



WACOSS eNews - 17th December 2015

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General WACOSS News

WARM WISHES FROM WACOSS

On behalf of all the team at WACOSS I'd like to thank you for everything you've done in 2015 to help get us closer to our vision of an inclusive, just and equitable society.

It's been a huge year, and as it draws to a close, there is a lot to reflect on about the people in our community who have done it tough this year, and for who the holiday season may be difficult.

With your help, WACOSS has made a big difference to so many lives this year, and we can say the same for all our members and supporters out there providing vital services, leadership and advocacy in our community.

We wish you and your loved ones a wonderful holiday and well-earned rest and hope 2016 brings us together again to keep moving towards a fairer community that leaves no one behind.



Warm wishes,
Irina

Register NOW: Learning for Purpose Program

Community sector organisations in Western Australia will benefit from a new Action Learning program to help them address the growing organisational, managerial, and societal challenges they face. The inaugural Action Learning program is being offered at **no cost** to selected leaders of community sector organisations in Western Australia. For more information, [click here](#).

Diploma of Leadership & Management

Applications for the Diploma of Leadership & Management are closing soon. This highly valued course has remained a benchmark for managers and team leaders in the business sector. This program is designed and tailored for those in management roles within the community services sector who wish to further their managerial background with management qualifications. For more information on the course or to apply [click here](#).

WACOSS Conference 2016 – “WAY Ahead: Leave no one behind”

The WA Council of Social Service (WACOSS) would like to invite you to participate in the WACOSS Conference 2016, "WAY Ahead: Leave no one behind" by submitting an abstract for consideration by the conference committee to present at the WACOSS Conference 2016 or Sector Networking Day.

The conference theme, "WAY Ahead: Leave no one behind" will look at the future of the Community Services Sector in Western Australia. We know that there are amazing projects, service designs and initiatives being undertaken in the Community Services Sector in WA, nationally and internationally. We are looking for presenters to share, discuss, debate and reflect on the emerging issues in the WA community and share how the sector can meet the challenges of these complex issues now and in the future.

For more information on the themes for the Networking day and Conference, please visit the WACOSS website by [clicking here](#).

WACOSS Training, Workshops and Seminars

- [Dispute Resolution & Mediation](#) - Wed 3rd Feb
- [DropIN 101 - Thu 4th Feb](#) - WEBINAR
- [Collaborations, Mergers & Acquisitions](#) - Fri 12th Feb
- [Emergency Relief \(ER\) Essentials](#) - Thu 18th Feb
- [Mastering Email & Workflow](#) - Thu 18th Feb

- [Communicating & Connecting with Aboriginal Clients](#) - Thu 25th Feb
- [Developing a Reconciliation Action Plan \(RAP\)](#) - Tue 1st Mar
- [DropIN Champions - Wed 2nd Mar](#) - WEBINAR
- [Diploma of Leadership & Management](#) - Tue 8th Mar
- [High Performance Boards](#) - Wed 9th Mar

[Subscribe](#) to our events alert and keep informed on the latest events and workshops.

Sector News

Invitation for Involvement in Mission Australia's "Christmas Lunch in the Park"

This year marks Mission Australia's 40th annual Christmas Lunch in the Park (CLIP). As Christmas can be a difficult time for some people, in past years a small team of counsellors have been available at the lunch to chat with people who are experiencing distress. This year, Mission Australia are taking this concept a step further with what they have called the "CLIP Connect Chillout tent".

Mission Australia is inviting the involvement of any experienced community sector people who would like to be part of the event, and who may have a couple of hours spare on Christmas Day, to sit in the comfortable environment of the CLIP Connect tent for an hour or so each and make their services available.

For more information, Amanda Hunt on hunta@missionaustralia.com.au, or Contact Scott Vawser on VawserS@missionaustralia.com.au

St. Patricks - Christmas Hamper Donations

Christmas at St. Pat's is a busy time with lots of people in crisis coming to the Centre. St Pat's would love your help this year to bring a little joy to those West Australians in need by providing them with a festive box of food to share with their family or friends over the festive season.

If you would like to help you can either provide a hamper which costs approximately \$20 (see the [information attached](#) for the specific items we will be needing for the hampers) or donate to St. Pat's and we can put the hamper together for you (www.stpats.com.au and go to the donate button). For any more information please either email Melanie Watkins or telephone her on 9430 4159.

MercyCare's 2015 Christmas Appeal

It's heartbreaking to know that this Christmas may be the first time some of the children in care have ever received Christmas gifts or enjoyed a special Christmas dinner. For some, it may be

the first Christmas they can feel safe from abuse and neglect. It is with this in mind that MercyCare asks for donations to their First Time Ever Fund. Your donation will enable them to leave gifts under the Christmas tree for children in their care.

