



FYI

**14 September
2009**

City West Lotteries House, 2 Delhi St, West Perth WA 6005
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Message from WANADA

Reminder for Members about a Special General Meeting - 30 September

A WANADA Special General Meeting will be held at City West Lotteries House at lunchtime on Wednesday 30 September. The Executive Committee is proposing, in light of WANADA's evolution into a larger organisation, that the Executive Committee be transformed from a committee with direct management responsibilities into a true Board responsible for the governance of WANADA.

Information has already been posted to members. If you are unable to attend please return the proxy form so that these important changes can be made. Constitutional changes require 75% of votes approving. If you have any questions about the proposed changes, please contact Mike Seward or Jane Harwood at WANADA on 9420 7236, or a member of the Executive Committee.

Australia to Host US Drug Law Campaigner Norm Stamper

Former Seattle Police Chief Norm Stamper will be in Perth from 15 – 18 October 2009 to offer his perspective on international drug laws and their impact on communities. Information about his speaking engagements will appear in *FYI* in the coming weeks, or for more information, please contact Deanne Ferris via deanne.ferris@wanada.org.au or call 9420 7236.

WANADA Project Update

Improved Services Initiative: Postponement of the National Comorbidity Clinical Guidelines Seminars

WANADA has been advised by Dr Katherine Mills from the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre (NDARC) that the seminars for the National Comorbidity Clinical Guidelines will need to be postponed.



The scheduled Western Australian Seminar at the Health Department Theatre for 2 October 2009 is therefore cancelled.

NDARC are currently revising the guidelines based on the feedback they received from alcohol and other drug (AOD) workers from non-government organisations across Australia in the pilot process. These revisions will be completed in the near future.

WANADA has also been further advised that the final document will then need to be approved by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, after which time the guidelines will be printed and disseminated to AOD treatment services across Australia. It is now anticipated that this will occur by the end of this year.

It is our understanding that new dates will be negotiated for early 2010.

For more information about the Improved Services Initiative project, which looks at sector development around substance use and mental illness, please contact Angela Corry at WANADA on 9420 7236 or at angela.corry@wanada.org.au

Events

Streets to Angels

Streets to Angels

The Spirit of the Streets Choir together with -
Perth Male Voice Choir and the Mercedes College Select Choir

23 October 2009

8pm

St Georges Cathedral

Tickets \$32 and \$22 Concession

Bookings through BOCS on 9484 1133.

Supporting organisations: City of Perth, Celebrate WA, Morley Rotary Club

ICCWA: Community Safety Month Breakfast Launch

Community Safety Month - Breakfast of Champions
1 October 2009 (International Safe Communities Day)
7.30am - 10am
Burswood Entertainment Complex, Botanical Rooms
Tickets: \$30.00 each

The Breakfast of Champions will celebrate stories of those communities and individuals championing safety. Local Champions are people taking initiative and action to make our community safer and the breakfast will be an opportunity to acknowledge these fantastic advocates. ICCWA invites you to nominate Local Champions to attend the celebration. If you would like to nominate a champion, please contact Sarah McKerracher on 9420 7212 or smckerracher@iccwa.org.au.

The key address will be presented by Graeme Drew, the 2009 Community Safety Month Patron and winner of the 'Australia's Local Hero 2009' Award at the Australia Day Awards this year.

Please RSVP to iccwaevents@iccwa.org.au or fax to (08) 9486 7955. If you have any queries, please contact the Safe Communities Project Officer, Sarah McKerracher, on 9420 7212 or smckerracher@iccwa.org.au.

WA Perinatal Mental Health Unit: Medication During Lactation and Pregnancy

As part of the "Embracing the Bigger Picture" symposium, the WA Perinatal Mental Health Unit would like to invite you to attend a special breakfast presentation.

