

Family Reconciliation Workers Meeting

Monday 2nd April 2007

Melbourne City Mission 19 King Street Melbourne

Attendance: Helen Hunt (Harrisons)
Frances Cucuzzella (Anchor)
Helen Cummings (REFS)
Larissa Freiverts (Meridian)
Louise Smith (WUC)
Cherie Ladlow (WUC)
Robert Coller (YFC)
Katrina Warner (Lisa Lodge)
Bronwyn Williams (Hope St)
Peter Jacobson (BYAS)
Liz Malone (Berry St)
Yasmin Thomas (FRMP)
Trish Westhead (FRMP)
Ranee Cornell (FRMP)
Ange Depuche (FRMP)

Apologies: Brophy, NESAY, Catchment, Portland Housing Services

**1. Presentation Kathy Lacey & Viv Ray: Nilumbik Community Health
"Joint Family Meetings To Facilitate Sustainable Change"**

- Kath counsellor/ family therapist. Viv Reconnect worker
- Presentation consisted of case presentation which emphasised collaborative work involving the two workers using a combination of mediation and counselling techniques. The principle of having workers support various parts of the family system was emphasised, strengths based/solution focussed approach. 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". Positive outcomes for the young person and the parent(s).
- Reading: See Kath Weingartens writings on intimacy, Meridian material 'Breaking the Cycle', MCM Reconnect 'Saying No to the Y Generation' (copies provided)

2. FRMP Evaluation

- Julie Goodall met for an hour with the SAAP Reconciliation workers to obtain feedback for the evaluation.

3. Information Sharing

- Yasmin (FRMP) discussed details of the FRMP forum to be held on 18th May 2007. Asked Reconciliation workers permission for their details to be included in the handouts. This was agreed to and Yasmin will clarify details with workers by email over the next two weeks. Yasmin wants the details of workers identified as recon workers in each agency. The whole document will be presented so that workers can be identified geographically.
- Trish (FRMP) explained the structure of the Information Kit and requested input from the workers in terms of content.

4. Worker case studies

- Meeting agreed to build in a time allocation in the quarterly meeting for case presentations and discussion. Perhaps after the lunch break.

5. Professional Development

Revisited training proposed in 2006, checked off as completed:

Strengths based
Working with parents
Constellation theory
Myer Briggs

List generated together with voting outcome:

8 - "Framework for Understanding Poverty" - Cherie to provide contacts
5 - "Breaking the Cycle" Program - Merridian
2 - Wilderness Adventure Therapy
2 - Family Group Conferencing - Pete (BYAS)/Glastonbury
2 - Sand Therapy
0 - Single Sessions

ACTION: Based on the above list, FRMP team to organise training for next meeting.

6. Next Meeting

9.30-3.30pm
Monday 30th July 2007
Melbourne City Mission