



***Macarthur Youth Safer Celebration Summit***

***Project Report***



Prepared by: Youth Solutions



## Foreword

This report will provide interested parties with an outline of the process used in the planning, implementation and evaluation of the *Thrive – Macarthur Youth Safer Celebration Summit*.

It is intended to be a guide that may be used as future reference for parties wishing to duplicate the process, as well as a source of information for those interested in the issue of young people and safer celebrating.

It must be noted that the Summit is the beginning of a much larger process to address the complex issues surrounding young people and celebrations in the Macarthur community.

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Please note that positions and organisations referred to in this report were correct at the time of their participation in the Summit.

## Acknowledgements

Youth Solutions would like to thank the *Thrive – Macarthur Safer Celebration Summit Steering Group*, which consisted of the following people:

Fred Anderson	Mayor, Camden Council
Mark Berriman	Youth Services Coordinator, Campbelltown City Council
Tracey Binney	Community Project Officer, Camden Council
Chris Cotter	NSW Police, Macquarie Fields Local Area Command
Louise Daley	Community Project Officer, Wollondilly Shire Council
Kerrie Doherty	Community Road Safety Officer, Camden Council
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Campbelltown City Council  
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## Executive Summary

The *Thrive – Macarthur Youth Safer Celebration Summit* aimed to bring together key stakeholders in the Macarthur community to address the issue of keeping our young people safe before, during and after celebrations. While some activity was already underway across the region, the ad-hoc nature of such activity meant that the potential benefit resulting from a coordinated strategic approach had not yet been achieved.

The primary objectives of the *Thrive – Macarthur Youth Safer Celebration Summit* were to:

- Develop a coordinated strategic approach to youth safer celebration issues in the Macarthur region leading to the prevention or reduction of harms related to young people and celebrations
- Enhance the working relationships amongst stakeholders in the Macarthur region

The Summit was supported by an extensive needs assessment. Focus groups were conducted with a total 623 young people (13-25 years) prior to the Summit in order to obtain valuable information from the target group and ensure that young people were clearly represented in the Summit's deliberations.

The majority (97%) of focus group participants were aged 13-17 years; 44% were male and 56% female. Participants represented a broad cultural, socio-economic and geographical mix.

Young people presented findings from the focus groups during the Summit.

Key issues of concern that were raised during focus groups included:

- Gatecrashers
- Role of the Police eg young people were reluctant to involve Police in planning for safer celebrations due to misinformed ideas about the role of Police
- Drink driving
- Excessive use of alcohol
- Violence

Other points of interest included:

- Not all young people were familiar with emergency phone number 000
- Very few young people were able to demonstrate the correct recovery position for medical emergencies – many were unfamiliar with basic first aid
- The majority of young people would not call the parent/carer of an intoxicated person in an emergency

Following the needs assessment, a one day summit was held on 24 November 2003. The Summit was attended by 65 delegates from across the Macarthur region, including a significant number (45%) of young people.

A range of key stakeholders, including NSW Police Commissioner Ken Moroney and Paralympian Paul Nunnari, addressed the Summit in order to set the scene for the think tanks later in the day. Think tanks involved delegates working in small groups (based on local government areas) to identify key issues of concern and potential solutions to identified issues.

Key issues included (but were not limited to):

- Alcohol and other drug use
- Transport
- Role of the Police
- Planning safer celebrations
- Need for increased parent awareness of the issues
- Need for increased community education

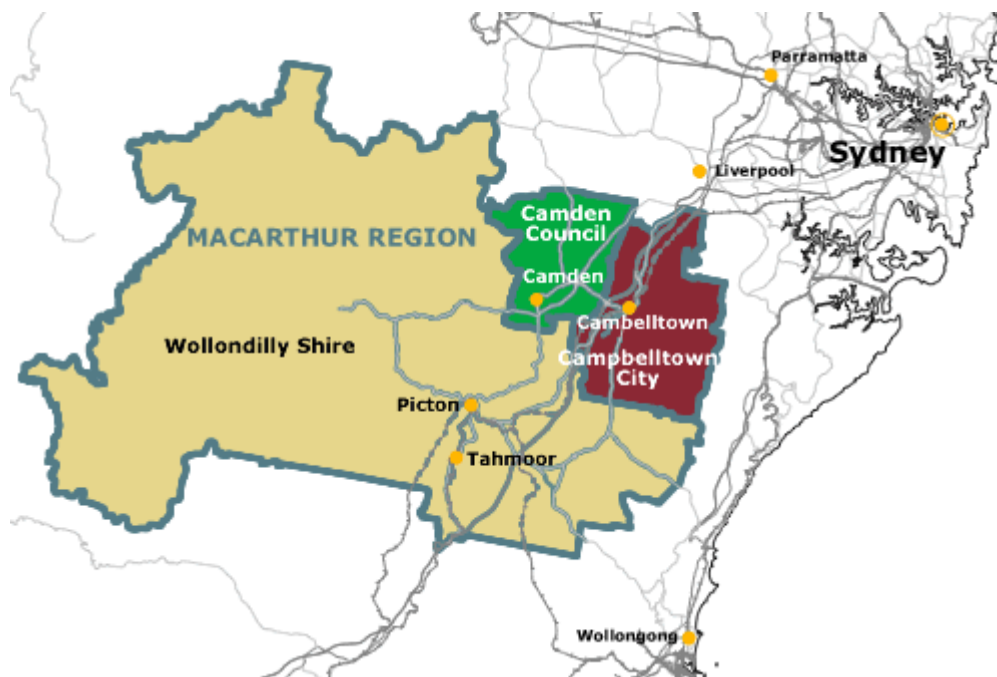
Key solutions identified to address issues included:

- Education/clarification regarding the role of the Police and celebrations
- Promotion of Police party notification form
- Parent education regarding planning for and supporting safer celebrations
- Education for young people regarding planning for and supporting safer celebrations

The Summit has resulted in draft plans of action addressing key areas of action for each local government area. Working groups have been established consisting of stakeholders who expressed an interest in further developing action plans drafted at the Summit.

## Background

The Macarthur region includes the local government areas (LGAs) of Camden, Campbelltown and Wollondilly covering 3067 square kilometres with a total population of approximately 240 000 residents . Located less than an hour drive south-west of Sydney, the Macarthur region is a diverse community embracing rural through to metropolitan living.



In recent times, the Macarthur region has experienced much hardship in relation to celebratory gatherings. In the 18 months preceding the Summit, Wollondilly and Camden LGAs alone lost seven young people aged 16-25 years and another 11 were seriously injured as a result of road related incidents surrounding celebratory gatherings. Incidents such as these affected the Macarthur community enormously, and generated a ground swell of community concern. In response to these events Youth Solutions facilitated the *Thrive – Macarthur Safer Celebration Summit*, on 24 November 2003.

(Map sourced from [www.macroc.nsw.gov.au](http://www.macroc.nsw.gov.au))

## Steering Group

The steering group was called together at extremely short notice following a meeting convened by the Mayor of Camden where concerns were raised in relation to unsafe celebrations involving young people in the Camden local government area.

Representatives from key service providers across the region were approached to be members of the steering group.

The steering group consisted of representatives from:

- Camden Council
- Campbelltown City Council
- NSW Department of Education and Training
- Macarthur Health Service
- NSW Police
- Wollondilly Shire Council
- Youth Solutions

Due to the nature of the Summit, steering group members were called upon at very short notice (a total of 9-weeks from the first meeting to the day of the Summit), which provided some challenges with which to work. Ideally, a longer lead time prior to the Summit would be preferable.

### Recommendations

- 1) The establishment of a steering group, as described, is important to support and guide the project.
- 2) Representation from a broad range of key service providers, government and non-government, is crucial to the success of a Summit, demonstrating whole of community commitment.
- 3) The times that meetings are held need to maximise the potential for stakeholders to become involved, particularly when working within a short timeframe.
- 4) If feasible, a longer lead time prior to the implementation of the Summit to allow for more comprehensive needs assessment involving other stakeholders eg parents, teachers and cultural/spiritual leaders.
- 5) Participation on the steering group by the target group, ie young people, would be ideal, particularly to provide input into the format of the Summit.

