



wacoss

Western Australian
Council of Social Service Inc

WACOSS eNews - 23rd March 2016

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General WACOSS News



Subsidies Still Available - Apply Now

Want to register to attend the [WACOSS Conference](#) but your organisation can't afford to cover your full costs? WACOSS, with the support of Lotterywest, are again able to offer assistance with a subsidy program to assist small to medium and regional and remote community based organisations.

[Click here](#) to apply.

New Keynote Speakers Announced

WACOSS is pleased to announce that **Mr Les Malezer, Co-Chair of National Congress of Australia's First People**, and **Dorothy Adams, head of New Zealand's newly formed**

Social Investment Unit, have joined the following [keynote speakers](#):

- Dame Diane Robertson, former CEO of Auckland City Mission and the ground breaking Family 100 project
- Grahame Searle, Newly appointed to a cross-portfolio reform, looking at the way infrastructure and human services are provided to Aboriginal communities in Western Australia
- Malcolm Dix, Comedian, MC, Speaker and Facilitator – Networking Day
- James Lush, 720 ABC Perth Saturday Breakfast show – Conference
- Hon Colin Barnett, WA Premier – Open Address Day 1
- Hon Mark McGowan, WA Labor Leader – Opening Address Day 2

The WACOSS Conference consists of a **Sector Collaboration Networking Day on 3 May 2016**, and a **two day conference program running 4-5 May 2016**. The program is [now available online](#).

WACOSS is excited to announce that [Playback Theatre](#) will also be joining the Network Day Program at the 2016 Conference. Interactive and improv-based, Playback engage with the stories of their audience, creating work which is concerned with how we understand both ourselves and the communities we are a part of. This will be an exciting opportunity to explore the richly symbiotic relationship that can exist between community service and the arts through storytelling, prompting new and imaginative ways to understand the work that we do.

To book your place at the 2016 WACOSS Conference, visit the [registration portal here](#).

Community Service Excellence Awards Gala Dinner

Now that the nominations have closed for the [Community Service Excellence Awards](#), it's time to start thinking about booking your attendance at the gala ceremony and dinner. The winners of the 2016 CSEAs will be announced and celebrated at a gala ceremony and dinner on the first night of the 2016 WACOSS Conference on **Wednesday, 4th May 2016**.

The award categories are:

- Category 1 – Small Organisation
- Category 2 – Medium Organisation
- Category 3 – Large Organisation
- Category 4 – Regional Organisation
- Category 5 – Outstanding Commitment to Citizen Empowerment
- Category 6 – Outstanding Commitment to Reconciliation
- Category 7 – Local Government and Communities Collaboration
- Category 8 – Partnerships

To book your attendance at the gala ceremony and dinner, [click here](#).

Community Sector Leaders Forum on Emerging Issues

2016 - Registrations Open

Registrations are now open for the [Community Sector Leaders Forum on Emerging Issues](#) - The WA Council of Social Service's premier annual strategic forum. The Forum provides analysis of the economic, political and social trends within our community and changes to the sector's funding and operating environment to inform the strategic service planning needs of the executives and boards of community service providers into the future.

Speakers:

- Prof Alan Duncan, Director, Bankwest Curtin Economics Centre
- Sue Ash AO, Chief Executive Officer, UnitingCare West
- Pip Brennan, Executive Director, Health Consumers' Council WA
- Chris Twomey, Director Social Policy, WACOSS

Expert presentations lead into an interactive panel session that gives you an opportunity to share emerging issues of concern, or dig deeper into the analysis to explore the emerging strategic context for your clients, services and networks.

The 2016 Forum is to be held on the afternoon of **Friday April 1st**. [Click here to register](#) your attendance today.

WACOSS Consultation – Emerging Issues for the Community Services Sector

WACOSS is currently inviting comment from the sector on the emerging and priority issues that are impacting on disadvantaged and vulnerable Western Australians and the services that support them. If there are particular issues you feel are an emerging concern that you'd like to bring to our attention we'd welcome your insights. Any feedback on the issues covered or the way in which they've been presented at previous Emerging Issues forums is also welcome. This year we are keen to ensure we get a better balance between the presentation of analysis and the opportunity to ask questions and debate the issues.

