

Illawarra Shoalhaven Suicide Prevention Collaborative

Breakfast Meeting Minutes – 7 April 2016

8:00am – 9:00am

Venue: IHMRI Level 3.301

Attendees:

Prof Brin Grenyer	(BG)	ISSPC Executive
Dr Alex Hains	(AH)	ISSPC Executive
Mr Tim Heffernan	(TH)	ISSPC Executive
Ms Linda Livingstone	(LL)	ISSPC Executive
Dr Mitch Byrne	(MB)	School of Psychology, UOW; Mind the Gap
Mr Ron de Jongh	(RdJ)	CEO, Grand Pacific Health
Prof Frank Deane	(FD)	Director, Illawarra Institute of Mental Health; UOW
Ms Marilyn Dunn	(MD)	First Floor Program Coordinator, Salvation Army
Mr Greg Hand	(GH)	Learning and Wellbeing Coordinator, Dept of Education
Ms Erin Hiesley	(EH)	Manager, Partners in Recovery
Ms Wendi Hobbs	(WH)	Shoalhaven Suicide Prevention Awareness Network
Mr Tim Hudman	(THu)	Shoalhaven Suicide Prevention Awareness Network
Prof Lorna Moxham	(LM)	Mental Health Nursing, School of Medicine UOW
Ms Bethany Pye-Respondek	(BPR)	Research Development Administrator, IHMRI
Ms Emma Rodrigues	(ER)	Women's Health Project Officer, ISLHD

1. Preliminary Business

1.1 Apologies:

Prof David Adams	Executive Director, IHMRI
Dr Vida Bliokas	ISSPC Executive
Mr Peter Brown	Chair, Illawarra Suicide Prevention Awareness Network (ISPAN)
Mr Nathan Deaves	South Coast Medical Service Aboriginal Corporation
Ms Dianne Kitcher	CEO, Coordinaire
Ms Sally McNeill	Research Development Officer, IHMRI
Mr Phil O'Neil	Duty Officer, Wollongong LAC, NSW Police Force
Ms Carla Rutherford	Shoalhaven Hospital Emergency Dept, ISLHD
Ms Angela Thompson	Illawarra Mercury
Mr Alan Woodward	Research Director, Lifeline Foundation

2. General Business

2.1 Welcome and Introduction

BG welcomed attendees and introduced ER. Added upcoming planning day to agenda (2.3)

ER: Wearing a couple of hats for the Collaborative – asked to join to represent LGBTI community, also Project Officer with Women's Health, ISLHD. Involved in developing training, clinical practice improvement and am in a position to be a conduit for the community. Have a background in suicide prevention and hold professional and personal interest in this area.

2.2 Executive Update

AH: Suicide Prevention conference run by Suicide Prevention Australia will be held in July in Canberra. With TH, have submitted an abstract re: forming the collaborative. Will keep the group updated if it is accepted – it will involve a 20 minute oral presentation, possibly a poster. TH and AH will present together.

2.3 ISSPC Planning Day

AH: Full one-day workshop for April 21st. Save-the-date has already been sent to members, please distribute. Venue has been confirmed – The Pavilion in Kiama. Marion Wands from ConNetica (QLD) is booked as the facilitator. Marion has worked previously with PIR and is great for events like this.

BPR to pull together invitations – start with the Collaborative members, but we want reps from all sectors, those working with consumers, not just senior managers. Police and ambulance, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander sector, and those with lived experience are very important to include – particularly looking forward to their input.

Aim is to start to define activities for the collaborative. Will give the background of the group, then move into breakout sessions – discussing facets of current services, people's experience with them, what we do well, what we need to improve. Would also like to brainstorm for more concrete project ideas.

April 21st is coming up quickly – would be great to get help from members to plan and coordinate.

General discussion from group regarding the day. Emphasis on ensuring agenda and outcomes are clearly identified. Discussion also around who can assist with promoting to certain groups:

LL: Other than save-the-date, not many people know. Coordinare is happy to work on promotion with PIR, ISPAN, SSPAN, etc. We could delay the planning day, but there is no time to delay the Collaborative's input for funding purposes.

WH: SSPAN happy to promote. People who work on the ground need information ASAP.

ER: Have direct links to the community, social media, etc. Happy to assist with marketing.

LL: Anyone else able to assist? Need contact with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander groups.

BG: IHMRI

LM: Global Challenges

TH: Consumer networks

MD: Have contact with police, ambulance and fire department ex-members who meet for trauma counselling with Salvation Army.

MB: Sounds like the day will be split into 4 sections, could people drop in and out?

ER and WH happy to assist AH with planning. Will contact after meeting.

2.4 ISSPC Project Coordinator Recruitment Update

LL: Position is a partnership between ISLHD and Coordinare. Currently negotiating with preferred applicant and will hopefully be online very soon.