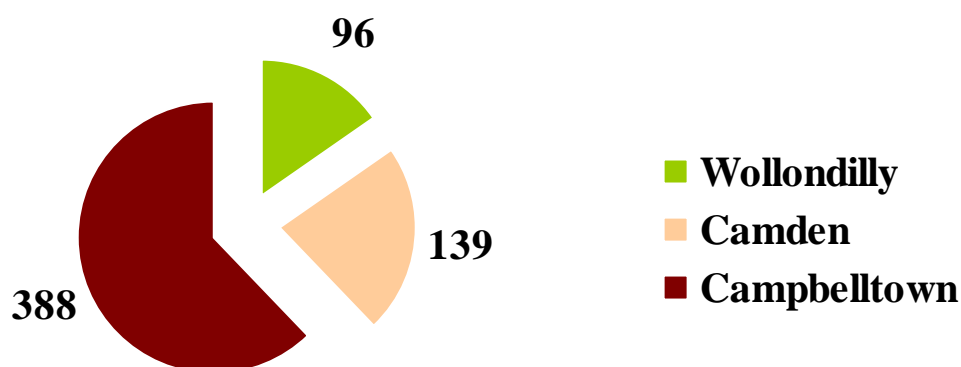
# Pre Summit Consultations

## Focus Groups with Young People

A total of 623 young people were consulted via focus groups in the weeks leading up to the Summit. The focus groups had two primary objectives to:

- Provide an opportunity for young people in Macarthur to have their say in relation to issues that affect them regarding celebrations
- Inform the Summit delegates about the key issues of concern

Focus groups were conducted with TAFE and high school students (both government and non-government) in each of the local government areas, as well as with a cultural youth group.



✧ *Graph 1: Number of focus group participants from each local government area*

All participants were aged 13-25 years, with the majority of participants (97%) aged between 13-17 years; of these 45% were aged 16-17 years. 44% were male and 56% were female. The young people represented a broad range of socio-economic and cultural backgrounds.

Focus groups were held over a period ranging from 40 minutes to 1 hour, with approximately 25 young people per group. All focus groups were facilitated by Youth Solutions staff in the presence of a supervising adult eg teacher, spiritual or cultural leader. Questions were posed with participants volunteering answers. All responses were recorded, as were general observations eg number of participants who agreed or disagreed with comments or discussion. Responses were made in general non-specific terms ie “I know someone who...” or “Young people our age...”

It should be noted that the presence of a supervising adult and/or the group mix might have influenced the participation of some young people and the type of response given.

Focus group questions were structured to gain key information about:

- 1) Types of celebrations young people attend
- 2) Considerations when hosting and attending a party

- 3) Key issues of concern and key strategies to address those issues
- 4) The kind of support that young people need
- 5) What parents/carers need to know to help young people celebrate safely

✧ Refer to Appendix 1 for a complete list of pre-Summit focus group questions

When asked what types of celebrations young people attend, what makes them good, and where are they held, responses indicated that:

- Young people attend a variety of celebrations from planned parties eg birthday, after formal to unplanned gatherings
- *Good* parties were characterised by good music, good people and alcohol. Alcohol was the primary drug noted at parties, followed by marijuana
- The majority of celebrations were held at residential houses, or on residential properties for the more rural parts of the region, with halls and public spaces (parks/ovals) also mentioned. Very few young people under the age of 18 years stated that they were celebrating within licensed premises. Over 18s identified pubs and clubs as the place where they generally celebrate

When asked what young people need to consider when hosting a party, the primary responses included:

- Gatecrashers – were defined as people who were not invited and arrive with the intention of causing trouble. Gatecrashers were raised as an issue by every group of young people consulted
- Security – was primarily referring to *informal* security ie older relatives/friends who were there just in case anything goes wrong
- Invitations – most invitations were issued by word of mouth/SMS, although young people recognised that written invitations are one means of controlling/restricting guest numbers. However, very few young people had actually held an *entry by invitation only* party
- Alcohol – hosts need to consider whether alcohol would be at the party. Where alcohol was present, it is most common that guests bring their own, or combine money to buy alcohol once at the party. The presence of alcohol was greatly affected by the *parent factor*, ie if parents were not in attendance alcohol was far more likely to be present
- Parents/carers – as stated above, if parents were going to be at parties that would affect whether or not alcohol was there. Mostly, parties where there were no parents involved alcohol. However, some young people reported parties where parents and alcohol were in attendance. The *good* parties like these were described as ones where parents kept a low profile but were there as support if anything went wrong. Parties like these were most likely to be at the houses of *cool parents*
- Food – was recognised as an important part of a party - mostly finger food and snacks
- Police – were identified as a point to consider when hosting a party. 95% of young people stated that they would *not* notify the Police of a party that was for under 18s

where alcohol would be present, regardless of whether or not parents/carers were there; this was due to the perceived legal implications. In contrast, the majority of young people said that notifying Police of an over 18s party was a good idea

When asked what young people need to consider when attending a party as a guest, common responses were:

- Alcohol – was the primary consideration at *parent free* parties. Who would get it, where to get it, what to get and how much. The quantity was often governed by money available to spend. A great deal of planning goes into this aspect of most parties
- Transport – young people in Campbelltown reported that there was reasonable public transport available and walking was also an often used mode of transport, whereas young people from the Camden and Wollondilly areas stated that public transport was hardly ever an option
- Parents and older siblings were raised regularly as a transport option
- Designated drivers were regularly raised as a transport option, however it was noted that the designated driver does not always remain sober. In some, not all, instances the *least drunk* at the party would drive. This was reported primarily by older respondents
- Other guests – were a consideration by many young people. If young people were aware that *trouble makers* or people they did not get along with were going to be at the party, many would reconsider their decision to attend. *Trouble makers* were identified as being people who “*could not handle their alcohol*” or who “*got stupid when they are drunk*”. Conversely, knowing that all your friends or interesting new people would be at the party was incentive to attend
- Behaviour – young people reported that they make a conscious decision about the way they behave depending on who is at the party eg parents in attendance often means that young people will plan to control themselves, as opposed to just letting go and having a “*free-for-all*” if there aren’t any parents/adults present
- Responsibility – many young people reported that they have many responsibilities as a guest at a party including:
  - respecting the limits set by host
  - looking after their friends
  - looking after themselves
  - respecting possessions/house/people (not damaging property etc)

When asked what sort of things ruin a party and what can be done to prevent/avoid them, the following responses were common:

- Police – ruin parties by simply showing up; turning up due to noise complaints (most commonly made by neighbours), stopping the party
- Young people stated that there was *nothing they could do* to prevent Police from ruining parties. Some young people expressed that Police target them due to their age and/or cultural background

- Violence – was raised by every group as definitely ruining a party – however, some young people noted that a fight between two males was *ok* as long as it just stayed between the two of them and didn't involve weapons
  - *Invitations and security* were seen as the two main ways to prevent violence. Young people stated that they are very conscious of not inviting guests who don't get along with one another in order to prevent violence. However, it was reported that sometimes people arrive uninvited and that's when you need to make sure you have security in place. Security is most often informal eg older friends/family members
- People getting too drunk - *too drunk* was defined as passing out, becoming violent, vomiting, "*getting legless*". People who are too drunk ruin parties in a number of ways including others have to look after them; they sometimes damage property and can cause fights. Another result of people getting too drunk was noted to be decreased sexual inhibitions. Many young people, both males and females, identified that people who got too drunk often "*hooked up*" with someone they generally wouldn't, or took part in sexual behaviour that they might not otherwise
- Ways to avoid/prevent people from getting too drunk were:
  - *Look after your friends/limit alcohol* – many young people stated that they knew how much alcohol their friends can handle, and would tell them to slow down/stop. Others stated that they would just take the alcohol away from their friends, which is easy to do when they are so drunk, easier than trying to reason with them
  - *Designated thinker* – this was a phrase used by one young male who referred to himself as the designated thinker. His assumption was that someone had to stay "*with it*" and that the person should be the "*designated thinker*", in the same way as you designate a driver
- Gatecrashers – as previously noted, gatecrashers were defined as people who are not invited and turn up with the intention of causing trouble. Gatecrashers were raised as an issue by every group of young people consulted
  - Young people suggested that having your celebration as *invitation only* assisted with limiting the potential of gatecrashers, however very few young people reported actually ever holding (or attending) an invitation-only party. Having *security* in attendance was often suggested as means of preventing gatecrashers. Again, security was noted to be older siblings or other relatives
- Stealing – identified by participants from Campbelltown local government area in particular. Mobile phones, wallets, money, alcohol, clothes and CD's were identified as the most vulnerable items
  - Young people suggested *locking valuables* up eg in a lockable cabinet or bedroom, or simply *not taking them*
- Drugs – this point was made with the exception of alcohol. Young people referred to them as the *harder* drugs and noted marijuana, speed and ecstasy
  - They felt that it is *hard for them to do anything* about others at the party bringing or taking drugs other than alcohol
- Parents/carers - ruin parties by turning up/coming home early or being strict

