

Director's update for COM 3/10/16

- At this point in time we are still due to lose 70% of funds (\$400,000) on 31 December, 2016, the federal funds.

Tender:

- The FWO released the tender documents last Friday and we are working on our tender. We have had several linkups with Queensland and SA WWC to determine viabilities of joint or individual tenders and possible models. We have a meeting with our tender writer on Monday 3rd October. We have had another agency approach us about joint tendering, and then, upon being informed this was our core funding, offered to support our application. We also have a meeting this week with DCLS who have offered to support our application.
- The tender scope is not, as previously indicated, limited to migrant workers and/or overseas students. This could be a result of our lobbying.
- Women are not identified in the tender docs as a target group. We need to decide whether pursuing our current service model will risk a rejection of our application.
- Tender applications are due 4th November, the outcome will be announced late Nov or early Dec with newly funded services to commence 1 Jan.

Federal lobbying:

- We had a phone meeting with Senator Nigel Scullion who offered to discuss the tender with Senator Cash. At that stage our main concern was the tender scope would be limited to overseas students and would not reflect NT demographics or need profiles. He agreed with this. He also discussed lobbying for funding that was separate from the tender process, although this is probably no longer relevant now that the tender is not as expected.
- We had a phone meeting (with WWQ and SAWWC) with Amanda McIntyre, Head of Office for Women in Dept of Prime Minister and Cabinet. It was extremely disappointing; she had no background of us or gender issues for women at work, and offered no substantial support for our services.
- We have had various other meetings and contact with high profile supporters, including Ged Kearney (ACTU), Linda White (ASU), Kate Jenkins (Fed Sex Discrimination Commissioner) and Sally Sievers (NT Anti Discrimination Commissioner)

Other funding submissions:

- We have made a grant application to the Community Benefit Fund for \$200,000 for a project to increase workplace responsiveness to D&FV. Outcome will be known 30th November.
- We have made a grant application for \$73,989 to the NT Law Society Public Purposes Trust for a Women's Work Rights campaign targeted at advice and education to indigenous women and legal services.
- We submitted for \$4000 from Dept of Business to assist with the marketing project and were successful.

NTG funding application:

- Our funding application for approx \$300,000 targeted at the Alice office has been provided to all relevant parliamentarians, and is being considered by Dale Wakefield, Minister for

Families. We have been contacted several times for further information. While we have made them fully aware of the urgency, we anticipate that a decision will take at least a month. WE have formally requested a meeting with the Minister.

- We had a meeting with Robyn Lambley at the Darwin office and she also visited the Alice office, on her request.

Marketing project:

- We attended a marketing workshop presented by Michelle Hanton from Dragon Sisters, who we have since engaged as a consultant to assist us with marketing. The Department of Business covers \$4000 of her fee (the balance is \$3128)
- Michelle is helping us professionalise our public image and source funding external to government. We have commenced a crowd funding campaign to source donations.
- The other outcome of the marketing work is to be better placed to source corporate donations. This will ramp up in 2017.

Meanwhile:

- Anne has resigned from her fixed term position in the Darwin office as she was offered an HR consultant position for Government.
- Grace will finish at the end of November and has almost completed her traineeship.
- Maurice Blackburn have offered via MOU to provide us with pro bono services including referral of clients for a free first appointment and assistance with legal checks and updates of our online publications.
- Anna and Rachael will both be attending various training courses as part of October business month addressing Investing with Purpose, and Grant writing and Business Development .
- There has been a lot of community ed sessions delivered, at AMEP (Adult Migrant English Program) at CDU Casuarina and Palmerston, and for international students at CDU.
- Client works continues as normal, ongoing and challenging, and skilfully managed by our ILO team.

Anna Davis, Rachael Uebergang

28/9/16