



NOTES

FROM THE

**Aboriginal Consultation Forum
Safety in our Community**

HELD ON

Monday 25 February 2013

COMMENCING AT 9am

Lotteries House, South Hedland





Overview of current initiatives to improve 'Safety in our Community'

Pilbara Youth Justice

- Visit young people in custody and conduct a welfare check to ensure that they are okay - welfare issues, including clothing, medication, meals, etc.
- Provide funding for uniforms, transport, etc.
- Keep youth (and their parents occupied).
- Ensure responsible adult attend court with youth/child.

Libraries

- Young People Services Officer works with YIC and attends HYSAG.
- Promote libraries as a safe place.
- Fortnightly trip to Warralong.
- See issues including glue sniffing, graffiti, and vandalism.

Atlas Iron

- Provision of funding and volunteer workers.
- Promote employee engagement strategies.
- Work with Women's refuge and other agencies.
- Engage FIFO in communities to decrease antisocial behaviours.

Population Health

- Link with other organisations to promote and provide activities for young people.
- Work with Blue Light (run by Police) and other after school programs.
- Anti-theft programs, petrol locks, alcohol management, VSU, etc.
- Provide STI screening, and have a travel health campaign.
- Now have a qualified car restraint fitter and running more training in June.

BHP Billiton

- Funding body, and sit on many committees.
- Partnership with WA Police in both Port Hedland and Newman – help to obtain resources locally.
- Neighbourhood Watch, Burglar Beware.
- Work on reporting crimes, YIC, health programme, education programme, work with sporting organisations, etc.

Department of Education

- Risk management in place at schools.
- Protective behaviours and professional learning.
- Reinforce safety around school e.g. helmets on bikes.

Department of Human Services

- Sit on committees. Work inter agency to build relationships.
- Work on domestic violence, substance abuse, youth justice, etc.





Relationships Australia

- Work as an advocate, provide info, and assist with referrals.
- Help aboriginal people access services.
- Networking.

Strategy, Actions & Solutions

- Mingle Mob fully funded as many days of the week as needed and as wide an age group as needed
- Does YAP need to be expanded?
- Aerosol can lock up reinstated
- Consistent week on week basketball, support for current push to get it going
- Working street lights on streets and footpaths
- School Bus needs to stop at JD Hardie Centre
- Embrace Kidsport program
- Surrogate carers/ mentoring program to assist YIC
- Incentive programs to use wave rider/pool facilities etc.
- No drop and run
- Good example – Wanangkura Stadium no vandalism after 8 months of use
- Graffiti – Specific Graffiti wall with programs to promote it as an art form (ToPH /JDYz), make offenders responsible and involve parents in this responsibility.
- Kids on the street – Day/Night safe house will reduce vandalism, provide safe environment and food
- Incentive programs for attendance – passport
 - Investigation as to why kids are not attending - holistic approach (parental consultation, numeracy and literacy issues, family issues/cultural differences, Developing meaning full relationships/trust – How/who? Schools/sports/recreation/youth organisations
 - ToPH dedicated indigenous Liaison Officer
 - Breakfast at school program
- Sniffing/Chroming – Education about consequences (Youth Organisations/JD Hardie), direct kids towards other activities to utilize time, remove product form shopping centre shelves
- Mingle mob – funding appropriate to needs/operations
- Communicate with children/youth about what they perceive as safety issues – school and JD Hardie
- Domestic Violence/Community violence – changing Liquor laws/half strength (sale)
- Vandalism/Graffiti – magistrate to enforce offenders to do community hours
- More appropriate community adverts with Aboriginal people aiming at drugs/alcohol, safe sex, domestic and community violence and the importance of being a family/community
- After school activities – Coincide with school bus run, drop off at JD Hardie. Allowance for all different age attendance





- School Attendance – decrease the number of youths at shopping centre during school hours
- Family orientated programs and activities – to include all ages within the family group
- Community policing – be more proactive than reactive
- Build more quality housing to lessen overcrowding and ensure safe environment, appropriate style housing DOH
- Link behavior of YP to RA consequences. Judicial system check and follow up mechanism
- Proactive collaboration between agencies/services providers – Link in with offenders
- Linking/referring RA's to service and consequences if they do not attend
- Find more role models/mentors to talk with the Public
- For all activities YP attending RA needs to be there to take YP home

'Good Things'

- Graffiti removal program
- Youth engagement activities increasing
- Good funding available for Youth engagement
- Greater awareness of issues in the community
- Motivated and dedicated staff
- Coalition of some Youth service and the JD Hardie Centre
- Bloodwood Tree provide a service to people who are intoxicated or safety of young children and adults
- Pastoral care in our schools
- Police interaction – some have seen improvement, good understanding and relationships with the people
- Less anti-social behavior at the Shopping Centre
- Graffiti removal is good
- Less anti-social groups around the shops
- Are many agencies and resources working to improve conditions?

'Opportunities'

- Shared knowledge and awareness of what each other are doing
- How do we know the funding is working?
- Develop tangible solution to direct dollars
- Don't reinvent the wheel, implement tried and tested where possible
- Coordinated approach between agencies
- Awareness of Funding programs

'Safety'

- Graffiti – defacing buildings/light poles/fences
- Sniffing/chroming – glue deodorant, availability of products
- Alcohol consumption – 85% domestic violence associated with Alcohol





- Kids/Youth on streets at night – programs, events, venues, appropriate classification of movies, after school hours program, blue light program
- Safe places for kids to go if feeling threatened or unsafe

'Ways to Improve'

- Incentive Programs
- Investigate better ways to communicate events/programs
- Involvement/Ownership of activities and programs
- Communication – encourage participation in youth orgs/issues
- Investigate ways to support orgs./programs already established
- Raising awareness of the programs available
- Lead agency for government agencies – Local Cultural Awareness training, Lack of understanding of the “culture” of Hedland
- Police Presence – Community liaison and presence around the shops
- Kids and youth on streets at night
- Better communication between agencies
- No safe places for UIO's
- Make more adults/cares responsible

