

An early September IFV email update.....hope you find it informative. There are many good training and other activities to support your practice below.

Please use our practitioners website and pass the link onto your colleagues – www.bswifv.org.au
We continue to update it regularly to support your practice.

Recognise & Respond to Family Violence Training

BSW Regional Family Violence Integration with the Regional Women's Health Resource Service

Corio Community Health
2 Gellibrand Street Corio 3214
On Friday 22nd October 2010
9.30am – 4.00pm

The one day course covers -

Definition, statistics, common beliefs about FV, what makes it difficult to leave a violent partner?, indicators, responding to disclosures, risk assessment and safety planning

Cost is \$20.00 & GST includes lunch
For Application form please click here:

For further information please email Annie Ferrari IFV Project Support Worker at aferrari@comconnect.com.au telephone: 5227 6033.

Recognise & Respond to Family Violence Training

South West Sub Region

Community Connections (Vic) Ltd
135 Kepler Street, Warrnambool Vic 3280
On Friday 5th November 2010
9.30am – 4.00pm

The one day course covers -

Definition, statistics, common beliefs about FV, what makes it difficult to leave a violent partner?, indicators, responding to disclosures, risk assessment and safety planning

Cost is \$20.00 & GST - includes lunch
For Application form please click here:

For further information please email Annie Ferrari IFV Project Support Worker at aferrari@comconnect.com.au telephone: 5227 6033

Or go to our website for an application form

<http://www.bswifv.org.au/>

'Identifying the impact childhood sexual assault has on the likelihood of a woman becoming a victim of family violence in adulthood'

NEXT REGIONAL IFV Practitioners FORUM.....7th September 2010, 11am – 3.00pm (Camperdown)

Presenters: Jill Duncan from CASA House, with Pat McLaren: Emma House DV Service Inc, plus Dr Kathy Thomas: Barwon CASA & the Indigenous FV Regional Action Group.

Flyer attached.....and notes from the forum will be available on the BSW IFV Website (from about November)

Please RSVP to aferrari@comconnect.com.au or 5227 6033, plus request any dietary needs.

CRAF – Preliminary level training.....4th November, in Colac (probably 10.30am – 2.30pm inc lunch).

SEE attached form to express an interest in this training – send the form to the person on it (not to me!)

The **Preliminary Risk Assessment training component** is expected to be focused on assisting professionals whose role includes:

- undertaking initial risk assessments with victims of family violence before
- referring them to specialist family violence services,
- and possibly providing ongoing related support services.

The Preliminary Risk Assessment training component - as detailed in the CRAF manual - covers the same extensive risk assessment material but will not be as focused around ongoing risk assessment and risk management as the training for FV specialist services..

Geelong Police Station Opens a FV Unit

Kevin Godfrey has informed us that this new Unit opened on 3rd August. This is a great resource for the City of Geelong. We wish the new Officers well: Brenda Whitefield (FVLO) and Rosanne Smith.

Indigenous FV RAG & mainstream FV services focus group plans.....

A statewide forum was recently held, bringing together the regional Integrated FV Chairs & Co-ordinators, with the Chair and Officer of the Indigenous FV Action groups (RAG's). We participated from the Barwon SW region and it was helpful in linking our goals. There are plans developing for the RAG's to hold focus groups in order to improve integration links with mainstream FV service providers (including practitioners). More information at a later date.....

SISTERS DAY OUT – Geelong on 14th Sept (see attached flyer and rego form)

We are pleased to advise that a Sisters Day Out will be held in Geelong (in Corio) on 14th September. For further information, contact Kaye Smith.

Kaye Smith | PARALEGAL SUPPORT WORKER for Barwon South West Region | Aboriginal Family Violence Prevention & Legal Service

| Ph: 03 5562 5755

Culturally & Linguistically Diverse communities – support for YOUR service for responding to FV needs

The Immigrant Women's DV Service offers secondary consultation plus joint work (usually over the phone), which can be very supportive to regional agencies and their clients.

