

GO ALLIANCE MEETING - MINUTES 5 December '22

Minute taker: Damien Stevens-Todd

Welcome, and acknowledgement of country, and our LGBTIQ+ elders.

Attendees:

Michelle Harmer - she/they, Wangaratta, Gateway, Diversity Advisor.
Georgina Poort - she/her, CDW Diversity Project Uniting.
Kathryn Foster - she/her, DET, respectful r/ships officer, based in Shepp.
Lynda Bruce – she/her, Team Leader, Diversity portfolio role GSCC.
Jarrod Thorpe – he/him, Youth Dev. Officer at GSCC.
Damien Stevens-Todd - GVP/OitO committees.
Katie Clavarino (GVH) – consumer feedback.
Deb Chumbley – she/her, Campaspe Shire Council.
Erin Doncon – GV Water, she/her.
Suzanne Wallis – she/her – GVH, sexual health nurse practitioner, MPXV vax.
Matthew Ashcroft – GSCC, community partnerships, CLD.
Stephanie Byrne (she/her) – Primary Care Connect.

Apologies:

Michele P and Kilee H – VincentCare Kilee – Hume, Comm. Health, VincentCare.
Donna McAninly - FV, based in Wang, services all of Hume.
Nicole Wells - she/her, CDW NCN Health, farming communities/connect; GVP/OitO committees.
Jess Widdop – NEH, Wang.
Adrienne Wheeler - Dip. of CS, GV Pride placement student, hoping to learn.
Freddy Thuruthikattu - PCC, gambling, he/him – attending instead of Steph today.
Daniel Gardner – late arrival (GOTAFE)

Damien and Michelle - moved and seconded minutes from last meeting.

REMINDER: What the GO Alliance is about? See <https://www.gvpride.org/alliance/>

Stephanie Byrne (she/her) – Primary Care Connect, rainbow working group, Paige Heibach been here 6 months, creating more inclusive workplace, main goal is to focus internally on staff PD so no risk to LGBTIQ+ community accessing the service.

Georgina Poort - she/her, CDW Diversity Project Uniting, funded program for YP under 25 who are queer. Flags around town recently during OitO, all the pride flags not just the rainbow. Ran as part of OitO a TGD clothes-swap at Wesley Hall, partnered with PCC and TGDB&B, very successful. Amazing feedback from those able to access non-gendered clothing for first time in their lives. Started Trans Awareness Week, ended the week with TDOR event at headspace, guest presenters. Uniting winding down for Xmas, skeleton staff available over the period. Last Diversity Youth Group next Wed. 16 Dec. Rainbow mushrooms last one for 2022 end-Nov. Working with local services to better support TGD young people also

living with a disability. Election period not great for mental health. Happy to chat or provide any info if you need it on our work, programs or anything else. M: 0419 503 654 E: georgina.poort@vt.uniting.org

Suzanne Wallis – she/her – GVH, sexual health nurse practitioner, MPXV vax, am away for part of January, but at headspace one day per week, engage with Berry Street FOYER doing education, wearing a badge or lanyard can make a huge difference re: safety. Don't underestimate. Based in Shepparton at Community Health @ GV Health cnr Corio and Edward Sts. Shepparton. Clients can self refer or referrals from care providers. Free service, medicare bulk billed pathology, usual costs for pharmacy scripts. Appointment via 1800 22 25 82 or 0427 564 512. Thank you for the WAD resources that were left for me. I gave them to persons who attended for Mpox vaccination and it prompted some of the older persons to speak and reflect on friends that they had lost from HIV / AIDS.