- *Work out your story in advance* – a very well planned exercise by some young people. However, this point highlighted that the communication between parents/carers and children was the key factor in this issue. Young people unanimously agreed that it would depend on the relationship with parents (mostly Mother) whether or not they would make up a story or be honest about the party. Another influencing factor here was the age of the young person. It was reported that the older the young person is, the less likely they feel as though they need to make up a story. Generally, young people aged 13-15 years would make up stories, whereas young people older than 15 years were more likely to have a discussion with their parent/carer
- Drink driving – as mentioned earlier, designated drivers were regularly raised as a transport option, however it was noted that the designated driver does not always remain sober. In some, not all, instances the *least drunk* at the party would drive.
  - However, many young people maintain that the *designated driver* is just that, the driver, and has made a commitment to their friends to be the safe transport home
  - Another strategy raised on numerous occasions was to *freeze the keys*. This strategy is used when people arrive at the party and therefore have to wait until their car keys defrost before they are able to drive home, usually in the morning
- Accidents – were noted to occur primarily as a result of intoxication; people mucking around when they are drunk. Many examples of accidents were given in relation to celebrations held on rural properties, with people falling into bonfires being raised on numerous occasions, as well as examples relating to water eg falling into pools/dams
  - The strategy suggested here was to *take notice, or scope, the environment* at the beginning of the party to see if certain areas need to be roped off, or restricted in some way
  - Neighbours were overwhelming noted as someone who is relied upon to provide support, particularly if there is an incident. It should be noted that this is generally not pre-arranged with the neighbour. Parents and other adults were regularly mentioned as playing an important role in providing transport to and from celebrations. Adults supervising celebrations were noted as needing to be sober/straight so that they are able to deal with any issues as they arise
  - It was interesting to note that neither government nor non-government agencies were noted as being options for support. Support was considered only for the immediate term rather than longer term
- Young people identified that parents need to know detailed information about celebrations they attend eg where it is, contact details, whether or not there will be alcohol, however most said that they didn't provide this level of detail. They noted that they didn't disclose full details for fear that they wouldn't be allowed to attend or that they would get in trouble. As previously mentioned, the relationship between parent/carer and child was the crucial discussion point with this question

- Young people identified four sources of alcohol – bottle shops, older siblings/friends, strangers (ask them to purchase it) and parents. Some young people steal the alcohol from their parents, and some parents purchase alcohol for their teenagers. The majority of young people over 15 years reported that discussions between parents and children around alcohol use at parties and the provision of alcohol (by parents to their children) starts at about age 15. The *unspoken* assumption that alcohol provided by parents is all that is consumed was reported to be rarely the case; rather the alcohol provided is merely a *starter pack*

During the focus group, participants were presented with the following scenario - "someone at the party has drunk so much alcohol that they are unconscious on the ground and vomiting. What would you do?"

As a result, a number of interesting points were noted:

- Not all young people were familiar with the emergency number 000 – some thought it was 911 and others thought it was 111
- The decision to call 000 was affected by a number of things including: whether drugs other than alcohol were involved; the age of the person involved → under age drinking; how much trouble the person would be in with parents and Police; what legal ramifications there could be for host, regardless of whether or not the host was a parent or young person
- It was disturbing to hear a minority of young people say that if they did not know or like the individual, they would not take any action at all as it is *not their problem*
- Very few young people were able to demonstrate the correct recovery position for medical emergencies. Many were unfamiliar with basic first aid
- The majority of young people would not call the parent of an intoxicated person in an emergency

## Outcomes of Focus Groups

- As a result of the consultations, the Summit delegates were extremely well informed of the issues important to the young people in Macarthur
- Following each focus group, participants were provided with a variety of written information including:
  - Youth Solutions service brochure
  - NSW Health Drug Smart Z-card
  - Planning Parties Fact Sheet (compiled by Youth Solutions)
  - Drink Spiking information (compiled by Central Sydney Area Health Service)
  - Tips for Celebrating Safely (sourced from Rethinking Drinking)
  - Department of Gaming & Racing information regarding underage drinking laws
  - An information sheet regarding the *Thrive - Macarthur Youth Safer Celebration Summit*
- Participants had the opportunity to discuss drug or celebration related issues with the facilitators

- And were offered the opportunity to express interest in attending the Summit as a representative from their high school, TAFE or community group

### **Recommendations**

- 6) Conducting focus groups with young people provides insight into safer celebrating issues, and possible solutions, relevant to them. This information is imperative to inform any action that takes place aiming to address youth issues.
- 7) Focus groups with other stakeholders were not undertaken due to time constraints. However, should this process be repeated, focus groups with the following groups would be particularly relevant:
  - Parents
  - Teachers
  - Cultural groups
  - Service providers

# The Summit

## Program overview

The Summit's proceedings were divided into two segments. The morning session aimed to provide an overview of youth safer celebration issues, with a particular focus on regional issues, with the rest of the day allocated to working groups, or think tanks.

NSW Police Commissioner Ken Moroney gave the Summit's opening address. Leaders in the field followed Commissioner Moroney's address, discussing the importance of investing in our young people, and highlighted both broad and specific regional issues relating to safer celebrations. Speakers addressed the delegates from a Police, state government and local government perspective. The results of the focus groups conducted with young people prior to the Summit were important to this session. Two local high school students presented these results.

The session was closed by a video address from Macarthur-based paralympian Mr Paul Nunnari. His address provided a personal perspective that reflected the Macarthur community, and challenged all of Macarthur's young people to strive to be extraordinary.

✧ *Refer to Appendix 2 for a copy of the program*

## Recommendations

- 8) Include high profile speakers in the Summit's program. This adds credibility to the Summit and the issues and increases the desirability for media attention (print and radio). Increased media coverage has obvious benefits including information dissemination to the broader community.
- 9) Ensure that youth delegates present information obtained by pre-Summit focus groups with young people. This reinforces and further validates data gathered.

## Think Tanks

Think tanks were conducted over two sessions with the following primary objectives:

- Identify issues of concern in relation to youth celebrations in Macarthur
- Prioritise issues of concern in relation to youth celebrations in Macarthur
- Identify potential strategies to address the priority issues
- Develop draft plans of action to address, at least, Priority Issue 1
- Identify current initiatives being implemented throughout Macarthur that address youth safer celebrations

Delegates were allocated to think tanks based on the local government area they represented. Camden and Wollondilly delegates were combined based on their geographical similarities, and for logistical purposes. State and Macarthur wide delegates

were distributed evenly throughout think tank groups. Young people worked separately in think tanks according to their LGA, again with Camden and Wollondilly working together.

In total there were five think tanks as follows:

- Campbelltown LGA x 2
- Campbelltown LGA Young People
- Camden/Wollondilly LGA
- Camden/Wollondilly LGA Young People

A member of the Thrive steering group facilitated each think tank. All facilitators worked from the same format in order to standardise the process.

✧ *See Appendix 3 for a copy of the think tank facilitator's notes*

### **Recommendations/Comments**

- 10) Think tanks were an effective process.
- 11) Having facilitator's notes for the think tanks were useful in assisting consistency of process. Should future Summit's be held, it would be useful for facilitators to participate in the think tank process, as a group, prior to the Summit. This would provide facilitators with the opportunity to critique and further refine the process.
- 12) The activity identifying current safer celebration initiatives was successful in highlighting the need for improved/enhanced communication between service providers.
- 13) Increase amount of time allocated for developing solutions in think tanks; problems are easier to define than solutions.
- 14) Consider mixing young people with adults in the final session of the think tanks. Forming groups that focus on issues identified and assigning each group an issue could avoid duplication of solutions and allow groups to more fully develop action plans.

