

Forum Flash

11 February 2010

Building a Stronger Voice for Western Sydney

WSCF invites you to attend this important Forum to be held on 2nd March at Nirimba Room, Blacktown Council, 5th Floor Civic Centre, Flushcombe Rd, Blacktown.

Who should come?

Community service sector workers across Western Sydney and those who are interested in this issue...

Why should you come?

Advocacy skills are needed more than ever to make sure our communities and clients are able to participate fully in everyday life and decision-making. It is anticipated that this forum will be a catalyst to bring people together to identify ways on how we can be a stronger advocate for the community and to ensure the voice of Western Sydney is heard by governments, planners and decision-makers.

Three guest speakers have agreed to present:

- Jeremy Goff, Executive Director WSROC - The Power of Lobbying
- Peter Rogers, Director WESTIR - The changes/trends in WS demographics
- Kerry Nettle - Strategies for Successful Advocating

To book your place early: [Register Online](#) or [Mail/Fax Registration Form](#)

Cost: Free

RSVP: Final date for registrations - Friday, 19 February 2010



Is There More Potential for Shared Taxis?

As part of the response to the Bus Network Review, Western Sydney Community Forum is working with local groups to see if there is any potential for shared taxis to fill some of the gaps in service that some people are experiencing.

We recently made contact with a Dept of Housing complex in Liverpool who had previously had a bus stop at their door but had recently lost it.

This meant that some people were finding it difficult to get out. We have been assisting some of these households to make other arrangements to enable them to be able to find transport and maintain their independence. One of the options is to investigate the potential of shared taxis.

If you or you know people, who are feeling like they can't get out in their area anymore because their bus has been changed it would be worth contacting Western Sydney Community Forum to see if there is any potential in using a shared taxi to solve the problem.

Contact Hugh Worrall at Western Sydney Community Forum on 9633 5068 or hughw@wscf.org.au

WSCF Training Courses

Training courses we have on offer for March include:

Legal Responsibilities of Management Committees

Exploring in more detail issues on incorporation, the role of the constitution, insurance, awards and other industrial instruments, funding agreements, leases, permits and other licenses.

Working Safely in Private Dwellings and External Locations for Managers/Coordinators

Session designed to introduce or refresh managers' knowledge in the elements of OHS Risk Management & contribute to the implementation of OHS strategies & initiatives to ensure compliance with OHS legislation.

Submission Writing for Beginners

This workshop targets those who have very limited knowledge on submission / grant writing. You will gain an understanding of the basic components of a submission application and the steps you need to take before writing the application.

Working Safely in Private Dwellings and External Locations for Staff and Volunteers

This workshop will allow participants to explore what is reasonable practice and weigh up risks in providing a service directly or indirectly in non-vocational and community

Remember you can now register on line for WSCF training courses.

Alliance Building Institutes - Action for the Common Good

In partnership with the *Sydney Alliance*, WSCF offers its members **FREE** access to any of the 7 Alliance Building Institutes being run in March.

Topics at the Alliance Building Institutes include:

- Community Organising: based on the history and tradition of our religious, union and community organizations
- Relational Organising: individual relational meetings, listening assemblies, negotiation and action
- Strengthening our Organisations: building a culture that is relational, action oriented and reflective/learning
- Using Relational Power in the public sphere to negotiate around common issues

[Click here to download the Registration Form.](#)

It needs to be filled in and faxed to us on 9687 8665 for us to approve and forward to Sydney Alliance.

WSCF Staff Profile - What We Do!

Over the next few issues we thought we would profile a member of our team so you have some insight as to what we do in our work roles.

First up is Miguel Ferrero, our Training and Development Officer.

This is a summary of the main areas/activities Miguel will be involved in for the first six months of 2010.

Support and resource interagencies, networks and forums
Miguel's first priority is the convening of the Training Directions Network to review the last 12 months and plan for 2010.



The network achieved a number of milestones in 2009:

Training Directions Network

- the creation of the TDN Blog,
- the Online NGO training providers directory and
- the presence of relevant guest speakers to its meetings

However the level of attendance and member engagement at TDN has decreased and he is looking to re-vitalize the energy and attendance levels over the next few months.

Interagencies

Miguel will continue attending the Multicultural and Youth Workers Networks in the South West (Bankstown, Fairfield and Liverpool) to inform members of broader issues such as the work of the Productivity Commission, changes affecting the incorporation laws, CARE Campaign, the Sector Compact, the role of RBA and to conduct training needs analyses. He will continue attending the NCOSS Sector Development Forum and bringing workforce issues to the discussion. His new addition this year is attendance at the Parramatta Koori Interagency.

Training and Community Education

Miguel will be running six education sessions covering Community Management Issues, RBA, and Submission Writing for Beginners in the first semester of 2010.

Result Based Accountability Project

The RBA project supported by FWTDP, CRN, UWS and the WSC Forum came to a successful end at the end of November last year. Miguel will continue supporting agencies with their RBA needs and queries, with priority given to agencies based in the Parramatta/Cumberland area.

In-House Projects

I will continue supporting the development and implementation of the Forum's Aboriginal Strategy and following up your comments on the Forum's CALD Strategy.

Joke Spot

Nobody cares if you can't dance. Just dance.

For a full copy of the WSCF HACC Flash

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