Medication for depression, anxiety disorders and bipolar disorders in pregnancy and lactation... an update

Presented by Dr Jonathan Rampono

Wednesday 7 October 2009
7.15am - 8.30am
The Boulevard Centre, Floreat
Cost: \$25.00 (breakfast included)

Dr Rampono will discuss current issues and approaches to medication management for pregnant and lactating women experiencing depression, anxiety disorders and bipolar disorder.

For more information about the breakfast presentation and to request registration forms, please contact WA Perinatal Mental Health Unit on (08) 9340 1795 or via wapmhu@health.wa.gov.au
Web: www.wnhs.health.wa.gov.au/wapmhu.php

Aboriginal Art Workshops in Mirrabooka

Aboriginal Art Workshops
Wednesday 23 September
27 Chesterfield Rd, Mirrabooka
9.30am – 11.30am
Herb Graham Recreation Centre
Free admission
Light lunch provided.



For information and registration, please call Ana on 9380 7758 or Maria on 9380 7756 or just drop in at Herb Graham Recreation Centre.

This project is funded by DiabetesWA, Catalyst Community Arts Fund and supported by Mirrabooka Square, Community Vision, Metropolitan Migrant Resource Centre and the North Metropolitan Public Health Unit.:

Reminder: WANADA/WHS Consumer Participation

Can experts get it wrong? The case for consumer engagement in AOD services
Wednesday 30 September 2009
9am - 4pm
City West Lotteries House, 2 Delhi St, West Perth
Free
Lunch provided

The program includes Joel Levin from the International Association for Public Participation, and Michelle Kosky from the Health Consumers Council, Examples of consumer participation in the WA AOD sector will be discussed by a range of speakers

For more information, please contact either Wendy Shannon at WHS via wendy@whs.org.au or Milambo Sichaaba at WHS via m.sichaaba@whs.org.au

Reminder: Mental Health Week

The Promotional Resources and Order Form are now on the WA Association for Mental Health website. To see all the new goodies for yourself, visit:
<http://www.waamh.org.au/upload/downloadFiles/ACF2B67.pdf>

Please download the order form from:
<http://tinyurl.com/n7g45g>

Please send your order back as soon as possible so that they can be processed around the middle of September.

Reminder: Mental Health Information Forum

Mental Health Information Forum

Tuesday 29 September 2009

2pm – 6pm

Perth Convention Exhibition Centre, 21 Mounts Bay Rd, Perth

Free – everyone welcome



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Health**
Mental Health

Come along and get the latest details on the progress of the State Mental Health Policy and Strategic Plan 2010-2020 for **Western Australia**.

All are welcome, including community members, consumers, carers, health professionals and service providers.

For any enquiries, please contact Cath Polley at cath.polley@health.wa.gov.au or call 9222 2361.

Reminder: ICCWA Lunchtime Forum - Healing Power of Community Singing

ICCWA presents a special October lunchtime forum during Community Safety Month –

Madjitol Moorna, Singers of Aboriginal songs: *Breaking barriers and building bridges through the healing power of community singing*

Presented by Pauline Vigus and Dawn Michelle - Keen singers and regular members of Madjitol Moorna choir

Thursday 8 October 2009

12.30pm – 1.30pm

City West Lotteries House, 2 Delhi St, West Perth

Light lunch provided.

RSVP to iccwaevents@iccwa.org.au or on 9420 7212.

Reminder: St Patrick's Community Support Centre: Quiz Night

St Pat's Quiz Night

Quizmaster Fremantle Mayor Peter Tagliaferri

Friday 25 September 2009

Doors open 7pm, eyes down 7.30pm

St Patrick's Community Support Centre,

12 Queen Victoria St, Fremantle

Tea/coffee, cake will be available

BYO drinks and nibbles

Tickets: \$15 per head, 8 per table



For more information or to book, contact reception on 9430 4159 or via lgood@stpats.com.au

Correction and Reminder: SDERA Professional Development Seminar on Children and Resilience

In previous issues of FYI, an incorrect telephone contact for this event was given – please find the correct contact number below.

