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## Supporting Us AMP Foundation & Macarthur Wealth Management

2006 heralds the fourth consecutive year that the AMP Foundation has supported Youth Solutions as a Corporate Partner at the Services Charity Event. Gordon Hay of Macarthur Wealth Management has once again shown his support for the event by endorsing an application to the AMP Foundation which has proven successful.



*Gordon Hay, Lani Welling & Ewen Sinclair-Kydd of Macarthur Wealth Management*

The AMP Foundation continually aims to make a difference in the community. The Foundation which was established in 1992 traditionally invests in two key areas, community involvement and youth employment. Their efforts to empower our youth and positively contribute to community groups is outstanding. Their long term contribution to the Youth Solutions Charity Event has seen it grow and improve which has allowed the Service to meet fundraising targets to continue to link with the community through project work.

### Charity Event Corporate Partner Profile

Gordon Hay is the Principal of Macarthur Wealth Management a leading financial practice in the Macarthur region. Gordon has been operating in this region for almost 30 years as a certified planner. Gordon is a member of the Australian Financial Planning Association.

This years Charity Event will be held at Campbelltown RSL Club on Friday 21 July, and guests will celebrate a Christmas in July theme. Tickets to the event are currently on sale for \$125 include a three course dinner and beverage pack as well as entertainment by the Enormous Horns.

Macarthur Wealth Management provides quality advice on Superannuation, Wealth Creation, Estate Protection and Family Protection. For a free no obligation plan, please phone 4655 8719 (ext 26) and one of Gordon's friendly team will make an appointment suitable to you.

"If you want to support the youth of our region to make safer life choices in relation to drug and alcohol use, then Youth Solutions is the charity to back", states Gordon Hay.

Like most charities, Youth Solutions continually tries to balance the demand placed on the Service with our current level of physical and financial resources. It is because of the ability of our business community to band together to support services in the community like Youth Solutions that project work can continue on such a scale.

For further information about the Charity Event and the Service's fundraising activities contact 4628 2319 or email [info@youthsolutions.com.au](mailto:info@youthsolutions.com.au)



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## On a roll in 2006

The first edition of *Solutions* for 2006 is full of information about the current projects the team is working on as well as our upcoming charity event. As always the Service's responsibility to encourage young people to make safer choices in regard to alcohol and other drugs is foremost in the planning and implementation of our projects.

One major project currently underway is the *Parent Links Project* which aims to utilise one of our most important resources in the community. Parents have a major role to play in the prevention of problematic drug use by young people. This project is being funded by the NSW Government and is being monitored closely as a demonstration project.

We are currently in the process of preparing for accreditation. This has been an extensive (and exhaustive) process but one that allows us to review existing systems and improve our service delivery.

2006 brings with it – once again, the challenges of balancing the ability to meet the needs of our community, the visions of the Service and the physical and financial resources available to us. Consequently we are also planning for our annual charity event.

We have had a wonderful start to our fundraising efforts for 2006, with the confirmation of two Corporate Event Partners for our Charity Night, the AMP Foundation & Macarthur Wealth Management as well as the Rotary Club of Narellan. The event this year will be one of celebration and fun and we hope you can join us.

We are also working directly with those schools who were involved in the *Schools Solutions Project*. Schools are now in the process of implementing their action plans supported by Youth Solutions. This project has been another successful partnership between Wests League Club Campbelltown and Youth Solutions.

We have also welcomed 2 new Board members to Youth Solutions. Mr Tony Ross and Mr Geoff Ellis have joined our Board and will provide additional support and expertise to our service.

We look forward to working with you in 2006.

**Linda Goldspink-Lord**  
*Chief Executive Officer*

### Corporate Partnership Program

Youth Solutions is committed to acknowledging the ongoing support from our supporters, and is in the process of implementing a Corporate Partnership Program. This is an exciting program in which we would value your involvement. Should you like to partner with our organisation we would meet to discuss how both our organisations could mutually benefit from such a partnership. Contact us today.

