Community Partnerships Roundtable Communiqué

November | 2024

The Community Partnerships Roundtable (the Roundtable) met on 28 November 2024. The Roundtable is co-chaired by Mike Rowe, Director General of the Department of Communities (Communities) and Louise Giolitto, Chief Executive Officer of the Western Australian Council of Social Service (WACOSS). Members bring a diverse range of experience and expertise to address system-wide issues and plan on matters of strategic importance relevant to the delivery of human services.

The Roundtable noted initial feedback from the Partnership Health Check which will guide the biennial terms of reference review. The Health Check demonstrated an ongoing commitment of Members to deliver on the opportunities and the anticipated benefits of the Roundtable.

WACOSS and Communities provided feedback on the recent WACOSS Contract Management Workshop which aimed to build shared understanding of the roles of each partner, and assist with operationalising relationship based contract management. There is an ongoing commitment from WACOSS and Communities to continue to engage and improve shared understanding.

Volunteering WA presented their advocacy priorities to the Roundtable, developed and informed through extensive consultation with its 800 members and detailed research. Members of the Roundtable noted the importance of Volunteers to their organisations and activities.

Other key discussion items from the meeting included updates on:

* emergency activations by Communities’ Emergency Relief and Support team;
* the recent meeting of the Commissioning and Data Sharing Working Group;
* the Commissioning timeline and opportunities for Sector Support Development and Advocacy program, including Peak involvement; and
* Caretaker period and the impact the election has on budget timelines, and prioritisation of election commitments.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 25 March 2025.

Further information

The Secretariat can be contacted by email: SectorPartnerships@communities.wa.gov.au