School Drug Education and Road Aware are offering a professional learning seminar for agency staff.

Nurturing Children's Mental Health through Connections and Playing at Being Bad: The Hidden Strengths of Troubled Children and Teens

Presented by international resiliency expert Michael Ungar
Wednesday 30 September

1pm—3pm (includes afternoon tea)

AQWA Function Centre, Hillarys

Afternoon tea is provided and all costs are covered by SDERA.



Helping to keep young people safer

Michael Ungar, Ph D is the author of works including: *We Generation; Raising Socially Responsible Kids; Too Safe for their Own Good; How Risk and Responsibility Help Teens Thrive; Playing at Being Bad; The Hidden Resilience of Troubled Teens and Strengths-based Counselling with At-risk Youth.*

Michael leads an international team of resilience researchers that spans more than a dozen countries on six continents.

This presentation is open to all staff working in related fields in WA. Places are limited, so be early and register your attendance by calling Sarah Clifford on (08) 9270 3046.

RSVP: Tuesday 15 September.

Update: WANADA Diversion Forum

Diversion Forum

Tentative - 12 October 2009

Time and date to be confirmed due to a clash of events... more information soon!

55 Central Inc, 55 Central Ave, Maylands

Chris Smart from the Department for Child Protection will present on Strong Families and a worker from WASUA will talk about current drug trends.

For more information or to RSVP, please contact Emma Ridge-Cooke, Diversion Policy & Support Officer at WANADA on 9420 7236 or e-mail emma.ridge-cooke@wanada.org.au

Reminder: COMIC WA - Effects of Trauma on the Developing Child

The Effects of Trauma on the Developing Child: Implications for Treatment

Speaker - Sarah Landy, Family Pathways

22 September 2009

9am - 1pm

ARAFMI, 182 Lord St, Perth (at the corner of Edward and Lord Sts)



Other presenters - Margaret Cook and Pauline Miles, COMIC WA (Children of Mentally Ill Consumers) and Merrill Stokes, Family Support Program, MIFWA.

For more information, please call 9228 0200 or 0413 487 045, or e-mail

comic4wa@yahoo.com.au

Reminder: UWA - Screening for the Metabolic Syndrome

Screening for the metabolic syndrome in psychiatric patients: the challenge for clinicians

Presented by A/ Professor Jonathan Laugharne

Friday 18 September 2009

12.30pm for a light lunch, 1pm seminar

Seminar Room 3, Gascoyne House, Graylands Hospital

The event is hosted by the Centre for Clinical Research in Neuropsychiatry (CCRN). If you would like to attend, please RSVP to Lorraine Bahri via Lorraine.Bahri@health.wa.gov.au

Reminder: Deaths In Custody Watch Committee (WA) Inc: Day of Action

DICWA Inc: Day of Action - 16 September

Presentation of Petition

12.30pm

Front steps of Parliament House, Harvest Tce, Perth

Major Public Forum

Speakers include members of the Ward family; 2007 West Australian of the Year, Mark Bin Bakar; pioneering campaigner against deaths in custody, Ulli (Helen) Corbett; and Les Malezer, recipient of the 2008 Human Rights Commission medal for advancing Indigenous rights.

6pm - 9pm

Perth Town Hall (Cnr Hay & Barrack Sts) Perth

Refreshments provided.

Further information is available from our website at www.deathsincustody.org.au/campaigns

or contact DICWA on (08) 9444 1930 or via dicwc@inet.net.au

AOD News

ADCA's Governance Structure Featured in *Not-for-Profit Management*

Not-for-profit Management magazine has just published an article on ADCA's governance arrangements. This article highlights how their new governing structure will enable increased member participation and assist ADCA to better represent the diverse views of the AOD sector.

The latest issue of *Not-for-profit Management* can be found at:

<http://www.nfpmanagement.com.au/August2009/document.pdf>

AOD Programs and Services

WHS: Reclaiming Your Life

A free group for women interested in self-esteem and self-care in order to empower themselves and improve their life.

