

Notes from the Aged Task Force Meeting 15th August 2006

NEXT MEETING: 14th November at Healthy Cities Illawarra, 63 Auburn Street, Wollongong. RSVP on 42265000

Other Meeting Dates: 2007 dates to be confirmed

Welcome to the third edition of the “Aged Task Force Meeting Notes” for 2006.

Meeting Attendance

Pauline Milton, Peter Hutten, Julia Hutten, Norm Melvin, Nancie Melvin, Jan Rosen, Sarah Varley (Chair), Caitlin Marshall (HCI)

Apologies were received from Pam Hennen

Oral Health Project

Free community workshops have been organised for 19th and 26th September, at Dapto Ribbonwood and Corrimal Community Centre. The workshops are open to any carers who would like to gain skills in providing oral health care. Respite services can be contacted if participants require this service in order to attend.

Caitlin will be working with Debbie Lee from Oral Health Promotion to print information booklets to distribute to carers unable to attend the workshops

Mobile Phones and Seniors

The Youth Crew at Figtree Anglican Church have confirmed their involvement in running some informal training on using mobile phones. These are planned for October, and will include 1:1 training. Details will be confirmed in September.

Grief and Cemetery Visits

No further action or communication regarding this issue has occurred since the last meeting. The reality is this will be an ongoing issue as community transport services are diminished.

Caitlin to stay informed regarding this issue and feedback to the Taskforce.

Attitudes towards Older People

Peter and Julia Hutten reported on their experiences attending the ‘Review of the NSW Interagency Protocol on Abuse of Older People’ at the Symposium of 15 June 2006. As the only people their representing elderly community members, they felt the discussion was rather clinical and missed the mark in truly encapsulating the experiences of many older people.

Peter sent a letter to Pamela Rutledge following the Symposium with some feedback regarding his experience and requested that the Taskforce consider drafting another letter regarding this issue.

This issue has become a priority focus for the Aged Taskforce. There was an agreement to work towards a project to form a campaign designed to challenge people's assumptions and stereotypes about older people, to be launched at Seniors Week 2007.

Peter, Julia, Pauline, Jan and Norm interested in attending working party meetings for this project.

Caitlin to seek out funding opportunities for this project, possibly a Seniors Week grant.

Other Business

Time of Our Lives photo exhibition has received very positive feedback at the Healthy Cities Awards, and the Dapto Ribbonwood Centre Men's Health Expo.

The Social Isolation and the Elderly (Cooina Meals on Wheels Project) has continued successfully. The project is still in need of more volunteers to visit people at home.

Interested in joining the taskforce?

Is there an issue you would like to raise? The Aged Task Force has open membership and always welcomes new members. Meeting dates for 2006 are: Tuesday 9th May, Tuesday 8th August and Tuesday 7th November.

Our aims are:

- To have a taskforce that is broadly representative of all stakeholders, including older people, aged care service providers, government and non-government agencies.
- To provide a forum for the exchange of information between service providers, older people and those with an interest in matters which affect older adults.
- To increase community awareness and response about the issues which affect the health and well being of older people in the Illawarra.
- To listen to the needs and concerns of the older community and prioritise and develop strategies to address them.
- To advocate for the best possible level of service provision for older people.

Aged Task Force Review of Mailing Details

Do you still want to receive information about ATF activities?

If you wish to continue receiving correspondence.....do nothing!!! If you wish to be removed from the mailing list or have a new address please inform us by calling **(02) 4226 5000**.