 18 Barwon - 10 Grampians - 8 Gippsland - 2 Loddon Mallee - 5
Interventions funded	Individual counseling - 73 Family counseling - 17 Mediation - 10 Discretionary funds - 12 Combined interventions - 27 Group interventions 4
Age of young person	14 to 16yrs - 43 17 to 19yrs - 44 20 to 22yrs - 35 23 to 25yrs - 17 N/A- 4
Gender of young person	Female - 98 Male - 39 Not given - 6

Community Capacity Building Initiatives

A core component of the FRMP program is community capacity building. Our intention is to promote the use of family focused practice as a central feature to all intake, assessment and casework practice within the Homelessness Service System (HSS). In the last 3 months a number of partnerships continue to take shape:

Private Practitioners

Other Useful Links

Victorian Family Violence Prevention Networks
www.vfvpn.org.au/networks.htm

Victorian Regional Homelessness Networks
<http://net.saap.info/xchange.net.au/>

Victorian Reconnect Services
<http://www.gatewayreconnect.org/>

Office of Housing
<http://www.housing.vic.gov.au/>

An online directory of private practitioners has been developed by FRMP, and is available for workers to view via the FRMP website. This list will continue to grow as the program develops. If workers have any practitioners they would like to refer to this list, please contact FRMP.

Eastern Metropolitan Region Family Reconciliation Peer Support Group

This Group continues to meet on a quarterly basis to discuss issues relating to working within a youth centered family focused approach. The group is also an important forum for workers to share information about regional trends and concerns, as well as innovations and best practice. Next meeting is on Thursday 2nd February, 930am-11am at Wesley Eastern Homelessness Crisis Service, 291a Maroondah Highway, Ringwood. For more information please contact Yasmin Thomas.

Statewide Family Violence Networkers

FRMP has undertaken some valuable collaborative work with Regional Family Violence Networkers across Victoria. These linkages have allowed FRMP to accumulate some valuable learnings about young people, family violence and homelessness, as well as accessing some valuable links to private practitioners that specialize in this area.

Group Work Developments

Within the recent FRMP Guidelines finalized in October, FRMP Brokerage Funds can now resource Groupwork. Please refer to FRMP Brokerage Guidelines, and FRMP Groupwork Application Form links opposite. The FRMP Community Development Team will be available to assist workers and services in facilitating the development of appropriate groupwork programs. Please contact Yasmin Thomas or Shauna Lenagh for more information.

Sector Training

Training will be available for the homelessness service sector in February 2006. The first round of training will focus on “engagement, assessment and intervention: working with young people to reconcile with family”. Watch for more details on our website.

FRMP Website

The FRMP Online Directory can now be accessed via the website under “Resources”. For information on statewide listings of SAAP funded services, Transitional Housing Managers, SAAP Reconciliation Services, Youth & Family Private Practitioners, Family Mediation services, & Victorian Reconnect services, simply click on the appropriate region within the map of Victoria.

A reminder that the FRMP website now has an added feature for workers to give feedback about the program. Feedback can be given under the tab “Contact Us”.

Contact Us

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FRMP Evaluation

David McKenzie has been confirmed for undertaking the FRMP program evaluation. David will be in contact with the sector soon.

FRMP Publicity

Young person flyer, sticker and magnet

Participation and feedback was sought from young people accessing Frontyard Services regarding the development of the FRMP flyer, sticker and magnet for young people. The FRMP Team would like to thank all participating young people and their workers in this process.

Other Sector News

Statewide Training for Teachers & Youth Workers

The Islamic Women's Welfare Council of Victoria (Council) present: "Working with Muslim Youth in Australia". The Council will present an overview of Islam and the general Muslim community living in Victoria.

When: Wednesday, 15 February 2006

Time: 10am - 2.30pm

Where: Carlton Primary School: Level 2, Room B
Cnr Palmerston Street & Drummond Street, Carlton

Cost: FREE

RSVP: 5 December 2005

More Info: Jaweria Khalid or Moona Hammoud, Young Women's Workers on 9419-7888 or email iwwcv@vicnet.net.au

Violence Takes Toll: Impact on Children Studied

THOUSANDS of central Victorian children are compromising their safety by living on the streets to escape family violence, a new report shows.

A reference committee, including staff from St Luke's, the Department of Human Services, Ease, and the Loddon Mallee Accommodation Network, yesterday launched the Children's Resource Program Project Report, which details the impact of homelessness on children.

The committee held interviews with families who had been in crisis situations, service providers and indigenous workers.

The report showed two thirds of children who accessed homelessness service providers in the Loddon Mallee Region from 2003-04 were victims of family violence. For a copy of the Report visit <http://www.loma.net.au/news/documents/FinalDraftreportCRWProject.pdf>

(Source: The Advertiser, 6th December 2005)

Knot At Home Project

Knot At Home project is the result of a series of community projects run by BIG hART, a non-profit organisation. The projects were designed to give people who

often go unheard a chance to tell their stories. From 1998 to 2004 over 500 young people and their families were asked to tell stories about when they felt "not at home". Check out the website <http://www.knotathome.com/>

Major National Youth Mental Health Initiative Announced

The establishment of a National Youth Mental Health Foundation to counter mental illness and associated drug and alcohol problems faced by young people was announced yesterday, with the Foundation being supported with Australian Government funding of \$54 million over 4 years.

The Foundation will reduce the burden of disease caused by mental illness by promoting early, effective intervention for young people aged 12-25 with mental health and related substance use disorders. Mental health and related substance use disorders are the number one health issue affecting young Australians, and early intervention can make a huge difference.

The core members of the National Youth Mental Health Foundation consortium are ORYGEN Research Centre, the Australian Divisions of General Practice, the Australian Psychological Society, and Brain and Mind Research Institute at the University of Sydney.

For more info: contact Michelle Marven, ORYGEN Youth Health Policy and Media Officer on 0401 825 772.

Conferences 2006

7th & 8th February 2006 - VAADA "The Matrix of Diversity: The AOD Sector & Beyond" www.vaada.org.au/news/detail.chtml?filename_num=45442

8th & 9th February 2006 - NIFTeY "Prevention: Invest Now or Pay Later" www.niftey.cyh.com/Documents/PDF/Registration_brochure-Final.pdf

14th-16th February 2006 - ACCAN "Blossoming of Our Children: Resilience, Rights & Responsibilities" www.nzfvc.org.nz/accan

16th & 17th February 2006 - UQ "Helping Families Change" <http://www.pfsc.uq.edu.au/>

1st - 3rd March 2006 - AFHO "The Great Australian Dream? Waking Up To Homelessness" <http://www.afho.org.au/conference/>


5th - 7th March 2006 - ECIA "Who's Landscape Is It?" <http://www.cdesign.com.au/ecia2006/>

7th - 10th March 2006 - Volunteering Australia "Let the Games Begin" <http://www.volunteering2006.com/>

19th - 21st April 2006 - RRHSB "Rural Health: Going For Gold" <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/ruralhealth/news/conf.htm>

Future Newsletters

If you would like to contribute articles or other relevant information to this



newsletter please contact Yasmin Thomas, Senior Community Development Worker directly on 8625 4478 or email ythomas@mcm.org.au The next edition will be published on Friday 20th April 2006 and thereafter on a quarterly basis.