

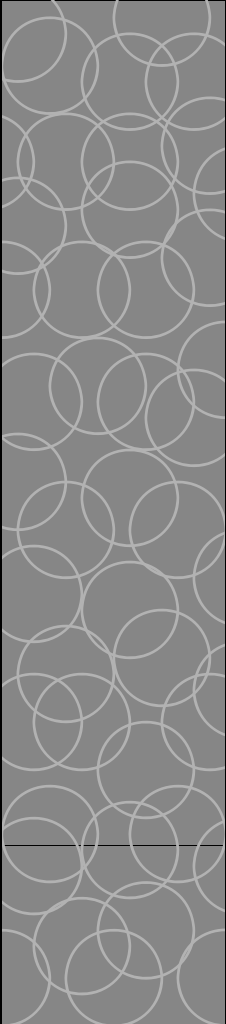
A Youth Perspective to Guide Taranaki CAMHS



*Presented by Megan Wereta, co facilitator of YAG,
and Arlene Jeffery, YAG member, supported by
Melanie Macneil, co facilitator and Shona Clarke
(The Werry Centre)*



General Principals

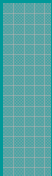


Young people have the opportunity to be involved in planning, implementation and evaluation of the services provided by the Child & Adolescent Mental Health Team.

Ensuring the services of the team are relevant and appropriate to the needs of young people in the Taranaki community.

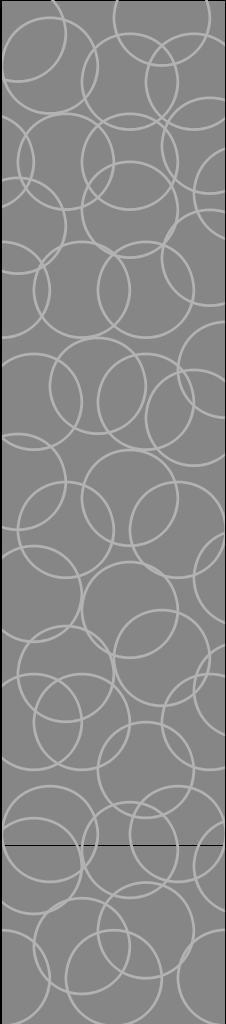
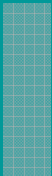
Effective youth participation will lead to services that are more responsive to the needs and expectations of young clients.

Youth participation and feedback will usually be sought in a group context.





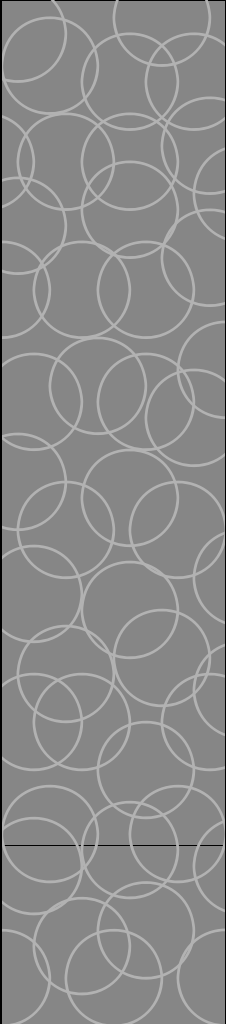
Associated Documents

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- ◆ Standard 9 Consumer Participation - National Mental Health Standards
 - ◆ Guide to effective Consumer (sic) Participation in Mental Health Services, Ministry of Health, 1995
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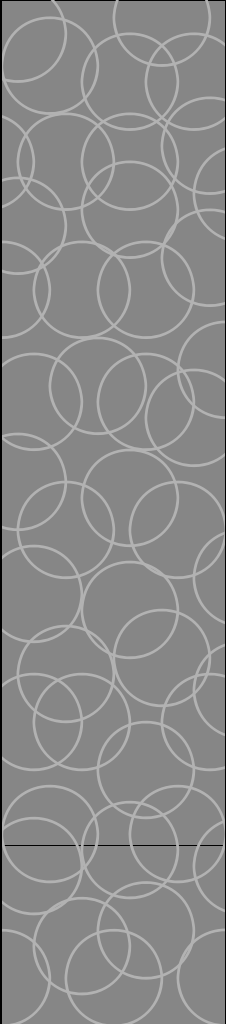
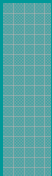
Levels of Participation