[Here is a summary](#) of the key issues identified at last year's forum. To remind yourself of previous Emerging Issues Forums please visit the [Emerging Issues page](#) on the WACOSS website.

Please contact **Demelza Rogers** at demelza@wacoss.org.au or on **9420 7221** to share your insights.

ASeTTS Keys To Diversity Training Programs

People working with migrants and refugees now have access to two new online resources to help them better understand their clients, and better meet their clients' needs.

Unlocking Cultural Diversity is a six-part program that uses personal reflection, family history and migrant stories to prepare staff and volunteers to work in a culturally aware and culturally

secure way with people of any cultural background.

Working Effectively with People from a Refugee Background is a four-part program that uses powerful refugee testimony and a range of engaging exercises to prepare staff and volunteers to better understand the backgrounds and special needs of refugee clients.

The resources have been trialled by four regional and nine metropolitan organisations and feedback has been very positive. ASeTTs engaged Fortis Consulting to develop and deliver this online project working closely with the Office of Multicultural Interests, WACOSS and a Reference Group representing a wide cross-section of community and Government organisations.

Try the courses for yourself at www.keystodiversity.com.au

For further information contact Michael Jones at Michael.jones@asetts.org.au

Ask Izzy? - How to Correct Your Service Details on the New Homelessness App

Infoxchange have recently launched [Ask Izzy](#), a mobile directory for people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless to help them find the services they need.

The directory is wide-ranging, covering housing, food, emergency relief, health services, counselling, legal services and alcohol and drug treatment, among others.

While this is a great initiative to help out those who are at risk of homelessness, there has to date been little consultation with service providers about the information it provides on the services they offer. We have heard some reports of incorrect, misleading or out-of-date service information and are concerned this could result in your frontline staff dealing with angry or confused clients.

WACOSS encourages you to take a look at [Ask Izzy](#) and search for your organisation in order to check that your details are correct and that the right services you provide are listed. If there are mistakes in your listing, we suggest emailing support@askizzy.org.au with the changes you need.

More information for service providers is available at www.infoxchange.net.au/ask-izzy-service-providers

Coming Soon – New and Improved Online Emergency Relief Directory

Major changes in Emergency Relief funding have made it more challenging for ER agencies and the wider community to know what support is available and where they can go to get it. Thanks to Lotterywest, WACOSS will launch the State's first interactive online directory of

services on **April 6th 2016**. Unlike the recently released mobile directory Ask Izzy, this directory is for use by the sector, and was requested by the State Emergency Relief Committee as a means to address the ongoing challenge many organisations have of keeping up-to-date information on other agencies and their resources to support service referrals. The Directory will be integrated with the [DropIN](#) platform, meaning that agencies will not need to create a new log in account for yet another new system, and will allow agencies to update their service information in real time.

For more information, or to put your agency on the invite list, please contact **Bernie Fisher** at bernie@wacoss.org.au or **Candelle Nestor** at candelle@wacoss.org.au, or by calling **9420 7222**

[Click here](#) to read more.

Diploma of Leadership & Management

Applications are still open for the Diploma of Leadership & Management. 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 Training, Workshops and Seminars

- [HR Essentials](#) - Thu 24th Mar
- [Self-Care & Professional Boundaries](#) - Thu 24th Mar
- [Foundations in Governance - WEBINAR](#) - Thu 24th Mar
- [Managing Staff Performance](#) - Thu 31st Mar
- [Presentation Skills](#) - Wed 6th Apr
- [Advocacy Skills for Frontline Workers](#) - Wed 6th Apr
- [Emergency Relief \(ER\) Essentials - WEBINAR](#) - Thu 7th Apr 2016
- [DropIN 101 - WEBINAR](#) - Thu 7th Apr
- [Building Resilience Through Mindfulness](#) - Fri 8th Apr
- [Leading Change](#) - Wed 13th Apr

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

Sector News

Australian Early Development Census - Release of 2015 Results

The 2015 Australian Early Development Census (AEDC) community results are now publicly

available. The Census is a population measure of young children's progress against five developmental domains. The data, collected every three years (commencing in 2009), is analysed and reported at the national, state/territory and AEDC community levels (based on the suburb/town in which children live).

