

WACOSS eNews- 27th April 2011

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General WACOSS News

BOOK NOW: Strategic Energy Initiative Community Consultation Workshop 4th May 2011

Concerned about affordable, sustainable and safe energy into the future? WACOSS and the Office of Energy invite you to discuss your thoughts and provide valuable input into the State Government's Strategic Energy Initiative Energy2031 Directions Paper.

[Click here](#) for more details and to book your place

Social Policy Events: RESIDENTIAL ELECTRICITY PRICES – HAVE YOUR SAY. Community consultation forums for the tariff and concession framework review.

Over last month, WACOSS and the Office of Energy have been conducting community forums on residential electricity prices and energy concessions as part of the Tariff and Concessions Framework Review. Forums were conducted in Esperance,

Albany, Kalgoorlie and Geraldton. Two forums were held in Perth. These events have allowed many community groups and members of the public to have their say in the policy framework.

[click here](#) to read more

WACOSS Media Release: Snapshot of Rental Affordability Crisis in WA 14th April

Research released today by Anglicare WA has provided a snapshot of the lived experience of housing insecurity in Western Australia.

Anglicare WA reviewed all the private rental accommodation available across the State on Saturday 9 April 2011 and found that less than half a percent of the private rental properties advertised were affordable for people living on low incomes.

[click here](#) to read more

Referral Secrets in the ER Sector: WACOSS IntERactions Emergency Relief Conference 17- 18th May

Do you know where to send your ER clients for a no-interest loan?

Who can help someone experiencing trauma?

Is there anyone who can loan furniture to families in need?

What should clients do if they can't pay the power bill?

One highlight of the 2011 ER conference will be "Services You Should Know About": your chance to get up close and personal with a range of ER services, which you may not know exist.

Other highlights include speakers such as **Cassandra Goldie, CEO ACOSS** and special guest **MC Graham Mabury from radio 6PR**. We will also explore how to "rename and reframe" ER and explore Social Enterprise Models.

With subsidies provided for attendance, there's no reason to miss out. [Click here](#) for more information

The UWA Business School Forum: Innovations in Homelessness Policy and Services in WA

The UWA Business School Centre for Social Impact and Social Innovation in Western Australia (SiiWA) will be holding a Forum, Innovations in Homelessness Policy and Services in Western Australia New Services, Employment Options, Housing and Financing Options on Tuesday 3 May 2011.

[click here](#) to read more

Individualised Support and Funding in Mental Health, Furthering the Conversation with Dr Michael Kendrick

On Monday 11 April 2011 the Mental Health Commission held its second conversation about introducing individualised support and funding in Mental Health in Western Australia. Following on from the first conversation on 10 March, guest speaker Dr Michael Kendrick gave a wide ranging presentation that looked at individualised support and funding from a whole of sector perspective.

[click here](#) to read more

Expressions of Interest: Western Australian Association of Mental Health Consumers

Following on from the Mental Health Consumers forum held on 29 March 2011, the Mental Health Commission is inviting Expressions of Interest for the establishment of the Western Australian Association of Mental Health Consumers.

[Click here](#) to read more

WACOSS FACTSHEET: The Death of the Western Australian SACS Award, 27th March

Are you still in the Western Australian state system? Are you in the social and community sector? Do you benchmark against the Social and Community Services (Western Australia) Award? Things have changed as at 27 March 2011 ... Again.

[click here](#) for more information

WACOSS Workshops and Seminars

CANCELLED TRAINING Self-Care in the Workplace April 27

We have had to cancel the course "Self Care in the Workplace" which was due to take place on April 27. If you are interested in attending this workshop in the future, please email training@wacoss.org.au

Oh my Goodness – I'm on a Board! May 3

Being on a board or management committee can be a very rewarding experience, but also very daunting at first. If you have just been elected to a Board or Committee for the very first time, or have been on a Board for a short while and don't feel you are contributing as much as you could or should be, then this is the workshop for you.

[Click here](#) for more information, and to book online

Free Budget Counselling Training

Help your clients manage their personal budgets, and increase financial literacy. If you work, paid or unpaid, in emergency relief and would like to offer budget counselling services to your clients, this two day course is a must. The units covered count towards a Certificate III in Community Services, and all participants receive a Statement of Attainment upon successful completion of the assessment tasks. The training will take place in:

Kalgoorlie April 28-29 (RSVP April 21)

Albany May 11-12 (RSVP May 2)

Bunbury May 12-13 (RSVP May 2)

Geraldton May 26-27 (RSVP May 12)

Perth June 2-3 (RSVP May 19)

Broome June 13-14 (RSVP May 30)

Please email training@wacoss.org.au to register your interest, or for more information.

Free Emergency Relief Training: Advocacy and Referral Skills – Northam May 25

This workshop is targeted at paid and unpaid emergency relief staff who would like to develop their skills in the area of client advocacy. The course covers client rights and confidentiality, empowering advocacy, making appropriate referrals, setting boundaries, and debriefing.

To register your interest please contact training@wacoss.org.au

Sector News

Utilities Announce dates for Easter Moratoriums on Disconnection and Restriction

WA energy and water retailers have announced dates for moratoriums on disconnection and restriction during the 2011 Easter holiday period.

[Click here](#) to read more about Moratorium arrangements for the respective retailers.

Becoming A Constable Care Corporate Partner

Constable Care Child Safety Foundation is a registered charitable organisation. Your business is invited to support the valuable work of Constable Care in the community.

[click here](#) to read more

Working with Young People and the Law Training Program

Youth Legal Service WA Inc are holding a series of workshops in May

[Click here](#) for further details

Outdoor Family Fun competition for Families Week 2011

The Department for Communities Outdoor Family Fun competition, in the lead up to Families Week 2011, is now open! Families are encouraged to submit a photo, one page story, one page letter, a drawing or 2-5 minute video clip that represents the theme of Outdoor Family Fun.

