**Enabling Good Lives (EGL)**

**MidCentral Regional Leadership Group**

**Record of the meeting held on Wednesday 7 December 2022**

**From 10.30am – 2.30pm**

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

**Facilitator**: Pip Brunn

**Notes:** Jo Brew

**Present:**

* Ann-Marie Stapp (Facilitator) (until 10.47 am)
* Annette (Deaf Rep) (+ 2 Interpreters Sarah and Kerry) (until 12.15pm)
* Wayne, Peter, Natt, Antnz (Disabled People)
* Tracey, Toni I, Lisa (Families)
* Rasela, Lovely (Pasifika)
* Rachel, Steve (Observer) (People First),
* Nadia, Rangirea, Maide, (Mana Whenua)
* Eru, Mike (Providers)
* Jen (OT)

**Apologies:**

* Martin (Disabled People)
* Toni G (Providers)
* Jeanette (MoE)
* Gabrielle (Te Whatu Ora)

**Karakia/Welcome**

Pip welcomed all and Maide opened the meeting with karakia, this was followed by a round of introductions.

**Previous Minutes**

* The minutes were accepted as a true and correct record.
* There were no matters arising

**Action Points**

* Pip to circulate a budget and template with financial information to Pasifika, Providers and Mana Whenua. – **carried over.**
* Peter to circulate a fact sheet outlining the differences between a limited liability company and trust to all – **carried over.**
* RLG members to send feedback on facilitator role to Pip **– nothing received – closed.**
* RLG members to send feedback to Natt and Antnz regarding Sept Expo – **nothing received – closed.**

**Core Group Updates**

**Deaf Community**

* No meeting held since October.
* First meeting for 2023 will include discussion on plans for 2023.

**Disabled People**

* Rachael Burt attended yesterday’s core group meeting and gave an update on Mana Whaikaha’s latest recruitment round.

**Family**

* Have completed the EGL programme run through SAMS.
* Discussions at yesterday’s core group included
* Families’ confusion and stress due to compliance changes.
* Would like to see EGL aligned compliance
* Carer fatigue, what does this look like, how carers get respite, what the best forms of respite are for individuals.
* Families continue to wait for connectors responses.
* Relationships with Mana Whaikaha (MW) and government agencies appear to be working better but, in a gate keeping sense rather than people centred.
* The 2-day hui planned for November was unable to go ahead.

***Questions to ask Rachael Burt:***

1. ***Where is family representation in the recruitment process?***
2. ***Compliance matters.***

**Mana Whenua**

* A recent trip to Levin was successful.
* Andrew and Maide attended the YAAY Forest Lake Camp.
* 3 hui were recently held (strategic, core and community core group).
* Dion met with Rangitane.
* Dion is the elected representative for the Capability & Capacity Building Panel. (From February 2023).
* Planning a trip to Paranui in the New Year.
* The kawa and tikanga are a work in progress.
* The difference between Mana Whaikaha as a systems response and the EGL approach (about, by and for the disabled community) was clarified for the group.

**Officials**

* **Oranga Tamariki (OT)**
* Claudia Boyles is leading the development of vision and strategy for OT relating to supporting disabled people; a disability advisory group has been formed to assist this work. Currently a process of engagement is in action which will also assist this work.
* Claudia is keen to meet either core groups, RLG or both to discuss the vision and strategy.
* Push back may be required to ensure the transformed system doesn’t revert to the old system.
* All Ministries are currently involved in a United Nation (UN) process (being assessed by UN on how NZ is meeting obligations to disabled people and families). These recommendations are in the United National Convention of Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) Observation Report (which includes NZ developing a de-institutional strategy.

**Actions:**

1. **Antnz to send link to UNCRPD Observation Report.**
2. **Pete to arrange for Jonathon to attend RLG to share information**

**Pasifika**

* Arranging the Multi core group Christmas meeting/dinner.
* The Levin group has been talking about EGL, had an increase in numbers attending the group and hopes to increase to 25 families, connected 7 new people to the system in the past 2 months.
* Planning for 2023 is underway
* a Levin/Palmerston North gathering for 30 January
* a project to connect youth resourced by core group volunteers starting in February.

**People First**

* A final 2022 meeting/Christmas party was held on Monday night at Breakers.

