

# MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday 14 January 2014

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## Stuart Shanker Returns to WA

The WA Council of Social Service (WACOSS) has released an exciting program of events which will take place when Dr Stuart Shanker returns to WA early next month. Dr. Stuart Shanker is Distinguished Research Professor of Philosophy and Psychology at York University and Director of the Milton and Ethel Harris Research Initiative.

Irina Cattalini, CEO of the Council said: "Stuart Shanker made such an impression when he was in WA as the Commissioner for Children and Young People 2012 Thinker in Residence with his work around self-regulation in children, that we were very keen to see if we could bring him back to Perth".

"This visit, in which Dr Shanker will be joined by his colleague, Mike McKay, provides an excellent opportunity to build on the work Stuart initiated when he was here previously." Ms Cattalini said.

One of the keynote events will be a public lecture for parents to be held at Scotch College on the evening of Thursday, February 6<sup>th</sup>. It will be complemented by 2 daytime sessions in the north and south metro areas.

Ms Cattalini indicated that there will also be a public seminar aimed at practitioners and master classes at both an introductory and advanced level. A number of organisations will also be conducting specialised consultancies or events with Dr Shanker and/or Mr McKay while they are in Perth.

WACOSS is pleased to be supported in this work by five of our member organisations- Parkerville, Communicare, Child Australia, Wanslea, and Ngala as well as our Corporate Partner Woodside and a number of West Australian State Government agencies. "This level of support has been fantastic and demonstrates how significant the work around self-regulation is" said Ms Cattalini.

**Media Interviews:** Irina Cattalini, WACOSS CEO, is available for media interviews in the lead-up to Dr Shanker and Mr McKay arriving in Perth. Contact: 0422 422 438 or 9420 7222.

While there is a very full program, several timeslots have been set aside to accommodate media requests for an interview with Dr Shanker and/or Mr McKay while they are in Perth. Such requests or any queries about this initiative should be directed to Helen Creed at WACOSS on 9420 7222 or [Helen@wacoss.org.au](mailto:Helen@wacoss.org.au).

Please visit [www.wacoss.org.au](http://www.wacoss.org.au) or [www.wacoss.org.au/Shanker2014](http://www.wacoss.org.au/Shanker2014)