

Coffs Harbour Family Law Pathways Network (FLPN) NEWSLETTER

Issue: 16 / October 2013



Australian Government



Family Law
PATHWAYS
NETWORK

COFFS
HARBOUR

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The Coffs Harbour Family Law Pathways Network is funded by the Attorney General's Department to improve collaboration and coordination between organisations operating in the Family Law system, so that separating families obtain the most appropriate services.

FLPN what's new and plans for 2013-2014

The Coffs Harbour FLPN has a new Project Officer.

Hi my name is Celia Wigzell and I started with the FLPN in September.

Previously I was the Manager of Disability and Mental Health Services with On Track Community Programs. I look forward to continuing the great work done by Jacquie. Please feel free to contact me if there are any particular areas of Family Law you would like addressed in the Forums offered.

FLPN Events

- **Care and Protection Forum for Community, Health and Education Workers, November 8th in Macksville**
- AVO for Aboriginal Workers, Monday the 24th of February 2014 in Grafton
- The March 2014 event is currently in the planning stage. The venue will be Coffs Harbour
- **The Annual FLPN Conference May 23rd 2014**



Would you like to make a **contribution** to this newsletter?

Email the Project Officer at chip-scoffs@gmail.com or call 0438 115 758



FAMILY LAW PATHWAYS NETWORK—STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair: Jane Corcoran (Legal Aid NSW), Deputy Chair: Gene Roche (Family Law Practitioners Association), Sylvia Georgi (Family Relationship Centre), Barry Walker (Mediation Solutions), John Reynolds (Building Stronger Families), Faye Goodwin (Aboriginal Family Wellbeing Service), Marcie Payne (Gurehlgam Corp.), Barry Guidera (Dads in Distress), Julie Perkins (Aboriginal Legal Service), Glen O'Hara (Interrelate Family Centres).



Local events & activities



Care and Protection

for workers in Community Services, Education, Health

Child Protection policy is based on the principle of partnership and shared responsibility across a broad range of human service professionals. Most children are best protected and cared for within their own family; however, when parents, carers or guardians are unwilling or unable to protect their children from significant harm, the protection of the child becomes the responsibility of the wider community and, at times, requires statutory Child Protection intervention.

Come along and increase your understanding of the overlap between family law, child protection and intensive family support programs.

Speakers

Jane Corcoran

Legal Aid

Kirsty Archibald

Department of Family and Community Services

Leesa-Rae Harrison

Uniting Care Burnside

Please **confirm your attendance** via email to Celia Wigzell at chipscoffs@gmail.com



Local events & activities

Wise Practice in Parenting Programs Conference – registrations open now

Port Macquarie – Wednesday 20 November 2013

Get re-inspired, strengthen and enhance practice, learn from the best!

This conference is for anyone working with children and/or families on the Mid North Coast.

Pat Jewell is the keynote speaker and will provide an overview of the „Bringing Up Great Kids“ parenting program Pauline Pryor will present “Rewards, punishment and the naughty step – why TV nannies aren’t so super”: Simple, “feel good” strategies to guide children’s behaviour. Matt Anderson will present “Motivational interviewing in the context of Child/ Adolescent behaviour management”.

More details on other presentations including a session on wise practice when working with Aboriginal Families and Communities will be made available once details are confirmed.

[Click here for more information and to register](#)

Adolescent drug and alcohol use, synthetic drugs, music festivals and the law

In the upcoming weeks, a free 2 hour presentation by Paul Dillon, Director of Drug and Alcohol Research and Training Australia on “Adolescent drug and alcohol use, synthetic drugs, music festivals and the law” will be held in Port Macquarie (Thursday 7 November), Coffs Harbour (Thursday 14 November), Kempsey (Wednesday 20 November).

In this free presentation for parents, teachers and anyone who works with young people, Paul will share information on:

- Synthetic drugs: the latest evidence
- Music festivals: drug trends, the law & detection strategies
- Alcohol & drug use: latest survey of high school students revealed
- Parenting tips: latest research
- Alcohol & cannabis: new resources

Where: Southern Cross University, Coffs Harbour , Auditorium (D block)

Date: Thursday 14 November 2013

Time: 4.00pm—6.00pm

Bookings are essential

Please RSVP by Friday 8 November 2013 Contact 6648 4403 Coffs Harbour City Council



MACLEAY & NAMBUCCA VALLEY FREE LEGAL CLINICS

There are currently six free legal clinics operating in the Macleay and Nambucca valleys.