**Providers**

* Recruitment remains a top priority, particularly now for Christmas leave requests.
* Keen to see recruitment strategy project information.
* There are compliance commitments due in December.
* Paul Miller spoke to Providers meeting about the costing/pricing tool.
* The Immigration process to recruit migrants is time consuming and expensive for every sector wanting to recruit (and retain).
* Disabled people and families are encouraged talk to providers and ask questions about funding amounts and how best to use the funding to maximise supports.
* When considering what provider to use, a leadership type approach is useful, do your due diligence, ask questions.

**Action:**

1. **Communicate the need for a checklist of questions people should ask providers. (Not assigned)**

**Director – Mana Whaikaha Update**

* The past 3 weeks have been filled with interviews, thanks to the RLG members who supported the interview process.
* 65 applications were received for the connector role.
* New recruits expected to begin in the new year.
* Workload has been affected by Christmas deadlines and stresses; connectors are contacting those they know are alone.
* A ‘no attendance’ policy has been implemented for staff regarding external stakeholder end of year functions.
* Planning an RLG/MW relationship building event for the new year.
* In response to a compliance/funding question, it was clarified individuals are asked questions to clarify what the purpose/outcome around funding is as community backlash has been created from people publicly announcing their funding purchases.
* In response to a question about family representation on the recruitment panel, members learnt the were 2 Mana Whaikaha leadership staff and a disabled person.

**Action: Peter will discuss whᾱnau representation with Whaikaha/Better Outcomes Partnership Group – RLG members are encouraged to send feedback or comments to Peter.**

* In response to the possibility of a list of local Providers who don’t have EGL specific contracts; MW staff are expected to offer this information about non contracted providers. A template and recommendations were not developed as this was not wanted by disabled people and families. There is a bulk funded contract to access funding for supported decision making for people with intellectual impairments.

**Financial Update – Mana Whaikaha Ltd**

* There is no update this month.
* Paydays have reverted back to the original payday.
* All were reminded there is a limited budget to **run groups only**, be realistic about your expectations. A guide has been circulated with suggestions. Ask Pip if you have questions.

**Discussion about Directors Update**

* **Family** - More discussion needed about caregiver’s experience and the impacts of this. As it’s been 18 months since there was a forum – perhaps there is time for another one.
* **Disabled people –** 3 parties having more in-depth discussions around compliance (i.e., putting things on social media). Work/partnership with MW to hold forums to coach disabled people using their budgets. Checklist to be provided to people employing their own staff.
* **Mana Whenua –** More information.
* **Pasifika –** thankful year is finished – good job done.
* **People First –** nothing to add.
* **Official –** nothing to add.
* **Providers –** appreciate the pain about ?? (I missed this)

**Sector Engagement**

* Due personal reasons Antnz is resigning from the Community and Sector Engagement role.
* Natt proposed employing someone to fill this role (20 hours per week).
* **Members wishing to attend the social media training – please liaise with Natt.**
* Dion thanked Antnz for her hard work in Community and Sector Engagement.
* Community & Sector Engagement planning to be agenda item for February 2023.

**Mana Whenua – Request for 4th Seat on RLG**

* Dion attended the meeting to propose an extra seat be created for Mana Whenua representation in this forum.
* After a discussion including the terms of reference as a guiding document, the same decision as last month was given:

**Mana Whenua have 3 seats and an emerging leader/observer was welcome to attend in an unpaid role.**

**Action: Pete was volunteered to request to NEGL that RLG groups need to be raised up to ensure equitable representation, nationally.**

**Capability & Capacity Building**

* The 6-month report to 30 June 2022 was presented and accepted.
* Funding amounts were not included as confidential.
* Questions were asked about App 49 (Sector Engagement activities being held March and May 21) but not answered due to final reporting not yet received.

**YAAY Reporting**

**Youth Symposium**

* Natt, Abi, Maide, Cassie and Joseph presented the report.
* The group shared their experiences, challenges, highlights, learnings, and growth in personal development gained by attending the Youth Symposium.
* The group was asked if they gave their feedback to the Symposium organisers. They haven’t yet but will do so.

**Other**

* 24 YAAY members recently attended the Forest Lakes Camp, feedback to come next year.
* The YAAY’s have received $50k from MSD funds supporting disabled people and family to use in 2023. They have developed 4 sub-committees to share management of these funds. Congratulations!

**General Business**

* 1 x copy per core group will be printed for future meetings.
* The February meeting will include a ‘restart’ topic.

**Closing Comments**

Exhausted, choice-a-matic, great, progress, lots covered and goodbye, covid free Christmas, Christmas, and New Year Blessings.