

Central West Quarter 2 CLSD Meeting Notes

Date: 9 May 2024

Venue: REDIE Dubbo

The purpose of meeting: To train people in the Central West region to support young people at Police Stations.

A priority on the Central West CLSD Action plan was to develop a resource for young people, their carers, and support people about their obligations in relation to bail conditions.

In previous CLSD meetings, partners considered new information and set some clear intentions regarding where they wanted to focus their efforts. Conversations were held with police, Youth Justice and the Children's Court, local youth services and the data was considered.

It was decided by the partnership that one small thing that we could do to make a difference was to provide training aimed at local out of home care providers and community sector organisations who support young people in custody.

The CLSD quarter 2 meeting was aimed at people who work with young people or have been asked to support a young person who has been arrested? Others also invited to attend were people interested in becoming a support person for young people at police stations.

Julianne Elliot, the Senior Solicitor with the Community Legal Education at Legal Aid travelled through Central West locations to provide this face-to-face training.

The free training events were held in the following locations in the Central West Region:

- Walgett 7 May,
- Coonamble 8 May and
- Dubbo 9 May.

The training covered:

- The Youth Justice System including warnings and cautions.
- Why do young people need a support person?
- Police powers and young people
- Legal rights of a young person in custody
- A Support person's role
- Who's who at a police station
- Children's Legal Services - ALS Customer Notification Service, Legal Aid Helpline, Justice Advocacy Service (JAS)
- Custody Support Training

Participants attending the training events were from the organisations listed below and worked across a variety of programs within these services including:

- Mission Australia
- Uniting
- REDIE

- Connecting Community Services
- Youth Off the Streets
- Skillset Senior College
- Leaderlife

The face-to-face training made a significant impact in building rapport and trust with participants. For some, this is an area where there is a gap in knowledge and confidence. Having the face-to-face training really assisted with this and led to requests for the trainer to come back to Walgett and Dubbo to provide further training.

Sharon Tomas CLSD Program Regional Coordinator
Central West CLSD Program
Email: Sharon.Tomas@alsnswact.org.au