Reclaiming Your Life

From 12 October to 23 November

10.30am - 1pm, Mondays

Women's Health Services, 122 Aberdeen St, Northbridge

Free Crèche available (bookings essential)

Morning tea provided

If you are interested in attending, or for more information, please contact Valerie at Womens Health Services on 9227 9032.

Community Service News

National Compact: Online Survey for Charities and Associations

The Australian Government is now mid-way through the consultation phase for the development of the national compact. The government wants to hear from as many people and organisations as possible about what should be included in this important partnership agreement.

The closing date for submissions is 30 September 2009. There are a variety of ways to have your say about the development of the compact. You can check out the options via the online forum (www.socialinclusion.gov.au/forums), or call the compact hotline on 1800 607 839.

They have also developed a quick and easy survey on a range of issues around the national compact, and encourage you to take the time to tell them what you think by completing it before 30 September 2009. Complete the survey at:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=ce24dqFoyod6ZP5CeNPc9Q_3d_3d

Health News

PHAA Welcomes National Preventive Health Agency

The Public Health Association of Australia (PHAA) has welcomed the introduction into Federal Parliament by Health Minister Nicola Roxon of a Bill to establish an Australian National Preventive Health Agency.

PHAA President Professor Mike Daube said in a media release on Thursday 10 September:

“This is a massive step forward in improving the health and lives of all Australians. The establishment of a National Preventive Health Agency was a key recommendation of both the National Preventative Health Taskforce and the Health and Hospitals Reform Commission. We are delighted that the Government has moved so quickly to establish this Agency, with an initial budget of \$133 million over four years that will enable it to make real inroads into major national problems such as tobacco and obesity.”

“A National Prevention Agency will bring a much needed focus to prevention in Australia, with best-practise programs based on expert advice. Moves such as this will make Australia the international leader in promoting health and preventing disease.”

Mental Health News

Suicide Prevention Strategy 2009 - 2013

Last Thursday marked World Suicide Prevention Day and Mental Health Minister Graham Jacobs marked the day with the launch of a new \$13million State Government strategy to help prevent suicide across WA.

The Minister said the strategy placed an emphasis on young people - and in particular young men - and people living in rural and regional parts of WA.

Under the strategy, the Ministerial Council for Suicide Prevention will have new responsibilities to oversee suicide prevention initiatives and to identify communities requiring more support.

A non-government organisation will be appointed to implement the strategy to increase public awareness and to oversee research, evaluation, education and training in suicide prevention.

This organisation will also lead the response if suicide clusters emerged and work with locally-employed community coordinators to develop action plans. Dr Jacobs said these would identify at-risk groups and outline additional support needed.

To view the strategy, follow the link from the WA Mental Health homepage:

<http://www.health.wa.gov.au/mentalhealth/home>

Personal Helpers and Mentors Program in Remote Communities

The Australian Government announced last week an extension of the Personal Helpers and Mentors (PHaMS) program to several remote communities.

The government is providing \$10.9 million over 3 years for seven new remote PHaMS sites, which have been identified in consultation with state and territory governments.

The new PHaMS remote sites are:

- Narrogin, Western Australia
- Warburton, Western Australia
- Tennant Creek and Elliott, Northern Territory
- Papunya - West Alice Springs region, Northern Territory
- Aurukun, Queensland
- Doomadgee, Queensland
- Yarrabah, Queensland

The program targets those most in need-people who cannot manage their daily activities or live independently because they have a severe mental illness.

A remote delivery model of PHaMS has been designed to help people deal with the extra issues they face due to the remoteness of their community.

This model recognises and promotes spiritual, cultural, mental and physical healing for Indigenous Australians living with mental illness.

Three PHaMS sites have already been rolled out in Yuendumu, West Kimberley/Broome and the APY Lands.