With data sets covering three collections, many communities will have results from 2009, 2012 and 2015 which can be compared to assess changes in children's development over time. The primary output for the 2015 results is through a national and State report, on-line community maps and profiles. These will be available from the [AEDC website](#).

For more information on the AEDC visit www.aedc.gov.au or contact Gail Clark at Gail.Clark@education.wa.edu.au.

LGMA 2016 State Community Development Conference - Partnership Opportunities

LGMA is extending an invitation to partner with the major event for the Community Development Industry in 2016 – the [LGMA 2016 State Community Development Conference](#), to be held **8 - 9 September** at the Rendezvous Hotel, Scarborough, Perth.

Hosted by the Community Development Network (CDN WA) of LGMA, this conference promises to be another high calibre event attended by 150 delegates including senior decision makers, officers and elected members from Local, State and Federal Government, academia, key community organisations, and the service sector. "Activ8 WA" is the exciting theme for the conference, and partnership offers a significant opportunity to link with influential leaders and decision makers from communities across the State.

If you would like to know more about partnerships, or would like a partnership package, please contact Luana Abbott at luana@lgmawa.org.au or on **9271 1136**. Applications close **Friday 20 May 2016**.

SWMPF Resources to Promote Inter-Agency Collaboration

[The South West Metropolitan Partnership Forum](#) (SWMPF) has recently produced two resources to support the work of inter-agency groups in the region. These are a *Directory of Inter-Agency Groups* operating in Cockburn, Fremantle and Melville, and *10 Building Blocks for Effective Collaboration*.

These resources are available from the SWMPF at <http://www.swmpf.org.au/swmpf-projects/coordination-of-wrap-around-services/>

Foundation Housing - Partnership Opportunity for Social Initiative

Foundation Housing is seeking a partner to activate its fully renovated and equipped kitchen at its lodging house on Hampton Road, Fremantle. This is an outstanding opportunity for a not for profit or social enterprise organisation needing a commercial kitchen for its fundraising or social inclusion projects.

For enquiries please contact Tom Tolchard on **0415 078607** or email tom@foundationhousing.org.au. Download a flyer [here](#), or [click here](#) to read more.

Youth Homelessness Matters Day Campaign

March marks the start of the Youth Homelessness Matters Day Campaign Countdown for 2016, using online action to help spread the important message of youth homelessness matters.

Youth Homelessness Matters Day 2016 will this year be held during National Youth Week on **Wednesday 13 April**. The focus of #YHMD2016 online campaign will be to generate a surge of online support in the lead up to the day. Engage by liking the [Facebook page](#), or by using the #YHMD2016 Hashtag on Instagram and Twitter to share information about youth homelessness or a local service that you know makes a difference for young people. For tips on how to create effective social media posts, or to find out how you can host your own event, visit the [YHMD website](#).

Defence Reserves Supportive Employer Program

The Defence Reserves Support Council Western Australia (DRSC-WA) is an organisation established to promote the benefits of Reserve service to employers and the community. The DRSC-WA provides an effective link between Reservists and other interested parties including employers, the ADF, all levels of government and the community.

The DRSC-WA is contacting employers across Australia, asking them to publicly pledge their support for Reservists by supporting the overarching principle that Reservists should have the backing of their civilian employers. In order to promote the link between not for profit organisations and the ADF, register your organisation as a Supportive Employer of Reservists. This can be done even if you do not currently employ any.

Organisations interested in furthering their support for Reservists are encouraged to contact the State Manager Defence Reserve Support WA, LCDR Simon Gourlay, on **9311 2597** or **0408 054 586**, or at simon.gourlay@defence.gov.au. Organisations can apply [online](#) or by completing the [attached form](#).

Read more [here](#).

