



WACOSS eNews - 22nd March 2015

- [General WACOSS News](#)
- [WACOSS Workshops and Seminars](#)
- [Sector News](#)
- [Sector Grants](#)
- [Sector Events](#)
- [Community Sector Jobs](#)

General WACOSS News

Registrations open: 2015 WACOSS ER Conference "intERgrated sERvices - the path ahead"

This biannual conference provides a rare opportunity for professional development and training for the hundreds of volunteers and paid staff working across WA who provide regular material and financial assistance to those most in need in our community.

The theme of the conference this year will focus on the challenges and opportunities of improving individual and family resilience, capability and wellbeing, through integrated service models, including the development and strengthening of local networks among all services within ER.

To register and find out more about this exciting event visit the [conference site](#) and check out our space on [DropIN](#).

WACOSS Members Event: 2015-2016 Budget Briefing - 2:00pm 15th May

The Western Australian Council of Social Service is pleased to invite WACOSS members to a special community sector briefing on the 2015-16 State and Federal Budgets.

This event will be critical for community sector professionals seeking to understand what the Budget means for community services, and for the communities you serve. For more information and to register for the event [click here](#).

DropIN: A New Online Platform Where Networks Connect and Grow

DropIN is a new online platform set to change the way the community sector and its corporate and government partners connect and collaborate. Provided by WACOSS, and supported by a Social Innovation Grant, it's free for all community based networks in WA to join. [Read More...](#)

Emerging Issues Forum 2015 - Presentations and Additional Resources

On Wed, 1st Apr. WACOSS hosted it's annual Community Sector Leaders Forum on Emerging Issues. This years event was featured presentations from Prof Alan Duncan (BankWest Curtin Economic Centre), Andrew O'Connor (ABC News), Chris Twomey (WACOSS) and Lin Hatfield-Dodd (UnitingCare Australia).

A copy of the compiled presentations from the four speakers is [available online](#). A collection of [additional resources](#) which further explore some of the issues raised has also been made available.

Ngala's FIFO Focused Communities Workshops

FIFO Focused Communities invites service providers to partner with us for a free workshop to build understanding and explore solutions relating to the local needs of long distance commuting families and their use of services.

The workshop will cover:

- Fly-in fly-out and drive-in drive-out in your region
- Issues faced by commuting workers and their families
- Service needs of commuting workers and their families

For more details please [Click here](#).

Expressions of Interest – Disaster Resilience and the Community Sector

WACOSS is calling for Expressions of Interest from organisations in the Pilbara region to participate in a pilot program to increase the disaster resilience in community sector organisations.

Under a National Emergency Management Projects (NEMP) program, The Australian Council of Social Service (ACOSS) will be developing and piloting a disaster resilience and response program and benchmarking system for the Australian community services sector. These will be piloted in the Pilbara region as well as other diverse sites across Australia. [Read more...](#)

WACOSS Training, Workshops and Seminars

- [Self-care & Work life Balance](#) - Thu 23rd Apr
- [Surviving a Volatile Funding Environment – 5 Must-dos = Free webinar](#) - Wed, 29th Apr
- [Managing Staff Performance](#) - Thu 30th Apr
- [Acquitting & Auditing for Not for Profits](#) - Tue 5th May
- [Writing Great Reports - Tue 5th May](#)
- [Introduction to Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction](#) - Thu 7th May
- [Gathering Meaningful Data Meaningfully](#) - Tue 12th May
- [Communicating & Connecting with Aboriginal clients](#) - Thu 14th May

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

Sector News

New Policy Briefs and Resources from the Commissioner for Children and Young People

In March, the WA Commissioner for Children and Young People released four new resources on issues which impact children and young people in WA:

Policy brief: Housing — [The impact on the wellbeing of WA children and young people](#)

Literature review: [Children who are homeless with their family](#)

Policy Brief: [Safety and child protection in WA](#)

Policy Brief: [Youth Justice — Supporting vulnerable children and young people in WA](#)

Government Funding for Disability Conferences

Organisations that support Australians with disability will benefit from a \$250,000 Abbott Government investment into disability-related conferences.

Assistant Minister for Social Services, Senator Mitch Fifield, said 25 groups were receiving Government support to maximise the participation of people with disability at conferences this financial year. [Read More...](#)

NAIDOC Perth Awards 2015

NAIDOC Perth has now opened invitations to nominate Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander individuals or organisations who have made a significant contribution to the Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander community of Perth for a 2015 NAIDOC Perth Award. [Click here](#) for

more information.

