**Enabling Good Lives (EGL)**

**MidCentral Regional Leadership Group**

**Record of the meeting held on Wednesday 6 July 2022**

**From 10.30am – 2.30pm**

**At The Distinction Coachman Hotel, Fitzherbert Avenue, PN**

**Facilitator**: Ann-Marie Stapp

**Meeting Notes:** Jo Brew

**Present:**

* Annette (Deaf Rep) (+ 2 Interpreters Sarah and Kerry)
* Antnz, Peter A, Martin, Natt, Abi (Disabled People)
* Tracey, Toni I, Pip (Families)
* Lovely (Pasifika)
* Rachel (People First), Katherine (Rachel’s Meeting Assistant)
* Regena, Dion, Maide (Mana Whenua)
* Toni G, Eru (Providers)
* Jeanette (MoE)
* Gabrielle (MDHB)

**Apologies:**

* Wayne (Disabled People)
* Jen (OT)
* Gabrielle (MDHB)
* Rasela (Pasifika)
* *Jane (Te Mahau/MoE who has appointed Jeanette Brown until end October*)

**Karakia/Welcome/Whakatau**

The meeting was opened with karakia, followed by a whakatau welcoming the newly elected Mana Whenua reps to the RLG.

**Updates**

**Deaf Community**

* Met Imagine Better and contributed to their request for expressions of interest for information by suggesting translation into NZSL. Have until December 22 so looking to recruit for translation into video and NZSL.

**Disabled People**

* Sarah from Autism NZ met with the group.
* More young adults are attending the core group meetings.
* YAAY’s
* Recent YAAY activities have included a movie night and learning basic NZSL. The next activity planned is a horse-riding and animal care workshop.
* YAAY’s are extending their leadership roles, giving other’s opportunities to plan activities.
* A YAAY member has been invited to New York to participate on a panel to speak about her experiences of psychosis.
* A Disabled Peoples rep will be speaking at a ‘Designing Disability Services Conference’ in Auckland in August.

**Family**

* The group met with Kerry Ann, (replacing Marc Benjamin at SAM’s), and Tina yesterday.
* SAM’s will be presenting a 5 week series of ‘Enabling Good Lives Approach in Action’ workshops running from August to November. 4 online and 1 face to face workshops are planned.
* The group plan to connect with the Family Leadership Alliance who work on building strong and equitable communities.
* A member had requested people visit the Mana Whaikaha website to give feedback on a survey.
* This was clarified as being a feedback form relating specifically to the MGG group matters, not a survey.
* During a break the form was checked for accessibility by the Deaf Community rep; NZSL translation is not required).
* Support worker matters including lack of workforce, pay equity/pay rises, the potential for families to burnout when filling the gap of support workers, reducing the age of support workers and a planned marketing/recruitment strategy project by Providers.

**Mana Whenua**

* Focusing on connecting pathways for Māori with disability and creating opportunities and experiences.
* A music event is being planned.
* Personal goals are being set.
* A Mana Whenua rep will be attending the ‘Disability Inclusive Pathways Conference’ in Rotorua, 10 – 12 August 2022.
* As there are no confirmed dates for the last hikoi in Dannevirke, plans have been made for the finale to be held at St Michaels on 28 July.
* RLG has a connection to the local Māori Health Authority through a Mana Whenua rep’s family member who represents Disabled People on their Board.

Acknowledgement and appreciation for the recent growth and development of the Mana Whenua core group was expressed by the Facilitator.

**Officials**

**MoE**

* The MoE representative introduced herself and aspects of her role which includes overseeing the delivery of support services to children with learning support needs within the region. The focus is to strengthen educational pathways giving teachers and whanau the skills to support children in an inclusive environment and working with other agencies and groups in a holistic way.
* Looking forward to leaning about EGL and making connections with the RLG and core groups.
* Contact details for individuals/groups to make connections with MoE will follow.

**Pasifika**

* Spreading the word in the community seeking a Pasifika connector.
* Meeting with early childhood centres at the Pasifika Community Trust to talk about EGL.
* Due to illness, a planned workshop for July is postponed to August.
* ‘My Life, My Voice’ do have a Pasifika connector, connections will be made with the Pasifika core group.

**People First**

* People First’s first regional meeting since covid lockdowns began will be held on 6 August in Wanganui. The People First rep will be speaking about EGL at that meeting.

