**Enabling Good Lives (EGL)**

**MidCentral Regional Leadership Group**

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

**From 10.30am – 2.30pm**

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

**Facilitator**: Ann-Marie Stapp

**Notes:** Jo Brew

**Present:**

* Annette (Deaf Rep) (+ 2 Interpreters Sarah and Janet)
* Martin, Antnz, Peter, Natt, Abi (Disabled People)
* Tracey, Pip, Ally (Families)
* Rasela (Pasifika)
* Rachel (People First), Katherine (Rachel’s Meeting Assistant)
* Dion, Maide, Rangirea (Mana Whenua), Andrew (Maide’s Meeting Assistant)
* Eru, Mike (Providers)
* Jeanette (MoE)
* Gabrielle (Te Whatu Ora)

**Apologies:**

* Wayne
* Toni I
* Lovely (Pasifika)
* Toni G (Providers)
* Jen (OT)
* *Jane (Te Mahau/MoE who has appointed Jeanette Brown until end October*)

**Karakia/Welcome**

The meeting was opened with karakia followed by a round of introductions.

**Matters arising from previous minutes and action points**

1. Historical organisational EGL structure documents to be sent to Ann-Marie **– none received.**
2. Annette to email Ops Manager, Whaikaha re policy regarding who funds hearing aids for people over 65 with a lifelong hearing impairment – **contacted Ops Manager, person wasn’t in Mana Whaikaha system so will encourage person to enter Mana Whaikaha. Two members shared information they had regarding hearing aid funding – Annette will follow up.**
3. Personal budget concerns to be sent to Pip for collating and sending in letter to Ops Manager, Mana Whaikaha seeking correct information – **No information was received; RLG members to ask their core groups for this information for administrators to collate (anonymously) and bring to next RLG meeting for collating and sending to Director, Mana Whaikaha.**
4. Pete to send members invitations to join NEGL monthly meetings – carried over.
5. Care Matters – **workshop details and resource sent to members**.
6. Rearrange RLG agenda so business matters are scheduled before updates. **Completed.**
7. Policy and role clarity to be September agenda item **– completed.**
8. Multi core group calendar to be organised and sent **– completed.**

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

**Policy development, communications, and current structure**

* The Facilitator drew a draft diagram of the organisational and leadership structure of the groups involved in EGL and transformed disability support system as she understood it.
* The different structures of the Ministry, Better Outcomes Partnership, Enabling Good Lives, governance, leadership, core groups and sub committees were discussed.
* System transformation is how the govt responds to the EGL approach – the EGL approach is community and what EGL is all about, RGL is responsible for promoting EGL approach in community.
* The numbers of representatives in some groups have changed; **all documents need to be updated after decisions are made** – (the Terms of Reference document needs review).
* Mana Whenua shared a defining statement; “We are born Māori, born disabled or become disabled, lived or living within the MidCentral region”. Will be recorded in Mana Whenua Terms of Reference.
* **Action – Peter ask Whaikaha to provide a national structural organisational diagram. (Who will do this?)**
* The national and local diagrams can be merged to produce one diagram.

**Info about October workshop**

* Sean is a Psychologist who wants to connect with the community to discuss what gaps and needs are present so that he can explore how he can best meet the needs of the community with his expertise.
* Questions asked:
* Is Sean employed or independent, are the gaps in the community in relation to private practice?
* **Action – Peter to invite Sean to October meeting and request questions provided in an accessible format.**

**Conference Presentation**

* Three youth presented their feedback on the Youth Leadership Pathways Conference recently attended in Rotorua.
* Lowlights, improvements, highlights, and learnings were shared.
* As there were many barriers/challenges experienced at this accessible Conference, the attendees will send their feedback and suggestions for improvement to the organisers.
* Abi will arrange connections via e-introductions between Jeanette and local providers regarding pathways into careers, welcoming provider connections etc for employment opportunities.
* Abi - invite Phil, Accessibility Tick and disabled employer’s union be invited to speak at the November RLG meeting (30-minute slot). (Who will do this?)
* Jonathon from Workbridge is a potential speaker also.

**Director’s Update (Rachael Burt, Director – Mana Whaikaha)**

* The disability sector is under tremendous strain; the workforce is scarce which impacts disabled people and whᾱnau and requires creativity in recruiting.
* Mana Whaikaha currently has 6 vacancies: 4 connector roles, 1 admin and 1 connector support. The team is averaging 10 staff on sick leave weekly. Operating on approximately half the team, puts the remainder of staff at risk of burnout and the waitlist continues to grow.
* The sector team is developing reconnections with MSD; a staff member will work onsite twice a month and disabled people will be able to make a WINZ appointment through Mana Whaikaha.
* Working with ‘before and after’ school providers about the training and education they would need to enable disabled people attend without individual support staff.
* Running peer to peer programmes within schools to work with students to support disabled children especially during break times.
* Working with forensic system to finalise the framework regarding transition from a specialised residential facility (with a restorative justice focus) back into the community instead of residential care. Eight people have successfully transitioned under this framework.
* Mana Whaikaha is actively supporting over 3000 people, 2626 hold some level of funding, approximately 500 of those are still accessing traditional supports.
* **Action: Rachael and Jeanette to connect re transition from high school.**

**Funding application for YAAY’s representation at the Youth Symposium Conference, 25 October 2022 in Christchurch.**

* Two YAAY members presented the application (previously circulated with meeting documents) for costs for $2465.09 to cover flights, accommodation, and taxis.
* Conference registration and sponsorship for costs 5 YAAY’s to attend the conference have been made. If successful they won’t require funding from RLG.

