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Mike Blaszczyk

Futures Alliance Member &

CEO – McCall Gardens Community Ltd.

Re: Additional Written Questions on Notice - Responses

In your opinion is the current number of NGO's viable? And would you consider the notion of there being a 'right mix' of large and small NGO's?

The ongoing financial and human resource viability of individual NGO service providers will generally determine their lifespan within the sector. In respect to the overall numbers (406) I sense that administratively it would be preferable for ADHC to have a smaller number of providers to do business with and that a reduced arrangement would be perceived as a more efficient option. From this perspective the current number of NGO's is not the most viable option for the funder, ADHC.

However, there is an argument that the broad mix within the NGO sector adds to the richness, variety and differentness in the services provided. My impression is that small and medium sized NGO's can produce outstanding outcomes for people with disability. I would also suggest that there is ample evidence that these NGO's can provide services as effectively and efficiently as their colleagues in the corporate, larger NGO's.

Further it could be argued that the direct relationship with the person with a disability, their family networks and local communities is more easily facilitated within the smaller services. In my view then the right mix should be determined by the 'consumers' of the disability services – people with a disability and their families.

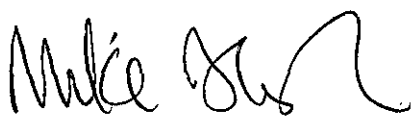
Have your individual organisations noticed any cost saving or other efficiencies since forming the Futures Alliance?

The Futures Alliance has produced significant network building and a bridge between Aged Care and Disability providers, Peak bodies, Academics and consumer representatives. These relationships will no doubt afford opportunity for shared and innovative cooperation in the future. The real and immediate gains have been in developing understanding and shared knowledge of each others' perspectives and specialist advice/opinion. Information sharing and referral has been a useful by product for service providers.

Would you recommend other organisations form similar alliances?

Yes and particularly so where different sector interests are needing to come together to influence Public policy and planning.

Thank you.



Mike Blaszczyk

14 / 09 / 2010