MACLEAY / KEMPSEY

Kempsey Homeless Legal Advice Service

Kempsey Neighbourhood Centre

Ph: 02 65628300

Hours: Wednesdays, 10:00am to 12:00pm

Legal Aid NSW provides free legal advice to people experiencing homelessness or who are at risk of homelessness.

Kempsey Civil Law Aboriginal Advice Service

South Kempsey Family Community Centre

Ph: 02 65621911

Hours: Wednesdays, 1:00pm to 3:00pm

Legal Aid NSW provides free civil law advice at this location.

Mid North Coast Community Legal Centre

Dhunghutti Community Centre

Ph: 02 65621911

Hours: Mondays, 10.30am to 12.30pm

Provides free generalist advice at this location, appointments on the above telephone number.

NAMBUCCA / MACKSVILLE / BOWRAVILLE

Macksville Legal Advice Service

Nambucca Valley Neighbourhood Centre

Ph: 02 65621888

Hours: First and third Thursday of month, 1:30pm-4:00pm

Free civil, family and criminal law advice provided by McNeilly Lawyers on behalf of Legal Aid NSW.

Nambucca Heads Legal Advice Service

Nambucca Valley Youth Services Centre

Ph: 02 65621888

Hours: Second Thursday of each month, 10:00am-1:00pm

Free criminal, family and civil law advice provided by McNeilly Lawyers on behalf of Legal Aid NSW

Bowraville Legal Advice Service (MiiMi House)

MiiMi House

Ph: 02 65621888

Hours: First and third Thursday of month, 10.00am-2.30pm



Webinars

Free Webinar: NSW Domestic Violence Death Review Team

Thursday 7 November

In this webinar our special guest speaker, Dr Lesley Laing, will speak about the role of the NSW Domestic Violence Death Review Team. She will explore:

- What is the Domestic Violence Death Review Team?
- What are the current findings and trends identified by the Team?
- What recommendations have been made by the Team?
- How can you refer a matter to the Team?

Presented by Dr Lesley Laing, Domestic Violence Death Review Team and Senior Lecturer Sydney University

[Click here to register.](#)

Coordinated Family Dispute Resolution: Findings and future directions

Date: 29 October 2013 Time: 2pm - 3pm AEDT

Presenters: Dr Rae Kaspiw, Mr Max Lewington, Ms Angela Lynch, and Associate Professor Rachael Field

Coordinated Family Dispute Resolution (CFDR) was a pilot program applied in parenting cases where there was a history of family violence.

This webinar will examine learnings for practice from the empirical evaluation evidence. The webinar will also address justifications for the CFDR model, and whether there is an ongoing need for services particularly developed for complex families in the family law system. Practical ideas that can be transferred from a CFDR environment to be implemented in family dispute resolution more generally will also be explored.

[Register for the webinar](#)

You may also be interested in looking at our [Webinar Frequently Asked Questions](#).

Webinar resources - The Australian Early Development Index (AEDI): Results over time, and the work of the Fraser Mustard Centre

Presenter: Dr Sally Brinkman

This webinar discussed the change in AEDI results seen over the past three years, ways in which service providers can interpret and use AEDI data in service planning, and the work of the Fraser Mustard Centre.

[Presentation audio and transcript are now available.](#)



Research, reports and resources

[Australian child protection legislation](#)

This updated fact sheet provides a brief overview of child protection legislation across state and territory jurisdictions in Australia. It discusses some of the key principles guiding child protection legislation, and the National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children 2009-2020.

[Pre-employment screening: Working With Children Checks and Police Checks](#)

This updated paper gives an overview of police checks and child safety screening programs in Australia, and provides professionals with information they need if they currently work, or intend to work with children in Australia

[ABS data - Revised directory of family and domestic violence statistics](#)

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) has released an updated Directory of Family and Domestic Violence Statistics, aimed at improving the evidence base for family, domestic and sexual violence.

[Resource - Human Rights and Domestic Violence Fact Sheets](#)

The Human Rights Law Centre has produced a series of fact sheets that outline human rights obligations relevant to domestic violence. Each fact sheet has a thematic focus. They cover human rights, domestic violence and housing; justice; police; and the workplace.

