

## Forum Flash

**Date: 24 September 2010**

### Keep Them Safe (KTS) Workshop 15 October

This workshop aims to facilitate greater collaboration between the Community Sector and Government agencies from across the Macarthur Region to strengthen working relationships and to identify issues and practical solutions in the delivery of services to improve the wellbeing of children, young people and families.

The workshop is open to all Community Sector organisations in the Macarthur region, including organisations that specifically have a Keep Them Safe focus as well as organisations that may have a community capacity building focus and local councils. A similar workshop will be held on in Fairfield on 26 November. [Click here for your own invitation.](#)

### Positions Available at WSCF

WSCF are seeking skilled and enthusiastic people with a commitment to social justice principles to join a diverse team of projects for the following 2 positions.

- **Sector Facilitator (Homelessness SWS)** This is a re-advertised position  
\$35.00 per hour - 28 hrs per week negotiable / 20 month contract

The Sector Facilitator- Homelessness Metro South West Region (MSW) will work with MSW SAAP services and non SAAP services to collaboratively plan and inform the sector of priorities and opportunities in the National Affordable Housing Agreement and the National Homelessness Action Plan. The position will support MSW services to develop partnerships in setting directions for addressing and reducing homelessness.

Applicants need to obtain an information package, containing job description and selection criteria on 02 9687 9669 or email: [wscf@wscf.org.au](mailto:wscf@wscf.org.au). [Download Info Package](#). Interviews for this position are scheduled for Wednesday 6/10/2010.

NB: Applications need to address the selection criteria to be considered.

- **Aboriginal Capacity Building Project Worker**  
(Aboriginal Identified position)  
SACS Award Grade 5 + 5% - Full time 35 hrs per week / 3 year contract

This project worker will work closely with the Aboriginal Services Capacity Building Project conducted for the Aboriginal Capacity Building Advisory Group (ACBAG) by Bradfield Nyland Group for the past two years, assisting them to implement its plan to address a range of issues for Aboriginal services. It will increase skills in management, submission-writing, advocacy, assist with partnerships and develop back office support which will all lead to better support for Aboriginal communities.

## Both Applications close 5pm Monday 4 October 2010

WSCF offers:

- Above-award wages and conditions with option of Salary packaging
- Flexible hours; Family- friendly work environment
- Office is located close to public transport
- Culturally diverse and enthusiastic staff team.

Applicants must obtain an information package, containing job description and selection criteria on 02 9687 9669 or email: [wscf@wscf.org.au](mailto:wscf@wscf.org.au). [Download Info Package.](#)

Interviews for this position are scheduled for Monday 11 Oct 2010. WSCF would request the successful applicant to be available to attend its 2 day planning session on 26 & 27 October 2010.

NB: Applications must address the selection criteria to be considered.

## Welcome to New Member of Staff

WSCF is very excited to welcome aboard its latest new staff member.

Hi everyone. I'm Christine Mifsud the new Regional Resource Worker (HACC) for Cumberland Prospect/Nepean. I will be known to some of you, as I have been around the traps for some time. It happens when you get to a certain age! I've had lots of experience in the community sector, in varying capacities with different sorts of organizations as well as in local government. In 2008 I took time out from managing HACC services and CACPs to complete my Social Work degree.



I come to this position with a passion for a cohesive community care system which is easy to access, well coordinated and responsive to the needs of the diverse communities that make up this region. We are heading into uncharted territory with the COAG Reforms, so it is an exciting time to be back on the ground with local HACC services.

It's also nice to be back in a smaller NGO committed to social justice principles. I'm looking forward to working with the sector to build a stronger HACC community while navigating the significant changes that the move to Commonwealth funding of services for aged people will inevitably bring. One thing this sector is used to is change!

## Kerry Nettle interview - Policy Analysis



Kerry Nettle is the Service Manager - Community Capacity Building Team - at Parramatta City Council. She interviewed by Miguel Ferrero on the importance of developing policy analysis skills and capacity in our sector.

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

I was the Public Relations and Advocacy Manager at Cabramatta Community Centre. Before that I worked in a women's NGO in East Timor. I was a Greens Senator for NSW in Federal Parliament from 2002 to 2008. Prior to that I worked for a prisoner's rights organisation and was a youth worker at Granville Multicultural Community Centre.

### **2) What is your position within the community sector?**

Service Manager, Community Capacity Building Team, Parramatta City Council

**3) *Why is it important for the sector to engage in policy analysis and response?***

Government policy impacts on community members and the operations of organisations in the community sector. It is important that government decision makers hear from the community sector about the impact government policies will and do have on the local community and the community sector.

**4) *When analyzing policy what are the key things that the sector needs to be aware of/ look out for?***

It is important to imagine all the ways in which policies will impact on communities and community organisations. It is important to think about how a general policy will impact on people in vulnerable or exceptional circumstances because these are the people we need to look out for in particular. Sometimes exceptions to the policy can be put in place for them and we are in a good position to assist with how exceptions for them should be shaped.

**5) *Do you have any tips to help community workers better respond to policy?***

Peak organisations are often good at responding to policy but it can be helpful to them if grass roots community organisations provide case studies to support the general point that they are making.

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NB: If you are interested in attending training to enhance your policy analysis skills, send your thoughts and comments to Miguel, [miguelf@wscf.org.au](mailto:miguelf@wscf.org.au)

## Don't Forget - WSCF Community Service Provider Feedback Survey

We received valuable feedback and suggestions for improvement (which we acted upon) from you last year and we would like to do this again in time for our 2010 Annual Report. Our AGM will be held on 9 November. The survey is only 3 questions and it would be great to get your feedback again on what sort of a job we are doing for you.

Please take the opportunity to have your say: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/W2JLHQC>

## Joke Spot

When a lion escapes from a circus in Africa, how do they know when they've caught the right one?

## 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>