Improving Outcomes for Children at Risk

In 2015 The Department for Child Protection and Family Services (DCPFS) released a paper

called *Out-of-Home Care Legislative Amendments Consultation Paper* exploring whether legislative reforms could be implemented to support the certainty, belonging and safety for children in out-of-home care. On behalf of members WACOSS, in consultation with the Children's Policy Advisory Council, developed a response which is [located here](#).

DCPFS has also released for consultation the [Earlier Intervention and Family Support Strategy](#). This strategy aims to coordinate how DCPFS, along with other government and community sector agencies, works with families whose children are most vulnerable to poor life outcomes, including being removed from their parents' care and/or entering the youth justice system. Closing date for written submissions is **31 March 2016**.

If you have views, comments or questions about WACOSS's response to the OOHC Consultation paper or Earlier Intervention and Family Support Strategy please contact Sue Nye sue@wacoss.org.au

OMI Leadership and Governance Program - Seeking Mentors

The Office of Multicultural Interests (OMI) is currently seeking suitably qualified mentors for their "*Stepping Up to the Challenge*" Program - an important adjunct to their [Leadership and Governance Program](#).

The program aims to increase the participation of people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds on boards within the not-for-profit, public and private sectors, and engages mentors from the wider not-for-profit and business communities who are in a position to share their leadership and governance experience.

Interested candidates can direct inquiries to [Said Padshah](#), Senior Community Engagement Officer. The closing date for applications is **30th March 2016**.

Horizon House Program

Access Housing's newly formed partnership with St John of God Health Care through its *Horizon House* program will increase affordable housing options for young Western Australians experiencing or at serious risk of homelessness.

Horizon House is part of St John of God's commitment to social outreach and provides long-term stable accommodation and support for young people aged 16-22 to enable them to access education, training and/or employment opportunities. *Horizon House* clients are provided with additional support where specific needs are identified, as some of the challenges clients have faced in their young lives include general health issues, family conflict, physical or mental abuse, a lack of education, homelessness, substance abuse, limited social skills and unemployment.

Read the full media release for this new partnership [here](#).

Public Housing Rent Increases

Community advocates [have raised concerns](#) at changes to what counts as 'assessable income' as the Department of Housing announces its new rent setting policy. A [petition](#) to the Parliament is also circulating.

WACOSS is expressing its concern that the inclusion of special purpose payments as assessable income will impact disproportionately on vulnerable groups, including people with a disability or illness, carers and larger families to the Department and the Minister.

The McCusker Centre for Citizenship

The McCusker Centre for Citizenship is an Australian first university initiative at the University of Western Australia (UWA). The centre aims to work in partnership with not-for-profit organisations to tackle pressing social issues. The centre offers structured internships for students, including in regional, remote and international communities, leadership and mentoring programs in conjunction with community organisations, and plans to be a focal point for important public forums addressing contemporary social challenges.

Funded by the McCusker Charitable Foundation, the centre builds on and extends the university's efforts to foster in students an enduring commitment to social responsibility, and to harness UWA resources to meet these challenges. The centre is focusing initially on the development of quality, structured and mutually constructive internship opportunities for students, across a diverse range of not-for-profit and other community service organisations.

If your organisation would like to offer an internship or participate in the work of the centre please contact Neysa on **6488 7873** or email neysa.cloonan@uwa.edu.au.

For more details on the McCusker Centre for Citizenship at UWA please access www.mccuskercentre.uwa.edu.au

Consumer and Carer Co-Design Initiative in Mental Health

The Australian Government announced in November 2015 its intention to move towards a person-centred whole-of-care approach to mental health based on localised decision-making. It has re-directed \$365m in 2016/2017 away from the hospital sector and \$200m from the drug and alcohol sector to pilot personalized models of care in regions, to be commissioned through, but not delivered by, 31 Primary Health Networks (PHNs).