## Current Safer Celebration Initiatives in Macarthur

Prior to the Summit there was a sense that some ad-hoc activity was underway that perhaps did not make full use of resources (human, fiscal and strategic) available in the region. Delegates were asked to list all the current safer celebration strategies they were aware of in order to provide a *picture* of what was already being done across the region. This information would inform the strategies to address priority issues of concerns.

The table below is a summary of initiatives reported. Please note that there are some gaps in the table, as this information was unknown by delegates.

✧ *Table 1: Current safer celebration initiatives identified by Summit delegates*

What is the Initiative?	What issue/s is being addressed?	Who is implementing?	Status <i>ie planning, implementation, completed</i>	Evaluation
<b>INDENT events</b>	Entertainment for young people			
<b>Police Party Packs</b>	Safer parties	NSW Police	Ongoing	
<b>Campbelltown Liquor Accord/ Camden Liquor Accord</b>	Responsible Service of Alcohol Anti social behaviour Underage drinking	Licensees Police Council Youth Solutions Dept. Gaming & Racing	Implemented & ongoing	
<b>Camden Drug &amp; Alcohol Reference Group</b>	Drug education Community issues	Committee	Ongoing	
<b>How to Drug Proof Your Kids</b>	Drug & alcohol awareness	Wollondilly Church Council	Every 2 months	
<b>Western Sydney Region Of Councils (WSROC)</b>	Drink Drive Action Plan	Council Road Safety Officer (RSO)	3 yr action plan	
<b>Designated driver program</b>	Drink driving Transport	Council RSO Licensed Venues Police RTA	In progress Christmas & New year	
<b>Drinksafe Program</b>	Home parties Excessive drinking Safe celebrating Drink driving Standard drinks Injury prevention Planning	Council RSO Liquor outlets Police RTA	Implementation Christmas & New Year	Ongoing
<b>Graduated Licensing Scheme parent workshop</b>	Risk taking behaviour Parents and supervisors of learner drivers	RSO RTA	Implemented	Ongoing
<b>Drug Education in schools</b>	Harm minimisation	DET	Ongoing In progress	Ongoing
<b>Camden Council Youth Strategic Plan / Social Plan</b>	Transport from venues Safety	Council		

<b>Campbelltown Taxi voucher Scheme</b>	Drugs Safe sex	Council Taxi companies Venues Police RTA		Survey of taxi operators – indicates decrease in anti-social behaviour
<b>Traxside Outreach Bus</b>		Traxside High Schools		
<b>In-school driver education – Cross Roads Curriculum</b>				
<b>Police Party Notification form</b>		Police		
<b>U-Turn the Wheel</b>		Rotary Council		

The gaps in the table could reflect a number of things:

- Delegates present at the Summit were not aware of complete detail of some initiatives
- Information regarding the initiatives is unavailable, or unclear
- Some program outcomes may be unclear
- Lack of information dissemination

## Priority Safer Celebration Issues

The following issues emerged as a result of the think tanks:

### Campbelltown LGA Group 1

- Issue 1: Lack of knowledge, communication and action  
*(Families, young people, community)*
- Issue 2: Lack of planning, inability to negotiate and supply of alcohol
- Issue 3: Safety  
*(Violence, sexual assault, location isolation, security, lack of knowledge of safety procedures, looking after a mate)*

### Campbelltown LGA Group 2

- Issue 1: Safety and security
- Issue 2: Consequences relating to injury, death and excessive alcohol consumption
- Issue 3: Information for parents and young people

### Campbelltown LGA Young People

- Issue 1: Drugs and alcohol  
*(Drink driving)*
- Issue 2: Police  
*(Lack of awareness by the general community about the party notification form and its implications)*
- Issue 3: Friends  
*(Looking after your mate)*
- Other issues: Gatecrashers, safety

### Camden/Wollondilly LGA

- Issue 1: Why do young people want to get wasted?
- Issue 2: How to host a party
- Issue 3: Transport

### Camden/Wollondilly LGA Young People

- Issue 1: Drug use at parties
- Issue 2: Unplanned parties have the potential to be the most unsafe
- Issue 3: Limited transport
- Other issues: Boredom

## Draft Plans of Action

Having identified priority issues, delegates were asked to draft plans of action to address their priority issues.

- ✧ Refer to Appendix 5 for a copy of the draft action plans
- ✧ Table 2: Summary of solutions identified in draft plans of action developed at the Summit

Issue	Solution
<b>Campbelltown LGA (Group 1)</b>	
Lack of planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Develop safe party packs and distribute via: <i>Community, schools, TAFE, youth centres, shopping centres, local media, sporting events, health centres</i></li> </ul>
Lack of knowledge of safety procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Clarify if number can be used on a mobile phone</li> <li>▪ Inform Police Commissioner that young people are unaware of 000</li> <li>▪ Redirect 911 to 000</li> <li>▪ Inform local media &amp; schools</li> </ul>
<b>Campbelltown LGA (Group 2)</b>	
Safety and security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Raise awareness of Police party notification form via: <i>School newsletters, Websites, Local media (press and radio)</i></li> </ul>
Information for parents and young people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Develop appropriate information for parents and young people. Distribute via: <i>Schools, parent meetings, church groups and community groups</i></li> </ul>
<b>Campbelltown LGA - Young people</b>	
Lack of awareness of Police notification form	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Clarify role of Police – print on the back of the form. Increase awareness via: <i>Schools, local media, Police visits to schools, Police train young people to inform their peers</i></li> </ul>
Friends – looking after your mates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ High profile media campaign – not pamphlets.</li> </ul>
<b>Camden/Wollondilly LGA</b>	
Why do young people want to get wasted?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Continue teaching resilience education and providing drug education in schools</li> </ul>
How to host a (safer) party	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Parent education via: <i>newsletters – school and community, media including community radio, rates notices, police notification form and 'How to Drug Proof Your Kids'</i></li> </ul>
Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Advocate for buses from Campbelltown station after 9pm</li> </ul>
<b>Camden/Wollondilly LGA - Young people</b>	
Drug use at parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Peer led safer party awareness campaign in schools.</li> <li>▪ Target Yr 9-11</li> <li>▪ Developed by young people</li> </ul>
Unplanned parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Develop party safe pack and distribute via: <i>letterbox drop to parents, through local businesses and a radio campaign with a targeted message</i></li> </ul>

While the summary of information in the above table reflects the type of solutions identified at the Summit, a substantial amount of work is required to further develop these ideas. Delegates at the Summit were invited to nominate to become involved in Committees that would further develop, and investigate the feasibility of, the draft plans of action.

## Recommendations

15) Further investigate key solutions identified through the Summit:

- Promotion of Police party notification form
- Parent education regarding planning for and supporting safer celebrations
- Education for young people regarding planning for and supporting safer celebrations

# Project Evaluation

The Summit was evaluated with a pre-Summit and post-Summit survey. Overall, the evaluation demonstrated a self reported increase in:

- knowledge of youth celebration issues
- concern about young people's safety when celebrating
- awareness of relevant community services in the Macarthur region
- awareness of the role of Police in supervising private parties
- ability to identify ways in which delegates can assist in developing youth safer celebration strategies
- belief that there is a coordinated approach to addressing safer celebrations for young people in the Macarthur region

An excerpt of the results is provided below.

