

Working Group: ACT Child and Youth Mental Health Sector Alliance

MINUTES

1:30pm – 3pm, Monday 6 November 2023
Online via Teams

Attendees:

- Annabelle Jeffries, Toora Women
- Billieann Bambrick, headspace Tuggeranong
- Emilie Traeger, Public Advocate's office
- Erin Barry, Youth Coalition of the ACT
- Hannah Turner, ACT Together Therapeutic Services, Australian Childhood Foundation
- Hayley McLellan, Saavy Services / The With Friends Initiative
- Jean Fitzroy, MindMap, Marymead CatholicCare
- Josephine Brogden, Office for Mental Health and Wellbeing / Coordinator of the Youth Reference Group
- Julian Wong, Mental Health Policy and Strategy, Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Division
- Lee-Anne Rogers, Office for Mental Health and Wellbeing
- Neha Kumar, Marymead CatholicCare
- Pauline Gallacher, Office for Mental Health and Wellbeing
- Stephanie Hodson, Relationships Australia Canberra and Goulburn
- Stephanie Lentern, Capital Health Network
- Vanessa Hamilton, Think Mental Health / Head 2 Health Adults
- Tamzin Oliver, CYPS (Melaleuca Place), Community Services Directorate
- Tyla Redman, Strategic Policy, Community Services Directorate

<p>1. Welcome and Introductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acknowledgement of Country • Acknowledgement of Lived Experience • Apologies: Laura Eason, Carrie Coghlan • Members introduced themselves 	<p>Stephanie Lentern, CHN</p>
<p>2. Purpose and operations of the Alliance Working Group</p> <p><i>Aim:</i> To discuss and determine the purpose and operations of the Alliance Working Group.</p> <p><i>Relevant papers:</i> (1) Draft Working Group Operational Statement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Background: The Working Group (WG) was established as an outcome of the Alliance Forum held in July 2023, to progress the two identified priorities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Improving children, young people's and families' experiences of mental health services</i> ○ <i>Improving service and system responses to children and young people with mental health concerns and complex / co-occurring concerns</i> 	<p>Lee-Anne Rogers, OMHW</p>



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operational Statement: Members reviewed the draft Operational Statement, and discussed the purpose, role and functions of the WG. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Based upon feedback received through the initial EOI scoping survey, members discussed that the WG could have a range of functions, including acting as a mechanism to progress existing initiatives, new initiatives, and to provide an opportunity for discussion and consultation. ○ Members noted the value of having key representatives from across sectors to brainstorm, share ideas, gather intelligence, and build the knowledge-base. ○ Members agreed that the draft Operational Statement broadly covered what they were expecting the WG would do, with scope to change it as needed. They noted the need to build in flexibility to 'how' the WG would achieve its purposes. • Members discussed the need to 'map' the existing, and potential new initiatives, to determine how the WG would progress or interact with these. • Chair Position: Members agreed to the proposal to nominate a Chair for the WG and identified the need to also have a process for a second Chair if necessary. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ It was noted that remuneration for the Chair position would only be available if members were undertaking this outside of their paid role, and through negotiation with the Office for Mental Health and Wellbeing. ○ It was agreed that nominations would be sought out of session, and if multiple nominations were received, members would be invited to vote. • Members agreed that the Minutes from WG meetings could be made available through the forthcoming Alliance website. This would be done 'in arrears' – i.e. The draft Minutes would be passed at the subsequent WG meeting, and then published on the Alliance website. <p>Action: Lead agencies to update Operational Statement. Action: Lead agencies to invite nominations for the position of WG Chair outside of the meeting.</p>	
<p>3. Initial scoping of Working Group Priorities and Projects</p> <p><i>Aim:</i> To scope initial priorities and projects for the Working Group to inform further planning.</p> <p><i>Relevant papers:</i> (2) <i>Initial Scoping of Working Group Projects</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members had an initial discussion regarding the initial or potential project that the WG could progress. Feedback included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Raising the Minimum Age of Criminal Responsibility was noted as an existing initiative that key stakeholder may wish to progress through the WG (regarding the specific interaction of MACR with the child/youth mental health system). 	<p>Erin Barry, YC</p>



- Joey Brogden reported on a **Youth Reference Group project to develop guidelines for services** on engaging with young people; and suggested the WG could provide an opportunity to seek feedback from services.
- Jean Fitzroy identified the opportunity to continue to **strengthen MindMap as a system navigation tool** through hearing recommendations from services.
- Stephanie Hodson discussed the need for improved capability-building within services regarding **'aligning moments in treatment' and avoiding 'treatment traps'; through improving referrals** (warm referrals, the 'right' referrals, and at the 'right' time), particularly for young people and families with complex needs. Members discussed the role of coordinated care and system navigation. They discussed the need to determine how much this can occur within existing service models (including MindMap), and where extra resources would be needed.
- Erin Barry raised the opportunity to review **client satisfaction tools for mental health services** and the opportunity to inform commissioning. Members discussed that the Your Experience of Service Survey (YES) is increasingly used at Commonwealth level and also within other jurisdictions. It is not particularly youth-friendly, but is used in other settings with young people, including by Orygen, and by some services within the ACT. Members considered that a potential focus may not be to scope potential tools; but to consider what best practice delivery of the tool is with young people, to inform commissioning. Stephanie Lentern and Lee-Anne Rogers both agreed to gather initial information regarding use of YES within other state and territories.
- Erin Barry raised that **information-sharing is often raised as a barrier to coordinated care of children and young people**, due to privacy legislation. Members noted that ACT health legislation is also relevant. Members discussed that there is a lack of clarity regarding what is, and is not allowed, and there is a need to clarify this, in order to enable services to understand the relevant parameters and to develop practice approaches related to this. Members also noted that this relates not only to information-sharing between services; but also, with parents/carers of children and young people, relating to consent issues.

Action: Lead agencies to commence thematic mapping of existing / potential projects that are relevant to the identified priorities.

Action: All members to consider existing or potential activities that relate to the identified priorities, that may be included in mapping exercise, and email these to erin@youthcoalition.net.

Action: Stephanie Lentern and Lee-Anne Rogers to scope use of the YES tool in other jurisdictions.

<p>Action: Tamzin Oliver to provide information regarding the amendments to the Children and Young People Act.</p>	
<p>Other Business</p> <p>Aim: To flag any other opportunities and risks for the Working Group, or items for future discussion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No other business was raised. 	<p>Stephanie Lentern, CHN</p>
<p>Next Steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary of Actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lead agencies to update Operational Statement. ○ Lead agencies to invite nominations for the position of WG Chair outside of the meeting. ○ Lead agencies to commence thematic mapping of existing / potential projects that are relevant to the identified priorities. ○ All members to consider existing or potential activities that relate to the identified priorities, that may be included in mapping exercise, and email these to erin@youthcoalition.net. ○ Stephanie Lentern and Lee-Anne Rogers to scope use of the YES tool in other jurisdictions. ○ Tamzin Oliver to provide information regarding the amendments to the Children and Young People Act. • Proposed next meeting: Tuesday 5 December, morning. 	<p>Stephanie Lentern, CHN</p>