State Funded Diploma of Human Resource Management

The Betterlink Group has some funding under Future Skills WA from the Department of Training and Workforce Development to provide the Diploma of Human Resource Management. This is an excellent qualification for people who are already working in HR, but have no formal qualifications. [Read More...](#)

Training Seminars with The Commissioner for Children and Young People

- [Focus on Children and Young People – 29 Apr](#)
- [Sharing Promising Practices: Supporting Youth Mental Health and Wellbeing - 20 Apr to 18 May](#)

Innovative Aged Care Projects Receive \$34 Million Boost

Minister for Social Services, the Hon. Scott Morrison and Assistant Minister, Senator the Hon. Mitch Fifield, today announced the Coalition Government will invest \$34 million into tackling new and existing challenges in aged care nationwide.

Older Australians will benefit from flexible and innovative aged care projects that will be funded by the Coalition Government through the Aged Care Service Improvement and Healthy Ageing Grants round until June 2017. [Read More...](#)

Curtin University has Two Upcoming Health Promotion Short Courses in June

- [Curtin University Behaviour Change Communication Short Course: June 30 – July 3](#)
- [Health Promotion 4 day short course : Planning, implementing and evaluating health promotion interventions
June 15-18](#)

The Universal Truth of Healing - Dream it Forward Program - 20th May

The Dream it Forward (DIF) program is a collaboration with the Mental Health Commission to offer a grassroots-driven small grants program focused on addressing the mental health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, families, and their communities based on the needs identified by the community for the community. DIF engaged with a diverse range of individuals, communities, and services working within the ATSI community

across WA to carry out holistic, whole-of-life projects around mental health, health, and culture. [Read more...](#)

2015 Emerging Community Leadership Program

Sign up to be part of the inaugural 2015 program of 16 participants from across southern Western Australia from June – November 2015. Develop your personal leadership capability, increase your knowledge of our regional issues, and connect with other emerging leaders. Closing Date for applications is: 14th May 2015. [Click here](#) to learn more.

Training / Professional Development at the IKON Institute of Australia

Diversify Your Skills and increase your success in your career - Applications are now open for our Mid Year Intake.

Art Therapy | Movement Therapy | Mind Body Medicine | Kinesiology | Counselling. [Click here](#) to more information

RFWA Calendar of Events – Mental Health Training

Richmond Fellowship of WA is once again hosting internationally renowned experts in recovery, Dr Rufus May, Dr Rachel Perkins OBE, Ron Coleman and Karen Taylor in a number of community and sector training. [Click here](#) for event details and updates by these credentialed presenters.

Cancer Council WA - Free Office Furniture

There is a significant quantity of good condition workstations and other office furniture available from our West Perth office. Cancer Council WA would be more than happy to provide these at no cost to Charitable and Community organisations. [Click here](#) for contact details or call Martin on 08 9212 4336.

CLAN WA - The Strengths Approach Professional Training

- **Level 1 - May 4th & 11th**
- **Level 2 - May 18th**

The Strengths Approach is a way of working with people's strengths, aspirations and resources as a means towards change. It requires a paradigm shift from the deficit to competency basis. This training provides a framework to assist the exploration and consideration of principles, processes for change, learning and growth. [Read More...](#)

Free Online Cross-Cultural Training Pilot

Do your staff and volunteers work with a culturally diverse client group? Then, join Palmerston, UnitingCare West and Relationships Australia WA in piloting an exciting online FREE diversity training program developed for not-for-profit organisations. [Click here](#) for more information.

Latest Copies of Switched On Available

The Economic Regulation Authority (ERA) has recently amended its consumer publication *Switched On*. The publication provides a comprehensive yet clearly presented information source covering issues likely to be of interest to energy consumers. It aims to help residential and small business customers understand their rights and responsibilities in relation to energy without having to consult the underlying legislation.

Hard copies of *Switched On* are available upon request to WACOSS (contact Julie Woods julie@wacoss.org.au). An online version is available on the [ERA's website](#). A printable version is available under the 'Download Chapers' button.

Anglicare WA Professional Development Workshops and Customised Training

Anglicare WA delivers events, professional development workshops and customised training for human services organisations across WA.

Special Events

- [Applying Situational Prevention Principles to Ensure Child Safe Workplaces \(4-5 June 2015\)](#)
- [Complexities and Opportunities in Accountability for Men Who Perpetrate FDV \(2 July 2015\)](#)

Professional Development

- [Working with Children Whose Parents Have Separated \(29 April 2015\)](#)
- [Child Abuse and Neglect \(6 May 2015\)](#)
- [Considerations When Writing Case Notes \(12 May 2015\)](#)
- [Assisting People with the Grieving Process \(28 May 2015\)](#)

Changes Benefit Retirement Village Residents

Amendments to laws governing retirement villages will ensure residents have clearer information about the fees they are required to pay and will make operators more accountable for the services they provide.