**Providers**

* Providers are preparing for the national rollout of the Whaikaha’ s future terms.
* Trying to adjust to new immigration legislation (re minimum pay rates for immigrant employees)
* New pay rates pushed through government (3%) without indication of resource to cover this rise. Provider and Unions are working together to resolve this matter.
* Continually trying to attract staff.
* Received approval from Capability for recruiting a contractor to develop a marketing/recruitment strategy specific to this area.
* Issues to flag at national level via Workforce Working Group were discussed:
* Shortfall to cover pay rise should come from central fund not local.
* Workforce issues such as recruitment and retention (and these are flagged via noting in Provider’s performance monitoring).
* HDA roles were used to set benchmark for pay equity 5 years ago, this is now not in alignment with support workers.
* Covid and flu continues to be major impact on staff.
* MSD making funding available for providers nationally to prepare themselves nationally for EGL philosophy (via Humanly).
* **Provider core group formally stated they have discussed and elected not to be paid to attend/participate in this group and prefer to donate these funds back to the group.**

**Sector Engagement (Antnz)**

**Technology**

* Installed OBS (streaming software, Zoom and extensions on the 5 laptops; need to find appropriate plugin to allow Zoom to broadcast to the streaming software to complete.
* Training people to use OBS and testing to ensure the software and hardware are working correctly is planned.

**Streaming Kit**

* To following to be purchased to make up a streaming kit:
* a bag
* USB hub (5+ ports)
* extension cords (1 power, 3 USB)
* microphone
* speaker
* multi-boards x2
* The streaming kit will be stored at EASIE Living Centre and will need to be signed in and out for using.
* D365 – may need professional assistance to complete set up.

**Activities**

* Next ‘Drop in’ to be held Monday 11 July.
* Faith-Based - 2 upcoming workshops; 1 for leaders, one for congregants (or attendees, worshippers, etc)
* A calendar of activities to be shared once updated.
* Sept Event – arrangements are underway, possible theme ‘Safer Communities’.

**Other:**

* An enquiry about speech to text software was made – research on Otter (free) and other software to be made.
* The draft comms plans will be forwarded to RLG once received.
* Represented RLG at the ‘Housing needs and monitoring committee’ at PNCC. Attendance to be ongoing.

**Previous Minutes and Action Points**

* A group attended Marc’s Benjamin’s farewell.
* A group attended Angus’ farewell.
* The 7 funded places for attending the ‘Disability Inclusive Pathways Conference’ have been filled.
* An updated RLG members list was requested – Jo to send to the group.
* Action point re new meetings rates were clarified (see May minutes) – still to be completed (Peter Allen)

**Process for unspent MGG, RLG and Core group meeting funds**

Mana Whaikaha Ltd manages funds supporting the RLG groups. Funds can be spent on activities in scope with the contract. Unspent funds can be spent on other activities but needs to be done responsibly, i.e., follow a process.

* Is there a template to present a proposal on to seek funds?
* Funding approval not sought in retrospect.

A process needs to be developed:

* All to bring ideas to the next meeting
* Bring service specs to next meeting to understand responsibility – Pip/Peter?

**Other**

* What applications go where, i.e., Capability and Capacity Panel, RLG.
* Are the individual core groups budgets rolling over into the next financial year?
* Moving to Smart Payroll for the payroll and reimbursements online and will assist with tracking budgets.
* If your core group needs anything extra in its budget, please put together and let Pip and Pete know. Contact Pip if assistance is required.

**Reimbursement of Expenses**

* An easy to use policy with clear guidelines on what can and cannot be reimbursed is needed.
* An easy to use mechanism for payment is needed (SmartPayroll may cover this).
* Reimbursement for use of own car was discussed:
* The following proposal was put to the group:

‘If a representation from this group goes to an official and/or EGL related event, mileage costs will be covered.

**All present eligible to vote agreed.**

Exceptions to the general rule would need to be discussed in advance (i.e., incorporating personal business).

* An easy to use expense form incorporating mileage claim to be developed and include which budget the expense come from i.e., RLG, family or another core group.  **Pip and Jo**
* Approval for spending approximately $60 per month for SmartPayroll was sought.

**All present eligible to vote agreed.**

**The meeting closed at 2.44pm**