

Forum Flash – 4 July, 2008

News from Western Sydney Community Forum

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DIPLOMA OF COMMUNITY SERVICES MANAGEMENT - NOW AVAILABLE THROUGH WSCF.

Western Sydney Community Forum (WSCF) has a long history of providing relevant training to community organisations in Western Sydney and we have an exciting professional development opportunity for you. WSCF, in partnership with Harris Bromly Pty Ltd is offering the **Diploma of Community Services Management CHC51602**.

Dana Rosinski is the Learning and Development Worker at WSCF. "We wanted to offer people who attended WSCF workshops a next step. We knew people were looking for something that would take them further; something that would give them recognition for the job they are doing and their further study. This program provides a nationally accredited Diploma," says Dana.

"Our industry consultations told us that this is a great need in the community services sector. People were telling us that not many RTOs are offering this diploma and that they trusted WSCF to deliver the program. People who do our training have a relationship with us and they are confident that we understand the local community sector.

"People said to us 'we see the idea of the diploma as a potential benefit to my job and my personal development'. They see it as an opportunity to refresh their existing skills and an opportunity to learn new skills," says Dana.

What the Program Offers

This comprehensive program, conducted over twelve months, provides the skills and knowledge to effectively manage the complexities of a human services organisation.

The program encompasses a mixture of recognition of prior learning (RPL), six days of face-to-face training, optional elective or additional RPL and work undertaken in your workplace.

Key areas covered in the program include:

- managing the work environment including recruitment and coordination of volunteers
- managing the organisation's finances, accounts and resources
- establishing and maintaining community, government and business partnerships
- communication in the workplace.

The course draws on participants' workplace experiences to develop new knowledge and skills. Opportunities to practice and demonstrate competence are provided throughout workshops. Pre reading and learning recognition preparation is required prior to course commencement. A project will need to be completed between face-to-face training blocks. After the training blocks a major project and the compilation of a portfolio will need to be undertaken. This program is designed to maximise opportunities for participants to use self-directed learning and draws on examples of workplace policies and procedures to develop knowledge and skills.

For more information and to express an interest [click here](#)

RESEARCH AND PRACTICE FORUM

Working with Fathers & Networking within Children's Services Sector

When: 11 August 2008 from 9.00am to 1.00pm (Free Event)

Venue: Baulkham Hills Shire Council, 129 Showground Rd, Castle Hill

Guest Speakers: Andrew King (Consultant Men's Line) , Dale Williams (Anglicare)

Anthony Brown (NSW Men's Health information Resource Centre)

Topics Include:

Latest Research and Good Practice on working with men, Successes and overcoming challenges in working with men within diverse community context, Networking and Information/ Resources for working with men will also be provided.

[To find out more or register click here](#)

[To download the agenda click here](#)

THE COMMUNITY SECTOR "CARE" CAMPAIGN MEETING AT WSCF MONDAY 21 JULY

WSCF is forming a Parramatta CARE Meeting Community, Advocacy, Respect and Equity

The CARE campaign is a long-term strategy to improve working conditions in the community sector, seeking parity in wages with our government partners doing similar work.

WSCF is working with the Australian Services Union (ASU) and many other community organisations in developing CARE committees to support and publicise the strategy.

We are having our first meeting on Monday 21 July at 3.00pm at WSCF – [click here for the agenda.](#)

Sally McManus will be the guest speaker and we encourage local workers to attend, hear about the campaign and help us develop ideas to strengthen our sector.

CARE Committees will be forming in other areas of Western Sydney – Penrith, Fairfield, Campbelltown, Blacktown and Blue Mountains. Contact WSCF for a contact in your local area.

For more information about the campaign from the ASU, [click here.](#)

RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION OF STAFF HOW TO GET THE MOST OUT OF YOUR TEAM

Facilitator: Shane Waterton
South West
29 July 2008 9:30 – 4:30 pm
Bankstown City Library
62 The Mall, Bankstown

Cumberland/Prospect
30 July 2008 9:30am – 4:30 pm
Western Sydney Community Forum

Level 4, 146 Marsden St, Parramatta

[Register Here](#)

No matter what type of service you manage, your effectiveness as a manager rests heavily on how well you understand your role and how confidently you can apply managerial skills to the situations you and your team face every day.

The Staff Management workshop offers you a varied and practical learning experience to help you develop and fine tune your ability to complete your work and to get the best out of your team.

By the end of this workshop the participant should be able to:

- Successfully recruit and retain staff
- Describe and understand different approaches to leadership and how they impact on team members
- Identify how to develop your team for delegated tasks
- Identify key skills for effective people management
- Maximise the potential of people – how to motivate staff and empower staff, and how to increase staff morale
- Use different types and frequency of performance monitoring

WSCF SUBMISSION TO THE IPART REVIEW

IPART Review: CityRail Services

The Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal is seeking comment on ways to fund the infrastructure of CityRail and also the level of fares that the public will be paying. This is an important time to consider the cost of public transport as well as different ways of approaching the affordability of public transport.

Two discussion papers designed to be read and commented upon at the same time will provide a direction for the NSW Government to determine how to manage demand levels across the CityRail Network.

1. Determining City Rail's revenue requirement and how it should be funded (June 2008)

Key areas of discussion are:

- Understanding demand for CityRail services
- Improving Peak and Off Peak fares (and the relationship between infrastructure needed to deliver services)
- Improving CityRail's distance based fare structure
- Social impact of price of fares

2. Deciding on the structure and level of CityRail fares (June 2008)

- Service, standards, policies, government policy and other obligations in setting fares
- Length of determination
- Determining CityRail's Fares
- What it costs to Run CityRail
- External Benefits of CityRail
- What level should be funded by government and passenger.

WSCF will be commenting on these proposals and submitting a response.

Submissions are due on the 18 July 2008. If you have any ideas or want to be involved Paul Falzon on 9687 8937 or [click here for more information](#).

CSGP ROUNDTABLE

There was a CSGP Roundtable meeting on 3 July and there will be a full update available soon. DoCS is sending Communiqué 7 out early next week.

The impact of CSGP linked with the Wood Inquiry timeframe has meant that the Reform process is stalled. Meanwhile Roundtable members will be developing a 'scenario paper' in anticipation of a number of possible recommendations by the Inquiry.

We are also trying to build the evidence base of the importance of our CSGP work – whether it is through the community strengthening and capacity building that underpins our CSGP programs or the more focused work of preventing child abuse and neglect; it all is part of the broad work of the protection of children and families in the both the narrow and wider interpretation. Your stories and case studies will be very useful for this documentation.

Contact Mary Waterford, Executive Officer at WSCF and CSGP Roundtable member for more information eo@wscf.org.au

Western Sydney Community Forum

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We acknowledge and pay our respects to the Darug people, the traditional custodians of the land where we work.