**Preparation for the first partnership meeting: discussion document.**

Tools and strategies required to successfully co-ordinate the initial partnership meeting.

WD Prepare a show and tell slide show for the meeting , the purpose of which is to illustrate and highlight the key data which has led PB’s to the identification of this area as an area of high need.

All intending partners should be given some pre reading emailed or posted to them prior to the meeting. This material could include:

**PARTNERSHIP BROKERS**

*Program Outcome*

* COAG has set goals to lift Yr 12 or equivalent attainment rate to 90 % by 2015 and improve education outcomes for those experiencing high levels of disadvantage.

*Program detail*

* The Australian, State and Territory Governments have entered into a National Partnership on Youth Attainment and Transitions.
* As part of the Australian Governments contribution to this Partnership, existing youth, transitions and career programs have been consolidated into two new programs (since 1st January 2010) that will work together to support the COAG goals.
* The two new programs are – School Business Community Partnership Brokers “Partnership Brokers” and Youth Connections.

*The stated aims of the program are to:*

* Foster strategic, whole of community approach to improve education and transition outcomes for all young people
* Broker sustainable partnerships between schools, education providers, business/industry, community groups, and parents and families
* Build community capacity and infrastructure.

*Stakeholders*

* Education & Training providers include primary and secondary schools, TAFEs, universities, RTOs and alternative education program providers.
* Business & Industry includes local, regional and, where appropriate, national employers, business & industry representative bodies and associations.
* Parent & Family Groups include representative bodies - local, regional and where appropriate national groups.
* Community Groups include but are not limited to: privately run organisations providing services to the community, government funded service providers, sporting or social groups, charities and volunteer organisations and local government.

**A definition of a partnership.** ‘Social partnerships are an emergent process by which organizations collectively deal with growing complexities, involving some interdependence on the part of the stakeholders (Gray, 1989, p. 227). While having little in the way of formal legal status, they involve a degree of institutionalisation, and are frequently dependent upon virtual structures that link across organisational and national boundaries (Zadek, 2001). Partnerships and multiple stakeholder collaborative arrangements and networks of all types are now widely deployed as government social or environmental policy instruments, ranging from global arrangements such as the Global Compact to one-on-one partnerships at the local government level. Partnership with business (such as the long term partnership between McDonalds and the Environmental Defense Fund in the USA) or in multiple stakeholder arrangements that include government and business is now also expected of leading NGOs such as Greenpeace or WWF’. The last decade has seen a shift from short-term philanthropic relationships to more long-term and strategically focussed partnerships between NGOs and both business and government (Heap, 2000; Moon, 2001; Singleton, 2006).

(Suzanne Benn, Aries working paper, 2010.)

## Role of the Partnership Broker.

## School Business Community Partnership Brokers Program Objectives

The stated objective of the Partnership Broker program is to facilitate stakeholder engagement, build community capacity and infrastructure and drive the Australian Government’s education reform and social inclusion agenda to improve education and transition outcomes for all young people.

This will be achieved through a national network of Partnership Brokers that establish sustainable partnerships between and among four key stakeholder groups:

* Education and training providers
* Business and industry
* Parents and families
* Community Groups

Something from Ian Dixon’s paper in here

Please keep a copy of this document and feel free to contact any of the participants here today to discuss ant aspects of a potential partnership prior to our next meeting.

MEETING PARTICIPANTS. (Fill in)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| NAME | ROLE | ADDRESS | MOBILE | EMAIL |  |
| Bill Brown | Partnership broker |  |  | [Bill.brown@the](mailto:Bill.brown@the)smithfamily.com.au |  |
| Lyn Manners | Partnership broker |  |  | Lyn.manners@thesmithfamily.com.au |  |
| Milton Dick | Local Member Richlands Council |  |  |  |  |
| John Rigsby-Jones | CEO. Inala Youth Services |  |  |  |  |
| Michelle Meredith | CEO Inala Community House |  |  |  |  |
| Dan Nguyen | Vietnamese network leader |  |  |  |  |
| Pam Lawson | Indigenous Elder |  |  |  |  |
| Bec Crick | Inala PCYC |  |  |  |  |

ETC.

**DETAILS OF MEETING TIME AND AGENDA.**

Meeting time: 2.30 – 4.30pm. Tuesday 31 June 2010

Meeting place: Inala PCYC

AGENDA.

Bill Brown TSF Partnership broker.

* 1. Welcome, introductory remarks, including ‘you are here because we have the common goal of assisting young people to transition successfully into the workforce’, and you feel that you have something to offer.
  2. This meeting should help you to clarify your expectations and your offering to the partnership if it goes ahead.
  3. Our role is to...... (explain the Create, Develop, Sustain, Exit model). Our expectation of this meeting is that people go away and consider the options discussed at the table with each other and with fellow participants here today, (hence the contact details), and firm up a commitment to the partnership in terms of offerings and your expectations of others prior to the next meeting.
  4. Introduce WD who has prepared a sound & light show which illustrates and highlights the reasons Inala was identified.
  5. Introduce WD with a thumbnail sketch.

WD’s presentation. 10 min discussion and questions following the presentation.

Bill Brown/Lyn Manners.

1. Spend the next 30 minutes going around the table, introducing self and stating ‘why you are here, and what can you offer the partnership’. (No commitment at this stage).
2. PB opens a general discussion on the broad topic of ‘what can we do to assist the youth of Inala to transition successfully to effective employment & training when they leave school?’

Summarize discussion and conclude with a show of hands as to who feels that there would be benefit in another meeting to formulate a partnership, or partnerships around... Pick a topic or two in which the group has shown interest

Outcome of meeting 1 might be....’there may be broad agreement to meet again when some thinking has taken place to firm up offerings and review the offering of others

Consider if you should schedule another meeting for 2 weeks hence, at this time, or should you do a ring around in a week or so to gauge support for the concept. You should be able to assess the feeling of the meeting well enough to find an answer at the end of the discussion.

Meeting closure; (Option A): Set a time date and place for the next meeting

(Option B): arrange to ring around in a week or so to discover the level of support.