

AGM AUV WELFARE REPORT October 2020

AUV Welfare Advisory Committee was established in July 2019 for the purpose of exploring what AUV could contribute to the community in regards to welfare sector.

Given the global pandemic and uncertainty, we have only been able to meet a couple of times since last AGM in Oct 2019. It has taken some time to collate and save documents digitally in our secure server. Since the committee has only met on four occasions, it is still in the establishment phase of our committee. We are gaining an understanding of the history of welfare at AUV and its current working arrangements meeting CHSP requirements. We currently meet the needs of the elderly through the Senior Citizens Club and CHSP visiting scheme.

AUV would like to explore the scope of possibilities regarding the welfare needs of the Ukrainian community and determine if we have the resources to stretch further to meet these.

PREAMBLE & CONTEXT:

The Association of Ukrainians in Victoria (AUV) provides a welfare service to members of the Ukrainian Community in Victoria, starting in 1981-82 on a voluntary basis. From 1983, AUV received a variety of grants, mainly from the Victorian State government which were small and time limited but allowed the employment of a person(s) to carry out some work. A larger grant was received in 1984 which funded a part-time social worker. Ms Theresa Jaworski joined the AUV Welfare Bureau in May 1988. The main source of funding from that time came from the Home & Community Care Program (HACC), initially from the Victorian State Government, then with joint responsibility with the Federal Government. In the last three years the funding received through the Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP) is only source of funding for AUV. This is a home visiting service to people over 65. CHSP is the first tier of support for the elderly to help them maintain their independence at home under the My Aged Care program.

Who is our target population for CHSP program?

Ukrainians 65+ years of age.

WHAT WELFARE SERVICES AUV PROVIDES:

The Visiting Service is the major component at present of the focus of the AUV Welfare Committee, but in due course is expected to address the needs of the other demographics of our community.

Theresa Jaworski is employed as Social Welfare Officer at the AUV Essendon branch under the Social, Community, Home Care & Disability Services Industry Award. She home visits Ukrainian elderly clients under the Commonwealth Government My Aged Care Program and ensures compliance with CHSP funding and reporting requirements.

AUV is a Service Provider for CHSP program but not funded to provide all services-located under it such as: domestic assistance, transport, meals, personal care, home maintenance and modifications, social support, nursing and allied health.

However, the grant does provide funding assistance for the AUV-Senior Citizens Club-which is one of the instruments used to maintain CHSP clients' cultural connection, independence and social networks.

Theresa coordinates the Senior Citizens Club and holds fortnightly lunches as well as educational, cultural and social activities.

She also supports AUV Geelong Branch Senior Citizens Club Coordinator, Maria Lubczenko as agreed.

The Diversity Plan and Wellness and Reablement Plan record a more exhaustive list of the activities.

There were a number of volunteers in the past and training was provided for them but as time has passed, this number has dwindled. It is my understanding that Theresa predominantly conducts visits but there are others who visit the elderly in our community such as the churches and individuals but not through the CHSP program.

Volunteers also assist with AUV Senior Citizens Club on a larger scale-of approximately 10-15 volunteers.

GOVERNMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR CHSP FUNDING:

AUV area of reach is the Northern Metro Area of Melbourne. We are supposed to be a State-wide service reporting through Northern Metro

Most of following documents have been uploaded to the Welfare Shared Drive folder and/or some files are also in a secure location.

- CHSP Commonwealth Agreement
- Deed variation of agreement
- CHSP Manual
- CHSP Financial Declaration Report Yearly
- HACC Data Reporting
- Diversity Plan
- Diversity Planning & Wellness & Reablement Plan yearly review
- Diversity Population Planning Template
- Wellness & Reablement Plan & Case Study
- CHSP Service Categories
- Aged Care Quality Standards
- Police Checks
- Volunteer Agreement & Training
- Occupational Health & Safety Handbook
- AUV Human Resources Policies
- Welfare minutes & agendas
- CHSP Guidelines – National Guide to the CHSP Client

FREQUENCY OF REPORTING TO GOVERNMENT AND BOARD

Theresa reports to the Commonwealth:

- Activity Work Plan twice a year
- HACC (older form of reporting but most beneficial to us) Data Reporting servicing activities- every 6 months
- CHSP Financial Declaration Report- yearly
- Diversity, Wellness & Reablement every review yearly These plans also contain responsibilities for actions by the AUV Board. -

Chair reports to the Board:

- The Welfare Committee has met only twice since last AGM Nov 30th 2019 due to Covid 19 restrictions and uncertainty. We met in February in person & August 2020 met via Zoom.
- The Welfare Committee chair aims to report to the board at least 3 times a year. So far detailed reporting has been completed in Feb 2020 and September 2020. Correspondence is still occurring regarding Welfare issues via email and phone.

WHAT ARE OUR GAPS?

Recruitment of Volunteers

Exploration of needs in our community

Revise & update Volunteer Manual, Occupational Health and Safety Manual, Policy & Procedure Manual

Explore branches CHSP funding possibilities outside of Northern Metro funding? Communicate with the branches regarding our programs and welfare strategies.

Administration support regarding these updated manuals.

Administration support whilst Theresa is not present.

Examine and clarify how is our data collected. Theresa collect data for the CHSP program but what data is collected for the Senior Citizens Club and other inquiries?

ACHIEVEMENTS:

All documents have been collected and uploaded onto AUV Welfare Drive folder

Welfare financials have been collected and made available to Welfare Committee and AUV.

FUTURE WELFARE POSSIBILITIES

Weaving Mental Health & Wellbeing into community activities and exploration of local community course and information.

Grief groups for people who have lost parents or partners.

Family parenting courses in conjunction with Anglicare or other organisations outside the community.

Create an AUV booklet with Welfare Support services available in community.

Report created by AUV Welfare Advisory Committee Chair

Nadia Mandczewsky

Thank you to all the members of the WAC who contribute their time and resources to benefit our community.

Thank you to Theresa Jaworska who is running the program on the ground and looking after the wellbeing our community as AUV Welfare Officer

Thanks to Slawko Kohut and members of the AUV Board who serve for the welfare of our community.

Members of the committee are:

Theresa Jaworska

Tatiana Zachariak

Stephan Zacharko

Michelle Goltz

Yanina Dutka

Peter Struk

Maria Lubczenko