The Consumer and Carer Co-Design Initiative is a national project to enable large numbers of consumers and carers to co-design and co-produce community-based mental health services with PHNs, service providers and practitioners. In each of the 31 PHNs around Australia, a regional pool (or hub) of consumers and carers are being established. You can join the pool in

your region by filling in [this form](#). A map locator for each Network is available at www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/phn-locator

Changes to NGHSS Indexation Rate

The 2015-16 Mid-Year Financial Projections Statement released by Treasury included the revision of the NGHSS Indexation Policy rate for 2015-16, based on a lower-than-projected increase in the Consumer Price Index and Wage Price Index during the financial year. The updated indexation rate of 1.90% now applies to all service agreements eligible for indexation in this financial year, and represents a 0.75% difference from the 2015-16 Budget forecast rate of 2.65%.

Government agencies with service agreements longer than one year will be required to review and potentially adjust the indexation payments to service providers based on the updated rate for 2015-16. Where partial payments to service providers have been made for the 2015-16 financial year, all remaining payments will be adjusted to ensure the correct level of indexation is applied. For example, if two equal payments have been made at an indexation rate of 2.65%, the final two equal payments should apply an indexation rate of 1.15% to ensure the correct level of indexation (1.90%) is achieved for the financial year.

If payments to service providers have been made in full at the projected rate of 2.65% for the 2015-16 financial year, government agencies will be advised that the funds are unable to be recovered from the service provider.

Please note that as of **1 July 2016** the amended Indexation Policy will take effect. Adjustments to the 2015-16 indexation rate do not impact on the implementation of the amended Indexation Policy from 1 July 2016.

New Laws for Incorporated Associations in 2016

The [Department of Commerce and Consumer Protection](#) has circulated new information on changes to the [Associations Incorporation Act](#).

WACOSS Members who are [Incorporated Associations](#) may be required to change their constitution if it is no longer compliant with the new Act.

Members are encouraged to enrol on [Associations Online](#) to ensure they are kept up to date. In the coming months the Department will release more information and resources on the [Department of Commerce website](#) including step by step guides to assist incorporated associations through this transition period. At each stage of the new laws' introduction the Department will be releasing a Transition Pack explaining what associations are required to do at that particular time. The first Transition Pack will be released in February to help associations understand the financial tier process and the annual reporting requirements. [Enrol for AssociationsOnline](#) now to ensure you are notified as soon as this

Transition Pack becomes available.

Department of Commerce will also be running information session on the new laws. [Click here](#) to view session locations and dates.

Please read the circular [New Laws for Incorporated Associations](#) coming in 2016 from the Department of Commerce for more information.

Curtin University's Learn, Engage and Play (LEaP) Study

The [Learn, Engage and Play \(LEaP\) Study](#) aims to develop a therapeutic playgroup for children with developmental delay and their families. The purpose of the study is to see if it is an effective way for parents and their children to access information and support when first referred to the Child Development Service.

Community playgroup professionals that have experience running or facilitating a therapeutic and/or supportive playgroup for children with developmental delays and/or disabilities and their families are required for small group discussions about what they consider to be the most important aspects of playgroups for children with developmental delays and/or disabilities.

This study has been approved by Princess Margaret Hospital Ethics Committee and Curtin University Ethics Committee. To participate or for more information, contact **Jodie Armstrong** on **0400 528 304**, or at jodie.armstrong@health.wa.gov.au

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.

2016 Disability Support Awards - Nominations Open

Nominations for the 2016 Disability Support Awards are now open. People with disability, families and carers or staff in disability sector organisations are invited to nominate a support worker or team of support workers to recognise their outstanding contribution to providing support and improving the lives of people with disability.

Please submit award nominations by **5.00pm Friday 1 April 2016** via email or mail. Winners will be announced at a gala dinner on Saturday July 2 at Crown Perth, and tickets will go on sale in March 2016.

For more information about the awards, please visit the [Disability Support Awards website](#) or contact NDS WA on **08 9208 9812** or awards@nds.org.au

2016 Resilient Australia Awards

The Resilient Australia Awards is a national program to recognise and promote initiatives which strengthen community disaster resilience across the nation, making our communities safer, stronger, more resilient and better prepared to manage the effects of natural disasters.

The 2016 Resilient Australia Awards will open for entries in **April 2016** and close in **June 2016**. Please enter your own projects, and encourage those that you are working with to enter projects. All state winners will be eligible for entry into the National Awards.

