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| **Goulburn Ovens (GO) LGBTIQA+ Alliance (Education, Training, Health, Community Services, GOTAFE, and the LGBTIQA+ Communities working together)** December 6th 2021 Minutes for meeting at [www.gvpride.org/alliance/](http://www.gvpride.org/alliance/) |
| Present: Michelle Harmer, Damien Stevens-Todd, Katie Clavarino, Earl Rees-Godding, Deb Chumbley, Nicole Wells, Jess Widdop, Julz Goodall, Georgina Poort, Ken Campagnolo, Emma G, Kathy Lane, Daniel Witthouse,Commissioner Todd Fernando.  |
| Apologies:Daniel Gardner, Stephanie Byrne PCC, Joel Board (GCOS) Christina Bassani (GV Water) |
| Round the Zoom Screen: 1. Introduction, 2. Major issues for your service supporting the LGBTIQA+ Community in 2021, 2. What do members want from the Alliance 2022, 3. What can your service offer the Alliance? |
| Michelle Harmer: CHSP Regional Inclusion and Diversity Adviser - 53 Community Aged Care Providers (and growing) Located at Gateway Health Wangaratta in the Community Aged Care TeamShe/TheyTaungurung country | * Alliance co-chair, admin and org roles, on Alliance roster
* Felt HEY targeted Community of Practice – workshops operated by LINE and Diversity Project- great for region
* Regional training organised by 3 a year via VALS or TGV for Health and Aged Care providers, from 2015
* GSCC (Shepparton Council) development of LGBTIQA+ Advisory Council to ensure Council programs and services are inclusive massive success
* Presented at Equality Conference (SA) with GV Pride June 2021 – re this Alliance
* Story developed for “Think about it, did it”
* What’s needed? Broader Mental health services to support 25+ age groups, LGBTIQA+ most LGBTIQA+ orgs in the region voluntary/fundraise – not sustainable, during rapid regional population growth.
* An outreach of Pride Centre (funding/goodwill/resources) to GV Pride
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| Damien Stevens-Todd - GOTAFE, GV Pride; Yorta Yorta He/His/They | * Development of LGBTIQA+ staff “GO Proud” network
* Development of Social Justice Charter
* Think About It? Did It! Oct 2021 - March 2022. Tune in via <https://soundcloud.com/goulburn-valley-pride>
* Shepparton Festival in 2022 >> <https://www.facebook.com/events/3198236250398437>
* Alliance Forward planning facilitated by NICHE – what are the outcomes and what does this Alliance want to see happening
* What’s needed? Funding GV Pride targeted LGBTIQA+ support role
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| Nicole Wells - NCN Health, GV Pride committee,She/Her | Lead LGBTIQ+ priority health area, here to network, barriers to collecting data about community, recent research project showed us Moira Shire and individual health services >> same number LGBTIQA+ people exist as the big smoke, pushing back against fears. Action plan and rainbow tick - all in the red. Not inclusive or safe, very little training |
| Jess Widdop - NE Health Wangaratta, Diversity/Inclusion Manager; | No rainbow tick role, when Allison Winters finished up. Some bridging to do. Lucky we're coming into an accreditation, need to review all policies, fill the gaps/shortfall, update. Commitment is there. LGBTI health fits in my portfolio.What’s needed? Fund Board (Training and resources) NE Health, in an effort to improve and support inequalities, and better LGBTIQA+ outcomes |
| Julz Goodall - trainer GOTAFE; | New trainer in the department this year, first time ever come out in a workplace. All students know we're a safe space. GO Proud establishment, staff and allies’ group. Midsumma Pride March with other TAFE's, lead by GOTAFE. Recent 4 x sessions of LGBTI 101 training. End of year GO Proud Xmas party |
| Ken Campagnolo - Benalla, community member | DHHS – LGBTIQA+ community living on estate, and growing.Working in a voluntary capacity, shoe-string, self-funded - Magistrates court, bail guys (12 on radar) to Kens care. Trained in suicide prevention. Takes people out Fishing/camping, low socio-economic area. ReachOut and Gateway provide information and resources – established mini library, provides a safe space. "What services around? How do we access? Sounding board?" Zoom meetings often with disabled fellas. Working with Housing Allocation Teams (HAT). |