✧ *Refer to Appendix 7 for a copy of the complete evaluation summary*

65 participants attended the summit

45%	Young people
15%	Police
11%	Local government
11%	Education
9%	NGO's (Alcohol and Other Drug agencies etc)
7%	Health
2%	Religious

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13%	Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities
4%	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders

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50%	Campbelltown LGA
19%	Camden LGA
13%	Wollondilly LGA
7%	Macarthur representatives
7%	State wide representatives
4%	Other (Liverpool, Cabramatta) representatives

## **1. I have a sound knowledge of youth celebration issues**

Pre Summit 96% Agree – Strongly Agree  
Post Summit 100% Agree – Strongly Agree

## **2. I am concerned about young people's safety when celebrating**

Pre Summit 98% Agree – Strongly Agree  
Post Summit 100% Agree – Strongly Agree

## **3. I am aware of relevant community services in Macarthur region**

Pre Summit 76% Agree – Strongly Agree  
Post Summit 92% Agree – Strongly Agree

**4. Young people play an important role in developing solutions for safer celebrations**

Pre summit 100% Agree – Strongly Agree

Post Summit 100% Agree – Strongly Agree

**5. I am aware of the role of Police in supervising private parties**

Pre summit 81% Agree – Strongly Agree

Post summit 100% Agree – Strongly Agree

**6. I can identify ways in which I can assist in developing youth safer celebration strategies**

Pre Summit 93% Agree – Strongly Agree

Post summit 100% Agree – Strongly Agree

**7. In the Macarthur region, there is a coordinated approach to addressing safer celebrations for young people**

Pre Summit 78% Agree – Strongly Agree

Post Summit 88% Agree – Strongly Agree

**Additional comments**

- Think tanks were an effective process
- Increase amount of time allocated for developing solutions in think tanks; problems are easier to define than solutions
- Mix young people with adults in the final session. Form groups that focus on issues identified and assign each group an issue. This could reduce duplication of solutions and allow groups to more fully develop action plans.

# Summary of Recommendations

## Summit Process

- 1) The establishment of a steering group, as described, is important to support and guide the project.
- 2) Representation on the steering group from a broad range of key service providers, government and non-government, is crucial to the success of a Summit, demonstrating whole of community commitment.
- 3) The times that meetings are held need to maximise the potential for stakeholders to become involved, particularly when working within a short timeframe.
- 4) If feasible, a longer lead time prior to the implementation of the Summit to allow for more comprehensive needs assessment.
- 5) Participation on the steering group by the target group, ie young people, would be ideal.
- 6) Conducting focus groups with young people provides insight into safer celebrating issues relevant to them. This information is imperative to inform any action that takes place aiming to address youth issues.
- 7) Should this process be repeated, focus groups with parents, teachers, cultural groups and service providers would be particularly relevant.
- 8) Include high profile speakers in the Summit's program. This adds credibility to the Summit and the issues and increases the desirability for media attention (print and radio). Increased media coverage has obvious benefits including information dissemination to the broader community.
- 9) Ensure that youth delegates present information obtained by pre-Summit focus groups with young people. This reinforces and further validates the data gathered.
- 10) Think tanks were an effective process.
- 11) Having facilitator's notes for the think tanks were useful in assisting consistency of process. Should future Summit's be held, it would be useful for facilitators to participate in the think tank process, as a group, prior to the Summit. This would highlight the strengths and challenges of the process and further refine the process.
- 12) The activity identifying current safer celebration initiatives was successful in highlighting the need for improved/enhanced communication between service providers. With this in mind, existing structures, eg AOD Link (South Western Sydney Alcohol and Other Drug Health Promotion Network (and Information Directory)), newsletters (Youth Solutions and other community) should be more thoroughly utilised to promote safer celebration initiatives implemented throughout the region.

- 13) Increase amount of time allocated for developing solutions in think tanks; problems are easier to define than solutions
- 14) Consider mixing young people with adults in the final session of the think tanks. Forming groups that focus on issues identified and assigning each group an issue could avoid duplication of solutions and allow groups to more fully develop action plans.

## Summit outcomes

- 15) Provide feedback to delegates, key stakeholders and broader community regarding outcomes of Summit. This can be achieved via a number of methods including:
  - Distribution of written report
  - E-networks such as utilisation of websites of stakeholders involved in the Summit, as well as parties with a vested interest eg Youth Solutions, local government, Foundation for Young Australians
  - Media launch of the report covering key findings
- 16) Increase communication between service providers regarding current safer celebration initiatives being implemented in the region. To avoid unnecessary duplication, it is recommended to utilise existing networks and forums such as AOD Link, Macarthur Youth Services Network, and Interagency meetings.
- 17) Increase communication regarding existing initiatives within the Macarthur community. Again, in order to avoid duplication, utilise existing infrastructure such as newsletters (eg Youth Solutions, Drug Education through The NSW Department of Education and Training), Community Drug Action teams (CDATs), media (print and radio)
- 18) Establish a steering committee to further progress Summit outcomes, particularly draft plans of action. Steering committee to consist of representatives from the following groups:
  - Volunteer delegates from the Summit
  - The Summit steering group
  - Young people
  - Parents
  - Key service providers
- 19) Further investigate key solutions identified through the Summit:
  - Promotion of Police party notification form
  - Parent education regarding planning for and supporting safer celebrations
  - Education for young people regarding planning for and supporting safer celebrations
- 20) Investigate funding opportunities to support proposed action areas
- 21) Continue to involve key stakeholders in all processes – solution development, implementation, and evaluation and information dissemination.

## Appendices

Appendix 1	Focus group questions
Appendix 2	Summit program
Appendix 3	Think tank facilitators notes
Appendix 4	Current safer celebration initiatives in Macarthur
Appendix 5	Draft plans of action
Appendix 6	Pre & post Summit evaluation surveys
Appendix 7	Summit evaluation summary

### **“Thrive –Macarthur Youth Safer Celebration Summit 2003” Facilitators Youth Focus Group questions**

#### **Questions:**

1. Describe a great party/celebration?
  - types of celebrations you would normally attend
  - components of a great celebration eg food, music, alcohol?
2. Where are most parties held?
  - House
  - Licensed premises
  - Community Hall
  - Public space eg park, river
3. What do you need to consider when:
  - a. Hosting a party
  - b. Attending a party as a guest
4. What ruins a party/celebration?
5. What can you do to help prevent/avoid these problems?
6. What support do you need? Who else can help? What can they do?
7. What types of things can go *wrong* at a party? If something does *go wrong* at a party, what would you do?
8. Scenario:

*“Someone at the party has drunk so much alcohol that they are unconscious on the ground and vomiting. What would you do?”*
9. What do parents/adults need to know to help young people celebrate safely?
10. Where do young people get alcohol?
11. Comments/Questions
12. Distribute safer celebration information



## Macarthur Youth Safer Celebration Summit

24 November 2003  
Campbelltown Catholic Club  
Camden Rd, Campbelltown



### PROGRAM

- 8.30 am Coffee & registration
- 9.00 am Welcome to the land, by Mr Charles Mundine
- 9.05 am Welcome by Youth Solutions CEO, Ms Linda Goldspink-Lord
- 9.10 am NSW Police Commissioner Ken Moroney  
- Opening Address
- 9.25 am Local Area Commander Patrick Paroz, Camden Local Area  
Command  
- A Police perspective
- 9.35 am Cr Fred Anderson, Mayor of Camden  
- Local Government perspective
- 9.45 am Ms Yvette Higgerson & Mr Faitotoa Junior Asa, Youth delegates  
- Our young people's perspective
- 9.55 am Ms Kristy Abbott, YouthSafe  
- Opportunities for action
- 10.10 am Mr Paul Nunnari, Paralympian  
- Our community, our young people
- 10.15 – 10.45 am MORNING TEA**
- 10.45 am – 12.45 pm *Think Tanks*  
Delegates form small working groups based on local  
government area to identify and prioritise key issues/action  
areas
- 12.45 – 1.30 pm LUNCH**
- 1.30 – 3.15 pm *Think Tanks continued*  
Delegates continue to work in small groups to develop  
strategies to address priority issues/action areas
- 3.15 pm Plenary
- 3.30 pm Close

***The Thrive - Macarthur Youth  
Safer Celebration Summit  
is...***

**Coordinated by:  
Youth Solutions**

**Funded by:  
Campbelltown City Council  
Roads and Traffic Authority  
Youth Solutions**

**Supported by:  
Camden Council  
NSW Department of Education and  
Training  
Macarthur Health Service  
NSW Police  
Wollondilly Shire Council**

**“Thrive –Macarthur Youth Safer Celebration Summit 2003”**

**Think Tank Facilitator's notes**

\*\* Please keep all notes, butchers paper etc for collection at the end of the day

\*\* Please make a note of any particularly interesting/useful information/discussion

