

# Update

Newsletter of the Australian Health Promotion Association

September 2011

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Suzanne Gleeson National President AHPA

## Anti-Poverty Week - a time to act

[www.antipovertyweek.org.au](http://www.antipovertyweek.org.au)

The need for a National Anti-Poverty Week in Australia is a sobering reminder that not all Australians live comfortable lives in a country that is up there with the best in terms of good health – many Australians miss out. Not only do they miss out on the 'good life' they suffer more ill health and live shorter lives as well. Those suffering from financial stress are more likely to rate themselves as having poor health than those better off. We also well know that poverty is a major preventable cause of poor health and early death.

Despite that fact, about three million Australians live in poverty - not by personal choice and not just due to individual circumstances but because of major inequalities and inequities built into the structure of Australian society.

Compared to other countries in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Australia has a greater than average proportion of people of workforce age living in jobless households but Australia spends a smaller than average proportion of its GDP on income support. As well, there are families with one person working but still live in income poverty – called the 'working poor'. ACOSS points out that low income workers are protected by the minimum wage policies (the lowest wage that employers may legally pay employees) and by family tax benefits (provided by the government to help with the cost of raising children). These measures play a vital role in protecting low paid workers from poverty but they are insufficient to maintain households at an acceptable standard of living. This means that many millions cannot afford the basics of life that the rest of us take for granted.

Researchers have shown that people living in poverty not only have low incomes but they miss out on opportunities and resources such as adequate health and dental care, affordable safe housing, educational and employment opportunities, food and recreational choices. The high stress associated with living in poverty can also contribute to behaviour which leads to health risks such as smoking and poor diet. As Professor Peter Saunders found from his research, poverty is not just about a lack of money but it is also about 'multiple deprivations'. People with disabilities eg often have higher costs of medication, aids, appropriate housing, transport, personal care and other services.

## / FROM THE PRESIDENT

**Who lives in poverty in Australia?**

Those particularly vulnerable to poverty in Australia are unemployed and underemployed people, single people over the age of 65, children, and Indigenous Australian households.

**How can poverty be reduced?**

To reduce poverty and address its causes ACOSS recommends the following:

1. A national anti-poverty plan to facilitate coordinated action across all levels of government to meet targets which reduce poverty and its causes
2. Increase the rates of the lowest social security payments particularly for those for unemployed people, students and lone parents, with more assistance with the costs of disability and caring for children alone
3. Additional employment assistance for long-term unemployed people to help them become ready for work
4. An adequate minimum wage to reduce poverty among working households
5. Increased access to affordable housing including expanding investment in social housing, improvements in private rent Assistance, and expansion of the national Rental Affordability Scheme (NRAS), and
6. Improved affordability of essential health and community services such as dental care, child care and respite care.

For up-to-date information and resources on poverty and social isolation go to [http://acoss.org.au/papers/category\\_poverty\\_and\\_social\\_inclusion/12/P10/](http://acoss.org.au/papers/category_poverty_and_social_inclusion/12/P10/)

National Anti-Poverty Week is an opportune time for you - as an individual, a member of an AHPA Branch, a member of the local community where you live or work - to make a difference – to help make the changes above a reality.

To find out how you can be involved in the National Anti-Poverty Week activities planned in your local area – Go to <http://www.antipovertyweek.org.au/events.php> and check out the where, when and how. You can make a difference.

## ANPHA update

Update has kept members informed of the Australian National Preventive Health Agency's (ANPHA) establishment journey from its recommendation by the National Preventive Health Taskforce (September 2009) through to the passing of the Australian National Preventive Health Agency Act 2010 to its first appointed Interim CEO Dr Rhonda Galbally (January to June 2011), who was responsible for the development of the Agency's 5 year Strategic Plan. The current CEO is Ms Louise Sylvan, appointed for the next five years from the 21 September 2011. The CEO is responsible for managing the agency and is directly accountable to the Minister for Health and Ageing for the financial management of the agency and to the Australian Health Ministers' Conference (AHMC), via the minister, for the agency's performance against the agreed five year strategic and annual operational plans.

ANPHA received \$132.2 million over four years: for setting up and running ANPHA (\$17.6 million), for social marketing campaigns (\$102.0million) to address obesity, alcohol and tobacco related problems, a \$13.1million research fund, and for a workforce audit \$0.6 million.

