

Monthly Meeting Minutes – 9 Mar 2017
8:30-9:30am, 32.301, level 3, IHMRI building, UoW Wollongong campus
& video link to GPH Centre, 107 Scenic Dr, Nowra

1. Attendees

WOLLONGONG:

ALEX HAINS	(AH)	Regional Manager, SP Collaborative
ARMANDO REVIGLIO	(AR)	Wollongong City Council
BRIN GRENYER	(BG)	SP Collaborative Executive; IHMRI
CYNTHIA MCCAMMON	(CMc)	Catholic Education
ERIN HIESLEY	(EH)	SP Collaborative Executive; Youth Health Manager, GPH
LEANNE WOODLEY	(LW)	Association of Independent Schools
LINDA LIVINGSTONE	(LLi)	SP Collaborative Executive; COORDINARE
LORNA MOXHAM	(LM)	School of Nursing, UOW
LYNNE HARRIS	(LH)	Department of Education
RON DE JONGH	(RdJ)	Grand Pacific Health (GPH)
SANDRA BOLACK	(SB)	ISPAN
TIM HEFFERNAN	(The)	SP Collaborative Executive; Lived Experience Representative
VIDA BLIKAS	(VB)	School of Psychology, UOW

NOWRA:

ALAN BLACKSHAW	(AB)	Shoalhaven Council
CLARE LESLIE	(CL)	Lifeline South Coast
HELEN BACKHOUSE	(HB)	Flourish (formerly Richmond PRA)
JOHN STRANG	(JS)	SSPAN; ISLHD
KIMBERLY CHISWELL	(KC)	Waminda
TIM HUDMAN	(THu)	SSPAN
WENDI HOBBS	(WH)	SSPAN

PHONE:

ANDREW O'HANLON	(AO)	Operations Manager, Wollongong MH, ISLHD
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APOLOGIES:

ANTHONY TALTY	(AT)	Ambulance Services, Illawarra Zone
DEBRA MURPHY	(DM)	Regional Development Australia Illawarra
ERIN FRASER	(EF)	Illawarra AMS
GLENN WILLIAMS	(GW)	SP Collaborative Executive, MIND the GaP
GORDON BRADBERRY	(GB)	Lord Mayor, Wollongong
GRAHAME GOULD	(GG)	Director, Lifeline South Coast
HEATHER MCCARRON	(HMc)	TAFE NSW, Shellharbour & Moss Vale Campuses
JANET JACKSON	(JJ)	NSW Trains
JUDITH SIMONS	(JSi)	One Door (formerly Schizophrenia Fellowship)

JULIE CARTER	(JC)	A/Director Mental Health Services, ISLHD
LEANNE LAWRENCE	(LLaw)	Illawarra AMS
LYNN LANGHORN	(LLan)	Mental Health Director of Nursing, ISLHD
NICK GUGGISBERG	(NG)	Kiama Council

2. Welcome and introduction

EH welcomed attendees and new representatives were introduced, including SB from Illawarra Suicide Prevention Awareness Network (ISPAN) and AO from ISLHD (via phone).

3. Revised Terms of Reference

It was agreed at the last Collaborative meeting to amend the Collaborative's [Terms of Reference](#) to include reference to the role and form of the Working Groups (see section 4.8). The provided a brief summary of the amendment, which was also distributed to members prior to the meeting.

All agreed to accept this amendment, with Working Groups still able to review whether further guidelines are needed.

4. Working Groups

Following the decision at the last Collaborative meeting to establish Working Groups, AH sent out an online 'survey' for people to identify which Working Group(s) they would like to contribute to. LLi noted that there had been a pleasing response, with 31 people committing to the Working Groups. While there was a spread across all 5 Working Groups, there was still a need to approach some key agencies for representation on some of the Working Groups.

In particular, Aboriginal services are needed for Working Group 5 (Aboriginal suicide prevention), community groups (e.g. SPANs) are needed for Working Group 2 (Community interventions), and Councils are needed for Working Group 4 (Data driven suicide prevention).

- CL noted that she is able to represent both SSPAN and Lifeline South Coast on Working Group 2.
- SB volunteered to represent ISPAN on Working Group 2.

