

WACOSS eNews- 21st September 2012

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General WACOSS News

MEDIA RELEASE: Community Sector Welcome Legislative Ban on Gag Clauses, 19th September

The community services sector has welcomed the Commonwealth Government's announcement this morning of its intention to introduce a legislative ban on 'gag clauses' which attempt to undermine the independence and legitimacy of civil society advocacy, says the WA Council of Social Service.

"The independence and sovereignty of community service organisations is vital to the health of our democracy and civil society," says the Council CEO, Irina Cattalini. [Click here](#) to read more.

Horizon Power Increase Their Power Assist Contribution

Horizon Power have acknowledge the effect of rising power charges on those in regional and remote areas of WA and have increased their annual funding to the Power Assist Scheme from \$33,000 to \$50,000. This is an increase of over 50%, which will go a long way in assisting those in most need, especially families in the North West of the State. They have also agreed to increase this amount by 10% each year for the next three years.

WACOSS would like to acknowledge and thank Horizon Power for this substantial increase in funding and look forward to our continuing collaboration in delivering the Power Assist Scheme, along with St Vincent de Paul Society.

WACOSS AGM 2012 - Friday 19th October

The WA Council of Social Service invites you to join us for our Annual General Meeting.

The AGM is a wonderful opportunity for our members to be involved in the Council's decision making, to hear the results of the Board election, and to share reflections about our significant achievements over the past year, as well as directions for the coming year.

President, Francis Lynch and CEO, Irina Cattalini, look forward to welcoming you to this special annual event for the Council's members and supporters.

[Click here](#) to download the flyer. [Click here](#) to register your attendance or apology for the AGM and register for the Pre-Budget Submission launch as well!

WACOSS Pre-Budget Submission 2013-14 Launch - Friday 19th October

The WACOSS Pre-Budget Submission Launch will be held prior to the WACOSS AGM, between 9:00am – 10.30am.

Special guest Under Treasurer, Tim Marney will formally receive the submission.

The Pre-Budget Submission is a significant part of our policy and advocacy work, influencing funding decisions that impact community service organisations and the Western Australian community, particularly people experiencing disadvantage and vulnerability. It reflects the culmination of sector wide consultation on key issues that are important to achieving our vision of an inclusive, just and equitable society.

[Click here](#) to download the flyer. [Click here](#) to register.

Progressing the Early Years Advocacy Agenda for WA

ARACY has recently established an Early Years Chapter and is holding a gathering on 22 October to reflect on achievements past and opportunities ahead for early years advocacy in WA and an opportunity to meet the new Director of the Telethon Institute for Child Health Research, Professor Jonathan Carapetis. [Click here](#) to read more.

Be part of the Western Australian Social Innovation Conference

- **Mark Friday 30 November in your diary**
- **Take the opportunity to showcase your amazing project!**

The Departments for Communities and Premier and Cabinet, Lotterywest, WACOSS, NDS and UWA's Centre on of Social Impact are calling all community service organisations in WA to save **30 November 2012** in their diaries to attend a one-day conference. The Conference is designed to enable community organisations to showcase projects, share experiences and ideas, and be inspired to challenge conventional wisdom in the delivery of community services. The conference will be held at 140 William Street, Perth and will be free of charge. [Click here](#) to read more.

WACOSS Submission to the Joint Inquiry into the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Bill 2012

WACOSS has made a submission to the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Corporations and Financial Services and the Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs on the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Bill 2012. The ACNC Bill was referred to committee on very short notice, hearings were held in Canberra on the 3rd & 4th September, and the committee is expected to report next week with the Government hoping the Bill will be passed by 1st October.

[Click here](#) to read more.

Changes in Charity and Not for Profit Laws- Preparing for Transition

In preparation for the changes to charity laws, WACOSS, ADD-Ministry and the Christian Churches of WA are pleased to host a series of information sessions in October and November.

Preparing for Transition information seminars will be held on the following dates and locations;

- Thursday 18th October - Perth
- Monday 29th October - Geraldton
- Tuesday 30th October - Perth
- Wednesday 31st October - Port Hedland
- Saturday 3rd November - Bunbury

[Click here](#) for more information.

