

## Welcome to the NTCOSS weekly e-bulletin February 2 2012



**SAVE THE DATE**  
**NTCOSS CONFERENCE 2012**  
Alice Springs 1st, 2nd and 3rd May  
“Growing the NT Fairly – Building Strong Links”  
*Registrations opening soon*

For community sector training and job opportunities, please visit: <http://www.ntcoss.org.au>

For NTCOSS Media Releases, please visit: <http://www.ntcoss.org.au/media-release?category=5>

To become an NTCOSS member, please visit: <http://www.ntcoss.org.au/become-member>

If you would like to post an item in this bulletin please email: [admin@ntcoss.org.au](mailto:admin@ntcoss.org.au)

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## NATIONAL AND TERRITORY WIDE NEWS AND EVENTS

**SENATE ESTIMATES** If any organisation has questions they'd like answered by Senate Estimates please send them to Pru Gell (NTCOSS Policy Officer) by **7 Feb** at [pru@ntcoss.org.au](mailto:pru@ntcoss.org.au)

**THE NAAJA BLAKE DAWSON INDIGENOUS CADETSHIP** The North Australian Aboriginal Justice Agency (NAAJA) and Blake Dawson are pleased to offer a Cadetship to Indigenous law students who live in the Top End of the NT. Worth up to \$34,000 per annum this Cadetship is an exciting opportunity for Indigenous law students to study a Bachelor of Laws and a possible career path with NAAJA upon satisfactory completing of the degree. It also includes an annual legal placement with NAAJA which will provide an opportunity for learning, support and experience amongst our great legal team at NAAJA. Applications for the Indigenous Cadetship closing at 5pm, **17 Feb** More Information? contact Glenn Miller [glenn.miller@naaja.org.au](mailto:glenn.miller@naaja.org.au)

**AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2012** Sharing the Wealth of the 'Lucky' Country **29 and 30 March**, Australian Technology Park, Sydney. For more information visit our website; [http://www.acoss.org.au/whats\\_on/conference/acoss\\_national\\_conference\\_2012/](http://www.acoss.org.au/whats_on/conference/acoss_national_conference_2012/) or contact ACOSS Events Officer Louise Stanley; [louise@acoss.org.au](mailto:louise@acoss.org.au) or (02) 93106 202

**NTCOSS CONFERENCE 2012** “Growing the NT Fairly – Building Strong Links ” **1, 2 and 3 May**, Crowne Plaza, Alice Springs. For more information contact [admin@ntcoss.org.au](mailto:admin@ntcoss.org.au)

**STRONGER FUTURE BILLS PACKAGE** ACOSS and NTCOSS's submission focused on one of the 3 bills, the Social Security Legislation Amendment Bill 2011 and raises some concerns regarding plans to tie school attendance to income support payments. This bill is available here: <http://www.ntcoss.org.au/publication/2012/01/submission-senate-community-affairs-committee-stronger-futures-nt-intervention> Please let us know your thoughts on the Stronger Futures bills package or if you have any questions please contact Pru Gell (NTCOSS Policy Officer) on [pru@ntcoss.org.au](mailto:pru@ntcoss.org.au) As soon as the Senate Committee confirms if/when they're holding sittings in the NT we will inform the sector. At this stage it looks like February 20 -24 with hearings in both Alice and Darwin. For people who made submissions for the Stronger Future Bills package if you'd like any support to prepare for the Senate Community Affairs Committee if asked to present please also contact Pru.

