

Tweed Shire Youth Homelessness Matters Forums

(Held in Murwillumbah September 13th and Kingscliff September 14th 2017).

Full report of findings

(Below is the detailed information pertaining to each of the projects outlined in summary)

1. Meeting places and facilities

Note: this combined with idea of a locker program, for people to store personal belongings) e.g. Toilets, showers, washing, cooking, life skill development program

a. Tell us concisely what your proposed action is:

Safe meeting places. Locations proposed = community centre, Murwillumbah School, summer sheds (parks).

b. In 12 months' time, what will success look like?

Achievable, measurable, approach in time frame.

c. What community-based skills and strengths are needed to activate this proposal? Whose buy in is essential for success?

Skills - Advocacy, negotiation, inter-agency, Council, community pantry, Police.

Buy in – Community Centre, Murwillumbah High School, Police, PCYC, and Laundry Van.

d. What non-human resources are needed for success?

\$\$\$\$/Net, Kitchen, Facebook Page, caravans, old bus.

e. What are the obvious next steps?

- Angie Walker to contact Joy Peters at TAFE to see if she will lead this with her students.
- Ring Council 1st, School Principal (Peter House), Youth Liaison at police station, AGAPE (Church Kingscliff).
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No one has indicated.

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Additional notes marked on working document

AGAPE (Kingscliff Church) has similar project

2. Establish a Youth Empowerment Program

a. Tell us concisely what your proposed action is:

Establish an evidence-based mentoring program where young people lead/mentor other young people to identify their passion and create opportunities for these young people to 'give back' in turn

- Choose design model 26 weeks x 1 meeting per week
- Recruit lead/participants/mentors
- Consider how it can link to employment

b. In 12 months' time, what will success look like?

Trial project in measured outcomes such as

- participants e.g. 20 become mentors
- mentors have lived experience of homelessness or understanding
- % housed safely
- % increase in well-being/confidence/worthy/belonging
- % increase in lead tenant
- % dropouts/complete program
- % engaged training/education/employment

c. What community-based skills and strengths are needed to activate this proposal? Whose buy in is essential for success?

Skills – Retired business people – coordinate, train, leadership, The Family Centre volunteers, young people life skills, students (Uni/TAFE). People with a range of passions, interpersonal and communication skills, with time and commitment.

Buy in - Sustainable funding e.g. philanthropic, % volunteers to mentors, pay mentors.

d. What non-human resources are needed for success?

Training materials such as manuals and booklets, IT computer/phone, recording/reporting, space to host meetings, refreshments, \$ reimburse out of pocket expenses, \$ for outings and BBQ/fun days.

e. What are the obvious next steps?

Investigate and research models e.g. Youth Frontiers Program

Idea # 2 Continued.

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3. Consumer choice / ethical accommodation model

a. Tell us concisely what your proposed action is:

- One off fee and annual registration fee
- Create a brand logo and website
- % of fee/charge of stay goes to addressing homelessness in local community
- Add-ons for consumers, like carbon offsets i.e. an accommodation offset
- Donate a tiny house

b. In 12 months' time, what will success look like?

Income stream for initiatives. Consumer choice model. Way of accrediting local accommodation providers decided, i.e. levels of what/how they contribute to address homelessness/housing affordability.

c. What community-based skills and strengths are needed to activate this proposal? Whose buy in is essential for success?

Skills – Marketing/technology skills. Set up of entity/ structure governance / volunteer involvement.

Buy- in – 3rd party websites, property owners, local hotels/resorts, real estates with holiday letting (shuttle buses/tour companies), Mantra, Peppers, Byron Bay real estate that have short-term accommodation/holiday letting.

d. What non-human resources are needed for success?

Manage registrations and contributions through database – Technology.

e. What are the obvious next steps?

Investigate/research existing models, costing, business plan, marketing, strategy.

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4. Local businesses providing jobs for youth

a. Tell us concisely WHAT your proposed action is:

To establish a program in Tweed Shire that connects businesses with young people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. To provide mentoring, training and opportunities. **b. In 12 months' time, what will success look like?**

Program established, advisory board in place, 80-107 young people/ 40-60 businesses engaged in program.

c. What community-based skills and strengths are needed to activate this proposal? Whose buy in is essential for success?