If you have any questions regarding the awards, please contact **Tracy Smith** at the SEMC Secretariat on **9482 1711**. Links will be available soon on the [SEMC website](#).

HCC Health Consumer Excellence Awards

The Health Consumers' Council *Health Consumer Excellence Awards* were created to celebrate the achievements of the unsung heroes in WA Health Care, from the administrator to the clinician, and to recognise health consumers that go out of their way to make a difference. [Click here](#) to nominate a health care provider, clinician, or consumer. Nominations close of business **April 15th, 2016**.

Applications Open for State's Training Awards

Applications for the State Government's WA Training Awards 2016 are now open and provide more opportunities to recognise the outstanding training achievements of students and organisations.

Changes to this year's program include the new award of "WA International Student of the

Year", providing an opportunity to celebrate the successes of international students in our training system, as well as a broader eligibility for the WA School-based Apprentice of the Year category.. In addition to this, the WA Training Initiative Award has been replaced by the WA Industry Collaboration Award, to recognise co-operation between two or more organisations in innovative skills development.

Applications are now open in 13 categories for individuals and organisations, including WA Apprentice of the Year, WA Trainer of the Year and WA Employer of the Year. Applications close at **5pm Friday May 13th, 2016**.

Further information, including an application kit, is available at <http://www.dtwd.wa.gov.au/trainingawards>

Applications Now Open for 2016 Indigenous Governance Awards

Reconciliation Australia, in partnership with BHP Billiton, are proud to launch the Indigenous Governance Awards (IGAs) for 2016. The awards recognise and celebrate the effective governance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-led organisations and initiatives that are benefiting families, communities and the nation.

If you work for or know of an Indigenous-lead organisation that you'd like to nominate, you can find out more or apply now at www.reconciliation.org.au/iga

Applications for the IGAs close **Friday 20 May 2016**.

Application for OneLife Grants Now Open

A new round of Suicide Prevention Small Grants are now available. Local government and not-for-profit organisations are invited to apply for small grants to undertake suicide prevention training.

Grants of up to \$20,000 are available for organisations to undertake evidence-based training that equips people with skills to recognise and support someone who is at risk of suicide. The training programs are offered by [Living Proud](#), and include Opening Closets, Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) and safeTALK. Trainings are available all across Western Australia.

A copy of the application form and associated guidelines are [available here](#) . For more information and support on how to apply, please contact Mason Rothwell on **(08) 9370 0333** or mason.rothwell@mhc.wa.gov.au. Living Proud can also provide support in completing your application and with further information on our training packages.

Endeavour Foundation QArt Grants

[The Endeavour Foundation Endowment Challenge Fund](#) seeks to benefit Australians with a disability, especially those with an intellectual disability, by:

- Supporting people with an intellectual disability realise their creative potential across all areas of the arts.
- Supporting community participation for persons with a disability
- Encouraging quality and innovation in the disability services and broader community sectors

Grants are available for non-profit organisations to undertake projects that enable people with intellectual disability to realise their creative potential through the arts. The Fund is particularly interested in encouraging arts organisations to consider how they could directly include people with a disability within their current work. The 2016 QArt Grants Round opens on **14 March 2016**, with \$6,500 available to non-profit organisations across Australia.

The Endowment Challenge Fund also provides grants to researchers and students undertaking research into significant issues for the Australian disability sector, or issues related to artistic expression for people with an intellectual disability.

For more information and to apply, visit www.endowmentchallengefund.com.au. Applications must be received by **5pm, Friday 22 April 2016 (EST)**.

Free Legal Help for Community Groups

Justice Connect's [Not-for-profit Law Service](#) - a new free online service for not-for-profit community organisations - has run its acclaimed [Information Hub](#) in Victoria and NSW, and is now helping groups in all other states and territories. The Hub offers hundreds of plain-language legal resources, covers national laws and has tailored resources for states and territories. You can filter the site so that you only see resources for the locations that you are interested in.

