

## SETSCoP

### Communique: Second meeting of the Youth sub-group

#### Videoconference – 24 November 2020

On 24 November, SETSCoP held its second meeting for members of the Youth sub-group. The meeting was facilitated by Nadine Liddy (MYAN).

#### **Summary of youth trends**

A summary of data shared by the subgroup since the last meeting was discussed, providing an opportunity for attendees to share their insights into current and future projects and considerations. Through the mapping exercise, attendees provided information on 37 projects and initiatives.

#### ***Focus of youth projects***

The four most common focuses for SETS youth projects were:

- Mental health and wellbeing – 49% of projects
- Education and training – 49% of projects
- Access to mainstream services/systems – 46% of projects
- Employment – 38% of projects

Only 8% of initiatives shared by the providers focused on enhancing clients' digital literacy. There was general consensus of the importance in a greater focus on digital literacy skill development as digital engagement becomes more prevalent in SETS service delivery.

Attendees noted that despite some work done in the domestic and family violence and LGBTIQ+ space, that these areas could become more of a focus in the future.

There was discussion around English language, and a general consensus among attendees that this is generally imbedded in other projects and focuses, rather than delivery of a stand-alone English language program for young people.

#### ***Impact of COVID-19***

Attendees briefly shared the impact of COVID-19 on service delivery and young people. Some attendees noted that group work ceased during the pandemic, while others shared of their successful engagement with young people online, such as online homework clubs and social groups.

The associated public health restrictions led SETS providers to focus on sourcing devices for young people and supporting clients with downloading useful apps and platforms.

In addition to isolation and the mental health issues experienced by young people during COVID-19, several providers noted an increase in racism.

### ***Digital literacy***

There is a common misconception that all young people have strong digital literacy skills, however the impact of pre-arrival experiences and exposure to technology need to be considered, with many young people supported by SETS, struggling. Some attendees mentioned that they do not have capacity to support their clients with intensive digital literacy, despite acknowledging it as an area of need.

There has been some good work with digital literacy, however COVID-19 has helped identify gaps and the future of digital engagement for settlement. One attendee shared that they have prioritised supporting the digital literacy of young people, older adults and English language students. Moreover, the importance of recognising online safety and privacy as a key issue was noted.

### **MYAN National Youth Settlement Framework (NYSF)**

A couple of attendees shared their success in applying the NYSF to their youth work, while many expressed a desire to learn more about how the framework could be applied to day-to-day service delivery.

One provider shared of their success in a co-design project with young people and the local city council for development of cane ball courts, and how the NYSF was applied.

Attendees discussed the value of partnerships in work to support young people.

### **Next Meeting**

It was agreed that the next meeting focus on applying the NYSF to SETS and will include a general overview and introduction to the framework and a discussion around reflective practice, in addition to the sharing of case studies supplied by sub-group members prior to the next meeting.