Organisational Participation

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- ◆ CAMHS staff will involve the Youth Advisory Group (or its individual members) in decision making which relates to the provision or development of services for young people. Key areas of input include:
 - ◆ Input into staff recruitment – i.e. participating in the interviewing of potential staff.
 - ◆ Input into new and existing youth focused service initiatives
 - ◆ Evaluation of facilities, structure and the marketing, promotion, and image of the team

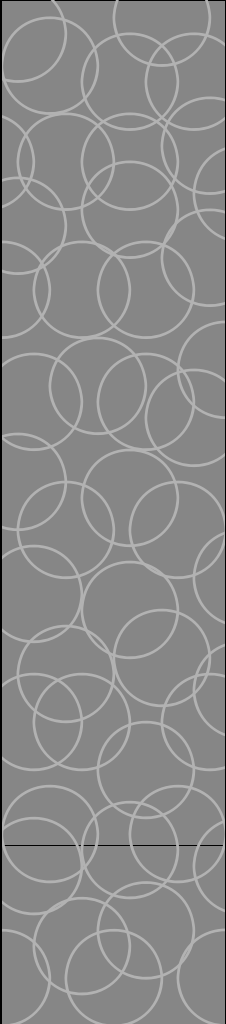
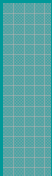


Group Participation

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- ◆ All YAG members will determine their own level of involvement. The group will set its own rules for working in association with the CAMHS staff that are part of the group. All group members will be paid for their time. The rate will be \$10 an hour.



Training and Preparation

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- ◆ Youth Advisory Group members will be fully informed (or where appropriate receive training) on all issues and developments for which their opinion is sought. Responsibility for the coordination of this will rest with the CAMHS staff members who facilitate the group.
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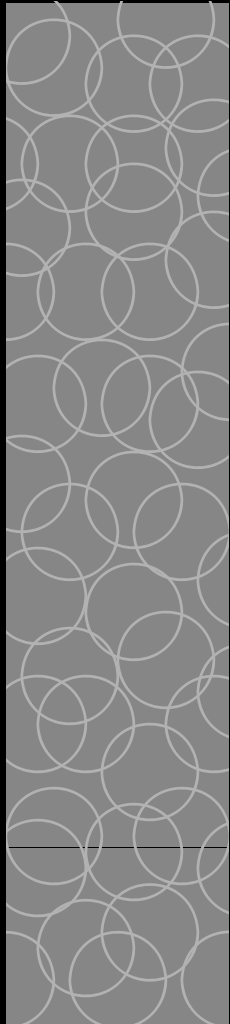
Accountability

- ◆ The minutes from all meetings will be circulated to the Team Leader of the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Team and the General Manager of Mental Health Services. In the past the Consumer Advisor for Adult mental health also received copies as they occupied a primary advocacy role for the YAG, ensuring that appropriate outcomes are sort for all issues that are identified as a result of the group's discussions.

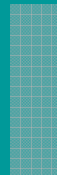
YAG's History

(as Megan knows it)

- ◆ Earliest minutes date back to May 2001. Basically this first meeting was to get comfortable with each other and to talk about how the group might work. The meeting started with intros, taking in a full tour around the Child and Adolescent community centre which housed CAHMS, looked at Trippin and He Nuka mo nga Taitamariki (the national work plan for C&A MH services) both of which our last Youth Advisory group had input into. Finally group rules were made.
- ◆ 5 Youth Advisors were present at the meeting (2 male, 3 females) and 2 staff facilitators.



- ◆ YAG meetings were held on a monthly basis.
- ◆ Participants were between the ages of 14-18 years.
- ◆ Members could leave at anytime.
- ◆ A Process is in place around recruitment.

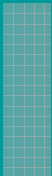


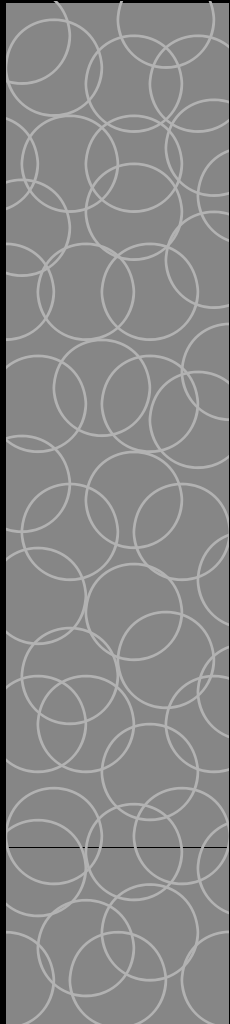


Changes guided by YAG

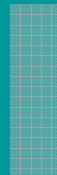


Over 6 years YAG have helped guide the Taranaki CAMHS service. YAG participation has included;