| Deb Chumbley - President, GV Pride | Barriers COVID, achieved a lot regardless, proud of volunteers, embracing technology, funding is a catch-22, got the begging bowl out; recently joined LINE Wangaratta for Social Enterprise training, need to re-group and set goals for 2022. Xmas BBQ coming up 19 Dec <https://www.gvpride.org/gv-pride-christmas-bbq-all-welcome-2/>Echuca Campaspe Shire Council team CD officer, Yorta Yorta country. "Community of Priority" (LGBTIQA+ people) says Council in the Community Vision. Not much traction made yet. Productive meeting with headspace opening next year |
| Katie Clavarino - GV Health, she/her, Yorta Yorta country | Consumer experience coordinator, diversity/access for all community. Review policies. Accreditation coming up in March. Proud to be part of the work. What’s important?Health services funding for time support Rainbow tick, diversity and inclusion, implementation. |
| Emma G - Victims Assistance Program, | Rebecca Kovacs asked me to jump in meeting. New to role. In Melb. we have big community, doing really great work. Need/demand is getting bigger here, so getting the word out there. Current client: gay man experiencing FV, difficult getting services. We recommend: contact Nicole at Orange Door.  |
| Kathy Lane - GV CASA, | LGBTI rep, working planning for 2022. Developing survey. Chelsea Sofra on board the initiatives too. Going back face to face. "Rainbow room" at the sec. college wants more info from CASA, new normal. Won award - passed accreditation with flying colours - working on diversity/inclusion. I had 2 mums. Challenge with young people, good we have some LGBTI workers. Isolation has stopped people getting to Melb. We need to revamp forms. Proud to be part of GVH. Keep listening to clients. Assaults increased during COVID. What’s needed? Rainbow tick Groupwork programs, reengagement into schools. |
| Earl Mansfield Shire Council, youth worker, | (earl.ree-goodings@mansfield.vic.gov.au) - PRISM runs through sec. college, ebb and flow during COVID, then lost senior (year 11/12) members, young teens had a positive space to meet, Fridays once or twice per month. Lockdowns fizzled out. Mentor, grown up from community came along; left now too. Difficult to know which direction to take or what's appropriate as I'm an ally not LGBTIQA. Mansfield event this Sat >> https://www.facebook.com/events/412051460509995 = LINE Wangaratta North East Rainbow Flag Project - details from Facebook even: Saturday 11 Dec 10am-1pm at the Library |
| Daniel Witthaus: NICHE  | Daniel- established NICHE and partnered with Commissioner Ro Allen on the first Government rural and regional roadshows.Visibility is an issue. LGBTIQ+ signs of hope. Lack of Safety for other LGBTIQA+ people. Inclusive services. Biggest employers in town - barriers are local government, mainstream health in 29 communities. Schools and sport vital too. RRR (Rainbow Ready Roadshow 2020-2021) Project Daniel commissioned to do with others, hit the rainbow ceiling locally, leveraged all resources, gone over and above, some paid/some volunteer - we need 2 things, low cost and no cost strategies for inclusion, that we don't need exec sign-off or lots of $$, the low hanging fruit, have greatest impact on life. Second thing we need is RRR - we had the name before COVID roadmap, action plan, tested it earlier this year, met with GO Alliance a number of times, thanks for contributing, a stall in the RRR release; reflect back to you what you came up with, value in stepping through objective assessment, outcomes identified “what's going on and what are the gaps? What resources do we have” (Shepparton/ Wangaratta) Resources go up and down? Volunteer vs. paid hours. 16th December dinner in Shepparton? Benalla? Wang? $$$ for Secretariat and health services. Spoke about co-design and thought leadership to tackle persistent issues over next 10 years that is sustainable. |
| Commissioner Todd Fernando | Todd Fernando is the new Victorian Commissioner for LGBTIQA+ (replacing Ro Allen former Commissioner for Sexuality and gender – now the Victorian HREOC) based at DFFH with several other commissioners; Feb 2022 launch of whole of government LGBTIQA+ strategy, this has given Todd a strong mandate, to approach next few years to implement it. Federal level, may see a change of government, smooth things out. Pressure required at Federal level.(Legislative, resources, policy)What’s needed? Peaks and LGA’s capacity to work together in rural areas, strategic outcomes.  |

**Dates for 2022: Feb 7 (oops)**

**Apr 4, Jun 6, Aug 1, Oct 10, Dec 5th**