Languages spoken (July 2010) include: Greek, Russian, Bulgarian, Turkish, Swahili, Nepali, Hindi, Punjabi, Marathi, Arabic, Kikuyu, Sudanese, Dinka, Nuer, Bosnian, Serbian, Croatian, Spanish, Vietnamese, Mandarin, Cantonese, Indonesian, Italian.

If you need any assistance with your clients please contact Maria on 8413 6800

'Implementation Update' on A Right to Respect.....

Please find attached an electronic copy of our first 'Implementation Update' on A Right to Respect: Victoria's Plan to Prevent Violence against Women 2010-2020.

Elder abuse and seniors rights -

Please find attached a poster for the coming information sessions on elder abuse and seniors rights. Please forward them through all your networks and feel free to display them where you think appropriate.

There will be a session in Colac on 15 September venue to be confirmed. There will also be sessions in Geelong and Portland most likely in October.

While the sessions are aimed at the general public, workers in the sector are welcome and feedback so far suggests that they have found the workshop particularly useful.

Thank you for your assistance.

Regards,

Wendy Jones -Project Officer
Elder Abuse Prevention Strategy
South West Primary Care Partnership
Warrnambool Vic 3280
Ph: 5564 4044

Be the Hero!

The free Be the Hero! Facilitator training session is coming to Colac on the 14th of September- 3.30-5pm.
Colac Area Health will host the Training, in the Helen McPherson Conference Centre

'Geelong Peek a Boo'..... (see Peek a Boo attachments – T4)

Barwon CASA in conjunction with CAMHS and The Royal Children's Hospital Infant Mental Health Program will be facilitating an infant/mother therapeutic group for infants aged approximately 0-36 months, where both the infant and mother have been exposed to family violence.

The group uses an experiential, activity based and interactive format that creates a therapeutic arena for the infant and mother to form and consolidate healthy attachment patterns.

We are currently seeking referrals for a group to start in 4th Term 2010.

Please find attached a Professionals Information Sheet about the group and a parent focussed information pamphlet that may assist workers to discuss the group with a woman who you consider may benefit from the group. Referrals accepted from within the Geelong, Surfcoast, Bellarine and Queenscliff regions.

We request that referrers contact Barwon CASA directly for further information or to make or discuss a referral.

Thank you

Regards

Rachael Moore and Lyn Radford
Children's Program
Barwon CASA Counselling Services
Ph. 5222 4318

Charter of Advocacy for Prosecuting or Defending Sexual Assault Cases for information.....

Please find attached a copy of the recently released Charter of Advocacy for Prosecuting or Defending Sexual Assault Cases for information.

The Charter of Advocacy was developed in consultation with the Department of Justice Sexual Assault Advisory Committee, and provides a guide for prosecutors and defence practitioners about good conduct in relation to court proceedings for sexual offences.

The Charter represents appropriate conduct in sexual assault cases, and is one of a number of initiatives to promote a culture across the legal profession in which all legal practitioners and their staff are aware of the particular challenges involved in prosecuting/defending sexual offence cases and are mindful of the laws and ethical obligations that arise in relation to these cases.

The Charter is also intended to help prosecutors explain to victim/complainants of sexual offences what they can expect from both prosecutors and defence practitioners in relation to court proceedings. It is hoped that prosecutors (and/or solicitors for the prosecution or witness assistance officers) will provide a copy of this Charter to victim/complainants as part of the process of explaining to them what they can expect from the prosecutor and defence practitioner during court proceedings.

Please direct any queries or requests for hard copies of the Charter to:

Anna Saw in the Sexual Assault Reform Unit, DOJ, on (03) 8608 6068 / anna.saw@justice.vic.gov.au

Thanks,
Wendy.

Wendy Sanderson
Senior Policy Officer - Family Violence
Victims Support Agency
Department of Justice, Victoria

Vicky Grosser
Regional Integrated Family Violence Co-ordinator
(Mondays-Wednesdays)

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