**PAY EQUITY CASE** Yesterday when handing down the decision on the Social, Community, Home Care and Disability Services Industry Award 2010, Fair Work Australia(FWA) granted higher wage rates as agreed by the Australian Services Union and the Commonwealth Government in November 2011 and in the order of the rates previously found by the Queensland precedent case. FWA ordered that the rates be implemented over a longer period of time than proposed in the application, 8 years in 9 equal instalments. For more information visit <http://www.fwa.gov.au/index.cfm?pagename=remuneration&page=introduction>

**SOCIAL, COMMUNITY, HOME CARE & DISABILITY SERVICES INDUSTRY AWARD FOR WORKERS EMPLOYED UNDER SACS AND CRISIS ACCOMMODATION CLASSIFICATIONS.** The transition to new classification has been postponed until 1 July 2012. This is due to the Equal Pay Case. (Workers employed in Home Care and Family Day Care classifications will still transition to the new classifications and loadings from 1 February 2012). You can download the full version of the SCHCADS award which has been updated at: [http://www.fwa.gov.au/documents/modern\\_awards/award/ma000100/default.htm](http://www.fwa.gov.au/documents/modern_awards/award/ma000100/default.htm)

**STANDARD CHART OF ACCOUNTS (SCoA) HELP DESK** To assist with new financial acquittal arrangements for funded services the NT Department of Health and the NT Department of Children and Families have organised helpdesk assistance for a period of 12 months to be provided by Matrix on Board. The helpdesk takes the form of either e-mail [scoa@mob.com.au](mailto:scoa@mob.com.au) or telephone advise on 1800 628 749.

**NEW WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY LAWS** - The Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Act 2011 was introduced into the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly on Thursday 27 October 2011 and was passed on Thursday 1 December 2011. The new laws commenced on 1 January 2012. Find the Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Act 2011 at <http://notes.nt.gov.au/dcm/legislat/legislat.nsf/d989974724db65b1482561cf0017cbd2/9e5b4dd8589f5ce76925797c0082e913?OpenDocument>

**DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES (DCF) TRAINING CALENDAR** The DCF Learning and Development Unit are pleased to release an initial Department of Children and Families Semester 1, 2012 Training Calendar. DCF training is open to DCF staff and staff of DCF

funded organisations. To get a copy please contact Wayne McCashen  
[wayne.mccashen@nt.gov.au](mailto:wayne.mccashen@nt.gov.au)

**20/20 VISION: RESEARCH PROJECT-** A discussion paper, recently disseminated by the AASW, raises a number of critical questions. At this important juncture we would like to ascertain the views of social workers across Australia and New Zealand to a range of possible models of social work education and qualification. The research, 20/20 Vision: Imagining The Future of Australasian Social Work consists of an anonymous questionnaire. Any questions contact: Dr Deborah Absler & Professor Marie Connolly, The University of Melbourne (Ph: 03 903 54513)

## **TOP END NEWS AND EVENTS**

**MY TIME - LIVING WITH DEPRESSION** Come and share your ideas and connect with others over a FREE cuppa. All welcome. 3 Victoria Drive, Gray. Friday **February 10** 10 am - 12 noon  
Please contact Somerville community services on 89351500 for further information.

**MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS NETWORK (MHPN)** Tuesday **February 21** 5:30pm - 7.30pm in Conference Room 2, Darwin Airport Hotel, 1 Henry Wrigley Drive, Marrara, The AMHPN is a group of mental health professionals based in Darwin that meet four times a year for the purpose of networking, sharing and learning about the variety of techniques and specialisations that are available within the group and among Darwin mental health professionals. RSVP to Claire Murphy at [c.murphy@mhpn.org.au](mailto:c.murphy@mhpn.org.au)

## **CENTRAL AUSTRALIA NEWS AND EVENTS**

**HAVE YOUR SAY ON THE NEW WOMEN'S POLICY** The Office of Women's Policy invites all women in the Alice Springs region to attend a forum to discuss issues relevant to women, share their vision for the future, and help shape the Northern Territory Government's new policy for women. Crowne Plaza, Alice Springs, Saturday **4 Feb**, 9:30 am for a 10am start, concluding at 2pm. RSVP: by Friday 2 Feb for catering purposes. Phone: 08 8999 2703  
Email: [owp@nt.gov.au](mailto:owp@nt.gov.au)