## Parent Links Project

### A Parents Perspective



I joined the Parent Links Peer Educator project after seeing an email circulated at my work. I was attracted to the project as I am interested in the community being assisted to support itself.

At the training session I found the project was more extensive and needed more of my input than I had expected, but I was excited by the possibilities it presented. I hoped to be able to use the information in my work as a Youth Justice Conferencing (YJC) Convenor, but this was not to be as I am not working in the project area.

I have been able to:

- Arrange to do work placement for my TAFE Diploma in Community Service Work

at Youth Solutions (I am working in the office one day a week, assisting with the Parent Links Peer Educator project).

- Pass on information about Youth Solutions to the YJC convenors who work in the Macarthur region so they can use it in their work with young offenders and their parents or carers.
- Arrange to run an information stall at the Parent/Teacher night at my son's high school in April.
- Undergo facilitator training which will be very helpful in this project and in the future

Gill



## Volunteering

### A Volunteers Perspective

Volunteering at Youth Solutions has certainly been a beneficial experience. I decided to volunteer at Youth Solutions because I was particularly interested in the drug and alcohol field which I had learnt about at university and I also wanted to gain relevant work experience. As a volunteer, I have assisted in many tasks such as; administration, creating promotional resources, researching, analysing data and attending the charity golf day. I have also had the privilege of being a part of the Parent Links Project, where I attended training days and focus group meetings.

Not only have I learnt about the organisation and the wonderful work everyone does, but I have also developed my computer, researching and analysing skills, which I can use in the workforce. Furthermore, I have gained additional knowledge about alcohol and other drugs.

I would like to thank Youth Solutions for giving me the opportunity to be apart of their team and for all the knowledge they have passed onto me.

Sarafina - 20 years old

## Helpful Phone No.s

Drug & Alcohol Treatment Access Line  
Sydney South West Area Health Service  
**9616 8586**

ADIS (Alcohol Drug Info Service)  
24 hour free service  
**1800 422 599**

For Emergencies  
**000**

After Hours Counselling  
Lifeline **13 11 14**

## Helpful Websites

Information about Cannabis,  
young people and local services  
[www.dope-efxu.com.au](http://www.dope-efxu.com.au)

Comprehensive drug information site  
[www.druginfo.adf.org.au](http://www.druginfo.adf.org.au)

Provides accessible counseling  
service to all Australian children  
[www.kidshelp.com.au](http://www.kidshelp.com.au)

Online service for young people  
looking for support through  
difficult times  
[www.makeanoise.ysp.org.au](http://www.makeanoise.ysp.org.au)

# School Solutions

## Work in Progress

Another school year has begun and the start of 2006 has seen all participating schools in the School Solutions Project resume the implementation of their action plans. The School Solutions Project, kindly funded by Wests League Club Campbelltown, began in 2005 with a needs assessment and the collation of almost a thousand surveys from six schools to distinguish the issues around alcohol, drugs and young people.

Youth Solutions then analysed the data and presented it back to each school in the form of a summary report at Camp Strategy, held at Stanwell tops over two days in October, 2005.

At the camp, School Action Teams consisting of students, staff and parents then developed action plans to be implemented at their schools.

So far 2006 has seen each school re-ignite their action plans and continue with the necessary steps for their implementation.

This has occurred through a variety of ways including:

- Further research and meetings
- Various articles printed in a number of school newsletters containing drug and

alcohol information. One newsletter also posting an expression of interest for parents wishing to participate in a workshop focusing on parenting skills and/or drugs and students

- Two schools making contact with the Department of Education and Training seeking further support with regard to aspects of their action plans
- Further seeking of support from Youth Solutions
- Presentations held at P&C meetings
- The development of draft procedures for the management of drug related incidents at school
- School Website planning in order to contain links to drug and alcohol information

As you can see, a lot is currently happening. Youth Solutions has arranged meetings with each of the six schools for the end of March in order to discuss more comprehensively the progress of their action plans and provide any support that may be needed.

So keep watching this space in 2006 and stay tuned with all the School Solutions updates and achievements.

## Dope-EFX u Project Report

Dope EFX u, your community, your relationships, your health, your job, your family and your life.

