

EMR Family Reconciliation Best Practice Group
21 February 2007
WEAC

Attendance:

Rhianna Perkin	WEAC
Leigh	WEAC (student)
Jacqui Sundbery	YSAS Reconnect
Liam	YSAS Reconnect (student)
Trish Westhead	FRMP

Apologies: Francis (Anchor) Jemma (fAN) Stephanie & Karen (Wantirna College)
Heather Cummings (REFS)

1. FRMP Information Kit

- **Trish provided description of the information kit. The kit will include:**
- Feedback from young people using FRMP funded services
- Descriptions of various therapeutic interventions included (counselling, family therapy, mediation, family group conferencing, group work)
- Issues pertaining to CaLD and indigenous young people

2. Case Study: Discussion of FRMP Family Meeting Structure

Family meeting is a model being promoted through FRMP where the support worker and councillor conduct a joint family meeting. The model emphasises collaborative work involving the two workers using a combination of mediation and counselling. The support worker can be seen as the support for the young person and the counsellor as support for the parent(s). The principle of having workers support various parts of the family system is seen as a real advantage to the model. A strengths based/solution focussed approach is utilised. Mediation can provide a structure for the meeting whereas the counsellor is able to address the dynamics of the relationships or intervene when things get "stuck". This model can result in positive outcomes for the young person and the parent(s).

3. Discussion of various Practice Issues

4. Topics for Next Meeting

Discussion around possible discussion points for next meeting. Agreed to approach Meridian (Anglicare) to see if one of the workers would like to talk about Breaking the Cycle (working with young people's violence in the family). **This has now been confirmed and Helen Landau will speak from 9.30-10.00 at the next meeting.**

Next Meeting: 24/05/2007 (9-11am)

**YSAS
953 Whitehorse Rd
Box hill**