**Enabling Good Lives (EGL)**

**MidCentral Regional Leadership Group**

**Record of the meeting held on Wednesday 2 March 2022**

**From 10.30am – 12.30pm via Zoom**

**Facilitator**: Eru Paul

**Co-facilitator:** Toni G

**Meeting Notes:** Jo Brew

**Present:**

* Annette (Deaf Rep) + 2 Interpreters Kerry & Sarah)
* Angus, Peter A, Martin, Antnz, Wayne (Disabled People)
* Natt, Abigail (YAAY)
* Tracey, Pip (Families)
* Rachel (People First)
* Lovely, Rasela (Pasifika)
* Regena, Wairemana, Naomi, Faedra, Tarewa, Lisa (Mana Whenua)

**Apologies:**

* Jennifer (OT)
* Jane Hawkins-Jones (Te Mahau/MoE)
* Toni I

**Nonattendance:**

* Gabrielle (MDHB)

**Welcome and karakia**

Eru opened the meeting with a karakia and reminded all present of the meeting protocol before a round of introductions were done.

**Updates**

**Disabled People**

* The core group met yesterday:
* they learnt the Establishment Unit received 600 applications in response to advertised roles, 28 roles have been filled – 8 of those are disabled people and 7 disabled families, 4 roles are yet to filled.
* Leadership Review Report discussion was held.

**Sector Engagement**

* Drop in’s happening, first public forum soon in Levin, YAAYs are busy, in dialogue with churches about accessibility.
* Met with Regena to learn about her mahi.
* Plan to connect with After 5 and Chamber of Commerce and hope to work towards breaking down barriers for employers.
* Will send further information by end of this week.

**People First**

* No updates as no meetings at present due to covid but does talk to members.

**Pasifika**

* Having regular core group meetings.
* Felicia is leading a n EGL Pasifika steering group – 3 local families will be joining this national group. (For Pasifika by Pasifika).

**Deaf Community**

* Main focus is a video project around covid.
* Seeing deaf people in the community.

**Mana Whenua**

* Things going well, contact in community in region is positive, learning about communication taking place within the region including Dannevirke, Eketahuna and Woodville.
* Has been working alongside Steve Bethall – CCS Disability Association.
* Thanks for supporting the Hikoi proposal.
* Another person representing Mana Whenua expressed their perspective about Mana Whenua representation, a breach of seats, where and who work should be directed to, nonadherence of process, escalation, and systemic racism. The Facilitator suggested this topic be taken offline for further discussion as it conflicts with the objective of this meeting. The Chair of MidCentral Governance Group requested an invitation to the Mana Whenua core group as Rangitane, to discuss the issues being brought up outside of the meeting as the regional leadership group represents disabled people and community not DPO’s. An invitation was refused.
* No core group update was given.
* 3 of 4 remaining Mana Whenua representatives stated they were attending the meeting in support of the above korero and 2 expressed their perspective of system racism within the prototype.

**Family**

* Met yesterday, discussed the Leadership Review Report.

**Providers**

* This is a challenging time for Providers with covid information coming from MoH with little notice requiring/resulting in continuously trying to adapt/review process (e.g., RAT’s, critical workers) and the major staffing issues resulting from omicron.

**Leadership Review Report Discussion (Gail Munro)**

Gail joined the meeting to table and discuss the preliminary report (circulated by email prior the meeting) seeking endorsement, rejection, or endorsement with amendments.

Feedback received today will help determine if there are any gaps or significant things to add to the report and assist with the future of leadership groups.

***All but 1 of the visiting group of Mana Whenua opted to leave the meeting at this point (11.10am); they will connect directly with Gail.***

Feedback discussion points were:

**Family**

* The family voice needs a strong voice.
* There is lack of acknowledgement of expertise for lived experience.
* Reimbursement for expenses to attend meetings would be appreciated.
* There is strength in core groups; the family core group wish to strengthen their group.

***A breach of Code of Conduct towards one member occurred at 11.25am via chat function to everyone. This person was asked by the Facilitator not to use the forum in this way – they then left the meeting.***

**Disabled People**

* Good report, no recommendations for amendments.
* Mechanism of voice –
* DPO’s not to be the only voice feeding into the process as they represent only 30% of the disabled population.
* People First and the Deaf community are directly represented here.
* Leadership groups have the right to develop their own terms of reference in conjunction with Mana Whenua and Tangata Whenua and then take to officials.
* Include a common baseline with the ability to add local/regional flair
* Contain 2 universal clauses for all groups terms of reference such as:

“Leadership groups, the Crown and Māori honour the tripartite arrangements for decision making” and, “that the Treaty of Waitangi is our korowai” and include how the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities sits beside this.

* A clear communication strategy be developed from the national level with clear boundaries about what can/can’t be shared and include communication for accessibility.
* Open a space and resources for Pasifika to work out what they want.
* Generally, ok with the structure of core groups through to leadership and national.

**Mana Whenua**

* Believes the shared community communication resulting from the planned hikoi in this area will contribute greatly to the report.

**Provider**

* Feedback from this group has already been given to Gail.

**Pasifika**

* Will discuss with Gail offline.

**YAAY**

* YAAY’s develop as a sub-group to the core group in other communities and be resourced.
* Nurture the next generation of emergent leaders (YAAY’s) with support and mentoring.

**Other comments for consideration/recommendation**

* Be deliberate and intentional about having a succession plan for all core groups.
* Develop a constructive national and regional communications plan with appropriate resourcing.
* Led by grass roots, pastoral care, clear leadership responsibilities, a Chair for RGL rather than a facilitator.
* A request was made for 1 page executive summary/bullet points in simple language for ease of accessibility for the community from Gail. The need for easy read was acknowledged and has been requested at Ministry level.

Members are welcome to contact Gail at gailmunro@governancestrategies.co.nz should they have anything further to discuss.

After Gail left the meeting, members voted on whether to endorse the report:

* 2 members endorsed the report as is.
* The majority of the members are happy with the framework of the report but prefer to see the amendments before endorsing and as Mana Whenua and Pasifika feedback are yet to be included.
* An opportunity to meet with Gail to revisit the report with amendments would be appreciated.

**Nominations for Facilitator**

* No nominations had been received within the extended timeframe.
* An independent experienced facilitator with an understanding of the sector using the Terms of Reference and Code of Conduct to guide them is desired.
* All to seek within own networks.

**Funding Request**

A request was made on behalf of NEGL for funding from this group to cover the costs of providing 2 NZSL interpreters at the NEGL monthly zoom sessions. The general consensus was that NEGL should make this request to MoH.

**Mediation**

A mediation opportunity will be sought between today’s visitors and representatives of this group in the interests of coming together on common ground to effectively serve disabled people with best practice of EGL.

**The meeting closed with karakia at 12.40pm.**