You can find out more about ANPHA's focus, governance, role and responsibilities, and how the CEO and the Advisory Council members were appointed by clicking on <http://www.anpha.gov.au/internet/anpha/publishing.nsf/Content/faqs>

The first round of **Preventive Health Research Grants**, up to \$5.77 million, has been put up for research projects focusing on the prevention of tobacco smoking, alcohol misuse and obesity. The grant applications closed 30 September and the successful projects will be announced later in the year and commenced in 2012.

In addition, grants up to \$300 000 for individual projects and up to \$500 000 for partnerships and collaborations have been announced for **community projects to prevent and reduce binge drinking by young people 12-24years**. The closing date for these grants is Friday 30 October 2011 and the applications forms can be accessed at <http://www.anpha.gov.au/internet/anpha/publishing.nsf/Content/grants>

We encourage all members to visit ANPHA's website and read

1. ANPHA's *Strategic Plan* 2011–2015  
<http://www.anpha.gov.au/internet/anpha/publishing.nsf/Content/strategic-plan> and
2. ANPHA's *Operational Plan* 2011–2012  
<http://www.anpha.gov.au/internet/anpha/publishing.nsf/Content/operational-plan>

## An AHPA first! Update goes electronic

Suzanne Gleeson

*The AHPA Board decided that it is time for AHPA to get with the strength – ditch the hard copy and go E-copy.*

*Why?*

*Because it saves paper, is better for the environment, less lead in time between when articles have to be received and send out time, is much cheaper than hard copy, members can access active links immediately, no loss of quality, more colourful without extra cost ...*

*What do you think? Send your opinion to [updateahpa@gmail.com.au](mailto:updateahpa@gmail.com.au)*

Katrina Freeston

# Is Anyone Listening?

## Hear now so that you can continue to hear later!

National Acoustic Laboratories' (NAL) Hearing Loss Prevention team presented their current research at AHPA's national conference in Cairns (April 2011). Conversations revealed that although many at the conference were interested in hearing health and the prevention of noise-induced hearing loss, there was little appreciation of the issues surrounding this emerging health promotion problem- so we thought we would officially introduce ourselves and what we do!

### Why should you be interested in hearing health?

Hearing loss affects one in six Australians and with an ageing population it is estimated to be one in every four by 2050. In terms of disability weighting a moderate hearing loss is equivalent to living with the chronic pain from a slipped disc and severe hearing loss is comparable to suffering pneumonia continually.

Hearing impairment not only has a great personal cost but also is a great cost to society and consumes significant government resources. Nearly half the hearing impaired population is of working age and over 150,000 Australians are unable to work due to hearing loss. Hearing loss is estimated to cost \$11.75 billion nationally (Access Economics Report 2006).

Research shows that people who suffer hearing loss (particularly if more severe) often have to deal with a number of other health conditions such as diabetes, elevated blood pressure, affective mood disorders, and reduced quality of life. Increased pressure is placed on both the individual and the health care professionals caring for people with hearing loss as they both have to manage the reduced ability to hear.

### What can be done?

If caught early problems with the middle ear are often treatable. Of more concern in terms of prevention are inner ear (cochlear) problems. These are usually permanent so prevention is key. Loss due to ageing or genetics is unavoidable but hearing loss due to noise exposure is avoidable and preventable.

Workplace safety laws deal with the impact of noise damage at work but the volume of noise young people are exposed to outside of work, from eg using personal listening devices, loud concerts and noisy nightclubs are of increasing concern. NAL team is collecting evidence on the amount of noise young people do expose themselves to in their free time and whether permanent hearing damage occurs as a result. This research is to inform health promotion activities persuading young people to reduce their recreational noise exposure, and the longer term benefit of reducing noise-induced hearing loss in the community.

### What is NAL?

NAL, a Statutory Authority under the Commonwealth Government Department of Human Services, is a world leader in research in preventing hearing loss. The NAL team look forward to learning and sharing ideas with other health promotion workers. To know more - visit [www.nal.gov.au/](http://www.nal.gov.au/) or contact Katrina Freeston at [ihear@nal.gov.au](mailto:ihear@nal.gov.au)

## Health promoters enabling action on environmental sustainability

Rebecca Patrick Teresa Capetola & Sue Noy

All readers will be familiar with the 1986 Ottawa Charter statement that '... any health promotion strategy should include protection of the natural and built environments and the conservation of natural resources'.

As community concerns about global sustainability and climate change grow, there is increasing recognition in the health sector that environmental sustainability be incorporated into core business.

