

Central Coast CLSD Program Meeting

11 November 2024 | 10am – 12pm | Wyong

MINUTES

Present: Dylan Di Sciascio (CLSD Program Regional Coordinator, RYSS), Chris Murnane (Legal Aid NSW), Kai Wu (Legal Aid NSW), Liam Bellette (RYSS), Christine Francis (Legal Aid NSW), Winnecke Baker (Legal Aid NSW), Jodie Beaver (Legal Aid NSW), Melanie Alexander (Legal Aid NSW), Alex O’Neal (RYSS), Claude (Legal Aid NSW), Bobbi Murray (CLCs NSW), Jason Pitt (Central Coast CLC), Zac McEwan (Central Coast CLC), Promise (Aboriginal Legal Service NSW/ACT) Aditi Barua (Cherished Connections)

Apologies:

Agenda item	Discussion	Action/Outcome
1. Opening and purpose	Dylan acknowledged this meeting took place on the lands of the Darkinjung people and that sovereignty was never ceded.	
2. San Remo Connect Day	<p style="text-align: center;">28 November San Remo Neighbourhood Centre 11 – 3</p> <p>Promotion to-date and planned</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Dylan visited all neighbourhood centres on northern half of the coast, local schools and telephones services. Also conducted a letter box drop of flyers.- Will contact Central Coast Community Council, Coast News and local radio. <p>Suggested Additional Promotion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Speak to CEO of Darkinjung Land Council as many members live in the area and they can provide transport.- Bungaree may be able to do the same.- Make sure financial counsellors know about it for their clients (Barrang Barrang employ a financial counsellor, Betty)	<p>Dylan and Winnie to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- coordinate suggested additional promotion.- Check if the Neighbourhood Centre can give access to a printer.

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Webpage: [Central Coast CLSD Program](#)



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Leave brochures at court and with CCAS workers. - Jodie offered to contact the seniors interagency. - The Neighbourhood Centre of RYSS to create a Facebook Event for the day. - Additional letter box drop in the week of the event. - Hand out flyers on Thursday afternoon at the Rec Centre at Lake Haven shops. <p>Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The neighbourhood centre will provide all chairs, tables - There will be a private space for services to use with clients if needed. - Services can arrive from 10am to set-up and pack-down is by 4pm. - The Men's shed will do a BBQ for all clients and services. 	
3. Claude Muco	<p style="text-align: center;">Respect at Work Legal Service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This is a specialist statewide service (part of Legal Aid NSW) that provides holistic and trauma-informed legal services to people who have experienced sexual harassment and/or discrimination in the workplace. - The lawyers can give all kinds of employment law advice to address workplace sexual harassment and discrimination. - If it's safe, and the Client wants to, they will try to preserve the relationship between employee and employer. - Can also provide education to the public and community workers. - Discrimination in the workplace could be about someone's age, race, gender or sexual orientation. - High priority clients of the service are: young people, people with disability, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. 	Telephone 9072 2333 or email respectatwork@legalaid.nsw.gov.au about client enquiries or to book an information session about sexual harassment and discrimination in the workplace.
4. Aditi Sreyashi	<u>Cherished Connections</u> – Child Contact Service/Respite Care	Interested in recruiting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander contact workers based on the Central

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community based, contact or transfer is held in places like parks, libraries and homes so long as there is no legal order against this. - Fee- paying service however this may be funded by the Department of Communities and Justice and paying by instalment is available. - Fees can be reduced when transport isn't needed and there is no minimum time requirement for supervision. - Report writing is free. - Cherished Connections works closely with children to learn how they want contact to go and will always meet with the children beforehand. - Can do a complimentary consultation. - Have lots of cross-cultural staff (Chinese, Indian speakers for example) but would like to recruit Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff. 	<p>Coast. Please contact Aditi. info@cconnections.au</p>
<p>5. Service updates</p>	<p>Promise – Aboriginal Legal Service NSW/ACT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promise is a new civil law outreach worker based in Newcastle. - The ALS NSW/ACT civil practice has a focus on employment, housing and fines. - For help with fines call 1800 765 767 or email fines@alsnswact.org.au - For help with problems at work call 1800 765 767 or email civil@alsnswact.org.au - For help with housing call 1800 765 767 <p>Jason Pitt - Bigan mob Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jason and Zac are talking to Magistrate McManus this week about increasing direct referrals. <p>Bobbi Murray – CLCs NSW</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bobbi noted that Judge Skinner has taken an interest in the Central Coast. <p><i>Indigenous Cadet Program for Law Students</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Working with 5 cadets until 30 June 2025. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There is one cadet at Central Coast CLC. Others are based in Nowra, Wollongong, Western Sydney, and Sydney. They spend 6 months with a generalist centre, 6 months with a specialist centre and 2 weeks with a private firm. They also do an accredited mediation course with the College of Law. <p><i>CLC Regional, Rural and Remote Summit 2025</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Possible RRR summit scheduled in 2025 that will include Big Yarn Up session for specialist Indigenous staff working for CLCs. <p><i>Advocacy Regarding Law Grads with Prior Convictions</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NSW only state that uses NCAT for decisions regarding fitness for legal practice where people have prior convictions. <p><i>Wills Days for Aboriginal People</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Central Coast CLC recently held a wills day for Aboriginal people. - Organising education session with Arts Law Australia to train local solicitors about best practice in including artwork/copyright in wills as there are lots of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists living on the Central Coast. - Bobbi noted Judge Kunch (?) was an initial patron of the Sorry Business project. <p><i>Guardian Ad Litem</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Most commonly used in care matters but also called to NCAT for tenancy. - Only Aboriginal Guardians in NSW. - Running an information session at GNL about this position that will be open for anyone who wants to know more about how this works. - Would like to have more people in regional areas. - This work is funded through DCJ. <p>Sidonie Shaw – Central Coast Tenants Advice and Advocacy Service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Changes to the Residential Tenancy Act coming in Feb 2025. - The TAS is meeting with residents of El Largo Caravan park on 20 November as they have received 90 day termination notices. 	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NCAT review underway. It is only about administrative process. TAS was invited to comment. Unclear which other services have been consulted. Closes 12 December. <p>Christine Francis – Legal Aid NSW Works and Development Order Service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New WDO guidelines coming out early 2025. - One important change is that they have lowered the age for when students can reduce fines by participating in school to 10, which is the same age that young people can start receiving fines. <p>Winnecke Baker – Programs Coordinator, CLSD Program</p> <p><i>Sorry Business Project</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of a resource about the intersections between Sorry Business and the law. Hoping to release early 2025. Will bring resource back to the Coast for feedback prior to main launch. - Will be available for free digitally and in-print via Legal Aid NSW website. <p><i>Trespass Resource</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Central Coast CLC has provided content to Legal Aid’s Publications team to design a factsheet for young people and people working with young people about Trespass; what is it, what to do if you are banned from somewhere and where to get help. - CLSD Program would like to fund printing of a wallet card that young people can keep on them as well. If we can distribute them and provide an evaluation this could become a statewide resource. 	<p>Winnie contact Strategic Law Reform Unit at Legal Aid about NCAT Review.</p>
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