Session Two

<u>Time</u>	<u>How</u>	<u>Resources</u>	
10.40am			<b>Ensure you are back at your table, ready to go!</b>
10.45am	sg		<b>Introductions &amp; Icebreaker</b> to be determined by facilitator for each group
10.55am		Butchers paper Textas	<b>Brainstorm</b> issues of concern in relation to youth celebrations
			<p><b>Prioritise and rank</b> The next part of the session involves matching ideas that are similar. Work through the list and ask the group to identify ideas they think are the same or similar. If they are the same or similar, ask the group how they should be joined. For example which one should be crossed off, which one should be added to? When the group is happy with the changes, move onto prioritising and ranking.</p> <p>This is the final part of the session where we vote on the ideas and put them in order of priority. We will all get a chance to vote and the ideas with the most votes will become our major issues of concern (we will work on our top 3) that we will discuss further after lunch.</p> <p>Allow participants time to reflect on issues prior to voting</p> <p>The 3 issues with the highest score become the groups “Top 3”. Priority is determined based on score (the highest score is the top priority).</p>
		OHT	<b>Record</b> priority issues on OHT for presentation to whole group
12.15pm- 12.45pm			Facilitator (or volunteer from group) <b>presents</b> top 3 issues to whole group. 5 mins per group. Brief discussion around how issues were identified may also be presented if necessary <i>NB: If the group finishes early, commence work scheduled for Session 3</i>
12.45pm- 1.30pm	Lunch		

Session Three

<u>Time</u>	<u>How</u>	<u>Resources</u>	
<b>1.25pm</b>			<b><i>Ensure you are back at your table, ready to go!</i></b>
1.30pm	sg	Current initiatives proforma	<b>Current initiatives</b> Brainstorm initiatives that are currently being implemented in Macarthur using the proforma supplied. This information will be integral to inform the process of action planning.
1.45pm		Action plan proforma	<b>Action planning</b> Commence action planning process using Action Plan Proforma. Encourage group to be as specific as possible. If groups are being particularly productive, allow/encourage as much detail to be worked through as possible (It is preferable to have one solid action plan rather than three sketchy ones). However, if the momentum has ceased, wrap it up and move on to the next issue. Cross reference with current initiatives. Make sure the solutions are realistic → provide reality checks!!!
		OHT Evaluation Form	<b>Transfer information</b> onto OHT for presentation to whole group – use one OHT per issue. Complete Evaluation form
2.45pm-3.15pm			Facilitator (or volunteer from group) <b>presents</b> information back to whole group. 5 mins per group
3.15pm-3.30pm	Plenary & Close		

## Appendix 4

What is the Initiative?	What issue/s is being addressed?	Who is implementing?	Status ie planning, implementation, completed	Evaluation
<p>1) <b>INDENT Events</b></p> <p>2) <b>Police Party Packs</b></p> <p>3) <b>Campbelltown Liquor Accord/ Camden Liquor Accord</b></p> <p>4) <b>Camden Drug &amp; Alcohol Reference Group</b></p> <p>5) <b>How to Drug Proof your Kids</b></p> <p>6) <b>Western Sydney Region Of Councils (WSROC)</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">a. <b>Designated Driver Program</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">b. <b>Drinksafe Program</b></p> <p>7) <b>Graduated Licensing Scheme Parent Workshop</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Entertainment for young people</li> <li>- Safer parties</li> <li>- Responsible Service of Alcohol</li> <li>- Anti social behaviour</li> <li>- Underage drinking</li> <li>- Drug education</li> <li>- Community issues</li> <li>- Drug &amp; alcohol awareness</li> <li>- Drink Drive Action Plan</li> <li>- Drink driving</li> <li>- Transport</li> <li>- Home parties</li> <li>- Excessive drinking</li> <li>- Safe celebrating</li> <li>- Drink driving</li> <li>- Standard drinks</li> <li>- Injury prevention</li> <li>- Planning</li> <li>- Risk taking behaviour</li> <li>- Parents and supervisors of learner drivers</li> </ul>	<p>NSW Police</p> <p>Licensees Police Council Youth Solutions Dept. Gaming &amp; Racing</p> <p>Committee</p> <p>Wollondilly Church Council</p> <p>Council Road Safety Officer (RSO)</p> <p>Council RSO Licensed Venues Police RTA</p> <p>Council RSO Liquor outlets Police RTA</p> <p>RSO RTA</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Implemented &amp; ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Every 2 months</p> <p>3 yr action plan</p> <p>In progress Christmas/New year</p> <p>Implementation Christmas/New Year</p> <p>Implemented</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Participants complete evaluations</p>

<b>What is the Initiative?</b>	<b>What issue/s is being addressed?</b>	<b>Who is implementing?</b>	<b>Status</b> ie planning, implementation, completed	<b>Evaluation</b>
8) <b>Drug Education in Schools</b>	- Harm minimisation	DET	Ongoing In progress	Ongoing
9) <b>Camden Council Youth Strategic Plan/ Social Plan</b>		Council		
10) <b>Campbelltown Taxi Voucher Scheme</b>	- Transport from venues - Safety	Council Taxi companies Venues Police RTA		Survey of taxi operators – indicates decrease in anti-social behaviour
11) <b>Traxside Outreach Bus</b>	- Drugs - Safe sex	Traxside High Schools	In progress	
12) <b>In-school Driver Education – Cross Roads Curriculum</b>		Dept. of Education & Training		
13) <b>Police Party Notification Form</b>		Police		
14) <b>U-Turn the Wheel</b>		Rotary Council		

## Camden/Wollondilly Young People Safer Celebration Action Plan

### Issue: Unplanned parties

Solution	Responsibility	Support/Resources	Timeframe	Other
1. Letterbox drop to parents of party safe pack	- Council	- Youth Solutions - Health Service	- Nov - Jan	- Run together at the same time
2. Radio campaign of party safe message				
3. Party safe packs distributed through shops and businesses eg Levi ad puzzle and Wollongong Uni	- Youth Solutions	- Local businesses - Chamber of Commerce - Young people	- Nov - Jan	

### Issue: Drug Use at Parties

Solution	Responsibility	Support/Resources	Timeframe	Other
1. Safer party awareness campaign in schools -Peer led - Young people developed - Yr 9-11 targeted	- DET	- Politicians - Young people - Chamber of Commerce - Council - Police - Health Service - Youth Solutions	- End Term 2-Term 3 - Committee - Leaders of school - SRC	- Young people get credit at school for involvement

# Camden/Wollondilly Safer Celebration Action Plan

## Issue: Transport

Solution	Responsibility	Support/Resources	Timeframe	Other
1. Advocacy - Buses from Campbelltown station after 9pm - Free bus from movie theatre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Youth Solutions</li> <li>- Community</li> <li>- Council</li> <li>- Schools</li> <li>- Camden Drug &amp; Alcohol Group</li> <li>- Police</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Link Bus</li> <li>- Community buses</li> <li>- Young people</li> <li>- Bus company</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Possible solutions are not solutions because of barriers</li> </ul>

## Issue: How to Host a Party

Solution	Responsibility	Support/Resources	Timeframe	Other
1. Parent education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Schools</li> <li>- Community organisations</li> <li>- Police</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Newsletters - info from Drug Consultant / Department policies</li> <li>- How to Drug Proof your Kids, Police party packs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Schools</li> <li>- Media</li> <li>- Lets connect</li> <li>- Rate notices</li> <li>- Community radio</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Simple format</li> </ul>

# Camden/Wollondilly Safer Celebration Action Plan

**Issue: Why are young people wanting to get wasted?**

Solution	Responsibility	Support/Resources	Timeframe	Other
1. Mind Matters - Resilience education and Drug Information	- DET	- Health - Student Welfare Consultant - School Counsellors - Year Advisors		
2. Contact local media, liquor accord, advertising	- Everyone lobby to local media - Review Good Sports in VIC			

# Campbelltown Young People Safer Celebration Action Plan

## Issue: Police (Notification form lack of awareness)

Solution	Responsibility	Support/Resources	Timeframe	Other
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Distribute through schools</li> <li>2. Clarify role of police and what will happen when form is filled in. Have info on what to expect</li> <li>3. Police to visit schools</li> <li>4. Police train young people to inform peers</li> <li>5. Distribute in newsletters, daily notices</li> <li>6. Media campaign – papers, radio</li> <li>7. Police Blitz</li> <li>8. Include in PD/H / PE lesson</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Police</li> <li>- Young people</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Before school holidays</li> <li>- End of school year</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Will improve relationship between young people and police</li> <li>- Might encourage young people to choose policing as a career</li> </ul>