Youth Solutions, along with a valuable Steering Committee and supportive group of young people implemented this social marketing project from May 2004 – October 2005. The project report is now complete and aims to take the reader step by step through the components of the project.

If you would like a hard copy or PDF version of this project report, please phone 4628 2319 or email [info@youthsolutions.com.au](mailto:info@youthsolutions.com.au)

If you haven't done so already, don't forget to check out the website [www.dope-efxu.com.au](http://www.dope-efxu.com.au)



[youthsolutions.com.au](http://youthsolutions.com.au)

## National Youth Week

April 2006



An Australian Government, State, Territory and Local Government Initiative

National Youth Week is once again upon us and there is heaps going on in the Campbelltown local area. National Youth Week aims to highlight the talents, achievements and contributions young people make to the community whilst also discussing ideas and developing strategies to address any issues that concern them.

This year, Youth Week will be running from April 1 – 9 and it will involve a range of activities and events including an Aboriginal Young Peoples Forum. Youth Solutions will be assisting this particular event with the training of young people as facilitators for the forum process. The Forum will be happening on Monday 3

April at the Campbelltown Civic Centre and is open to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people aged 12 – 24 who live, work and or study in the Campbelltown local area. The forum is free and will provide an opportunity for local Aboriginal young people to have a say about issues that concern them, to find out about opportunities available to them; and to give input into the establishment of a new Aboriginal youth leadership program, for the Campbelltown area.

The Forum will also feature Brad Welsh from the Indigenous Leadership Program and performances from Bundara Dance Theatre, Brotha Black and B-Boy 2EzY. This event is coordinated by Campbelltown City Council.

To check out what's on or for more information on any of the local Youth Week events and activities contact Campbelltown City Council on 4645 4359 or 4645 4354 or visit [www.campbelltown.nsw.gov.au](http://www.campbelltown.nsw.gov.au) and go to the Youth Page.



Wests League Club Campbelltown

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- David Michell
- Graham West MP
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## Points to note

### Diary Dates

#### McDonald's Charity Fun Night

Wednesday 12 April 2006

See article in this edition for details

#### Youth Solutions Charity Event

Friday 21 July 2006

Campbelltown RSL Club

Contact us to *Book your Table*

### Our Mission

Supporting young people to make safer life choices to achieve their full potential

### Our Vision

Creating solutions with young people, families and the community to promote positive life outcomes by preventing harmful drug use

### Service Info

#### Youth Solutions – What we can do for you?

- Answer your questions and provide information about alcohol and other drugs.
- Find someone who can help you if we can't
- Help you take action on drug related issues in your community
- Refer you to treatment and counselling services

If you would like a hard copy of our *Alcohol and Other Drugs, Referral and Information Booklet for the Macarthur and Wingecarribee Area* please phone or email us today and we will mail one out to you.

## McDonalds Charity Fun Night in April

### Supporting Youth Solutions

Youth Solutions is very excited about being supported by the McDonald's community program, 'Committed to caring for the community' for the third year in a row. Last year the program donated a generous \$1570 to the Service. Funds from this years donation will be used to investigate issues around creating an official 'Volunteer Program' for the Service.

A percentage of sales generated from the Charity Fun Night during 3-5pm in the Food Court Restaurants and 6-8pm in the Drive Thru Restaurants on Wednesday 12 April, will be donated back to Youth Solutions – so go on *'order some fries with that'*.

Restaurants in the Macarthur region, will also be distributing 'Safer Celebration Fact Files' and 'Parent Links' cards through the month of April.

## 2006 Charity Event

### Pre-book your table for Christmas in July



ENORMOUS HORNS

Join us for a night of fun and entertainment as we celebrate Christmas in July on Friday 21 July 2006 @ The Campbelltown RSL Club.

Entertainment includes Santa and his elves as well as the Enormous Horns.

Tickets \$125 Inc GST  
Sponsorship Package \$1750 + GST

*Includes 10 tickets*

For information phone 4628 2319 or email [info@youthsolutions.com.au](mailto:info@youthsolutions.com.au).