



Record of the Inaugural EGL Community of Practice (CoP) for the Bay of Plenty

Overview

The event was held in the Tohora Room, Papamoa Community Centre from 1 – 3pm on Thursday July, 26. It was hosted by DPA and ImagineBetter and attended by 45 participants from the Western and Eastern Bays of Plenty and Lakes region.

We opened with Karakia and a brief round of introductions before Garth Bennie of NZDSN spoke about the reason for the CoP.

- He set the scene by outlining the historical context stemming back to the "Inquiry into the quality of care and service provision for people with disabilities" (2008)
<https://www.parliament.nz/resource/0000060750>
- From this review came the New Model trials in the Bay of Plenty beginning in 2010 and the Enabling Good Lives report 2011 with trials in Christchurch and the Waikato.
- Lessons and learning from these three trials have informed the current 'prototype' systems transformation project about to begin in Mid-Central from October 2018.
- The CoP has been created to enable communities who are not directly involved in the mid-central prototype to come together with the view of



- (i) Forming an intentional learning community for participants to exchange skills and knowledge and grow confidence and capacity around specific areas of practice
 - (ii) Building knowledge and understanding of EGL principles
 - (iii) Sharing experiences, learnings and developments about EGL implementation
 - (iv) Consolidating learning in practice
 - (v) Growing leadership for EGL implementation
 - (vi) An ongoing opportunity for providers, family members and disabled persons to learn together and from each other
- Garth also shared about the opportunities for Bay of Plenty / Lakes. His understanding is that our region could be one of the first to begin implementation post the Mid-Central prototype in late 2020 or early 2021. As a community, we have the ability to create our own local movement as both preparation for, and as a way of 'stating our claim' for the opportunity to implement the new system.
 - Garth spoke about the organisational self-review tool and how helpful many organisations have found this in their preparation for the new era, you can find more about this here <http://www.enablinggoodlives.co.nz/about-egl/resources/provider-resources/>
 - It is hoped that this CoP will facilitate and enable to coming together of all interested parties from across the region to enable us to decide on what we want moving forward



The EGL Principles

Participants were given the exercise of naming the EGL Principles. We had group discussion about what these are and why they are the foundation of the EGL movement. They are attached as Appendix One. The EGL website is a very good source of information, you can locate it at <http://www.enablinggoodlives.co.nz/>

What excites us and what makes us nervous about the changes?

We entered a time of where participants shared what they were looking forward to (excited) and what they were worrying about (nervous). A summary of the input follows.

Participants were excited about

- 'Easy to Use'
- Empowerment and choice – be more informed and involved
- Unleash provider creativity
- Service Specs evaporate
- Tapping into the capability building fund for providers and disabled people
- Reaching families/whanau really early
- What are the possibilities – they are huge!
- Opportunities to more effectively connect with people who are 'not paid to be there'
- CoP – National Movement – Effect real change
- We are able to connect with what our communities are already offering
- Moving outside of the MoH contractual boundaries



- Working more collaboratively
- Lots of new opportunities for disabled people
- Having bold and frank conversations
- Do more with what we already have

We were nervous about

- Not getting information as a parent
- Is there enough money?
- Do organisations have enough resources to support families/whanau?
- The challenge for providers of possibility 'running the old and the new' systems concurrently for a period
- Worries around personal responsibility for budget management
- At the coal face it is hard to see the big picture
- The increased decision making for families/whanau who are already struggling to cope
- Put more stress on parents/family/whanau
- How do we reach the people who aren't that interested?
- Will there be enough support for parents?

Conversations also touched on the importance of the 'connector' role within system transformation. Comments included

- Transforming the workforce – training and how it is to be delivered
- Pay equity no longer a minimum wage workforce
- What opportunities does this open up for attracting new people
- Parallels in community development and community led approaches
- Importance of people being able access Te Reo Maori



- Very similar role to the Local Area Coordination role here in BOP/Lakes

What are our next steps?

- Acknowledged that it will be incredibly difficult to organise a time and location that suits everyone
- Acknowledge for some an evening CoP is best and for others the day hours are most suitable. Also the issue of geographical location given we are three regions.
- Two action points flowed
 1. Tony would secure our next session in Te Puke as it offers some travel sharing for all three regions. A date will be selected based on venue availability and the overall preference for a morning i.e. 10 – 12 time slot
 2. People will feedback to Tony with other ideas on how we organise the CoP to better enable everyone to attend that wishes to – please send in your ideas and suggestions. These will be collated and shared with the wider group

Please accept this correspondence as an open invitation to communicate directly about any aspect of the previous, or future, Community of Practice gatherings



Appendix One

Principles to guide change

Achieving our future vision for disability supports is complex and will take time. There will be many details to work through. A principles-based approach will ensure we stay on track to progress the vision. We will use the principles in the Enabling Good Lives report to help guide decisions on the changes. The principles are:

Self-determination

Disabled people are in control of their lives.

Beginning early

Invest early in families and whānau to support them; to be aspirational for their disabled child; to build community and natural supports; and to support disabled children to become independent, rather than waiting for a crisis before support is available.

Person-centred

Disabled people have supports that are tailored to their individual needs and goals, and that take a whole life approach rather than being split across programmes.

Ordinary life outcomes

Disabled people are supported to live an everyday life in everyday places; and are regarded as citizens with opportunities for learning, employment, having a home and family, and social participation - like others at similar stages of life.

Mainstream first

Disabled people are supported to access mainstream services before specialist disability services.



Mana enhancing

The abilities and contributions of disabled people and their families are recognised and respected.

Easy to use

Disabled people have supports that are simple to use and flexible.

Relationship building

Supports build and strengthen relationships between disabled people, their whānau and community.

Long term change direction

- Significant redesign and change will be needed on multiple fronts:
- Building knowledge and skills of disabled people: to ensure disabled people understand the direction for change, and can exercise more choice and control over their supports.
- Investment in families/whānau: to assist them to support their disabled family member to have a good life and help them develop aspirations about what can be achieved.
- Investment to build inclusive communities: to ensure communities, including businesses, workplaces, schools, and cultural, sport and recreational activities, are accessible, welcoming and recognise the contribution of disabled people.
- Changing government systems and processes: to support the system redesign e.g. integrated, outcomes-focussed contracting, individualised funding, funding pooled from across Votes and involving disabled people and families in governance, system and service design and monitoring.

Changes to service provision: to align service governance, delivery models, workforce capability, accountability measures, monitoring and evaluation with the vision and principles of the transformed system.

[Retrieved from <http://www.enablinggoodlives.co.nz/about-egl/egl-approach/principles/> July, 2018]