# Campbelltown Young People Safer Celebration Action Plan

## Issue: Friends (looking after your mate)

Solution	Responsibility	Support/Resources	Timeframe	Other
1. High media profile. Designated thinker  2. Info distribution - Not pamphlets - TV - Magazines				

## Issue: Drugs & Alcohol

Solution	Responsibility	Support/Resources	Timeframe	Other
1. Drink Driving - Designated driver - Greater awareness	- Multi strategy - Schools	- Guest speaker - Statistics - Surveys - First aid component - Reward - certificate		



# Campbelltown Group 1 Safer Celebration Action Plan

## Issue: Lack of knowledge of safety procedures

Solution	Responsibility	Support/Resources	Timeframe	Other
1. Clarify if number can be used on mobile  2. Inform Police Commissioner young people unaware 000  3. Direct 911 to 000  4. Inform local media, schools	- Telstra, Optus etc	- Distribute DET Stay Alive cards to health services, schools		

# Campbelltown Group 2 Safer Celebration Action Plan

## Issue: **Safety / Security**

Solution	Responsibility	Support/Resources	Timeframe	Other
1. School Newsletters to include copy of Safe Notification Form and information kit  2. Website promotion of notification form including different languages  3. Local Radio  4. Ads in entertainment section of local paper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Schools / Principals</li>   <li>- Councils</li> <li>- NGO's</li> </ul>			

# Campbelltown Group 2 Safer Celebration Action Plan

## Issue: Information

Solution	Responsibility	Support/Resources	Timeframe	Other
1. Developing youth friendly information / means of getting info across  2. Speak to District SRC's  3. Develop parent friendly information at appropriate literacy level  4. School newsletters / school notice board  5. Increase awareness of dangers associated with informal parties held in public places  6. Parent meetings - P&C, church, community groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- NGO's</li>   <li>- Drug &amp; Alcohol services</li> <li>- NGO's</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Migrant resource centre</li> <li>- Libraries</li> <li>- Health centres</li> <li>- Neighbourhood centres</li> </ul>		

## Pre-Summit Evaluation

Please tick the appropriate boxes:

Young person (12-25 years)

Worker: Local Government

Police

Education

Health

Non-Government

Other  please state \_\_\_\_\_

Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander

Non English Speaking Background

Local Government Area: Camden

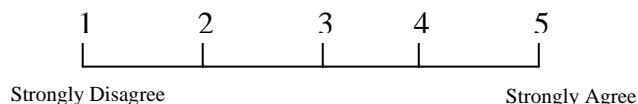
Campbelltown

Wollondilly

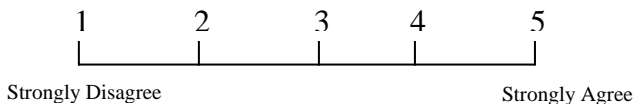
Other  please state \_\_\_\_\_

Rank accordingly:

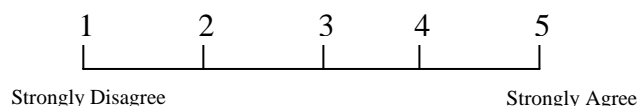
1. I have a sound knowledge of youth celebration issues



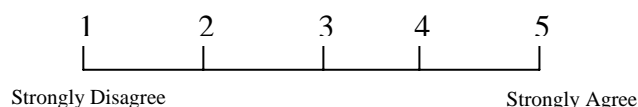
2. I am concerned about young people's safety when celebrating.



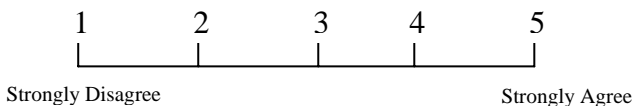
3. I am aware of relevant community services in the Macarthur region



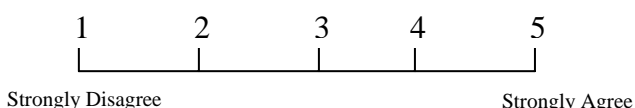
4. Young people play an important role in developing solutions for safer celebrations



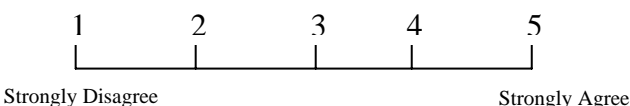
5. I am aware of the role of Police in supervising private parties



6. I can identify ways in which I can assist in developing youth safer celebration strategies.



7. In the Macarthur region, there is a coordinated approach to addressing safer celebrations for young people.



# Post-Summit Evaluation

Please tick the appropriate boxes:

**Young person** (12-25 years)

**Worker:** Local Government

Police

Education

Health

Non-Government

Other  please state \_\_\_\_\_

**Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander**

**Non English Speaking Background**

**Local Government Area:** Camden

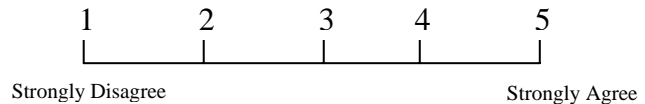
Campbelltown

Wollondilly

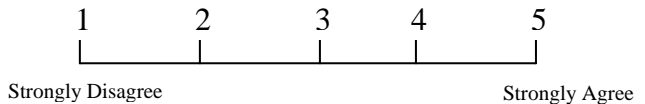
Other  please state \_\_\_\_\_

Rank accordingly:

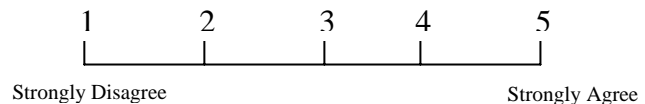
1. I have a sound knowledge of youth celebration issues



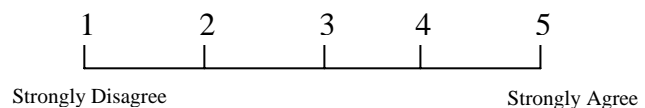
2. I am concerned about young people's safety when celebrating.



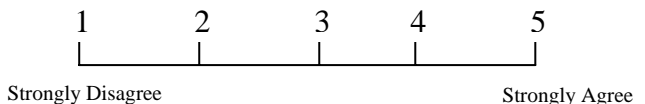
3. I am aware of relevant community services in the Macarthur region



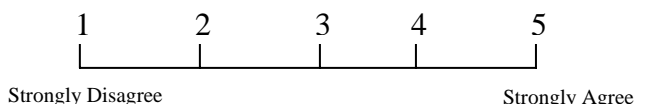
4. Young people play an important role in developing solutions for safer celebrations



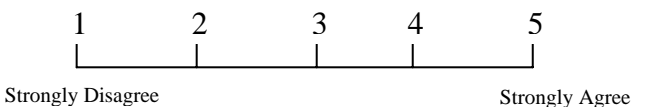
5. I am aware of the role of Police in supervising private parties



7. I can identify ways in which I can assist in developing youth safer celebration strategies.



8. In the Macarthur region, there is a coordinated approach to addressing safer celebrations for young people.

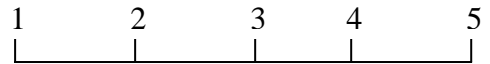


Please circle the relevant response:

**1. Relevance of guest speakers**

Comments: .....

.....  
.....

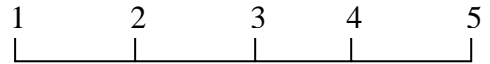


Excellent                      Average                      Poor

**2. Organisation of Summit**

Comments: .....

.....  
.....

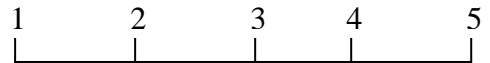


Excellent                      Average                      Poor

**3. Format of Summit - did the Summit flow well?**

Comments: .....

.....  
.....

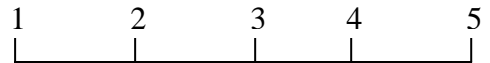


Excellent                      Average                      Poor

**4. Length of Summit**

Comments: .....

.....  
.....

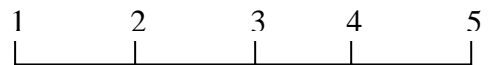


Excellent                      Average                      Poor

**5. Venue**

Comments: .....

