

News from Western Sydney Community Forum

Forum Flash

24 April 2009

Neighbourhood Centre's Get Together Write-up

As you may remember Western Community Forum has organised an informal meeting with the Neighbourhood Centres in Western Sydney. Although we did not have many organisations attending we had many government and non-government organisations interested in the idea. We regretfully had to refuse attendance of some Council and State Government workers as we wanted Neighbourhood Centres to share issues and resources in between them without feeling presence of funding bodies around. We believe that the informal meeting went well and would like to share the write-ups with e-flash subscribers. [Click here for the notes from Neighbourhood Centres Get Together meeting.](#)

Public Transport Workshop For Community Workers

On Monday June 1st at 9.15am Western Sydney Community Forum (WSCF) will be holding a Forum to explore how the WSCF Transport Project can connect with community workers to support and engage your clients on transport issues and advocacy processes.

The Forum will include the launch of the “**Beginners Guide to Transport**” and there will be a presentation about the Western Sydney Community Forum Transport Project. Enjoy a world café on how to bridge the gap between community workers and transport advocacy. [Click here to register.](#)

Here is an example of our work. Western Sydney Community Forum (WSCF) has been supporting the work of the Liverpool Transport Taskforce for many years and for nearly all that time they have been trying to get a toilet built for bus users at the Liverpool Bus Interchange.

Paul and Hugh from WSCF went with George Smith from the Liverpool Transport Taskforce to meet reporter Rosy Bottom and talk to the people of Liverpool at the Interchange about their experiences and the need for a toilet there.

We have posted a video of the activities there which you may enjoy.

CAUTION - this video contains much toilet humour!

[Bus Users Need To Poo Too!](#)

Training

INTRODUCTION TO THE NSW INTERAGENCY PROTOCOL FOR RESPONDING TO ABUSE OF OLDER PEOPLE - FREE SESSION

Facilitator: Miguel Ferrero 29th April 2009 9:30 am - 4:30 pm

Western Sydney Community Forum Level 4, 146 Marsden St, Parramatta

The NSW Department of Ageing Disability and Home Care has recently produced a training program and package to support the Implementation of the NSW Interagency Protocol for Responding to Abuse of Older People. This session is an introduction to the new Interagency Protocol, and consists of two workshops, covering the following topics:

Workshop 1: Identifying and Responding to Abuse of Older People (morning)

Target group: Open

Topics: What is Abuse of Older People?; issues for frontline staff in identifying abuse; and how to respond appropriately to abuse situations.

Workshop 2: Implementing the Interagency Protocol in Agencies and Areas (afternoon)

Target group: this session is mainly for supervisors, team leaders and senior staff who have responsibilities in policy, procedures and referral pathways for community care agencies.

Topics: Overview of the Interagency Protocol; principles of response; roles of community care and government response agencies; and policy and procedural requirements for community care agencies.

MAKING SENSE OF FINANCIAL REPORTS - ADVANCED

Facilitator: Adele Johns 5th May 2009 9:30 am - 4:30 pm

Western Sydney Community Forum Level 4, 146 Marsden St, Parramatta

By attending this training session participants will improve their understanding of what the key financial reports tell us and gain greater confidence in using the financial information. This training session will enhance participants' skills in analysing financial information which can be of great assistance when assessing your organisations performance and financial viability.

If you have financial management responsibility and/or responsibilities for analysing financial information then by attending this session you can increase your knowledge and skills in interpreting and understanding of the financial information and reports of your organisations.

The training session will cover:

- Elements and the importance of key financial reports - what does each report tell you about your organisation (P&L statement, balance sheet, cash flow, etc)
- Structure and format of financial reports - how to extract information you need
 - Income and expenditure statement
 - Balance Sheet - calculating assets and liabilities and how do we treat Grants and pre-payments
- Additional Financial Reports:
 - Payables Report
 - Receivable Report

- Asset Register
- Depreciation Schedule
- Analysing financial data for decision making - steps you need to apply to support good business decision making?
- Preparing for the Auditor - what you need to consider
- Understanding the Annual Audit Report - liabilities, assets, depreciation, annual income & expenditure statement, liabilities and fixed assets, cash in the bank, including Notes to Financial Statements

Learning outcomes

After attending this training session participants will be able to:

- Identify the key elements of financial reports
- Interpret/analyse financial information to improve decision making
- Identify opportunities to improve financial performance of your organisation
- Answer question regarding your organisations financial position with greater confidence
- Ask the right questions to understand information presented in a financial report
- Evaluate organisational performance against set plans/budgets.

Participants are asked to bring your organisation Annual Report and financial reports presented at your Board/Management Committee meetings

Training Directions Network - Blog

Did you know that the Training Directions Network has its own blog? - its purpose is to keep members of the Training Directions Network updated on issues of training and workforce development.

This blog is now available to the sector as a whole. If you are interested in the topic of training and workforce development, feel free to drop by at:

http://www.wscf.org.au/index.php/home/learning_and_development_program

Have a look at the resources and leave us a comment!

Joke Spot

A pessimist's blood type is always b-negative