Breakfast Seminar – Special Guest Speaker Susan Pascoe AM Commissioner-elect for the ACNC and Francis Lynch WACOSS President

A breakfast seminar for CEO's and Board Chairs of Charities and Not for Profits will be held on Thursday 18th October. This essential information breakfast seminar for Managers, CEO and Committees Members and Boards, will provide an update on law reforms that affect charities and NFPs focusing on the new Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC).

[Click here](#) for more information.

WACOSS Submission – Newstart Inquiry

In August, WACOSS prepared a submission to the Senate Standing Committee on Education, Employment and Workplace Relations' inquiry into the "[adequacy of the allowance payment system for jobseekers and others, the appropriateness of the allowance payment system as a support into work and the impact of the changing nature of the labour market](#)".

ACOSS have been leading the call for allowances such as [Newstart to be raised](#).

WACOSS supported the ACOSS submission to the inquiry, but also sought to draw the Committee's attention to a number of matters particularly relevant to allowance recipients in Western Australia. WACOSS's submission can be [read here](#).

Anti-Poverty Week 2012 – Get involved!

[Anti-Poverty Week](#) is happening again this year (14-20 October) and WACOSS is encouraging everyone to get involved!

The aims of Anti-Poverty Week are to:

- Strengthen public understanding of the causes and consequences of poverty and hardship around the world and in Australia;
- Encourage research, discussion and action to address these problems, including action by individuals, communities, organisations and governments.

[Click here](#) to read more.

WACOSS Workshops and Seminars

- [Event Fundraising](#) – Friday 28th September
- [Characteristics of Highly Effective Boards](#) – Wednesday 3rd October
- [Developing Effective Policy and Procedures](#) - Thursday 4th October
- [Understanding Workers Compensation](#) - 8th October
- [Engaging Clients in Service Design](#) - 10th October
- [Converting Your Data into Standard Chart of Accounts](#) - 12th October
- [Oh My Goodness, I'm on a Board!!](#) - Kununurra - 17th October
- [Supporting Clients with Utility Issues](#) - 13th November
- [Strategies to Reduce Your Energy Bills](#) - 13th November

Sector News

2012 Human Rights Awards

Nominations are now open for the 2012 Human Rights Awards. Nominate the individuals and organisations who you know have made a difference to the lives of older people. They could be high profile or well-known individuals or organisations or they could be the quiet achievers who wouldn't dream of nominating themselves. This is why you need to nominate them! You may even like to nominate yourself or your organisation.

Nominations close on the 28th September 2012. For more information [click here](#).

Who are your consumer champions?

Nominations for the Consumer Protection Awards 2013 are now open. The Awards seek to recognise and reward those in our community who promote consumer rights, provide assistance and educational programs and raise awareness of consumer issues, including child safety. [Click here](#) to read more.

Community Child Health Initiative: Partnering with the community services sector.

The State Government has invested \$58.5 million statewide over four years to improve access to community child health services across WA. Service providers have the opportunity to provide feedback on the draft service specifications and qualitative criteria, prior to the Tender being advertised. [Click here](#) to read more.

What the ACNC will mean for charities – watch the YouTube video

The first in a series of three new videos by the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Taskforce has been released on YouTube.

The video aims to engage the Australian charity sector and serves as good introduction to the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC). [Click here](#) to read more.

What Cancer Council WA can offer

Cancer Council Western Australia is committed to reducing the incidence and impact of cancer in our community. Cancer Council is able to offer the social and community services sector a range of training and education opportunities around cancer prevention, including support for workplaces wanting to help their staff to quit smoking, various training options for staff wanting to assist their clients to quit smoking, food literacy and skill development for adults and families living in low socioeconomic circumstances, and education sessions on a wide range of cancer topics. If you or someone you know is seeking confidential cancer related information and support you can call the Cancer Council Helpline on 13 11 20 for the cost of a local call from anywhere in WA. [Click here](#) to read more.

Sector Events

Upcoming 2012 CLC State Conference

The theme of this year's CLC State Conference is 'Creating a Just Future'. The aim is to provide registrants with thought provoking and creative ideas on how to create a just future for vulnerable members of our community.