[Resource - Closing the Gap Clearinghouse: What works to overcome Indigenous disadvantage](#)

A new section of the Closing the Gap Clearinghouse website provides a summary of the Clearinghouse findings about what works for each of the COAG building blocks, as well as findings that apply across the building blocks.

[Report - Engaging with Indigenous Australia: Exploring the conditions for effective relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities](#)

This paper from Closing the Gap Clearinghouse provides an overview of the research-based evidence on how engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait communities can be developed and maintained.

[Resource sheet - Engagement with Indigenous communities in key sectors](#)

This resource sheet from Closing the Gap Clearinghouse examines the evidence about what is working or not working in approaches to engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in three key sectors that are best represented in the literature on engagement.

This short film from the Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE, UK) introduces some key issues and developments in child protection, including the findings from a joint SCIE and Child Policy Research Unit (CPRU) report on joint working between hospitals and local authorities.



Research, reports and resources

[Report - Acting early, changing lives: How prevention and early action saves money and improves relationships](#)

The Benevolent Society has released a report to mark its 200th Anniversary that sounds a serious warning about the wellbeing of Australia's children, and unsustainable future costs to fix social problems which can be prevented by more investment in support for families during children's early years.

[Research - Men and Boys Gender Violence Prevention Research Project](#)

Researchers at the University of Western Sydney (UWS) are conducting a research project on gender violence prevention initiatives which specifically target men and boys. They invite any health workers who may be providing programs or activities that include men and boys in violence prevention to take part in an online survey.

[Resource - Mental health services in brief 2013](#)

The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare has released a new report: *Mental health services in brief 2013*. The report provides an overview of data about the national response of the health and welfare system to the mental health care needs of Australians

[New book - Talk Less Listen More: Solutions for Children's Difficult Behaviour](#)

In *Talk Less Listen More*, Psychologist Michael Hawton provides parents with strategies and ideas on how to ensure children take responsibility for their actions and are able to determine what is appropriate behaviour.

[Report - Partnership working in child protection: Improving liaison between acute paediatric and child protection services \(UK\)](#)

This report from the Social Care Institute for Excellence (UK) looks at how acute paediatric and local authority statutory child protection services in England work together in cases of suspected child maltreatment.

[Video - Partnership working in child protection \(UK\)](#)

This short film from the Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE, UK) introduces some key issues and developments in child protection, including the findings from a joint SCIE and Child Policy Research Unit (CPRU) report on joint working between hospitals and local authorities.





Conferences

Voice of the Child - ACWA Best Practice Forum

5 November 2013 - Sydney

This Free Event is aimed at caseworkers and managers and features 3 well-known and experienced presenters.

[Click here for more information.](#)

Cooperation and Conflict in the Family Conference

2nd to 5th February 2014

Sydney, New South Wales, Australia

Website: <http://www.evolvingeconomics.com>

Contact person: Jason Collins

The conference provides an opportunity for researchers to discuss the economic and evolutionary biology approaches of conflict and cooperation between the sexes in the areas of marriage, mating and fertility.

Organized by: Evolution and Ecology Research Centre at UNSW

Check the [event website](#) for more details.

4th Annual National Juvenile Justice Summit

4th Annual National Juvenile Justice Summit 2013 is your unique chance to hear from key state government representatives and youth justice organisations on the significant issues moving forward for juvenile justice in Australia.

[March 2014 | Melbourne](#)



Conferences



13th Australian Institute of Family Studies

Conference: *Families in a rapidly changing world*

Melbourne Convention Centre, 30 July - 1 August 2014

[Call for papers now open](#)

AIFS invites you to submit an abstract for the 13th AIFS Conference 2014. The event will showcase cutting-edge research on topical issues relating to how families are adjusting to a rapidly changing world.

Submit your abstract today

AIATSIS National Indigenous Studies Conference - 50 years on: Breaking Barriers in Indigenous Research and Thinking Conference

26th to 28th March 2014

Canberra, ACT, Australia

Website: <http://aiatsis.gov.au/research/50yearson.html>

Contact person: Alexandra Muir

The 2014 AIATSIS National Indigenous Studies Conference will look at how far we have come in the area of Indigenous studies in Australia in the past 50 years.

Deadline for abstracts/proposals: 25th October 2013

Check the [event website](#) for more details.

Conference Imagining Social Equity

28th February to 1st March 2014

Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

Website: <http://www.socialequity2014.conorg.com.au/>

Contact person: The Conference Organiser