New Resources

Druginfo Newsletter: AOD Prevention in the Workplace

The September 2009 issue of the Druginfo newsletter focusses on prevention of alcohol-related harm in the workplace, with articles on the construction industry's alcohol and other drugs program, and the practical considerations of implementing AOD programs in workplaces. Read more at:

http://www.druginfo.adf.org.au/newsletter.asp?ContainerID=newsletter_workplace

Druginfo: Reading and Resource List on AOD and the Workplace

Reading and resource list number 28 is a guide for researchers, educators and other health professionals seeking current evidence-based research and information relating to alcohol and the workplace. Download a copy from:

<http://tinyurl.com/nyu9tr>

Druginfo: Issues Paper on AOD in the Workplace

Issues Paper number 10 has been written by Ken Pidd and Ann Roche from the National Centre for Education and Training on Addiction (NCETA), Flinders University, South Australia. The paper examines the prevalence and patterns of alcohol consumption among Australian workers; the implications of alcohol consumption for safety and productivity; and the relationship between work and workers' alcohol consumption patterns. The paper also delineates evidence for effective workplace interventions. The purpose of such an examination is to provide information that occupational health and safety, human resource, and alcohol and other drug professionals can use to develop and implement effective responses to alcohol consumption in the workplace.

The issues paper can be downloaded from:

<http://tinyurl.com/nklgu9>

Druginfo: Fact Sheets for Employers and Employees on AOD Issues

Reducing the risk of alcohol problems in the workplace - Fact sheet number 8.1 - for employers:
<http://tinyurl.com/qpihvj>

Alcohol and the workplace: the rights and responsibilities of employers - Fact sheet number 8.2
- for employers: <http://tinyurl.com/ldy6lp>

Alcohol and the workplace: the rights and responsibilities of employees - Fact sheet number 8.3
- for employees: <http://tinyurl.com/nrmne9>

Sample workplace alcohol policy - Fact sheet number 8.4 - for employers:
<http://tinyurl.com/pelos7>

The Human Condition Bookstore: New Resources

The bookstore is offering a 10% discount for subscribers to *Psychotherapy in Australia* or orders over AUD\$200.00. Search all new releases and over 6500 psychotherapy and counselling titles in stock at www.psychotherapy.com.au

Current titles include:

- Heal Your Anxiety Workbook by John Arden
- The Insomnia Workbook by Stephanie Silberman
- Change Your Brain, Change Your Pain - based on EMDR – by Esther Perel
- The Therapist's Notebook by Bob Bertolino, Michael Kiener and Ryan Patterson
- Clinical Handbook of Mindfulness
- Collaborative Case Conceptualisation - working effectively with clients in cognitive-behavioral therapy - by William Kuyken, Christine Padesky and Robert Dudley
- A Different Wisdom - reflections on supervision practice - by Penny Henderson

To order, visit the website or telephone (03) 9855 2220.

IHRA: Online Resources on Overdose Prevention

Last month the International Harm Reduction Association launched the fifth in a series of online document collections – this time focusing on the extent and prevention of overdose. The collection can be accessed here:

<http://www.ihra.net/August2009#IHRALaunchesOnlineDocumentCollectiononOverdose>

NewsPoint and Practice Link Online Now

The September editions of NewsPoint and Practice Link is now available. NewsPoint publishes stories on the activities and concerns of Turning Point, while *Practice Link* highlights current and developing research projects, particularly those relevant to practitioners and their clients.

NewsPoint and Practice Link can be downloaded from: www.turningpoint.org.au

Feedback is encouraged and should be sent to info@turningpoint.org.au

Triple J: Hearing Voices on Hack

Triple J's current affairs show *Hack* aired a story on young people who hear voices and new ways to cope on 3 September 2009. To listen to the story, and to read listener comments, please visit: <http://www.abc.net.au/triplej/hack/notes/s2675907.htm>

Grants & Funding

Western Australian Suicide Prevention Strategy 2009 to 2013 - Tender

The Mental Health Division, on behalf of the Minister for Mental Health, invites Expressions of Interest (EOI) from non-government organisations for the implementation of the Western Australian Suicide Prevention Strategy 2009-2013. NGOs will be required to demonstrate an understanding of the WA Suicide Prevention Strategy 2009-2013 and experience in the use of the community development approach with specific emphasis on rural/remote localities and Indigenous populations.