**The proposal to agree in principle to RLG funding + 10% contingency if required, was agreed to unanimously.**

* YAAY’s will be developing process, policy, and templates for future training opportunities.
* Mana Whenua will also pursue places for Mana Whenua disabled youth at the Conference.
* Consider the appropriate streams of funding for future training.
* Various external funding sources for the YAAY as a group was also discussed.

**Comms Plan**

* The Communications Plan was tabled (previously circulated with meeting documents):
1. **It was proposed the Communications Plan be accepted –unanimously agreed.**
2. **It was proposed the work outlined in the plan begin – unanimously agreed.**
3. **It was proposed Hootsuite @ $59.00 per month be purchased to assist as a social media co-ordination tool – unanimously agreed.**

**Sector Engagement**

* The next Sector Engagement update meeting will be held at 10am on 21 September to finalise last minute Expo requirements. Venue Focal Point yet to be confirmed.
* Expo (23 & 24 September)
* Information packs/briefing notes for assistants are being prepared. A roster will be included for completion and return to Antnz.
* Need 6 – 8 RLG/core members with a good understanding of EGL to facilitate discussion.
* Reimbursement for core/RLG members assistance to be paid for from the Sector Engagement budget.
* Need a disabled person or whᾱnau member to attend a 2-hour meeting each month for kainga ora. Dion stated he would attend.
* Attendance fee to be sought from Council or Kainga Ora.
* Yet to arrange a 365, social media and streaming and process training sessions for administrators.
* Livestreams to December 2023 have been entered into the calendar.
* 21 Sept – introduction to core groups, governance group, leadership, sector engagement and capability and capacity panel; 2 people from each group requested to talk.
* 18 October – safeguarding and what we learnt from the Expo.
* 16 November – the differences between Whaikaha and Mana Whaikaha.
* 21 December – Wrap up/achievements of 2022 and what’s in store for 2023.

**Funding/budget approval for September Expo**

* PNCC is covering venue costs.
* Need funding for approximately $13,000 to cover other costs.

**It was proposed the funding be split between RLG and capacity funding – unanimously agreed to.**

**Action: Antnz to prepare capability funding application.**

**NEGL Discussion Summaries**

* Discussion notes from the NEGL/Family and the NEGL/DPN meetings were previously circulated to keep all up to date.

Action: Pete to send link out for September meeting.

* Common conversation at both meetings was the misinformation and disinformation about EGL in the community.

**Updates**

**Officials**

* Jeanette’s secondment into this group ends today, will seek continuation.
* Gabrielle – Whaikaha is very quiet in the health space; Child Development Services is aligned with Whaikaha.

**Providers**

* The Terms of Reference document has been reviewed and ready for sign off.
* Engaging with complex solutions around recruitment project.

Providers were asked if presentations about self-directed contracts or flexible disability support contracts could be made to RLG.

**Action: Eru to send providers email list to Tracey**

**Pasifika**

* Ongoing community connection.

**People First**

* Last meeting – a lot of discussion about Special Olympics, 8 – 11 December in Hamilton
* Local meeting scheduled for next week.

**Mana Whenua**

* Attended and assisted with powhiri’s for Geraldine and Paula.
* Met with Director, Mana Whaikaha re members/numbers of Mᾱori disabled.
* Attending workshops, trainings, and hui.
* Planning to meet with Mᾱori disabled at a hui/symposium.
* Would like to meet with EGL Waikato and Christchurch.
* Staff monitoring time spent supporting Mana Whenua; koha and/or invoice is appropriate for time.
* Keen to develop a catch phrase; ‘Oringa Whaikaha’ – Maori Disabled Lives Matter and emblem, logo, label for t-shirts, letterheads, printing etc.

**Family**

* Tired of the inconsistencies within connector knowledge.
* Family sustainability – people are being denied some things relating to taking breaks.
* A feeling that some things were shifting back to old processes:
* i.e. paperwork requirements, signing off documents (explained as a safeguarding measure to ensure people’s understanding), amount of information required on consent forms, (can the old forms be printed and reused to avoid the paperwork?) (this is a safeguarding measure indicating people’s understanding).

**Action: Revisit at next core group meeting and develop action plan for solutions.**

**Disabled People**

* Shared the attributes required in support workers with Ryan and Renee.
* Discussions about Better Outcomes Partnership and tripartite partnership being developed between the Crown, Maori and disabled people.
* YAAY’s:
* recently held a successful mix and mingle night.
* September event is a ‘Hands on’ experience activity, i.e. exercise, interview skills and animal care.
* Have no funding but can still arrange events, however, are unable to fund NZSL interpreters.
* **It was proposed RLG fund NZSL interpreters for the September events – this was unanimously agreed to.**
* Planning a Halloween party for October and will seek NZSL funding sponsorship from various community groups.

**Deaf Community**

* The NZSL sign for Whaikaha is yet to be finalised.
* Looking forward to the organisational structure diagram being completed.

**General Business**

1. **Flyers**
* **As an outcome from the self-connecting/personal budget workshops, it was proposed a flyer be developed with meeting dates, times, venues for all core groups for the community – this was unanimously agreed to.**
1. **Powhiri for Paula -**Due to last minutes arrangements and the previous Ministry launch becoming a super spreader event, invitations to Paula’s powhiri were kept to a minimum of numbers.
2. **EGL Taranaki -** As trip to EGL Taranaki clashes with the Imagine Better Workshop, 1 carload of invited people will travel to Taranaki to share their experiences with system transformation tools and Mana Whaikaha.
3. **Hon Poto Williams –** will be visiting Mana Whaikaha to engage with community members and some core group members to learn about their EGL and system transformation experiences and Mana Whaikaha staff. Due to space, attendees are limited.

**The meeting closed at 3.00pm.**