



## Meeting Minutes

### NATIONAL FVPLS FORUM MEMBERS' E-MEETING

Thursday, 28 March 2024, 2.30pm AEST

#### General meeting

#### 1. Acknowledgement of Country

#### 2. Welcome and Apologies

##### Apologies:

MWRC: David Couri

##### Attendees:

NAAFLS: Wendy Jennings

FVLSAC: John Tonkin, Tosha Sambo

NFVPLS: Kerry Staines, Kari Greenswag, Marlo Slavin, Jennifer FitzGerald, Lianne Brown

Thiyama-li: Denise Ranby

AFLSWA: Laney Gould

AFLSQ: Kathleen Wincen

QIFVLS: Wynetta Dewis

Djirra: Anne Lenton

CAAFLU: Phee Clarke

Warra Warra: Melissa Calliss

NPYWC: Heather Smith

Binaal Billa: Jade Acheson

#### Continuation of members' meeting

#### 3. Minutes from previous meeting

- Members have been provided with minutes from previous meeting on 21 March 2024
- No Changes or feedback

#### 4. Actions from the previous meeting

- Policy Work Group (Jenn presented)
  - Asking for any member services who have policy people to join a service-wide working group
  - Minutes of group meetings will be circulated to services who do not have representatives present.
  - **Please let us know by: 7 April and we will send calendar invites.**
- Comms Work Group and Sponsorship for Comms Conference (Lianne)
  - Purpose is most of these roles do not have a team at sits level, we can work together and support each other, reporting on interest from within each service
- NIAA Meeting re: templates (Kari)
  - Internal service meeting is scheduled for **4 April at 11am AEST**
  - Meeting with NIAA on **18 April at 10 AEDT (11am AEST)**



- Kari to resend meeting invite to membership

#### **5. Introduction of new Forum team member: Marlo Slavin**

#### **6. Kerry Quick Summary;**

- Kerry updated on the Company status, progressing as planned
- Kerry trying to get FVPLS for Budget for lockup, looking for 3 seats

#### **7. Members updates, events, etc.**

- Wendy, update for NAFLS
  - New CEO appointed to start on 22 April; Cindy Torrens;
  - Received a visit from the Attorney General (AG)
  - Update on pilot program
- John and Tosha:
  - Update on SA Voice, elections took place and have voice to SA Parliament
  - Had visit from State AG
  - SA Justice Partnership Committee, and Tosha will be a rep to that committee
- Anne Lenton, Djirra
  - Having ongoing challenges in recruitment regionally.
  - Have also been advocating for more flexibility regarding to appear at Court via webex - as they have been taking a stricter approach which has been really hard without lawyers in some locations.
  - We continue our advocacy regarding pay parity. Can provide a more detailed update at next meeting.
- Mel from Warra Warra
  - Warra Warra update:
  - FarWest will not continue with their funding post July 2024, they managed 4 services one is Warra Warra.
  - Thanks to Kathleen and AFLSQ Warra Warra is the only service fully functioning at the moment. The other services are waiting to see what will happen.
    - Have new solicitor in Broken Hill, and remote paralegal
    - Have been able to do outreach, stakeholder engagement, and connect with clients
- Kathleen for AFLSQ
  - More support for Broken Hill and enjoying visiting there
  - Kathleen has reached recruitment limit – AFLSQ at full capacity
  - AFLSQ conference in May, Kathleen presenting on day 2 for Disrupting Family Violence on 8-9 May: <https://the-hatchery.co/event/dv-first-nations-conference-nsw-may-2024/>
- Heather from NPY Women's Council
  - Shared recruitment challenges, many new workers and have full intake team.
  - Difficulty finding rural and remote case workers, only 2 for 9 funded positions
- Wynetta from QIFVLS
  - 28-30 May, QIFVLS conference information: <https://www.ifv-forum.com/>
  - Wynetta will update next time due to lack of time left in this meeting.
- Denise
  - Recruited 3 new staff members



- Laney
  - Corina still on extended leave
  - Gale will be at NIAA meeting next Thursday and attending next Members meeting
  - Working to deliver pilot sexual assault service
  - Grants officer have come on board
  - Working with DoJ on partnering strategy
  - State election coming up next year and advocacy starting for that
- Anne - Djirra
  - having ongoing challenges in recruitment regionally
  - advocating for more flexibility regarding to appear at Court via webex - as they have been taking a stricter approach which has been really hard without lawyers in some locations.
  - We continue our advocacy regarding pay parity. Can provide a more detailed update at next meeting.

#### **8. 500 Workers**

- “Where have the 500 workers gone?”
- Each state is doing something different
  - NSW: 148.8 workers allocated there; will be close tender for specialist DV services
    - Worked with NSW PEAK – trying to connect Julie and the NSW PEAK
  - WA has no stats given
  - ACT: 7.6 people of 500
    - Money was absorbed to contracts, were not aware they were given funding for workers
  - Victoria: 101 workers; 5 for ACoS
    - Just renegotiated for level 5 and level 3s
  - TAS: 25 workers all at level 6; already implemented this
  - QLD: 111 workers, just announced on Monday, allocated first to sexual violence workers
  - SA: 36 workers, but no communication about if that will be tendered or not
- Left for WA/NT: 70.6 workers, Kerry estimates 40 for WA and the remainder for NT
- Each state/territory is divvying up how they like

ACTION: Discussion for next meeting, Kerry to circulate some research in newsletter on Lived Experience; looks like its going to follow the mental health model about lived experience

#### **9. Family Law Webinar – This will be circulated**

- Kerry asking if someone would be interested in speaking, 22 April
- Focus on changes to first nations family in the family law reforms
- After someone to sit on their panel
- Kerry will send around the email to ask for panellists

#### **10. NLAP review**

- This week in Parliament Lidia Thorpe requested and was supported by the Senate to request the urgent release of the NLAP review.
- The AG’s Department has pushed back, stating that disclosing this information to early could damage relations between Commonwealth and the States and Territories. Claiming public interest immunity.

