

8TH AUSTRALASIAN CLUBHOUSE CONFERENCE

Hosted by Pioneer Clubhouse Sunday 14th September 2008 to Wednesday 17th September 2008

Monday 15th September, 2008 at 3:30 pm

Workshop Number 8 “Clubhouse support that takes account of ageing”

Facilitator: Anne Lanham Attendees: 24

Workshop presenters:

Jak Denison – Tapestry Clubhouse, Dunedin, New Zealand

Ross Milburn– Tapestry Clubhouse, Dunedin, New Zealand

Anne Walshe – Pioneer Clubhouse, New South Wales, Australia

Franca Coniglio- Pioneer Clubhouse, New South Wales, Australia

Ross Wilson – Bridges Clubhouse, Queensland, Australia

Introduction by facilitator and outline of workshop model that will be used.

Tapestry Clubhouse

Ross talked about the importance to all clubhouses of older members. They provide the backbone of the tasks required to run a clubhouse. They are often in reception, are very competent at data entry they provide advice and support to younger members.

Ross then showed a video produced by Tapestry which showed the clubhouse and included interviews with many stakeholders in the Dunedin area who were aware of the excellent work of Tapestry clubhouse.

Jak spoke of the value of older members not only at clubhouse but in the wider community.

Tapestry based in 2 houses – joined together

Pioneer Clubhouse

Anne Walshe said how much she got out of her membership of Pioneer Clubhouse. Staff are mostly young and dynamic and helped to keep you feeling young and good about yourself. She and husband Ian had been on an overseas trip but got homesick and missed the clubhouse.

She knows that as Ian is ageing he is going to need more and more support from clubhouse and she will need their support to care for him.

Franca Coniglio is a new staff member at Pioneer Clubhouse. She has a special interest in returning people to work in its many forms. As a new staff member, she turns to the older members for advice. She feels that the younger members look to older members for reassurance. There is a very strong interaction between the people of all ages in Pioneer Clubhouse.

Bridges Clubhouse

Ross posed the question – what do we do for older members?

We do not treat them any differently to other members – but recognizes that society sometimes treats older people differently. Age should be no barrier to any activity within clubhouse.

Why do people come to clubhouse?

- To combat loneliness
- To be involved in meaningful work
- Form relationships with people of all ages
- Make you feel better about yourself
- Social activities

WHAT ADDITIONAL SUPPORT DO MEMBERS REQUIRE AS THEY GROW OLDER?

- 1. FRIENDSHIP - SOMEONE TO LISTEN, SHARE EXPERIENCES**
- 2. HELP/ADVOCACY WHEN NEEDED**
- 3. INCREASED NEED FOR INFORMATION ON HEALTH ISSUES**
- 4. INCREASED NEED FOR INFORMATION ON HOUSING AND FUTURE HOUSING OPTIONS**
- 5. INCREASED NEED FOR INFORMATION ON LEGAL MATTERS SUCH AS POWER OF ATTORNEY, WILLS ETC.**
- 6. SOCIAL ACTIVITIES**
- 7. LINKAGE TO OTHER SERVICES**