**Minutes of meeting with Samaila and Bernadette Pitman at TSF Inala. May 6th 2010**

**Q1. Transition pathway needs.**TSF scholarships; 50% of TSF scholarship holders go to Tertiary Education, (40%Uni, 60% TAFE)Students are recruited from early learning days and are recruited along with their families and career counselling is available to them from QUT and other organisations.

Lack of program continuity is an issue for needy students in the area

**Q2**. **Key contacts:** **Brenda Shirley** GSHS community contact; **Michael Knox,** Principal GSHS**; Leanne Rafferty,** HOD Senior school; **Tonia Carew**, Oxley police; **Premier’s office rep.**

**Q3. Current programs and partnerships.**

* **Education & Training.** Forest Lake SHS is not as culturally responsive as GSHS, but the Principal should be contacted. Hilary Bell who is guidance officer at Corinda SHS, (which is the ‘super school’ of the area), and GSHS students aspire to attend there. Bremer TAFE at Inala has a very low profile with all schools in the area. Formal partnerships with uq ,provide free counselling services
* **Parent groups.** They are fragmented and are not a player in the education/transition process in the local Inala area.
* **Community Groups.** TSF; IYS; PCYC; (Inala PCYC is trying to work with parents to open an alternative education venue – Career Keys). Samaila and Lomaz will email me more details of this, including contact names and numbers. Oxley Police head up a high profile group which hopes to establish an alternative education venue at a former school site close to Inala. (Project Exit). Edmund Rice outreach program for 13 students who have serious engagement issues. Inala mens’ shed for the o9lder at risk youth.
* **Business & Industry.** PCYC employs youth locally, Bluefin sports club is a potential employer of Hospitality & Retail positions;

**General.** Christmas for Kids’ is a local annual event that engages the community. (Lisa TO is the con tact. Samaila will email me her details). The Ipswich Chamber of Commerce may be the commercial vehicle for engaging business.

**Of some importance:** The Police pilot study of Project Exit with 12 students currently has the potential, with community support and some funding, to cater for up to 80 disengaged students. Tonia Carew, police superintendent and BCC are strong players, as is the Premier’s office. This has come about in part because of the 10,000 days lost to absence from school of students at GSHS.

Spiritus and TSF have indicated their interest in attending the next meeting of the focus group.

 Tom McCue

 Bill Brown

 TSF Partnership Brokers. 7th May 2010