For further informaton, [click here](#)

2015 Evaluation of the Funding and Contracting with the Not for Profit Sector Initiative

Preparation has commenced for the 2015 Evaluation Report on the State Government's Sustainable Funding and Contracting with the Not-for-Profit (NFP) Sector Initiative, the *Delivering Community Services in Partnership* Policy and associated procurement reforms. The 2015 survey again provides an invaluable opportunity for the NFP sector to highlight successes as well as the challenges they experienced in 2014-15 in implementing these reforms.

This survey ideally is to be answered by a senior officer in your organisation that is able to address questions specifically relating to the organisation's human resources, sustainability and contracting arrangements. Please be aware that all information gathered will be treated with the strictest confidentiality and results will only be reported at an aggregated level.

Please use [this hyperlink](#) to respond to the 2015 survey by **29th January, 2016**. If this link does not open, please paste the following URL into your web browser:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NFPcontracting>

UWA Centre for Social Impact Outcomes Measurement Study

In a study funded by the Bankwest Foundation, the University of Western Australia Centre for Social Impact is undertaking ground-breaking research examining the state of play in outcomes measurement in the West Australian community sector.

The study is led by Professor Paul Flatau and seeks to explore the current state of outcomes measurement in Western Australia, key barriers and challenges faced by community sector organisations, and the relationship between funders and outcomes measurement. Understanding outcomes measurement enables organisations to better understand the difference they are making and the most effective way of supporting clients; provides recognition of the value delivered by community organisations, and strengthens the case for funding of community organisations.

The survey represents the first step towards understanding the state of outcomes measurement in Western Australia, and will inform future initiatives to reduce barriers and improve outcomes measurement. The important findings of the study will ensure that the

impact of community organisations in Western Australia is widely recognised.

If you wish to participate and have not received a link, contact Ami Seivwright at the UWA Centre for Social Impact at ami.seivwright@uwa.edu.au.

Community Sector Roundtable Information Paper

Recently the Education Department WA updated the "Community Sector Roundtable Information Paper".

This paper provides a summary and breakdown of Child and Parent Centres, Family Support Networks, Communities for Children and Kindilinks. Included within the document is an overview of each program, information on how programs may be similar or different from one another and State wide locations.

For further information, please contact Sue Nye, Manager Social Policy at WACOSS sue@wacoss.org.au or Lynne Day Lynne.day@education.wa.edu.au from the Department of Education. To view the updated paper, please [click here](#).

Our Children Can't Wait: Commissioner for Children and Young People calls for greater focus on children's mental health

A stronger priority on children's mental health, increased mental health prevention and early intervention services and targeted programs for vulnerable children are key recommendations of a report tabled in the WA Parliament by Commissioner for Children and Young People Colin Pettit.

The Commissioner is inviting comment from organisations and individuals about the issues they deem important to the wellbeing of our youngest citizens. This information will be collated and considered in ongoing work and future planning.

The following web page has been created and will be open until 31 Jan - <http://www.cryp.wa.gov.au/article/news/Have-your-say-to-support-children-and-young-people.aspx>

For more information, please [click here](#), or [click here](#) to read the full report.

Aes16 International Evaluation Conference – Call for Conference Proposals

Australasian Evaluation Society Ltd welcomes proposals for the [aes16 International Evaluation Conference](#) to be held in Perth from 17 to 21 September 2016. Proposals will be accepted for

pre-conference workshops (17to 18 September) and conference presentations (19 to 21 September).

For further information, [click here](#).

Pilbara Research Online Portal

Regional Development Australia (RDA) Pilbara in partnership with Pilbara Regional Council and in collaboration with Pilbara Development Commission have an online portal showcasing reports, submissions and publications that have been created with information pertaining to the Pilbara region.

This online portal is a reference tool for any organisation to access past and current documents which have been released from key businesses and organisations.

Access to viewing this portal is www.pilbararesearchonline.com.au or if you would like to add any documents or reports to this uploading site please contact **Anita Watts** at RDA Pilbara on **(08) 9144 0651** or ea@rdapilbara.org.au.

Australia's Bridge - Pro Bono Architecture, Engineering & Construction Services

Australia's Bridge is a not-for-profit organisation whose mission is to create better communities through connecting architecture, engineering and construction businesses with Australian community organisations in need of their pro bono services. They have created a virtual market place where you can find engineering and architectural services for your project, varying from concept development through to construction.