The recently released report titled 'Health promotion and sustainability: transitioning toward healthy and sustainable futures' provides evidence from six case studies on how Victorian health promotion practitioners are using health promotion strategies, principles and competencies to facilitate action on climate change, sustainability and health. The report is based on the findings of a research project initiated by Sustainability Victoria in partnership with the Victorian Department of Health, and the School of Health and Social Development, Deakin University.

The main report is directed at health promotion and health care practitioners and contains a rationale for combining health promotion and sustainability practice with inspirational stories outlining each agency's work; and a planning checklist and resource guide for practitioners interested in initiating work in this area. The executive summary provides peak associations, policy makers, decision-makers and health managers with the rationale for incorporating sustainability goals within health promotion practice.

Both reports are available on Sustainability Victoria's website at [http://www.resourcesmart.vic.gov.au/for\\_government/sustainability\\_in\\_government\\_5302.html](http://www.resourcesmart.vic.gov.au/for_government/sustainability_in_government_5302.html)

If you want more information about the report or other research that Deakin University has conducted in this field please contact [rebecca.patrick@deakin.edu.au](mailto:rebecca.patrick@deakin.edu.au)

## Issues Paper to Inform the Development of a National Food Plan

*AHPA's submission to DAFF [Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry]*

AHPA's National Advocacy Committee prepared a submission to the Australian Government providing feedback on their Issues Paper to Inform the Development of a National Food Plan [http://www.daff.gov.au/agriculture-food/food/national-food-plan/issues\\_paper\\_to\\_inform\\_development\\_of\\_a\\_national\\_food\\_plan](http://www.daff.gov.au/agriculture-food/food/national-food-plan/issues_paper_to_inform_development_of_a_national_food_plan)

AHPA congratulated the Government on the development of the first national food plan aimed at integrating the 'many government policies, programs and regulations to address food-related policy issues' and to maintain, protect and improve Australia's secure food supply. While Australia is currently food secure, there are population groups that are food insecure. In the interests of good health for all, AHPA emphasised the importance of clearly addressing this in their National Food Plan to ensure safe, nutritious, accessible, affordable food for all Australians.

AHPA's response is available in the Advocacy section of the AHPA webpage <http://www.healthpromotion.org.au/advocacy>

## AHPA's Accreditation Project

**Andrew Jones-Roberts** Convener AHPA's National Career Structure and Development Committee

During July AHPA sought Expressions of Interest (EOIs), over the AHPA listserv and other networks, from consultants to investigate the feasibility of AHPA implementing an accreditation system for health promotion courses. Five EOIs were received and, at the time of sending this newsletter, a recommendation is being considered by the AHPA Board of Directors.

The successful consultant will provide advice on the implications for AHPA and its members and describe the capacity and infrastructure that AHPA will need to establish and support this new initiative. The project will include:

- consulting with stakeholders about AHPA implementing an accreditation system
- describing options for professional organisation models and course accreditation systems
- recommending eligibility criteria for course accreditation
- identifying a business model for managing the course accreditation process
- recommending an ongoing professional development program
- preparing a draft implementation and evaluation plan

AHPA's National Career Structure and Development Committee will oversee the project which will take approximately eight months. A final report and recommendations will be submitted to the Board of Directors for consideration.

## Let's Take the Next LEAP Together

AHPA's WA Branch recently hosted the 2011 WA Health Promotion Symposium 'Let's Take the Next LEAP Together', with support from the Department of Health WA. The symposium explored themes of 'Leadership, Excellence, Advocacy and Partnerships' (LEAP), core components of our professional practice in health promotion. Delegates were challenged to "put their thinking caps on" with over 130 health promotion practitioners, policy makers and researchers coming together to create a sense of shared vision about the future of health promotion in WA. The event celebrated the proud local origins of the National Association, established 21 years ago, and the bright future of health promotion.

The event was a feast of local talent with the Association's Inaugural National President, Trevor Shilton, and Executive Officer Jenny Collins sharing the spotlight with Dr Tarun Weeramanthri, Executive Director, Public Health Division, Department of Health WA, Denise Sullivan Director Chronic Diseases Directorate, Professor Mike Daube and Professor Peter Howat Curtin University, Jenni Collard Director Office of Aboriginal Health, Tia Lockwood Vice President AHPA WA and Program Manager Planning and Evaluation WA Country Health Service, and Terry Slevin Director Education and Research Cancer Council WA.