These practical resources help charities and not-for-profits better navigate their legal landscape – covering legal issues from how to start a charity, taxation, managing fundraising and volunteers, all the way through to merging or winding up.

The Information Hub can be found at www.nfplaw.org.au.

Free Mediation Service Offered by Advocare Inc

Advocare Inc is offering a very limited number (no more than 5 in total) of free mediation sessions for small not for profit organisations that have a dispute they want resolved. It could be an issue between Board members, between the management and the Board, between staff members, between clients and service deliverers, between members and the organisation, or

any two individuals or small groups having trouble resolving an issue.

Mediation will be facilitated by a nationally accredited mediator and there will be no charge for the service. If there are any costs, for example for room hire, the NFP will be asked to meet that cost. In many cases a suitable room can be found at no cost.

If you have an issue that may benefit from mediation, email to Advocare CEO Greg Mahney at gregm@advocare.org.au stating the organisation you represent and briefly outlining the nature of the dispute.

ACE+ Bus – Free Bus Hire for the WA Community Proudly Supported by ACE+

The ACE+ Bus is a community initiative proudly supported by ACE+. It is aimed at helping not-for-profit organisations and local community clubs to meeting their transportation needs. The ACE+ Bus can be hired free of charge.

Please submit your interest through [this form](#) and share this opportunity with your networks. All applications will be reviewed for consideration and subject to availability.

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

Meeting Rooms for Hire

Oasis Lotteries House in Nedlands are offering their meeting rooms for hire. Please direct any inquiries to Julie Thomson at oasisbm@inet.net.au

Sector Events

Relationships Australia Course - Emotional Intelligence - 5th April 2016

Relationships Australia are offering a course on [Emotional Intelligence](#) on Tue 5th Apr 2016. To find out more about this, or other courses offered by Relationships Australia, visit the [Courses and Training page](#) on their website.

Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute Conference - 13th April 2016

Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute (AHURI) invite you to the first conference in a new national series of cross-sectoral policy focused events to be convened by AHURI in 2016. *My Way Home: Competition and Choice in Human Services* will be held in Melbourne

on **Wednesday 13 April 2016**.

The conference will examine current practice and competition across the disability, housing assistance, homelessness, aged care and mental health sectors, with a particular focus on practice and policy solutions. The conference will also draw on the latest research findings from the soon to be completed AHURI Inquiry into [Individualised forms of welfare provision and reform of Australia's housing assistance system](#).

Find out more about the conference and view the draft program and confirmed speakers on the all new [conference website](#). The complete line-up of speakers will be announced in the coming weeks.

Gateway to All of WA - 27th April 2016

Linkwest invite you to their event Gateway to All of WA, which will enable you to see first-hand how the physical and digital resources available through this network can help you achieve your organisation's goals.

For full details, [click here](#)

Information Sessions for New Associations Law

Department of Commerce are conducting information sessions on the current issues and developments for not-for-profits regarding the [New Associations Law](#). At these sessions, you can find out about:

- How the new laws will impact existing incorporated associations;
- Key changes to committee responsibilities;
- The prescribed model rules; and
- The process for updating an association's rules during the 3 year transition period.

There will be sessions run in Joondalup, Fremantle, Mandurah, Midland and Perth across April and May - Please [click here](#) to view the dates, times, and full details of all sessions.

Aes16 International Evaluation Conference – Early Bird Registrations Open

Australasian Evaluation Society are holding their annual International Evaluation Conference in Perth from **17 to 21 September 2016**. Early bird registrations are now open.

For further 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.

- [UnitingCare West – Support Workers \(Great Southern Region\)](#) – Casual
- [UnitingCare West – Support Worker \(Wyn Carr Women’s Services\)](#) – Part time
- [UnitingCare West – Senior Case Worker Accommodation Support Service Program \(ASSP\)](#) – Full time
- [UnitingCare West – Live-In Primary Carers \(Family Group Homes\)](#)
- [UnitingCare West – Senior HR Information Systems Specialist](#) – Full time
- [UnitingCare West – Couple or Single Carers \(Regular Respite\)](#) – Contract

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

[Subscribe me to this list.](#)



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