

News from Western Sydney Community Forum

Forum Flash

23 January 2009

Voice for SONG

Voice for SONG has a new blog www.voiceforsong.com This blog includes a collection of articles that support the survival and thriving of small local community organisations.

“Management wisdom says that nonprofits must be large and in charge to do the most good. But some of the world’s most successful organisations instead stay small, sharing their load with like-minded, long-term partners. The success of these networked nonprofits suggests that organisations should focus less on growing themselves and more on cultivating their networks.”

V4S has recently been picked up by other a similar collaboration internationally who are linking to our website. They have submitted the above article by Jane Weiskillern and Sonia Marciano in the Stanford Social Innovation Review, Stanford Graduate School of Business, 2007 click here for the full article www.voiceforsong.com.

Think Local the latest SONG publication, is available from this blog or you can email us and we will mail you a copy wscf@wscf.org.au

Opinion from Noel’s desk

Hello fellow HACCers,

Many of you would have been busy late last year writing up your tenders for upcoming service provision. The Forum was invited to participate on two of the assessment panels this year and I would like to express my congratulations to DADHC on the way this process has been executed.

The Forum has seen and been a part of many assessment panels over the years and it gives us great pleasure to say the process that DADHC undertook was fair, transparent & equitable. The Assessment panels were made up of Department officers and independents drawn from Councils, the Forum and service providers who were not tendering.

The down side was many tenders failed to understand the demographics of the area for which they were tendering, failed to establish connections with minority groups & other potential partners and in some instances tenders “cut & passed” without considering what was being tendered for. We as a sector need to improve our tendering capabilities.

Although DADHC's process was of an exemplary nature, central office needs to understand that questions one would ask of a service tendering for let's say "personal care" would be different from the questions one would ask when a service is tendering for "building services", unfortunately this was not the case.

We look forward to working with services and the Department over the ensuing year to improve service delivery and identifying gaps in service.
Till then, stay safe.

HACC FLASH

The Western Sydney HACC Forums Flash is published monthly to provide updated relevant information to the Community Care sector in Cumberland-Prospect and Nepean. [Click here to download the January 2009 issue.](#)

Training - The WSCF February to June 2009 Training Calendar is available now - [Click here to download](#)

APPLYING A STRENGTHS APPROACH TO SUPERVISION AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION IN THE WORK PLACE

Facilitator: Anne Heath Macarthur 18th February 2009 9:30 am - 4:30 pm
Sector Connect, 351 Welling Drive, Mt Annan

In keeping with strengths based ideas, it is appropriate to offer this workshop to both supervisors and those they supervise. One of the challenges for organisations aspiring to work in strengths based way is the utilisation of strengths based practices in managing and supervising staff. There is a widespread belief that strengths based work means you cannot tackle difficult performance issues or challenge poor practice.

Participants in this workshop will use strengths based tools and techniques to explore the relationship between supervisor and those they supervise and develop a strengths-based framework for supervision. They will also practice separating people from problems as a tool in resolving conflicts.

Course Outcomes

Participants will:

- explore the implications of strengths-based supervision for their own context
- use strengths based tools to develop a framework for supervision
- discuss the areas of responsibility for supervision
- practice applying a strengths approach to conflict resolution

Limited Places - register now!

Registration Form can be downloaded from our website www.wscf.org.au
For more information please contact Dana Rosinski on 02 9687 6112

Western Sydney Community Forum and Belvoir St Theatre have a special offer for our members and your communities to see the play

Baghdad Wedding عرس بغداد

Saturday February 14th for just \$20 - see the play then meet writer Hassan Abdulrazzak, Iraqi Australian actor Osamah Sami and director Geordie Brookman for an exclusive, informal discussion, followed by refreshments and entertainment in the foyer. Bookings essential, call (02) 9699 3444 and ask for “\$20 tickets”.

“In Iraq, a wedding is not a wedding unless shots get fired.” Molecular scientist Hassan Abdulrazzak queued with hundreds of fellow emigres in London to vote in Iraq’s first post-Hussein elections in 2005. When that great hope went belly-up, Hassan was inspired to write his first play, *Baghdad Wedding*. *Baghdad Wedding* is the story of Salim and a group of his friends; Iraqi expats living in London. They drink, love, fight, sleep around, hope and contemplate the stars. Salim’s got a medical degree and he’s had an affair with a man (and written a successful novel about it), but now Saddam Hussein’s gone and Salim’s on his way home to get married. Or so he thought. The impressive young Director Geordie Brookman has gathered a remarkable and diverse cast. We are delighted to offer you the opportunity of meeting the creative team - see special offer below.

SPECIAL TICKET OFFER (SAVE \$36!)

\$20 tickets (normally \$56) to *Baghdad Wedding* 2pm Saturday 14 February. See the show, then meet writer Hassan Abdulrazzak, Iraqi Australian actor Osamah Sami and director Geordie Brookman for an exclusive, informal discussion, followed by refreshments and entertainment in the foyer. Bookings essential, call (02) 9699 3444 and ask for “\$20 tickets”.

Company B - Baghdad Wedding عرس بغداد

Written by Hassan Abdulrazzak Directed by Geordie Brookman Belvoir St Theatre 7 February - 22 March For more information about the play: www.belvoir.com.au/baghdadwedding

Lifelong Learning (History)

The origins of the concept of Lifelong Learning can be traced back to authors such as Basil Yeaxlee and Eduard Lindeman in England in the 1920’s. They understood education as an ongoing process, affecting mainly adults, and certainly not restricted to formal school. They also introduced the concepts of “life-as-education”, and the valuing of individual’s experiences as much as their formal education (Faris:2004). These two authors helped to define the limits and the basic

principles of adult education, and therefore Lifelong Learning. [For full article on the website click here.](#)

Joke Spot

Without geometry, life is pointless.