**CONNECTING THE DOTS** A Conference Shaping the Future of Infrastructure in Remote Indigenous Communities, **5-7 Feb**, Alice Springs for more information go to:  
[http://www.infrastructureaustralia.gov.au/conference\\_series/connecting\\_the\\_dots.aspx](http://www.infrastructureaustralia.gov.au/conference_series/connecting_the_dots.aspx)

**INDIGENOUS HUMAN RIGHTS NETWORK AUSTRALIA (IHRANA)-** Regional Forum will outline the role of IHRNA and will also explore human rights issues that are relevant to Indigenous people both locally and beyond. Alice Springs Desert Peoples Centre, Desert Knowledge Precinct **6-7 Feb** 9:30am-4:30pm on day one, 9:30-1pm on day two. For more information or to  
RSVP call (02) 9284 9814 or email [coordinator@ihrna.info](mailto:coordinator@ihrna.info) or visit  
[http://ihrnaustralia.ning.com/events/event/show?id=5178918%3AEvent%3A21611&xgi=3mk8s1wKZDdqe7&xg\\_source=msg\\_invite\\_event](http://ihrnaustralia.ning.com/events/event/show?id=5178918%3AEvent%3A21611&xgi=3mk8s1wKZDdqe7&xg_source=msg_invite_event)

**INTERAGENCY MEETING** 10am- 12 pm **15 Feb** Andy McNeil Room, Alice Springs Town Council Hosted by Anglicare NT. Contact Carwyn [ctaitumu-ponga@anglicare-nt.org.au](mailto:ctaitumu-ponga@anglicare-nt.org.au)

**MY ABILITY SPORTS DAY** 9.30- 12pm **24 Feb** Alice Springs Basketball Stadium. Just to clarify, for those who were not involved with the My Ability Sports Day last year, it is a sports day catered specifically for people with a disability. It's a great chance for carers and service providers to meet some of the local sport coaches in town, as well as have a bit of fun. To register contact Benita on 8951 6432 or [Benita.Bittner@nt.gov.au](mailto:Benita.Bittner@nt.gov.au)

**NT MENTAL HEALTH COALITION MEMBER'S FORUM** This is an invitation to Members and Friends of the Coalition to hear our guest speakers and participate in discussion on various approaches in addressing issues of suicide prevention and community mental wellness and community health. Crowne Plaza Alice Springs Thursday **29 March** 8.30am – 4pm RSVP by Monday 19th March to Nfanwy Welsh on 8927 2074 or [nfanwy@ntmhc.org.au](mailto:nfanwy@ntmhc.org.au)

**ANGLICARE NT LOW INTEREST RATE LOAN PROGRAM** For further information contact Hollie Pezet PH 8951 8000 OR email [hpezet@anglicare-nt.org.au](mailto:hpezet@anglicare-nt.org.au)

**ALICE SPRINGS COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN** was released in November – to download [http://www.dcm.nt.gov.au/data/assets/pdf\\_file/0003/55083/Actions - A3.pdf](http://www.dcm.nt.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0003/55083/Actions_-_A3.pdf)

**COUNSELLING CLINICS IN ALICE SPRINGS** for members of the public. Children's, Individual & Couples Counselling Appointments available for Clients with either a male or female counsellor. Mondays fortnightly. For more information or to book contact Kim Mann at relationships Australia on 89 50 4100 [kim@ra-nt.org.au](mailto:kim@ra-nt.org.au)

**INSTITUTE FOR ABORIGINAL DEVELOPMENT** is hosting a series of First Friday Open Days on site at their campus on South Terrace. First one is Friday 2nd March 12-4pm please contact Tony on 0429 848 236 or [press.manager@iad.edu.au](mailto:press.manager@iad.edu.au)

**INSTITUTE FOR ABORIGINAL DEVELOPMENT PRESS** is establishing a register of consultants/contractors to work with them Expressions of interest contact Tony Duke [Press.manager@iad.edu.au](mailto:Press.manager@iad.edu.au)