An industry briefing will be held on Wednesday 30 September commencing at 9am in Conference Room 2B, Department of Health, 189 Royal Street, East Perth. Interested organisations are encouraged to attend this briefing. Please register your attendance **by Friday 25 September 2009** with Katherine.Davis@health.wa.gov.au

Documents associated with the EOI and a list of eligible areas are available at:

<http://tinyurl.com/r8r25z>

Enquiries to David Axworthy on (08) 9222 2426. **The deadline for Expressions of Interest is Thursday 22 October 2009 at 2pm.**

Reminder: OATSIH / NT GP Education: Training and Development Scheme

Invitation to apply for financial support

The Training and Development Scheme (TDS) is a national program that aims to enhance the capacity and culture of continuous quality improvement of eligible Office for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders Health (OATSIH) funded Indigenous health Organisations, through support for staff to undertake training and development courses.

Northern Territory General Practice Education (NTGPE) sponsored by OATSIH, are pleased to offer financial support to eligible staff of OATSIH funded Indigenous Health Organisations.

Two streams of access for funded training are available. Short Term Stream and Long Term Stream. TDS long term stream applications for 2010-2011 commence 1 September 2009 and **close 15 November 2009**. TDS short term stream applications are accepted throughout the year.

Details of project aim, eligibility and application process are available online at:

www.tds.org.au

How to apply

Refer to the Funding Guidelines (available at www.tds.org.au). If all eligibility criteria are met, applicants should complete an Application Form in accordance with the Funding Guidelines and forward to the Project Coordinator.

Further assistance on the application process can be obtained by contacting Kym Phillips (08) 8946 7015 or via e-mail at enquiry@tds.org.au

Final Reminder: National Binge Drinking Strategy Community Level Initiative

The Department of Health and Ageing is seeking applications from incorporated community groups or local government organisations for project proposals that aim to prevent and reduce binge drinking by young people aged 12-24 years. An upper limit of \$150,000 plus GST per grant for up to two years will apply for individual project proposals. For organisations wishing to collaborate and submit a joint proposal, an upper limit of \$250,000 plus GST per grant for up to two years will apply.

For application details, please visit:

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/grant0320910>

For further information please contact the Department on 1800 209 312 or via e-mail

communitylevelinitiative@health.gov.au

Closing date: 5pm , 21 September 2009.

Conferences

Reminder: 6th Health Services & Policy Research Conference 2009

25 - 27 November 2009

Brisbane, Queensland

www.healthservicesconference.com.au/

Reminder: Advancing Indigenous Health

Advancing Indigenous Health: Workforce Innovations

2 - 4 December 2009

Melbourne

www.limenetwork.net.au/content/lime-connection-iii

Reminder: WA Health Symposium - WA

Health in focus

14-15 October 2009

Perth, WA

www.health.wa.gov.au/wahealthconference/registration/index.cfm

Reminder: XXV World Congress on Suicide Prevention

XXV World Congress on Suicide Prevention

27 - 31 October 2009

Uruguay

www.iasp2009.org/

Reminder: Young people: Finding their way in a new era

Young people: Finding their way in a new era

10 November 2009

Melbourne

www.ncver.edu.au/newsevents/events.html#Young_people:_Finding_their_way_in_a_new_era

Reminder: APCCAN 2009 Child Abuse & Neglect

Looking Through the Lens of Prevention

15 - 18 November 2009

Perth WA

www.apccan2009.org.au

Reminder: National Hepatitis Health Promotion Conference

National Hepatitis Health Promotion Conference

Grass roots to national action

29 - 30 October 2009

The conference will explore issues and methods of engaging and working with communities to influence and shape better health outcomes.