- ◆ being part of the interviewing process by designing standard YAG questions used in all interviews and being an active participant on the panel (if available).
 - ◆ Supporting staff who are studying with mock interviews.
 - ◆ Playing an integral role in the decision making process for the protocols around storage of their child and adolescent mental health files.
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- ◆ Consulted with by various research projects (internal and external from CAMHS) to help provide a youth health perspective.
- ◆ Raised a positive profile around Mental Health for Adolescents.
- ◆ Helped design and create environmental changes to the CAMHS service and resources used in the everyday functioning of CAMHS. The following are just a few;



Hall way art created by YAG

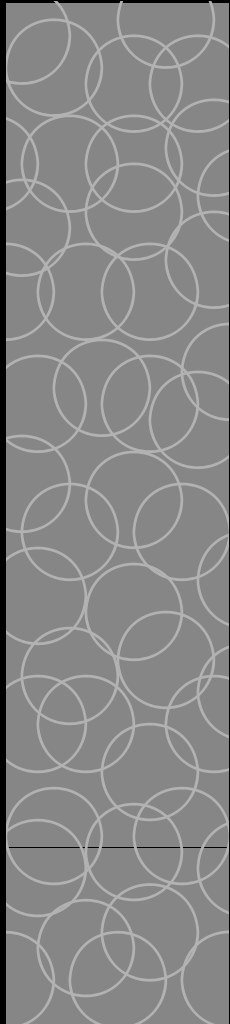
(Second contribution)



Appointment cards



Business cards



Service brochures

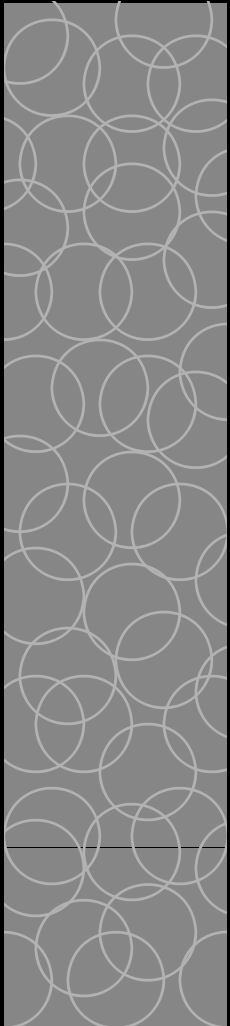
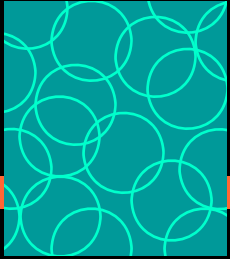




Fact Sheets



Clinic room artwork



Clinic Rooms

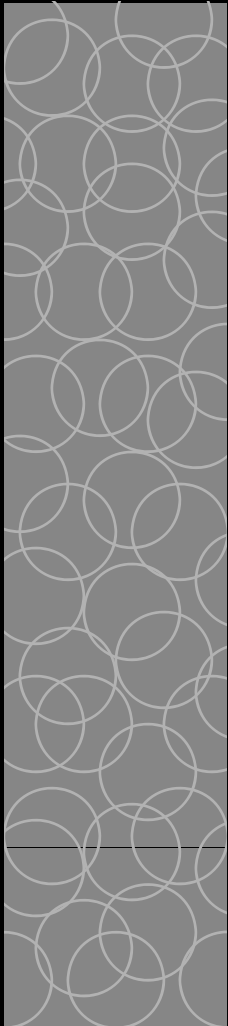


Playroom, too childish?





