



MINUTES

EARLY YEARS PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE

held on 21 June 2018 at 9.30am in Taylors Hill Youth & Community Centre

Present: Helen Cooney, CEO, Caroline Chisholm Society
 Leigh Ball, Coordinator Early Years Partnerships, Melton City Council (MCC)
 Brendan Ball, Manager Families and Early Years, MCC
 Carolynne Reich, Maternal and Child Health Coordinator, MCC
 Proxy, Sam McLean, RM Midwife, DjHS
 Sarah O'Kelly, Executive Officer Partnerships and Early Years, BPA Children's Services
 Tabitha Farrugia, Early Years Adviser, TRY Children's Services
 Nicole Smith, Area Manager, ECMS
 Kwabena Ansah, Executive Officer Advocacy, MCC
 David Wright, Inclusion Manager, Victorian Inclusion Agency
 Charry Owens, Project Coordinator Koolin Balit Babaneek Booboop Early Years Project, DjHS
 Proxy, Neha Chugh, Lead Practitioner, SASHS-CAPSS
 Catherine Lees, Early Childhood Performance and Planning Adviser, DET
 Catherine M'Nally, DHHS Local Connections, DHHS
 Paul Schwartz, Principal, Wedge Park Primary School
 Colleen Turner, Western Region Coordinator, VICSEG New Futures
 Troy Watson, Manager Libraries, MCC
 Dev Nedjip, Minute Taker, MCC

Chairperson: Helen Cooney, CEO, Caroline Chisholm Society

1. Welcome

H Cooney welcomed all attendees and acknowledged the Traditional Owners of the land on which we are gathered and paid respects to their elders both past and present.

2. Apologies

Lara Carli, Councillor, City of Melton
 Vida Pranskunas, Director Allied Health, DjHS
 Delia Clarke, Community Representative
 Amali Aluthgamage, Manager, Children and Families, NWMPHN
 Jo Read, DHHS, Team Leader Community Participation
 Carly Middleton, Operations Manager, TRY Children's Services
 Jarney Newey, Deputy Area Manager, Child Protection
 Chloe Mortimer, Community Representative

Resignations of Jessica Siddle (early education and care) and Peta Brincat (community member).

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Action

L Ball to email committee of vacant positions.

3. Declaration of interests and/or conflict of interests

Nil

4. Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting**Motion**

N Smith / B Ball

That the Committee adopt the minutes of the Early Years Partnership Committee meeting held on 26 April 2018

5. Business Arising

Nil

6. General Business**6.1 Introduction****Helen Cooney, CEO, Caroline Chisholm Society**

H Cooney set the context and introduced Nicole to facilitate the workshop about the strategic vision for the committee.

6.2 Overview**Nicole Hunter, Facilitator, MosaicLab**

The purpose of the workshop is to develop a strategic advocacy document to help provide clear and unified messages for the early years across Melton.

The committee discussed that it was an opportunity to be a 'voice for others' and 'driver for change' and the target area to be pre-birth to twelve years of age.

Discussions were held around those who access services outside of the municipal boundaries such as local hospitals.

6.3 Melton City Council Advocacy Priorities**Kwabena Ansah, Executive Officer Advocacy, MCC**

K Ansah had a presentation to view and distributed copies of the City of Melton Advocacy Priorities.



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K Ansah discussed how Council developed and utilise the advocacy priorities document, and how demographic data has been integrated. The advocacy document is used with all levels of government to partner in delivering infrastructure and services for the community. Discussion held around how Council can support the committee and the work of the partnership.

6.4 State Government Goals and Early Years Reform

Nicole Hunter, Facilitator, MosaicLab

Discussion around state and commonwealth government policies and how uncertainties can impact on program delivery. Survey results that the committee completed prior to the workshop were shared, as well as Early Years reform information.

Discussions were held around who is 'vulnerable', and about equity, access and inclusion.

6.5 What are we aiming for – Shared vision elements/review purpose of group

Nicole Hunter, Facilitator, MosaicLab

Discussion around the committee's vision for the group based on ideas from individual organisation's goals and needs. Groups discussed their vision statement and worked together to write an overall refined vision statement.

6.6 Exploring the current situation

Nicole Hunter, Facilitator, MosaicLab

Group discussions on what roadblocks are hindering us and what tailwinds are driving us when it comes to creating the vision we want for the future. Responses were themed to reflect our current context and be clear what we are working with at this point in time.

6.7 Strategic themes for advocacy - DRAFT

Nicole Hunter, Facilitator, MosaicLab

Groups worked on key themes from the previous session to identify key arenas for advocacy that benefit all.

6.8 Sharing and refining

Nicole Hunter, Facilitator, MosaicLab

Each group reviewed draft messages and refined them into clearer agreed advocacy strategies.

*MINUTES***6.9 Next steps and close****Nicole Hunter, Facilitator, MosaicLab**

Discussion held around where to after the workshop and how a strategy document will be developed. This will happen in three stages of;

- Draft document
- Committee to find agreement on feedback provided on draft
- Finalise advocacy strategy into a graphically laid out strategy document

Committee looked at original aim statement for the workshop and if they achieved this.

Action

Committee members to provide feedback on draft, relevant service data where appropriate, and provide service logos to be used on final document.

7. Other Business

Nil

8. Next Meeting

The next meeting is to be held on Thursday 16 August commencing at 10.00am at Taylors Hill Youth & Community Centre.

9. Close of Business

The meeting closed at 1.05pm