To register, go to:

<http://www.ors.net.au/hepatitisaustralia.html>

Training

NDRI: Information Evening for 2010 PhD, Honours and Masters Students

The National Drug Research Institute invites you to an Information evening for 2010

PhD, Honours and Masters students –

Thursday 8 October 2009

4.30pm – 6.30pm

A light supper will be served from 5.30pm

National Drug Research Institute, Health Research Campus, Curtin University of Technology
Seminar Room, Level 2, 10 Selby St, Shenton Park

The information evening will allow students to meet and talk with prospective co-supervisors about opportunities for research projects.

NDRI project leaders and PhD students will give brief presentations on the work NDRI does and discuss specific areas where there may be opportunities for co-supervision of PhD, Honours or Masters projects. Students will remain enrolled in their existing schools.

Opportunities for part-time and voluntary research work will also be discussed.

Students and supervisors from all Perth universities are welcome to attend the evening.

NDRI will also offer a small number of competitive research bursaries to support student research.

For the event flyer, including directions to NDRI , or to find out more about the Institute, go to

<http://ndri.curtin.edu.au>

Please RSVP to NDRI Reception on (08) 9266 1600 or ndri@curtin.edu.au by **Thursday 1 October 2009**.

Suicide Prevention: Gatekeeper Workshop

Suicide Prevention: Gatekeeper Workshop

Monday 5 and Tuesday 6 October

Day One: 9am - 4.30pm and Day Two: 9am - 4.30pm

Outcare, 27 Moore St, East Perth

Cost: Free

Lunch, morning and afternoon tea provided



Do you want to:

- Distinguish between suicidal and self-harm behaviour?
- Be able to identify when someone is at risk of suicide?
- Assess suicide risk and take steps to intervene when someone is suicidal?
- Know how to deal with critical incidents associated with suicidal behaviour in your community or agency?



Many of us know that suicide is a real issue in our community, but knowing how to approach someone and what to say can seem difficult. The “Gatekeeper” Workshop provides participants with a range of knowledge and skills that aims to improve ability and confidence in responding to people at risk of suicide.

The workshop includes information about:

- The extent of the problem and understanding suicide
- Mental disorders and suicide
- Recognising and understanding (repetitive) self-harm
- Understanding the needs of the suicidal person, their carers and workers
- Recognising warning signs
- How to approach someone at risk of suicide and raise the issue
- Doing a risk assessment
- What to do when the risk of suicide is low, medium or high
- Postvention – strategies to help after a suicide

The workshop is based on current evidence and best practice in suicide prevention and has an interactive adult learning framework that provides opportunities for practicing new skills. Participants also receive detailed workshop resources.

Facilitators: **Anja Brok**, social worker and locally based Accredited Regional Trainer for the **Ministerial Council for Suicide Prevention**, and **Wendy Shannon**, a social worker with qualifications in mental health practice

For more information and to request a registration form, please contact Milambo Sichaaba at Womens Health Services via m.sichaaba@whs.org.au

Reminder: Health Consumers Council: Consumer Activism

Consumer Activism: : Creating Change in the Health System

Training for Health Consumer Representatives

Wednesday 7 October 2009

9.30am – 3pm

Health Consumers' Council, Unit 13/14 Wellington Fair, 40
Lord St, East Perth



- Hear inspiring stories of how community activists have fought for – and won – positive social change
- Learn about activist tactics which consumer representatives can use
- Increase your confidence in meetings and interactions in the health system
- Take your effectiveness as a consumer representative to the next level

This highly participatory training session will give you the opportunity to build on your experiences to date, share strengths and strategies with others, and practice new techniques. The training is being tailored to boost your confidence and effectiveness as a consumer representative.