.....  
.....

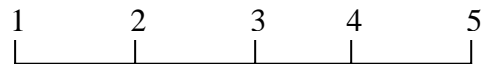


Excellent                      Average                      Poor

**6. Food**

Comments: .....

.....  
.....



Excellent                      Average                      Poor

**What I enjoyed most:**

.....  
.....

**Things I learnt:**

.....  
.....

**I think you should change / include:**

.....  
.....

**Overall comments:**

.....

## **Thrive - Macarthur Youth Safer Celebration Summit Evaluation Summary**

65 participants attended the summit

45%	Young people
15%	Police
11%	Local government
11%	Education
9%	NGO's
7%	Health
2%	Religious

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13%	NESB
4%	ATSI

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50%	Campbelltown LGA
19%	Camden LGA
13%	Wollondilly LGA
7%	Macarthur
7%	Statewide
4%	Other (Liverpool, Cabramatta)

### **1. I have a sound knowledge of youth celebration issues**

Pre Summit	96%	Agree – Strongly Agree
Post Summit	100%	Agree – Strongly Agree

### **2. I am concerned about young people's safety when celebrating**

Pre Summit	98%	Agree – Strongly agree
Post Summit	100%	Agree – Strongly Agree

### **3. I am aware of relevant community services in Macarthur region**

Pre Summit	76%	Agree – Strongly Agree
Post Summit	92%	Agree – Strongly Agree

### **4. Young people play an important role in developing solutions for safer Celebrations**

Pre summit	100%	Agree – Strongly Agree
Post Summit	100%	Agree – Strongly Agree

### **5. I am aware of the role of Police in supervising private parties**

Pre summit	81%	Agree – Strongly Agree
Post summit	100%	Agree – Strongly Agree

**6. I can identify ways in which I can assist in developing youth safer celebration strategies**

Pre Summit	93%	Agree – Strongly Agree
Post summit	100%	Agree – Strongly Agree

**7. In the Macarthur region, there is a coordinated approach to addressing safer celebrations for young people**

Pre Summit	78%	Agree – Strongly Agree
Post Summit	88%	Agree – Strongly Agree

**Relevance of guest speakers**

40% Excellent  
40% Good  
20% Average

Comments:

- Good x 5
- Excellent
- Very relevant
- Very good
- Proposed good ideas x 2
- Youth delegates were good x 8
- Patrick Paroz was good x 2
- Police were good x 2
- Most important to have presence of Commissioner
- Too many speakers x 2
- Need better definition of ideas
- Could be better
- Its not good when guest speakers come and then leave

**Organisation of Summit**

44% Excellent  
56% Good

Comments:

- Well planned, set up and thought out x 10
- Workshops worked well
- Very good x 3
- Good x 3
- Wasn't boring
- I really enjoyed myself

**Format of Summit**

30% Excellent  
54% Good  
16% Average

Comments:

- Yes x 7
- Was everything I expected and more
- Not bad

- Went exceptionally smoothly
- Perhaps group activities too long
- People became distracted at the end
- Workshop difficult when no decision makers were present

### ***Length of Summit***

24% Excellent

50% Good

26% Average

#### Comments:

- Long but still enjoyable x 7
- Good breaks x 2
- Good x 2
- Sufficient
- Just right, let the guest speakers go home and lets get into it
- Got tired a bit
- It goes just as long as school
- More time needed, 2 days might be better x 2

### ***Venue***

60% Excellent

34% Good

4% Average

2% Below Average

#### Comments:

- Great x 4
- Good x 5
- Luxurious
- Air conditioned and service was good
- Accessible to everyone, could be closer to train station

### ***Food***

34% Excellent

40% Good

20% Average

2% Below Average

4% Poor

#### Comments:

- Great x 3
- Good x 2
- Yummy
- Great idea about the free food – thanks
- Plenty for everyone and well presented
- Alright x 2
- Rice was not nice x 3
- Poor

### ***What I enjoyed most:***

- Talking to others with similar concerns on drugs and alcohol for young people x 2
- Interaction in groups with a range of community representatives, different people with different ages x 4
- Think tanks, groups, workshops, brainstorming and discussion with groups x 18
- Trying to work together with external agencies to reduce youth problems
- Seeing Paul Nunnari speak
- The cooperation between groups and guest speakers
- Networking x 4
- Meeting new people and being able to express my views on safety and youth x 8
- Our facilitator Kerrie from Camden Council
- What I learnt x 2
- Meeting a great bunch of people of like mind
- Lunch x 2
- Speakers x 2
- Youth presenters - Toa & Yvette x 3
- Everything about youth and how to help them grow
- Full day

### ***Things I learnt:***

- Young people's perspective on safe celebrations and terminology
- The significance of safe parties and the importance of adults / cops with parties
- Other peoples input x 2
- Issues relating to youth celebration x 2
- The role that the police play in party organisation, cops aren't always bad and out to ruin parties x 8
- We can work together, what I can do to help x 2
- Some of the roles of police and other strategies in DET are not well publicized
- How to have a safe party, how parties can be dealt with, prevent bad things from happening, think carefully about things x 8
- What groups there are to deal with safer parties
- Greater awareness
- Other people share my ideas and thoughts
- Heaps about ongoing issues / problems and possible action / advocacy
- Notification of safe parties x 2
- Appreciation of difficulties of getting the message across to the community
- A lot about safety x 2
- Local initiatives x 4,
- Developing strategies
- More of the problems of growing
- We all come from so many different corners of the world. Lets all try to keep it simple. Our young people are our voice – let them talk!
- There are no easy answers
- Most people wish to get the same point across just some different ways of achieving this
- There are lots of issues out there in the community and lack of knowledge but they don't get resources and skills from government agencies
- So many interested people in youth issues
- Parents can give you alcohol

***I think you should change / include:***

- Conclusion / resolution of the day (what it achieved)
- Nothing
- Any programs / organisations that have implemented safer youth celebrations
- Maybe think of a larger period of time for the solutions. Problems are easier to define solutions take much longer x 2
- Many issues are shared across all communities in relation to young people and safe partying
- Maybe have more students speaking about past experiences and getting the students more involved
- More students 2 from each year
- Have Summits more often
- I think if there was Smarties or jelly babies as well it would be good
- The rice, food - change it x 2
- An overall decision the groups had different major issues, more discussion needed
- Be more aware / in tune with our young people
- More upbeat
- Nothing
- More Pacific Islander and Aboriginal workers. I know this is difficult but it's also essential
- Stronger facilitation to keep people on track
- The length and include somebody famous
- Have more adults in groups with youths x 3
- Information should be translated into CALD languages
- Length of talks at the beginning
- More real life stories
- Morning tea before Paul Nunnari
- Get rid of the TV

***Overall Comments:***

- It is very difficult to brainstorm solutions. We have constraints in making it happen
- Great experience
- Great stuff
- I had a good day – thanks for being concerned about teenagers
- Very good x 5
- Well run Summit
- Patrick Paroz was excellent
- It was a really good day filled with many interesting information relating to me
- Really good day enjoyed it lots. I would like to help out more and hold more of these
- Fine, loved it, going to France in 2007
- Well done
- I had a wonderful time and was glad to have learned and contributed to the Macarthur Youth Safer Celebration Summit
- Well organised and needed – will we get follow up as it becomes available?
- Very informative
- There was difficulty in establishing a coordinated approach to a single issue. I feel many people fail to understand the many complex and dynamic issues that affect the Campbelltown / Camden community. Many approaches are necessary and even then solution is difficult. Consider all members of our community, their needs and fears

- Mix young people with adults in final session. Form groups that focus on issues identified and assign each group an issue. Could reduce duplication of solutions and allow groups to more fully develop action plan
- It was pretty good. Youth Solutions always put good Summits together
- Thank you we are all heading in the same direction
- Good overall but its bad when a guest speaker comes and they say its important but then leave – its not a good message to young people
- Very informative and worthwhile day
- Great opportunity – well done
- Youth Solutions is great and I love being involved. Keep up the good work
- Well done. Good potential solutions developed in our group
- Fully sick – really good meeting others our age
- Great program to be a part of
- Large social issues need to be addressed in this specific local government area