ACTION 1: AH to discuss Council involvement with Working Group 4 as it relates to means restriction (addressing hotspot locations).	AH
ACTION 2: AH to send out list of the Working Group members and Leads once consolidated.	AH
ACTION 3: AH to help Leads coordinate initial meetings for each Working Group and help them begin defining their activities.	AH
ACTION 4: Working Groups to discuss any additional members they need to approach to contribute to plans.	Working Groups

5. Project Officer recruitment

AH advised that there was a lot of interest in this position, with 39 applications received. Interviews have been conducted and the panel are currently reviewing the outcomes.

ACTION 5: AH to advise members of the outcome of this recruitment as soon as possible.

AH

6. Mindframe Media Guidelines

AH introduced this presentation as prompted by discussions with other regions where local suicide deaths were followed by media seeking comment from that region's Collaborative members. On one occasion, these comments were not aligned with the [Mindframe Media Guidelines](#) and increased risk and another suicide occurred.

Responsible media reporting of suicide is a key strategy of the LifeSpan project because it has demonstrable influence on suicide rates. AH noted that it is anticipated that there will be suicides within the Illawarra Shoalhaven region over the course of the LifeSpan trial, and emphasised the importance of Collaborative members providing consistent messaging.

CL provided a [brief summary](#) of the Mindframe Media Guidelines (scroll down to 'resources' section) and highlighted [useful resources](#) for members to access when needed.

AH noted that the family and friends of those who die by suicide may need support to ensure their well-intended response to the death of a loved one aligns with the Mindframe Guidelines so that it doesn't potentially increase the risk of others.

THu highlighted the need for guidelines to also apply to social media. CL said that Mindframe has recently added some [information specific to social media](#).

ACTION 6: Working Group 2 (Community interventions) incorporates Strategy 8 (media guidelines). This Working Group to consider proactively developing a 12-month schedule of articles that promote help-seeking and stories of recovery.

WG2

7. Means restriction – Ulladulla update

THu, AH, WH & GG attended meeting with concerned community members and some agency representatives to discuss a response to the identified Ulladulla suicide hotspot. The group is considering both the installation of physical barriers as well as improvements to the site to increase the foot traffic in the area.

The group is considering funding opportunities, but requires leadership (i.e. project management). SSPAN have provided considerable help to date, but is unable to continue to do so. THu proposed to members that the Collaborative commit up to 10 hours per month from its staff to oversee this project.

LLi thanked THu and SSPAN for its work on this to date, but suggested that this would fall within the remit of Working Group 4 (Data driven suicide prevention), which includes Strategy 9 (means restriction). It was agreed

that this type of proposal needs to be considered in the context of the broader work required of the Collaborative and the LifeSpan project.

ACTION 7: Working Group 4 (Data driven suicide prevention) to consider how it will support the Ulladulla response.

WG4

RdJ noted that it is difficult for Collaborative members to even consider such a proposal without an understanding of the budget available. LLI noted that it was within the [initial tender application](#) (see p. 25) for the LifeSpan project, which was shared at the time of submission. But that was some time ago, so it was agreed to share this again (see link above).

ADDITIONAL NOTE:

Please note that the indicative budget we suggested in the initial tender application was not approved in its entirety. The Black Dog Institute have approved a LifeSpan budget of \$230K per year, which unfortunately removes the Capacity Building Funding we had proposed in the initial application.

8. Additional items

NSW Suicide Prevention Fund

RdJ advised members that the proposal submitted by GPH, Flourish, South Coast AMS and ISLHD, called *Next Steps Service*, has progressed to negotiation phase. All involved were congratulated as it is recognised that this is a crucial part of effectively reducing suicide rates.

AH noted that this partnership model was likely to be a good example of how the Collaborative can attract additional funding to the region when opportunities arise.

Youth Aware Mental Health (YAM)

LLi advised that Black Dog Institute are in negotiations with shortlist of applicants to provide the YAM program within schools. Members will be advised of the outcome as soon as possible.

9. Next meeting

Date: Thurs 13 Apr 2017

Time: 8:30-9:30am

Venue: Level 3 meeting room, IHMRI building, UoW Wollongong campus

Video link: from GPH Centre, 107 Scenic Dr, Nowra

Phone link: contact AH for details if this is required

Meeting schedule for 2017 available [here](#). Please put these dates into your diary.