Delegates were taken on an historical journey of the Association and health promotion with a series of plenary sessions followed by a view from the next generation, a panel discussion responding to the statement—"So, if health promotion is everybody's business, what are we all doing here?" and small group discussion contributing to key actions around leadership, excellence, advocacy and partnerships. Information collected will form the basis of a position statement—a roadmap for action on health promotion, and will be returned to individuals and organisations to consider in planning around health promotion activities. More detail will be available on the AHPA website.

Happy Birthday AHPA—here's to another 21years.



*So if health promotion is everybody's business, then what are we all doing here?"* panelists (clockwise from back left) Professor Peter Howat, Tia Lockwood, Terry Slevin, Denise Sullivan, Jenni Collard



LEAP Organising Committee (clockwise from back left) Natalie Dorsa, Ruth Wernham WA Branch Treasurer, Tracy Fuhrmann WA Branch Co-President, Nicole Bowser, Tia Lockwood WA Branch Vice-President, Asha Singh WA Branch Secretary, Gemma Crawford WA Branch Co-President, Carly Martin, Emma-Lee Finch

## For the toolbox...

Suzanne Gleeson

### AHPA's National Conference presentations on AHPA's website

The Australian Health Promotion Association's 20th National Conference was held in Cairns from 10-13 April 2011. The conference program and abstracts, PowerPoint presentations, conference photos and the Report from the Social Determinants Think Tank can be accessed at <http://www.healthpromotion.org.au/events/past-events/304-20th-national-conference>

### New health promotion resource to help Close the Gap

*Live Longer! Community Health Action Pack: A Practical Guide to Health Promotion Planning with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities*

On 6 September the Minister for Indigenous Health, the Hon Warren Snowdon MP, announced the resource pack is part of the Australian Government's \$21.3 million investment in the *Live Longer!* Campaign to tackle chronic disease and help close the gap in life expectancy.

The resource is a health promotion planning guide to assist people working in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities develop and deliver health promotion projects with their local communities. The pack includes templates, examples, checklists, tips and several case studies for ideas and inspiration.

You can download the *Community Health Action Pack* at <http://livelonger.health.gov.au/community-health-action-pack/introduction.html> on the Live Longer! website where you can also communicate with people working in similar areas and on similar projects, find ideas, up-load images and videos about your project and to share stories on this interactive website <http://livelonger.health.gov.au/>

**Responding to racism: Insights on how racism can damage health from an urban study of Australian Aboriginal people** by Anna Ziersch and colleagues in *Social Science & Medicine* (2011), doi: 10.1016/j.socscimed.2011.06.058 In press: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/21835522>

This study looked at racism and the pathways through which racism can affect health and wellbeing for Aboriginal people living in an urban environment. They found further evidence that racism is detrimental to health, and concluded that initiatives to promote health-protective responses to racism need to consider structural constraints and the overarching goal of reducing, ideally eliminating, systemic racism rather than relying on individuals to 'adapt' or 'protect' themselves from it.

### Healthy Built Environments: A review of the Literature

UNSW's Healthy Built Environments Program [HBEP] has completed a major literature review examining the role of the built environment in supporting human health as part of everyday living. The review examines the role of three domains - getting people active, connecting and strengthening communities, and providing healthy food options.

The authors' principal aim is to establish an evidence base that supports the development, prioritisation and implementation of healthy built environment policies and practices. The study has also identified current gaps in the evidence to inform future research directions. Included as well is an annotated bibliography of key research articles and a glossary of terms to assist practitioners, policy makers and researchers working in this important interdisciplinary area.

The Literature Review is available at <http://www.fbe.unsw.edu.au/cf/hbep/publications/>

### Tonic – a health program launched on ABC News

The ABC describes their Tonic program as a forthright health show that is intelligent TV for people who are genuinely interested in their health and wellbeing. It's about facts, based on the highest quality scientific evidence not always available to the public. The program challenges health myths and shows what works and what's a waste of time, bringing some of the world's leading experts together with people's stories to give viewers a program that's easy to understand and compelling to watch. You can join them on facebook or follow them on twitter. To find out more about their team of experts and current episodes go to <http://www.tonictv.com.au/>

### Congratulations healthabitat - 2011 World Habitat Award Winner

AHPA congratulates Paul Pholeros and all involved in *healthabitat* <http://www.healthabitat.com/> for their well deserved 2011 World Habitat Award win. Members who attended AHPA's national conference in Cairns had the special treat of listening to Paul present their housing program to a very attentive audience. HealthHabitat's program is aimed at improving the health of indigenous people by ensuring they have access to a safe and well functioning homes and improved living environments.