Youth Waiting Area

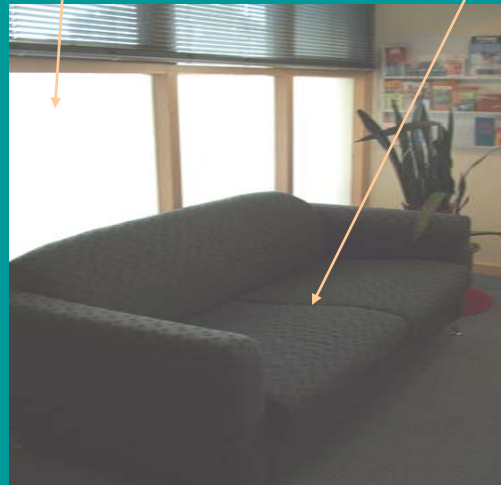


X-Box

Message/graffiti board

Frosted windows

Places to chill



Future ideas for Youth Participation

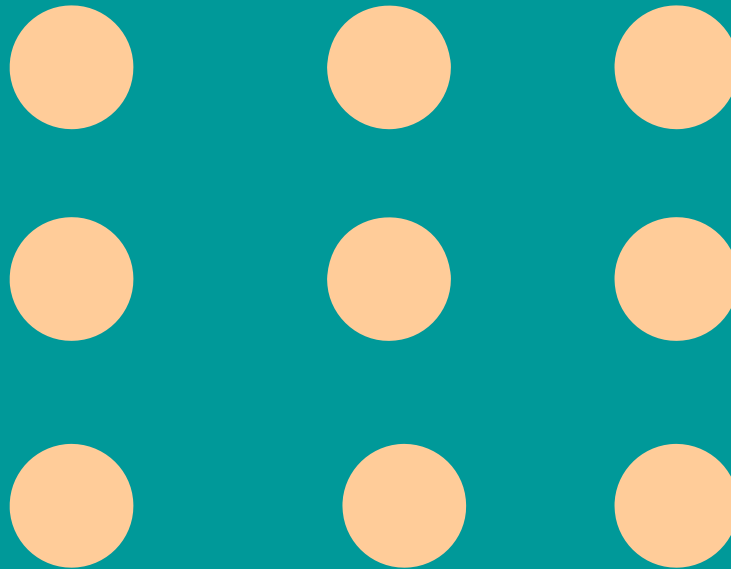
Mel and Megan attending Shona's 1 day training in Wellington around the Guidelines for Enabling Effective Youth Consumer Participation in CAMH and AOD Services in New Zealand. From this workshop a new direction for YAG took shape. Brought the document back to 2 members of YAG to float the idea of employing a Youth Advisor for CAMHS. They felt meeting with Shona would be a good place to start.

Shona was invited and visited Taranaki CAMHS and met 2 members to look at where to from here.

Where to now (to infinity and beyond)



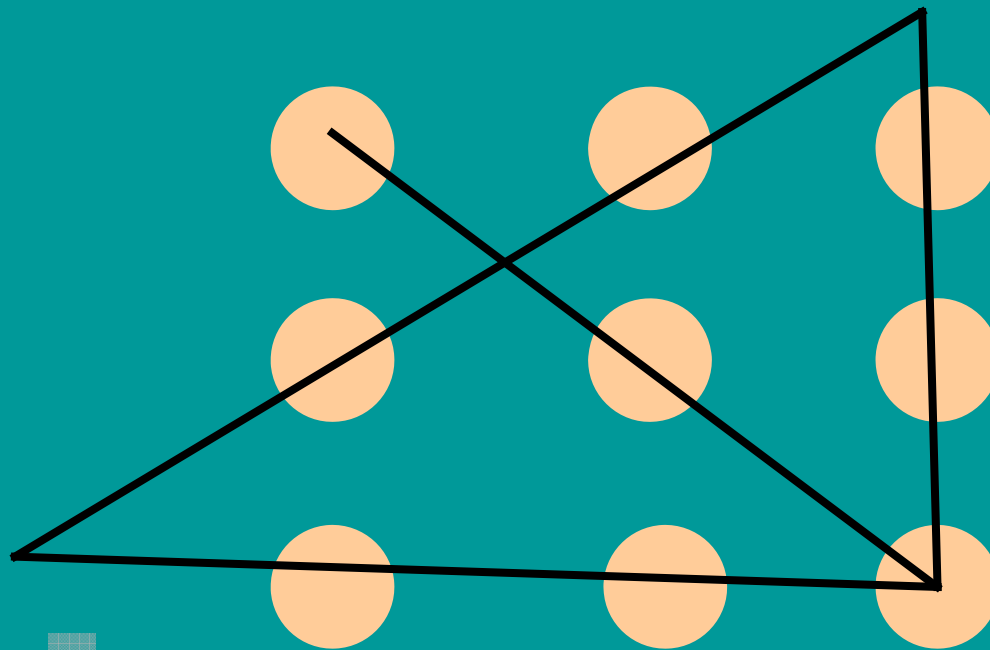
Draw 4 straight continuous lines that go through all of the dots.



Time to think outside the square

Answer

Draw 4 straight continuous lines that go through all of the dots.



Time to think outside the square



Youth participation



Straight from the ~~horses~~
YAG's mouth.

Arlene Jeffery – YAG participant.

