



REcov19ER Teleconference

Monday 4 May 2020 – Community Updates

	Contributor	Organisation	Comments	Actions Arising
A	OPENING			
	Gavin Mitchell	Nyamal AC	Welcome	
			One minute silence	
			Today is an informal meeting for community discussions.	
B	Community Updates			
	Julie Walker	Wangka Maya	One of our workers was at the Sth Hedland shopping Centre, there seems to have been no counselling after the incident. It was very frightening. This highlights the issue of mental health. We need to make sure we manage mental health issues in the workplace – especially as we manage with COVID-19. We have been in touch with Black Dog for assistance. How is everyone else managing their workplace.	
	Laine	YMAC	There has been counselling offered	
	Gavin Mitchell	Nyamal	Dept of Communities role is to provide services like this at times such as now. Across all of our community – both community and towns. Drinking is a big issue in the community. Coming off restrictions – this is a whole new ball game that we are going to be dealing with. Economic, cultural and social impacts.	
	Julie Walker	Wangka Maya	There have been incidents of violence in the community which was not reported to the police because of the drinking.	

	Gavin Mitchell	Nyamal AC	We have been working with the Police and Communities to get advice and assistance. However this has been brought up before, incidents are not being reported. We need to get people on board from the communities to get in front of this issue.	
	Grant Bussell	YHW AC	We have EAP programs, however it is about having the confidence to reach out to assistance.	
	Gavin Mitchell	Nyamal	Where do the employees go.	
	Julie Walker	Wangka Maya	Staff are impacted in many ways, productivity, health. Another community issue I wanted to raise is that there are some funerals that have been delayed. There are still restrictions around conducting funerals. Now that people have been impacted financially, they may not be able to afford funerals.	
	Lisa Fieldhouse	AISWA	At our workplace we were required to complete a survey to see how the Corona Virus was effecting us all.	
	Gavin Mitchell	Nyamal AC	How do we address this?	
	Trish Barron	PDC	We have the OASG meeting on Wednesday, I can raise this question at this meeting to get information on what the backlog is. Also where there may be funding assistance. Funerals have been live streamed. There may be some funding that is made available – I will follow up.	Trish to obtain information on status of funerals. Trish to enquire as to potential funding for funerals.
	Gavin Mitchell	Nyamal AC	We need to be ahead of this in the event there are deaths from COVID.	
	Trish Barron	PDC	There is still a shortage of hand sanitiser. Community stores are extremely expensive (more so than normal) and are short of supplies.	
	Grant Bussell	YHW AC	We have had some complaints from some members, due to shortage of food. Hopefully the supply has settled down now.	
	Lisa Fieldhouse	AISWA	In relation to Outback Stores, they are Fed funded.	
	Andrew White	ISPL	Update on food	

	Julie		There are shortages of food and food storage which is meaning people are still having to travel in and out of town.	
	KB		Food storage is critical – we are looking at longer term solutions for the communities. There are still restrictions on purchase of goods. Deliveries are not happening.	
	Johanna Ramsay	Via email	There are frustrations across the board – lack of communication and information in relation to services across the region.	
	Gavin Mitchell	Nyamal AC	We need to get a move along to get these communities prepared. We need to get some actions around this. We need to get in front of this now.	
	Lisa Fieldhouse	AISWA	We are being told we can purchase food then it doesn't happen.	
	Kathryn Bates	ISPL	We have been working on this since day one and there is absolute frustration. We have brought matters to a certain point however we are not able to progress things any further as there are certain processes or departments to manage these situations.	
	Gavin Mitchell	Nyamal AC	We are coming to a point where we need separation from Govt Departments to do our own thing. We have the Tues and Thurs updates, but not much information coming back to us. We need to take control of this. We need to start directing.	
	Julie Walker	Wangka Maya	We just talked about the food issue, is there anything stopping the group from looking in to a food van for delivery.	
	Andrew White	ISPL	We have been working with the Govt Agencies to provide information and collect data and we have done that. We were asked to do this, they have the information and now and the relevant departments are working on the outcomes.	
	Julie Walker	Wangka Maya	The BHP funding, who has access to that.	
	Gavin Mitchell	Nyamal AC	This is at approval stage. They are working with a Trustee to manage these funds.	
	Julie Walker	Wangka Maya	Do you know when this will belikely to happen.	
	Gavin Mitchell	Nyamal AC	There is an email confirming that funds will be made in 2 payments as the application has progressed.	

	Julie Walker	Wangka Maya	Which PBC will be responsible for which community. This is not clear. The Trusts and the PBCs need to be aware that they are dealing with the land.	
	Lisa Fieldhouse	AISWA	In relation to return of boarding students, every school is different, this is making it very hard for parents to decide if they should send their kids to school.	
	Gavin Mitchell	Nyamal AC	We are now looking to bring members of the communities to meetings to hear from them around issues in the community.	
D	CLOSING			
	Gavin Mitchell	Nyamal AC	Next meeting tomorrow 11.30am	
			<i>Notes prepared by Kathryn Bates – kathryn@ispl.org.au</i>	