The CLC State Conference will attract over 100 delegates from 28 Community Legal Centres across WA, Legal Aid, Aboriginal Legal Services, Family Violence Prevention Legal Services, pro bono lawyers and university students [Click here](#) to download the draft program.

Model Work Health and Safety Regulations Consultations - September

The State Government is seeking public comment on the costs and benefits of the proposed national Work Health and Safety (WHS) Regulations as they apply specifically to Western Australian workplaces.

WorkSafe has engaged Marsden Jacob Associates to conduct the two-month consultation process to assess the potential costs and benefits of the proposed laws to the WA community. All workplace participants are invited to provide comment between now and close of business Friday 12 October 2012. [Click here](#) to read more.

Upcoming Courses at Anglicare WA

[Click here](#) for information on the following upcoming courses available at Anglicare WA.

- Working with Family and Domestic Violence
- FDR: Ensuring the Safety of all Participants
- Supervision Training
- Case Management Tools for Community Workers

Life Skills Seminars In Albany September – December 2012

Relationships Australia (WA) is a community-based, not-for-profit organisation with a reputation for excellence in education services. Albany services include:- Community Education, Mediation, Mensplace programmes, Employee Assistance Programme and Counselling for individuals, couples, families and unplanned pregnancy. [Click here](#) for more information.

People Passion Possibilities Workforce Forum - Thursday 27th September

The aged care workforce is facing new challenges. Are you ready to manage them?

This special forum, will highlight the critical issues surrounding the workforce in this industry and will feature great tips on managing people in

the 21st century. The speakers at the Forum will provide an overview of the future workforce; give tips on how to develop skills in Effective recruitment & retention; advise how to Managing intergenerational & cultural issues and discuss the important issue of Workforce Planning. Don't miss this opportunity. [Click here](#) for more information.

Communicare Quiz Night - Friday 28th September

Come and test your knowledge while helping to support the building of the Communicare Academy for at risk or severely disengaged youth. [Click here](#) to read more.

United Nations International Day for Older Persons & COTA WA Human Rights for Older Persons Symposium – 'Just Ageing'

- 1st October 2012- United Nations International Day of Older Persons, Frasers Restaurant, Kings Park, 6-8pm.
- 2nd October 2012 – 2012 Human Rights of Older Adults Symposium, funded by the federal Department of the Attorney-General, Frasers Restaurant, Kings Park from 8:30am.

[Click here](#) for more information on both events.

Men's Sheds Conference will Share the Knowledge - Wednesday 3rd & Thursday 4th October

The successes and challenges of establishing and maintaining a successful men's shed will be tackled at a conference where the rapidly growing network of "shedders" will Share the Knowledge about their shed's successes and challenges. The 2012 WA Men's Shed Conference and Trade Exhibition will be held at the Mosman Park Community Men's Shed, Tom Perrott Reserve, Mosman Park, Western Australia on Wednesday 3rd and Thursday 4th October 2012.

[Click here](#) for more information. [Click here](#) to download a Registration Brochure.

Communicare Golf Day - Tuesday 16th October

On October 16 Communicare Inc. will be holding its Golf Day in order to raise funds for the building and development of the Communicare Academy – a new fully integrated educational facility for at risk or severely disengaged youth in Western Australia. [Click here](#) to read more.

Community Safety Month - Friday 28th September to Wednesday 31st October

Community Safety Month provides an opportunity for individuals and organisations within the WA community to showcase their contributions towards creating a safer community as well as acknowledge the importance of safety in our everyday lives.

This year Community Safety Month will focus on safety issues resulting from alcohol misuse, including violence.

[Click here](#) to read more.

[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.

- [HepatitisWA - Volunteer Services and Needle and Syringe Co-ordinator \(Part-Time\)](#)

- [Mission Australia- Youth Financial Counsellor \(Perth\)](#)
- [Wanslea Family Services- Out of Home Care Social Workers](#)
- [People Who Care- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Services Manager](#)
- [People Who Care- Operations Administrative Support \(Part-Time\)](#)
- [MIFWA- Outreach Worker, Family Support Program \(Part-Time\)](#)
- [PHAMS- Program Manager](#)

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

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