Lynda Bruce – she/her, Team Leader, Diversity portfolio role GSCC, knee-deep in flood. Coordinating services to be there for recovery, offer food 3-5 years. RAP, culture and healing part of recovery. LGBTIQA+ advisory committee meets tonight, looking at their annual implementation plan to get approved and 'go', with Daniel Witthaus support. Gender Impact Assessments occurring to ensure internal spaces are safe for external clients so understanding isn't just sitting with 20 people. Women's Charter Advisory Committee event, LGBTIQA+ committee recommended updated language which has been adopted. Melissa Griffiths, embrace equity, keynote speaker. MAC (music, arts, culture) committee EOs are out, seeking more diversity in committee. <https://www.melissagriffiths.com.au/>

Deb Chumbley – she/her, Campaspe Shire Council, flood recovery (LGBTIQA+ resources have been so valuable and great to use). Badges (signs of hope), people bee-line to those. Thorne Harbour Country presence increased in Echuca. Involved in CERSH vending machines project, developing network to collaborate better in this space. Echuca's social LGBTIQA+ group monthly brunch, fourth Thu of the month, Fuzion café. Echuca SC has large pride group, recent visit from Todd Commish and Daniel W; postponed due to floods until 2023.

Kathryn Foster - she/her, DET, respectful r/ships officer, based in Shepp. Supporting LGBTIQA+ community, providing education, safe schools limited resource, only 4 workers across the state, awaiting updated resources to be less binary. Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships. Etc. RRRR BRR catching on early and catching on later, all being updated. Catching on early is a primary school resource.

Katie Clavarino (GVH) – consumer feedback, working with NCN health too, partnered at OUTintheOPEN Festival Carnival Day recently, lots of great conversations, bikes and badge making, survey re: accessing healthcare, making spaces feel safer. Signs of hope so important. Large range from cross section of ages and backgrounds (survey). 9 people keen to be involved in further input re: survey. Getting some training for staff into internal management systems, importance of pronouns, 101 in this space. Jan 2023 if not Dec 2022. Also working on gender equity plans for staff wanting to affirm gender. Talk to Paige at PCC.

Damien GV Pride – OUTintheOPEN a success! AIDS Awareness Week last week,

WAD forum focus women and HIV 1 Dec GOTAFE, guided bushwalk 4 Dec, Xmas party next Sun 11 Dec in Numurkah. Pride March 5 Feb in St. Kilda. Better Together Conference next Feb 17-18. Road to pride exhibit early-2023, Pride Ball Feb 11 too. www.gvpride.org

Harmie – aged care, four pillars changed (legislation, policy, finance/funding). Doing some community engagement, beautiful elder’s morning high tea for OUTintheOPEN, singing, music, stories. Daniel Witthaus also ran a session on Rainbow Ready Roadmap. Stall at Carnival Day, cuppas and chat. Table in Beechworth recently, Drag’d Out, elder’s resources. Fantastic event! Big aged care stallholder event with 40 stakeholders too. Aged care needs to remain solid during floods, etc.

Next meeting: 2023 TBC (Doodle poll to be sent)

LGBTQIA+ PRIDE DAYS OF SIGNIFICANCE

Month	Event
March	31st - Transgender Day of Visibility
April	6th - International Asexual Day 26th - Lesbian Visibility Day
May	17th - IDAHOBIT Day (International Day against LGBTQIA+ Discrimination) 24th - Pansexual Visibility Day
June	ALL MONTH: Pride Month (globally) 18th - Autistic Pride Day
July	5th - Omnisexual Visibility Day 11th til 16th - Non-Binary Awareness Week
July (cont.)	14th - International Non-Binary People's Day
August	Last Friday in August: Wear It Purple Day
September	23rd - Celebrate Bisexuality Day
October	8th - International Lesbian Day 11th - National Coming Out Day
October (cont.)	Third Wednesday - International Pronouns Day 26th - Intersex Awareness Day
October (cont.)	Last week: Asexual Awareness Week / Ace Week
November	13th til 19th - Transgender Awareness Week 20th - Transgender Day of Remembrance
November (cont.)	Week prior to World Aids Day - Aids Awareness Week
December	1st - World Aids Day 8th - Pansexual Pride Day

*Please note, dates for some LGBTQIA+ pride days of significance have dedicated websites or social media pages with the most up to date information