

## News from Western Sydney Community Forum

### Forum Flash

**Date: 2 June 2010**

#### CSGP Forum 9 June 2010

WSCF and Community Services (DoCS) will be doing joint presentations on the CSGP Service System Realignment over the next few months. We see that it will be most useful for services if you are able to hear about the direction and discuss issues with both Community Services and WSCF. The first meeting will be held on Wednesday June 9<sup>th</sup> at the Cumberland Combined Services meeting in Parramatta. Brian Smith from LCSA will also attend this meeting.

To register to attend email Maria Casbolt on [Maria.Casbolt@community.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Maria.Casbolt@community.nsw.gov.au)

#### WSCF Closed for Day of Action on 10 June 2010

WSCF will be closed on June 10<sup>th</sup> for the ASU Equal Pay Day of Action at Town Hall from 11.00am. We will be joining community workers from across western and south western Sydney travelling by train to the Town Hall event & Rally. South West Sydney workers will leave Liverpool on the 9.41am train. Western Sydney community workers leave Blackheath at 8.12am, Katoomba at 8.25, Springwood at 9.06, Penrith at 9.39, Blacktown at 9.53 & Parramatta at 10.05 and arriving at Central at 10.30am. We encourage all workplaces to support the Equal Pay also close if possible, or to minimise public contact on the day and to support.



For more information or assistance rallying the troops in your workplace, networks and community contact Emily 02 9310 4000 or email [emily@asu.org.au](mailto:emily@asu.org.au).

Also see [www.asumembers.org.au/equalpay](http://www.asumembers.org.au/equalpay) and [www.payup.org.au](http://www.payup.org.au)

#### Sydney Alliance District Meetings

The WSCF / Sydney Alliance partnership is developing well. We invite you to be part of this exciting long term project to build civil society through collation of community organisations, faith-based congregations and union members. There are several opportunities to get involved over the next couple of months - attending a district meeting, an orientation session and or the launch of the Listening Assembly.

##### **West district Meeting:**

Tuesday 15 June, 6:30 - 8pm, DAC Diocesan Assembly Centre, 1-5 Marion St Blacktown  
Contact Amanda on 0409 321 133 or [atattersall@sydneyalliance.org.au](mailto:atattersall@sydneyalliance.org.au)

##### **South West district Meeting:**

Wednesday 23 June, St Francis Xavier Catholic Church, 71 Webster Rd, Lurnea  
Contact Ron on 0435 846 520 or [rburgess@sydneyalliance.org.au](mailto:rburgess@sydneyalliance.org.au)

The district meetings are a chance to meet others in the Alliance and help our coalition build strong foundations in local areas. They are bimonthly at rotating venues.

The Alliance has a focus on western Sydney and consequently is launching the *Listening Assembly* in Blacktown on July 11<sup>th</sup> at Blacktown Council 1.30 to 3.30. This will be the springboard for six months of listening to Sydney's people about the issues important to all of us.

*Sydney Alliance Orientation* - Thursday 17 June from 11:30 - 12:30 a one hour session to brief new and potential organisations about the Sydney Alliance. The event provides opportunity for organisations to meet new people and to find out more about how and why they might want to participate in the Alliance. It is on at PSA House, Level 10 / 160 Clarence St Sydney.

[Click here to download an invitation](#) with more details.

## Workforce Development Interview

Interview with **Jessie Williams** who works at CCWT  
(Interviewed by Miguel Ferreo)

### ***Q1. What has been your career path to your current job? (brief background)***

I worked as a youth policy facilitator on the Care and Protection Act back in 1999. After spending some time at the frontline, I developed insight into the issues that workers in our sector face. I decided to move into education to assist those that help others.

### ***Q2. What is your position within the community sector?***

I am the Senior Learning and Development Project Manager at CCWT

### ***Q3. What in your opinion are the key workforce issues faced by the community sector?***

Recruitment and Retention is a big issue, but the bigger issue that underpins this is pay parity with our partners in the public sector. Those that wish to work with the heart will always look to the community services sector, however the challenge to us is how to remunerate them and support their professional development when pays are capped. Lack of seed money to nurture innovative ideas is also a challenge.

### ***Q4. What strategies the sector could develop to address these issues?***

More investment in leadership development programs, more job profiling so that we attract young workers in, more cross-pollinating between public service and NGO.

### ***Q5. What is your advice to the Community Sector that could be helpful to face these issues?***

Develop sector and job role branding that expresses what we all feel. Be a champion for innovation, bring out great speakers, and import the DNA from the corporate marketplace to build real achievement style ways of working in the community sector.

## Western Sydney Community Service Sector Awards

WE WANT YOU!!!! Here's the opportunity to participate in an exciting community project

WSCF is considering establishing this awards event as part of the Stronger Voice for Western Sydney strategy. The idea is that the awards would be a way to:



- Recognize, honor and celebrate the outstanding contribution made by funded NGO's operating across the Greater Western Sydney region.
- Raise awareness of and acknowledge the positive impact that community capacity building activities can have within the greater western Sydney region.
- Encourage community involvement and participation in promoting a positive image for Western Sydney.

The project is in its infant stages and what we need is to have a coordinating group which is representative of Western Sydney service sector who can come together to progress this further. WSCF is willing to take the lead in terms of administration, but for this to be successful we need input and ideas from people who have a passion and pride about what has been and can be achieved in the community sector. The group would meet for a couple of hours every second month to look at the various processes involved i.e. award categories, nomination and judging criteria, publicity and promotion etc. etc.

If interested please contact Nancy on: E: [nancyn@wscf.org.au](mailto:nancyn@wscf.org.au) T: 02 9687 9695 **RSVP 11 Jun 2010**

### Joke Spot

The only time the world beats a path to your door is if you're in the bathroom.

### For a full copy of the WSCF HACC Flash

[Click link to HACC Flash in Flash file](#)

A Stronger Voice for Western Sydney Facebook Page: <http://www.ngo.net.au/strongervoice>