



FY2017-18 Meeting Summary

LGBTQIA+ Community of Practice

Meeting #1, 1pm – 4pm 9 Nov 2017

Group members – made up of metro, regional and rural practitioners from youth and generalist homelessness services from variously sized orgs – shared their expectations for the group. The primary objectives established were to share and learn from similar experiences effecting this client group; discuss potential pathways to good practice; problem solve and support each other; be champions on these issues to the larger sector. New members are welcomed at any time, and confidentiality in relation to details of clients is expected to be upheld, as well as a judgment-free environment. Key issues discussed in the first meeting included addressing under-representation and invisibility of the client group; training and education opportunities; good practice for trans and gender diverse people accessing crisis accommodation; building awareness of resources; demanding and enforcing cultural competency for this client group reflected through policy and practice within SHS.

Meeting #2, 1pm – 4pm 28 Feb 2018

The second meeting of the group focused on information sharing and relevant updates from the broader community services sector, covering the work of various interagencies; relevant campaigns; identifying specialist workers at City of Sydney, Kings Cross CCL and ACON (DV Awareness); regional networks; housing affordability; GLLO network; upcoming conferences (Health in Difference LGBTI+ Health conference); post marriage equality action; planning for IDAHOTI and CIMS data measurement; utilising ACON local area resources; border restrictions for inner city; local Mardi Gras plans; recent experience de-gendering youth accommodation and discussion of building guidelines for good practice to achieve this.

Meeting #3, 1pm – 4pm 17 May 2018

The discussion during the third meeting centred around recently experienced practice issues, particularly involving engagement with other providers ie police, housing agencies, employment agencies and how to ensure safety for this client group in the face of limited awareness and recourse in the networks we rely on. We also discussed building momentum towards LGBTI+ accessibility within our own services.