Tweed Shire Council, Chambers of Commerce, Members of Parliament, Lions, Rotary, The Family Centre, Big Organisation's, Small local business, relevant government departments, NSW Business chamber, NORTEC, Tursa, training organisation's and TAFE.

d. What non-human resources are needed for success?

Networking, Social Media, Traditional Media, Funding State/Federal government, office space, website, office equipment, donations.

e. What are the obvious next steps?

Develop proposal/business case – funding/governance

Review how this may link with Surf, Dive and Ski offer

Recruit Advisory Board, staff and key stakeholders

Find a space

Find someone to take lead on project

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5. Community care options

Note: This is attached to Lance Schema's idea of a 'Bonus' Family model for 16-18 yr. olds to get aid in addressing life skills, finance, in a therapeutic home environment.

a. Tell us concisely what your proposed action is:

Provide a room and meals to a young person for a reasonable return. Care giver supported by a community organisation. Be a supportive person and provide some help to young people. Similar to exchange student accommodation model.

b. In 12 months' time, what will success look like?

c. What community-based skills and strengths are needed to activate this proposal? Whose buy in is essential for success?

d. What non-human resources are needed for success?

e. What are the obvious next steps?

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6. Off-grid living for young people

a. Tell us concisely what your proposed action is:

- Provide access to homeless young person/people on a property past Tyalgum (Limpinwood) - 50 acres
- Could have multiple youth on the property – (can't be deemed as a house but can be a shed or studios)
- Basic camping lifestyle - Camp style shower and toilet
- Minimum electricity (solar power) and water
- Telstra phone ONLY
- If it floods, the creek will rise
- YP need their own transport

b. In 12 months' time, what will success look like?

To have 3 at the bottom of the property for *easy access*. Each dwelling would need its own solar set up.

c. What community-based skills and strengths are needed to activate this proposal? Whose buy in is essential for success?

Support from a solar company, Water tanks, Collaboration with 2484 to work out strategies, builders to aid building and clearing.

d. What non-human resources are needed for success?

Building – power and water, equipment as in excavator, water tanks, solar panels, transport for equipment.

e. What are the obvious next steps?

Lots of talking, planning and putting plans into action.

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7. Sustainable self-robust villages with potential to rent to buy.

a. Tell us concisely what your proposed action is:

Potential to be best test model in country, tiny homes and affordable housing at sustainable price, develop a proposal, self-sustaining.

b. In 12 month' time, what will success look like?

Government legislation to allow development to go ahead, putting forward proposal.

c. What community-based skills and strengths are needed to activate this proposal? Whose buy in is essential for success?

NRCCH/other bodies that can support project.

d. What non-human resources are needed for success?

Lobbying/Advocacy/Community committees. Committee management/Potential home owners, raising community self-esteem.

e. What are the obvious next steps?

Land/materials, positive message to community, personal empowerment, information sharing.

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8. Link empty rooms/houses with people at risk of homelessness, via a platform

a. Tell us concisely what your proposed action is:

Online Space we can promote available rooms/accommodation, Similar to room in return (Amsterdam)-full/part rent for help. Community form of Air B and B.

b. In 12 months' time, what will success look like?

Identify someone external to facilitate group, awareness in community, identify existing organisations/platforms doing it.

c. What community-based skills and strengths are needed to activate this proposal? Whose buy in is essential for success?

Volunteers with IT and PR skills.

d. What non-human resources are needed for success?

Money for promotion

e. What are the obvious next steps?

Liaise with the builder of the Hylo platform to identify if there's an option to host this on Thrive2484's Community Exchange Program.

Generating interest. Live Ideas Forum. Present to SCU, volunteers in Family Centre and Social Futures, Students at TAFE/Uni.

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Carmen and It Takes a Town

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9. ROTARY – Coordination role in creating access to low cost housing

a. Tell us concisely what your proposed action is:

Embryonic, Collaborative – bring people together in community as group i.e. Lions, Rotary, Businesses

b. In 12 months' time, what will success look like?

Planning, partnerships formed, land/property

c. What community-based skills and strengths are needed to activate this proposal? Whose buy in is essential for success?

Volunteers, networking with local gov, corporate, philanthropic

d. What non-human resources are needed for success?

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e. What are the obvious next steps?