[click here](#) to read more

Not For Profit Mentoring Assistance Opportunity

For details on CPA Australia's Not for Profit Group Volunteer Mentor The Treasurer Program [click here](#)

Not for Profit Conference 23rd-24th May 2011

Click here for details on the upcoming Not for Profit Conference.

If you are a WACOSS member you can access the member pricing – but please contact Julie Egonidis as WACOSS members should email their registration to her so that she can ensure they pay member prices.

Julie's email is Julie.Egonidis@cpaaustralia.com.au

WA Training Awards 2011

The awards recognise and reward outstanding achievements of apprentices, trainees and vocational students, and the contribution to training made by trainers, training organisations and employers. Winners of the WA Training Awards may be eligible to represent the State at the Australian Training Awards in Brisbane on 25 November 2011.

[Click here](#) for further details

Aboriginal Men's Meeting

Aboriginal men living in the Northern Suburbs are invited to a Men's Meeting on the 13th May

[click here](#) for further details

Invitation for NFP Organisations: A study investigating the feasibility of implementing a national approach to universal child and family health services.

The multidisciplinary study known as CHoRUS (Child Health: Researching Universal Services) is in Phase 1.[see below] This is a national study funded by the Australian Research Council

[click here](#) to read more

Road Blessing Free Movies

The Office of Road Safety are holding a series of free outdoor movie screening to highlight the vital role seat belts play in saving lives when we drive.

[Click here](#) for further information

Expressions of Interest: ConnectGroups Art Exhibition

ConnectGroups have decided to incorporate an art, photography and poetry exhibition as part of the National Self Help and Support Groups Awareness Day.

[Click here](#) to read more

Reinvent your career without quitting your day job – new mental health courses

Curtin University has recently introduced three new part-time mental health pathways at postgraduate level, which are the first of their kind in Australia in that they combine recovery and psychosocial interventions.

[click here](#) to read more

Call for abstract submissions, National Men's Health Gathering 2011

The Men's Health Gathering 2011 provides a chance for delegates to participate in strengthening the advancement of male health in the Australasian region and beyond through effective strategic planning and knowledge management.

Abstract submissions for the 6th National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Male Health Convention are now open.

[Click here](#) to read more

Sector Events

Foundation Housing Ltd and The Community Housing Coalition of WA invite you to attend the first of its series of Partnership forums

The forums are an opportunity for you to hear and discuss how Foundation Housing works in partnership with providers to deliver the best outcomes to clients/tenants.

[click here](#) for more details

Shelter WA *Renting in WA* FREE Public Forum

Renting in WA? What are the issues? What is your experience? Shelter WA want to hear from you.

Shelter WA are holding 2 free public forums on the 10th and 25th May.

For further details [click here](#)

Upcoming Courses at Richmond Fellowship WA

Richmond Fellowship of WA are holding the following courses in May and June;

Abuse, Trauma and Dissociation with Jacqui Dillon. 6th May

Working and Talking with Voices With Mental Health experts – Dr. Dirk Corstens, Ron Coleman and Eleanor Longden. 13 – 16 June 2011

[Click here](#) for further details

Free Book Fair 7th May

The Ethnic Communities Council is holding a free book fair on Saturday 7th May 2011.

All books and other items at the book fair will be free, although people will be asked to make a gold coin donation to enter the fair.

[click here](#) to read more

Art Yo' FOr Young People- creative Expression for Emotional Wellbeing

An Osborne GP Network Program for young people who are experiencing emotional issues or stress which is compromising their sense of well-being. This 8 week program will provide opportunities for young people aged 13 to 17 years to identify and

express feelings, encourage positive coping strategies, increase self confidence in managing relationships and will provide support for young people at critical times in their lives.

[click here](#) for more information

2011 Western Australian Early Childhood Education and Care Conference June 18th & 19th 2011

Child Australia is pleased to announce the 2011 Western Australian Early Childhood Education and Care Conference "Windows of Opportunity" to be held over the weekend of June 18 & 19, 2011.

[Click here](#) to learn more

Conservation Week 15th - 22nd October 2011

Conservation Week is the largest community focused environmental event in WA and is a great opportunity to showcase your group or organisation. To register or sponsor an event visit www.ccwa.org.au or call (08) 9420 7266

Community Sector Jobs

[Positions Vacant at Richmond Fellowship](#)

[Position Vacant at Hills Community Support Group Inc: CEO](#)

[Position vacant at Community Sector Services: ICT Manager](#)

Changes to the WACOSS eNews Job Vacancy Page

WACOSS are proud to announce an exciting new partnership with ANSON Recruitment. From the next edition of the WACOSS eNews, all job vacancy advertisements will be posted on the WACOSS Community Jobs Page on the ANSON Website. This service is **free of charge** for all WACOSS Members, yet another reason to become a WACOSS Member.

The WACOSS – ANSON Community Sector Jobs Page is aimed at providing WACOSS members with access to an affordable and dedicated webpage advertising positions vacant within the community "not for profit" sector. This supersedes the previous mechanism employed by WACOSS whereby we advertised vacancies in our electronic newsletter, the eNews.

The aim of this new WACOSS – ANSON partnership is to;

- * Promote positive outcomes for recruitment and retention in the community sector
- * Provide a service to WACOSS members which reduces the time and cost of recruitment at the same time as reaching a wider audience.

If you have any questions please contact Carly Guise on (08) 9420 7222 or via email at carlyguise@wacoss.org.au

[Unsubscribe me from this list](#)