Commerce Minister Michael Mischin said the changes would be phased in over the next 16 months.

"Under the amendments, retirement village contracts must include specific information about the fees and charges a resident will pay across the term of the contract," Mr Mischin said. [Read more...](#)

Working with Children Check: Myth Busters

The Working with Children (WWC) Screening Unit delivers regular workshops to provide organisations and individuals with information about meeting their responsibilities under the Working with Children (Criminal Record Checking) Act 2004.

This workshop aims to 'bust' many of the myths and misconceptions about the WWC Check and child protection. Attend a free session to find out more about the WWC Check, your obligations and child safeguarding strategies!

[Click here](#) to view the 2015 Perth metropolitan schedule.

Sector Events

CEDA - Addressing Mental Health - Apr 23rd

CEDA releases its first research report of 2015 with an important conversation on the impacts of mental health conditions on individuals, organisations and the economy. Tim Marney, Commissioner for Mental Health in Western Australia, keynotes.

Mental health is a significant issue for individuals, organisations and the broader community, with more than 45 per cent of Australians aged 16 to 85 experiencing a mental health condition at some point in their lives. Mental health is an influencing factor for many people experiencing entrenched disadvantage, while Australian workplaces are impacted by approximately \$11 billion each year through absenteeism, lost productivity and compensation claims, according to PwC.

ACA Approved Clinical Supervisor Training 24th - 26th June

Australian Counselling Association Approved three day training course: Clinical Supervisor Training suitable for Counsellors, Social Workers, School Counsellors, OT's and anyone in the helping professions. Upskill, and gain valuable Professional Development with ACA approved training over three days at very competitive cost. [Click here](#) for more information.

Better Boards Conference Fri 24th - Fri 26th Jul

This year's Better Boards Conference Charting New Horizons: Governance with Passion & Purpose, will explore lessons, strategies, tactics and innovations to assist boards, chief executive officers and senior management teams of non-profit organisations to navigate the new reality in which they must operate. [Click here](#) to find out more.

2015 WA Early Childhood Education & Care Conference - Fri 7th & Sat 8th Aug

Our 2015 conference '1 Voyage' acknowledges that the journey continues and that we are all on the same voyage of discovering what excellence via continuous improvement looks like.

The voyage's destination is ensuring positive outcomes for all children. The word voyage also acknowledges that this may mean we need to sail in new waters and to be brave enough to reflect critically and change our practice when necessary.

Our voyage is one of ongoing discovery as the evidence about children's development and learning and the role of families and services continues to build. [Find out more...](#)

National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Care's (SNAICC) National Conference - 15th -17th Sep

The conference has become the largest Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander family issues conference in the southern hemisphere. It will feature local and international keynote speakers and over 70 concurrent sessions, yarning circles and workshops to choose from.

Delegates and speakers will gather from around the country and some from overseas to discuss our challenges and share our knowledge and experiences in raising happy, healthy and confident children in our communities.

As well as providing a powerful and inspiring learning experience for all attendees it will also provide opportunities to meet and experience some the richness and culture of our Aboriginal communities in the west. [Click here](#) to find out more.

Youth for Change Conference 2nd - 4th Oct (Brisbane)

This conference will provide an international forum for young people with a care experience to learn and grow, build self-confidence, and to connect with their peers and those working within the system. The collective aim is to enhance community awareness and to reduce the stigma associated with children and young people with a care experience and to provide them with an

avenue to feel empowered, informed, and to have a say and be heard. [Read More...](#)

Anti-Poverty Week - 11th - 17th Oct 2015

This year is Anti-Poverty Week's fourteenth Anniversary. We hope that you and your organisation will mark the Week in your diary and begin thinking about activities which you could initiate to help promote your concerns about poverty and hardship. For more information please [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.

- [UnitingCare West – School Liaison Officer](#)
- [St Bartholomew's House Mission - Activity Officer](#)
- [St Bartholomew's House Mission - Marketing and Fundraising Officer \(Part time\)](#)
- [Djinda Services - Women's Law Centre – Senior Solicitor](#)
- [Community First – Program Manager Aged and Disability Services](#)
- [Health Consumers' Council \(WA\) Inc - Consumer & Community Engagement Coordinator](#)
- [Health Consumers' Council \(WA\) Inc - Operations Manager](#)

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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