- Still too embryonic to know but suggest get people together with similar vision/funds
- Link this group to the Tiny Homes / Cabins rent to buy group
- Research methods of acquiring housing stock
- Affordable housing for all vulnerable groups
- Looking at other models including housing equity (woman's property initiatives)
- Looking at making partnerships with existing agencies

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10. Develop a social enterprise to assist with jobs and housing

a. Tell us concisely WHAT your proposed action is:

Provide young people with both a job and accommodation, ideally in one location i.e. pub with spare rooms, rooms to rent upstairs, pub café restaurant for on job training attached. E.g. Murwillumbah pub and bowls club. Skills training e.g. chef's apprenticeships, dishy, food prep, wait staff, cleaners, RSA/TAB – Managers Case management support for workers, services attached such as TFC, OTCP, TAFE, and Murwillumbah Community Centre.

Career goals - link with job providers e.g. ETC, NORTEC, resume job appliance support.

Short leases available for clients to move on if find long term accommodation (support to find this also)

Involve council, community organisations, mental support with outreach

Fundraising

b. In 12 months' time, what will success look like?

Up and Running

Rooms being utilised

TAFE support/ trainee apprentices

Decreased statistics in youth homelessness

Putting money back into the community from profits

Partnership with Billabong Mentor

Participants seeking support and success from support given

c. What community-based skills and strengths are needed to activate this proposal? Whose buy in is essential for success?

Onsite manager, management, chefs, cleaners, gardeners, council, government, volunteers, TFC, OTCP, Social Futures, Headspace, Community Centre.

Funding grants, St Vinnies, Salvos, Op shops, Rotary.

d. What non-human resources are needed for success?

Funding, building

Donations OZ harvest, Farmers, Supermarkets, Café and Restaurants of excess produce

Training

Contents for building – op shops donate? Bedding etc.

School Supplies, communal tech/computers

e. What are the obvious next steps?

- Check if the Murwillumbah pub is still up for lease / purchase
- Possibly link the 'inner circle' to a social enterprise incubator
- EOI, Business Plan, NEIS Scheme, Find investors, Grant applications, Home and Business owners and community groups keen to assist.

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11. Secure funding for an early intervention worker that can complement the existing workers

a. Tell us concisely what your proposed action is:

Courses for YP around resilience, Mentoring, Real Skills, Freeing up with volunteers to do certain tasks (admin), follow up programs, YP Support YP

b. In 12 month' time, what will success look like?

Reducing TA numbers and higher numbers represented in early intervention work.
Team linked with 'well-being' strategy (school)

c. What community-based skills and strengths are needed to activate this proposal? Whose buy in is essential for success?

Sourcing specifically trained volunteers with specific knowledge working alongside case workers.
Establishing homeless specific info into real skills (boys/girls group)
Funding for volunteers
YP projects e.g. Art that funds homelessness
Homelessness Foundation

d. What non-human resources are needed for success?

Funding

e. What are the obvious next steps?

Talk to volunteer co coordinator re – volunteers
Brainstorming tasks for volunteers that workers could hand over

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12. Tiny homes or cabins – rent to buy

Note: questions were not directly answered. Only the following 8 points were listed:

Find land and location

Tiny houses donated

Men's Shed in association

Other activities – chickens, eggs, hydroponics

Existing community skills can be accessed e.g. connecting paths

Big opportunity for volunteers with particular skills

Prevention – chronic dilemma

Design variations

Obvious next steps:

Link with Darryl P. Douglas Gardine, David Hulm (Rotary MW) and Wayne Yeo (real estate).

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13. Identify spare rooms or homes to rent via an on-line platform

a. Tell us concisely what your proposed action is:

- Identify people in the community who have a room spare to rent to a young person
- Market to grey nomads who have empty houses/rooms while travelling e.g. house-sitting model.
- Platform for people to put a room to rent (Fb page like Air B and B).

b. In 12 months' time, what will success look like?

App up and going, identified properties, funds secured to develop App, organisation to lead.

c. What community-based skills and strengths are needed to activate this proposal? Whose buy in is essential for success?

Passion, volunteers

d. What non-human resources are needed for success?

Funds, grant-writer, a young person to possibly develop the app.

e. What are the obvious next steps?

- Review the Seniors Share Houses model and see if there is a link (Linda Mina 0406 347 198)

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Ideas that that don't have legs

- A “kick start campaign” of a mutually agreed amount for a mutually agreed project or event. It could be \$100 for a chocolate cake, \$1000 for a BBQ or \$100,000 for a house or caravan.
- Utilizing disused buildings for emergency crisis accommodation.