For further information regarding the Australia's Bridge please contact CEO Margot Matthews margot.matthews@australiasbridge.org.au , or visit their website www.AustraliasBridge.org.au

Available Office Space – Claisebrook Lotteries House

From January 2016 there will be available office space at Claisebrook Lotteries House.

The 1st floor Office Space is 18sqm. It would suit a small organisation, fitting 1-3 desks (depending on configuration). Office furniture currently in the room will also be available for purchase if needed.

If you are a not for profit organisation looking for space similar to the above or want to be added to our wait list and advised of future opportunities please contact Jane at Claisebrook Lotteries House via our website <http://www.claisebrooklotterieshouse.com.au/contact-us.html>

Rise Network - Office Space Available March/April 2016

Rise is purchasing a property in Cockburn with a view to creating a NFP hub. Rise have been in discussion with complementary service providers about entering arrangements to “share” space in the building. The goal is to establish a ‘One-Stop-Shop’ type space that adds value to visitors to the premises.

As a disability service provider the building meets (and in many ways exceeds) universal design principles. It is accessible for people with disability and has toileting and changing facility to meet the needs of people with complex physical disability. There is accessible parking and shared parking spaces for staff/visitors. There will also be access to shared multipurpose meeting rooms, reception space and staffed reception (during regular office hours) – somewhat like a Professional Managed Suite

Rise are inviting Community Groups / Service Providers to contact Rise to express an interest in sharing this space or learning more about the opportunity. Rates are based on the needs of the external party – be that access to a Hotdesk, dedicated m2 permanent desks and/or offices for their fulltime staff etc. Costs will reflect a cost-plus approach that is affordable to Community and Not-for-Profit sectors. We are anticipating the building becoming available March/ April 2016.

Please contact **Simon Robbins** on **08 6274 3753** or simon.robbins@risenetwork.com.au

HUGS Now Unavailable Through Financial Counsellors

As of 1 Oct 2015, people who wish to apply for a Hardship Utilities Grant will need to negotiate a payment arrangement directly with their utility. Hardship Utilities Grants will no longer be available through financial counsellors.

"If you approach a utility for a HUGS grant and are told you must meet with a financial counsellor before it is granted, be aware that recent funding cuts mean the number of financial counsellors across WA has been greatly reduced," Charlie Brown, Executive Officer of FCAWA. "It's likely you won't be able to get an appointment for several weeks."

The grants enable Western Australians experiencing financial hardship to keep connected to their electricity, water or gas services. [Read more...](#)

Sector Events

Victim Awareness Training Program - Jan 2016

angelhands Inc presents the launch of the Victim Awareness Training Program.

- Lived-experience and theoretical approaches to better management of traumatised

- Survivors of violent crime,
- Delivered by the only free ongoing trauma specialised service in Perth.

Workshops are also FREE to attend or host. These will be a half day in duration, plus networking time. Workshops are to be scheduled on agreement between angelhands and the organisation, and will begin in January 2015. [Click here](#) for more information.

AASW: Reconnecting with ‘Self’ as a Professional: Albany Workshop - 11th Feb 2016, Perth Workshop - 10th Mar 2016

This is an interactive one-day workshop where participants will get the opportunity to think-through the way they define and present themselves, and are defined and perceived by others, in their current work role and more broadly. The premise underpinning this focus is that to be effective and potent professional, Social Workers need to 'trust themselves in action', and that this in turn requires a clear sense of who we are and where we fit professionally. Presenter: Dr Brenda Clare.

For more information, [click here](#).

AASW: Innovations in Human Service Delivery: Local innovation case studies here in WA - 24th Feb 2016

This seminar provides us with an opportunity to find out about local innovation in human service delivery, at Holyoake and the St Vincent de Paul Society.

Angie Paskevicius CEO, Holyoake and Mark Fitzpatrick CEO St Vincent de Paul Society, will discuss how they are using innovative strategies to transform their organisations and importantly meet the needs of their clients and the community.

If you are looking for new ideas to implement that difficult project, fund new initiatives or develop new sustainable strategies in your organisation, this Seminar might be the catalyst to start the process.

For more information, [click here](#).

[Community Sector Jobs Board](#)

The following positions are currently advertised on the WACOSS/ANSON Community Jobs Board. [Click here](#) to view the vacancies in full.

- [Housing Authority - Senior/Principal Policy Officer](#)
- [St Barts – Community Support Worker – Contract](#)
- [Community First – Mental Health Recovery Worker – Part-time](#)

- [UnitingCare West – Support Workers, Disability – Casual](#)

If you would like to advertise your vacancies on the WACOSS/ANSON Community Jobs page please contact John Broweleit at ANSON at jcho@anson.com.au

[Subscribe me to this list.](#)



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