Come along and get inspired about the crucial role you play in improving the health system for consumers – and leave with fresh ideas and a fuller toolbox.

Please register for this event by Wednesday 30 September 2009. To request a registration form or for more information, please contact Cheryl Rugdee at the Health Consumer Council.

Telephone: (08) 9221 3422

Fax: (08) 9221 5435

E-mail: cheryl.rugdee@hconc.org.au

Reminder: Community Services and Health Industry Skills Council Ltd: Future Proof Your Workforce

Community Services & Health Industry Skills Council and Capability Plus offer:

Future Proof You Workforce

Wednesday 16 September 2009

Perth CBD

Visit the CHISC website for more information including the Workshop Overview:

<https://promo-manager.server-secure.com/ch/6h2rvd/255515/f6eb8jg79.html>

Or please contact Rachelle Joe, Events Coordinator

Telephone: (02) 9270 6625 Fax: (02) 9270 6601 E-mail: rachelle.joe@cshisc.com.au

Reminder: Health Consumers Council WA: Free Consumer Representative Skills

Want to improve the quality and delivery of health services in WA?

Consumer Representative Skills Training

Saturday 14 November 2009

9.30am - 3pm

Health Consumers' Council WA, Unit 13/14 Wellington Fair, 40 Lord Street, East Perth (corner Lord and Wellington Streets)

This free training is designed to equip individuals from the community with the knowledge and skills that will enable them to become effective Consumer Representatives on a range of health advisory committees:

Topics covered include:

- Consumer representation
- Patient rights
- The broader health system
- Committees
- Meeting procedures
- Communication skills

What is a Consumer Representative?

A Consumer Representative is a committee member who voices the consumer perspective and takes part in the decision making process on behalf of consumers.

Health Consumers' Council (HCC) currently supports Consumer Representatives on over 100 committees, covering a range of health issues, locally, state wide and nationally.

Consumer participation on these committees is essential for the ongoing creation of a consumer-focused health care system. It also provides consumers the ability to 'have their say' by contributing to the planning and development of health services.

For more information or to register, please contact:

Cheryl Rugdee, Health Consumers' Council WA

Telephone: (08) 9221 3422 Fax: (08) 9221 5435 E-mail: cheryl.rugdee@hconc.org.au

Health Consumers' Council - Your Voice on Health

In the Media

Media articles of possible interest to people working in the AOD sector this week include:

British smoking ban slashes heart attacks, *The Australian*, 13 September 2009, p13:
<http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,25197,26067037-23289,00.html>

Drinking at work over, bar shouting, *The Australian*, 13 September 2009, p3:
<http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,,26068695-2702,00.html>

Binge drinking: another perspective, *The Sunday Times*, 13 September 2009, p8

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Job Opportunities

Job opportunities are listed on WANADA's website and can be found at:

<http://www.wanada.org.au/jobadfyi.htm> . This week we have notices for the following positions:

MIFWA - Community Mental Health Worker:

<http://www.wanada.org.au/jobadfyi.htm#mifwacmh>

Carers WA Inc - Carer Advisor:

<http://www.wanada.org.au/jobadfyi.htm#carerwaa>

MIFWA - Finance Officer / Bookkeeper:

<http://www.wanada.org.au/jobadfyi.htm#mifwafob>

Public Health Advocacy Institute of WA: EOI Research Assistant (Two-Month Appointment):

<http://www.wanada.org.au/jobadfyi.htm#phaiwara>

Contact *FYI*

Contributions

FYI is sent to over 350 individuals and organisations with an interest in the alcohol and other drug sector and is a great way to stay in touch. We especially welcome news about new AOD programs, changes to your service, events, training and job opportunities. Contributions for next week's *FYI* should be received **by Friday**. Please send your news to Deanne Ferris at deanne.ferris@wanada.org.au or call 9420 7236.

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Quote for the Week

"The number of those who undergo the fatigue of judging for themselves is very small indeed"

Richard Brinsley Sheridan