2.5 Black Dog Institute Funding Opportunity

LL: Spoken at previous meetings about the Paul Ramsay funding administered through The Black Dog Institute. A couple of documents have been released. The first discussed looking to fund 4 sites in NSW with populations <140,000. This will evaluate the Systems Approach – work will be done to identify which strategies have the most impact, which areas are most affected? The Illawarra-Shoalhaven has been identified as fitting the criteria.

A document was released on Tuesday regarding the tender (see attachment 1). Applications open April 8 and close May 20. Request to enter collaborative bids, NOT competitive, within regions. Must demonstrate how the region is working together and that people are committed to making significant changes in their area. Black Dog is very keen to invest.

Notes from teleconference between Black Dog and Coordinare on Tuesday 5 April:

- Demonstrate population is big enough to show impact
 - Dianne Kitcher asked if the combined Illawarra-Shoalhaven area complies, Black Dog confirmed, yes. Ensure focus is on both Illawarra and Shoalhaven.
- Describe process to develop application
 - Utilize planning day for this
- Snapshot of existing activities and funding
 - Quality of existing services doesn't impact the application. Need to demonstrate region is aware of what is happening across the board
- Address assessment criteria
- Looking to fund
 - Support 4 regions at local level. Funding to local coordinator
 - Conduct local activities
 - Conduct awareness activities
 - Expect support from State-level
 - Use of digital portal
- Does Systems Approach work?

Amount indicated is \$230K per region, per year for 4 years. Not sure if that will be total amount. There is a plan to do a scoping study – talk to local region: what is currently funded in each strategy? Is it effective? What is the cost? Black Dog has asked Illawarra-Shoalhaven to be part of the scoping study as they are aware of the Collaborative's work.

Margot Mains and LL held a meeting on April 6 to discuss the data, what is funded and an audit of services to identify effectiveness. Where should the minister invest? Hope to use data to negotiate for more funding with the Minister of Health. There is a tight time frame for the scoping study.

MB: Is the commencement predicated on the negotiations with the Minister of Health?

LL: No, only funding to be negotiated.

RdJ: Is it correct that the \$230K is to fund a service map, but not service delivery? In the tender, services are not to be funded, but informs where policy reform is needed and where future funding should go.

LL: Yes, that is my understanding.

AH: The tender is not about funding to fill service gaps, but about coordination.

LL: Collaborative should be prepared to share data and what is happening in service delivery to inform future investment. This will get us to more focused and effective service delivery. Remember – the application is not a guarantee of funding. There is benefit for participating in the scoping study, as it gives access to the process of improving the Systems Approach.

MB: Want places that have all services, but not funding creation of services. Logically, will select places that have all services – if we have gaps, we might miss out?

LL: All areas have gaps – Black Dog see the strengths in this region for leadership and the work already done, not to mention the Chief Executive of ISLHD being very vocal about improvements needed.

AH: Aftercare is a huge gap. Largely the responsibility of state funded organisations. Services might not be absent, but might just be a gap in effectiveness.

LM: We used to have a mobile treatment team – perhaps we can look at past services, and so on? Is it possible other Illawarra groups will apply?

LL: I have drafted a notice for members to ensure their organisations avoid this.

EH: Any bid needs the support of the LHD and PHN, so we should be able to capture them easily.

BG: Please let us know if you hear anything. Will know more when documents are released tomorrow.

LL: Rachel Green (Director of the project with Black Dog) advised there are more resources about to be released. We plan to hit the ground running. The big thing is to have the right population group.

BG: Control sites required?

LL: No, but some sites will focus on certain elements of the wheel.

RdJ: Who will lead the application – Coordinare or LHD? GPH is not appropriate, and there will be consequences for the progress of the project depending on the lead. I would encourage Coordinare to take this position.

Discussion proceeded with group agreeing that Coordinare is most appropriate option to lead the tender. RdJ highlighted need for transparency and open communication as Coordinare would be acting as a commissioning agent and the funds holder. LL advised Dianne Kitcher has not yet discussed subject with Margot Mains, but will note the Collaborative's opinion about Coordinare being preferred option. AH noted that Black Dog has approached PHNs, so it is likely the PHNs are their preferred choice also.

3. Other Business

3.1 SSPAN Activity Update

Thu: \$25K to transport in-patient and rehab services on departure from facilities. Started in the Shoalhaven, but not expanded to the Illawarra. Looking to give access to disadvantaged people for transport to services.

PTSD education for first responders – training being run with SES

With Australian Theatre for Young people, bringing a production of “Sugarand” to the Shoalhaven. Developed in the norther Territory, it includes resources for schools to unpack issues addressed in performance with students. Costs \$13K, and is offered to all highschools in the Shoalhaven area. There is also funding for transport for outlying schools.

Funds have all been raised by SSPAN fundraising. 2015 strategic plan noted a need for a project officer to help manage. Possible assistance from Collaborative/Black Dog?

Meeting close