



SOUTHERN SERVICES  
REFORM GROUP

**SSRG Workgroup Meeting**  
**Workgroup: Dementia**  
**Date: 6 March 2012**

Present: Nikki Chadburn (Chair), Terry Hales, Lisa Darby, Cheryl Noy, Bridget Kempster, Chris O'Brien, Krystyna Kahmann, Sharron Irwin, Gill Schulze, Coral Sharp, Sheryle Olney, Sally Warnes (Project Officer), Bev Bannister (minutes)

Apologies: Jacqui Bowden, Sue Klopotoska

Agenda Items	Discussion	Further Action Required
Welcome and apologies	Welcome and apologies noted	
Previous minutes	Minutes approved	
Business arising	No business arising	
Project Planning	Members read through the project proposal and discussed <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Add to objectives – 'Gain a better understanding of services that Alzheimer's SA provide'</li><li>• The proposal was 'accepted'</li></ul> List of training topics that were taken to staff meetings for a vote: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Managing Challenging Behaviours</li><li>• Understanding Dementia</li><li>• Activities and Therapies</li></ul> Managing challenging behaviours was overwhelmingly chosen	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If Managing Challenging Behaviours is be the first topic used for training this would make it harder to go back to have understanding dementia as the second topic – perhaps we run just one topic and then re-evaluate</li> <li>• Possibly we could run two topics with three sessions for each topic e.g. morning, afternoon and night sessions – <b>managing challenging behaviours and activities and therapies.</b> Decision to concentrate on one topic at the moment.</li> <li>• Suggestion to use the DVD – Understanding the Brain and Behaviour, as a part of the training session – part of the DVD was viewed and accepted</li> <li>• SSRG to provide folder/handbook to compile information sheets etc. for participants</li> <li>• Have 3 to 3½ hour sessions (includes break)</li> <li>• Times of sessions - 1.30 - 4.30pm; 6 – 9pm and 9.30am – 12.30pm</li> <li>• Run 6 sessions through May to July</li> <li>• Have at different venues to cater for all workers – inner and outer south</li> <li>• Maximum number of participants 30 per session and minimum 10</li> <li>• Sessions open to care workers – discussion about volunteers attending as well – if numbers are low then volunteers will be invited to attend</li> <li>• Some workgroup members to be in attendance at sessions to assist with facilitating, registration etc.</li> <li>• Decision to make certificates of participation for attendees</li> <li>• Require a project plan/task list for the project</li> <li>• Have a feedback form enquiring as to what session participants want run next</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coral to arrange/enquire about accessing the DVD</li> <li>• Coral to talk with Alzheimer’s about presenting ‘managing challenging behaviours’</li> <li>• Sally to arrange dates and venues and inform Alzheimer’s for flyer to be made</li> <li>• Sally to make the project task list</li> </ul>
Dementia Link Worker	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Busier month than last month</li> <li>• Working closely with Carer Support and Life Care in the Aldinga area to promote the role of the dementia link worker and what it involves</li> <li>• Working with other arms of the Alzheimer’s organisation, mainly with the counsellors to provide support to carers and family members. Counselling is generally more effective with the carers.</li> <li>• Working with the DBMAS (Behaviour Management Advisory Service) team around dealing with challenging behaviours</li> <li>• Thank you to SSRG for the opportunity to see Kate Swaffer at the Fringe.</li> </ul>	
Project Officer Update	<p><b>Workgroups:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carer Issues Workgroup: working carers resource package. The writing of the</li> </ul>	

resource has been completed and has been sent for graphic design and publication. It will be trialled in targeted workplaces to increase awareness in the workplace about working carers and where carers can access services to better manage their caring role.

- Social Inclusion Workgroup: are currently planning a project to reduce the stigma associated with social isolation. They aim to achieve this through the development of a postcard and poster.
- The In Home Services Workgroup: the group are keen to focus on the link between the health sector and community sector particularly in relationship to discharge planners in hospitals, to promote a clearer understanding of how the community sector operates. Smooth transition for consumers from acute care to community care has been identified as an area that requires innovative improvement to ultimately add value to the existing services. Development of a resource aimed for use by the health sector is being investigated by this group. Lyndall Gerrard attended the February meeting to further discuss how the implementation of A2HC has been going.
- Consumer Workgroup: during their discussions about training needs of care workers it has been decided that it could be beneficial to collect personal stories, put together in a structured framework to demonstrate issues that have arisen and possible solutions to those issues. They feel these stories could be presented to educators of community services workers. This project is still in the early stages – the framework has been established and the stories will be written during the next month.

**Forums:** HACC Service Principles Consultation – the south and west organised sessions held at the Morphetville Junction 20<sup>th</sup> February, 9:30 to 12:00.

The HACC principle forum held in December was deemed a success and currently Lui (Eastern Collaborative Project) and I are writing a report which includes forum evaluations and all the stories collated. A 'wordle' was created which creatively demonstrates by size of font the most significant and commonly used words to describe the essence of the HACC service principles – choice, individualised, collaboration, respect and flexibility.

**Website:** A new website is being developed. The aim is to have it available and working by mid-February. It has a different look and will be much easier to use.

**Gaps and Needs Survey:** The southern region gaps and needs survey has been

	distributed to the region. The survey will eventually be disseminated to all metropolitan regions (the eastern and southern have been the first). The results will be collated to demonstrate both regional differences and common issues experienced by all. The aim is to leave the survey 'live' until late March.	
Gap Identification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>groups to meet the needs of men with memory loss that have had a high profile in their working life</li> </ul>	
Information round	<p>Terry – starting a small snooker group for men – at Christies Beach RSL – Wednesdays 1 – 3pm - Contact Terry on 8384 0558</p> <p>Sheryle – large workload at the moment</p> <p>Chris – very busy – all working well</p> <p>Lisa – Sadie is doing a social mapping program – it is looking at the doubling up of groups in the community – she is making a database of available groups. New social programs – coffee crawl, lunch club and the buddy program helping people make connections with other groups</p> <p>Gill – meeting with a Dr who is part of the southern area looking at mental health for carers – what the issues/needs are and what networking/support they need</p>	

Next meeting: Tuesday 3 April 2012  
Civic Area, City of Onkaparinga

1 - 3pm Afternoon tea provided.