The award presentation happens on World Habitat Day Monday 3 October 2011 in Aguascalientes Mexico, and will be hosted by the Government of Mexico. This year's theme is Cities and Climate Change. World Habitat Day is organised by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT) and the idea is to focus attention on the importance of shelter in people's lives. Find out more about World Habitat Day at <http://www.worldhabitatawards.org/whd/?lang=oo>.

## Resources to Inspire Healthy Eating

Resources include publications, posters, leaflets, magnets, puzzles, kits, and aprons such as:

- \* Packing a School Lunchbox DVD (multi-lingual)
- \* Healthy Living Pyramid Poster
- \* Spend Right Eat Right Pyramid Magnet
- \* Your Food Your Body (publication)
- \* Fundraising Ideas for Healthy Kids Manual
- \* The Healthy Living Book
- \* And many more...

**\*\*Mention this ad when ordering resources to enter the draw to win a George Foreman Grill\*\***  
The winner will be drawn in National Nutrition Week 2011 (16–22 Oct)

### Membership

Become a Nutrition Australia member and receive 10% off all Nutrition Australia resources, discounted rates to seminars and complimentary e-newsletters containing the latest nutrition news and events.

Visit our online shop at [www.nutritionaustralia.org](http://www.nutritionaustralia.org) for more information about our wide range of resources and membership.

For sales enquiries contact Amy Rossignoli or Emily Poda at Nutrition Australia Victorian Division on 03 9650 5165 or at [vic@nutritionaustralia.org](mailto:vic@nutritionaustralia.org)

[www.nutritionaustralia.org](http://www.nutritionaustralia.org)



# Branch Round Up

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA // Asha Singh

The WA Branch executive committee and other health promotion professionals were heavily involved in planning and running a one day health promotion symposium, 'Let's Take the Next LEAP Together', with support from the Department of Health WA. The symposium was held on the 19 September 2011. Look for more information about this event under 'Let's Take the Next LEAP Together' in this newsletter.

**Advocacy in WA** The advocacy subcommittee recently compiled a parliamentary submission regarding the 2011 Draft Prostitution Bill. The submission encouraged the use of high level evidence to identify successful approaches to sex work from other countries and jurisdictions. The submission raised concerns that the proposed legislation does not consider the most rigorous evidence to ensure population health benefits, including the safety of sex workers and the community; but has instead selected strategies shown to be detrimental based on studies from other countries and from experiences in other states of Australia.

**Professional Development** In August the annual student careers night was held in conjunction with PHAA (WA Branch). The event was a great success with approximately 40 students in attendance. Fifteen agencies attended providing career advice to students, and a panel presentation provided perspectives and tips from a range of early and senior career practitioners in health promotion and public health to those that attended.

AHPA's WA Branch is also partnering with PHAA (WA) and PHAIWA to present: 'A how to guide to writing for publication' event presented by Professor Helen Keleher. This event will be held on 19 October 2011.

## VICTORIA // Andrew Jones-Roberts

**Strategic planning** The Victorian Branch has been pondering the achievement of meaningful outcomes for Vic members. The 2011 committee have continued the strategic planning process commenced in 2010. A range of strategies that align with the AHPA National Strategic Plan have been identified to address our priority areas: skill development, career paths and member relations. A survey has been distributed to members for feedback on the Vic Branch Strategic Plan.

**Professional development** The Victorian Branch was invited to help launch a new Bachelor of Community Development (Health Promotion and Planning) course at La Trobe University in Mildura. Corinne Rice, Branch Treasurer and a regional graduate of La Trobe University, attended the launch and spoke about the importance of health promotion in regional communities, the need to establish and support the health promotion workforce in these areas and the career opportunities available to graduates with health promotion qualifications.

**Linking with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health workers** Following the successful AHPA Conference in Cairns that achieved a high level of engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health promotion workers, the Victorian Branch was keen to establish ongoing involvement of Aboriginal people working in the health sector in Victoria. During July Meg Scolyer, Victorian Branch committee member, organised a meeting of a new Victorian AHPA Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Working Group. They are exploring opportunities to link in with the AHPA National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Committee as well as how best to work with Aboriginal Health Workers and Aboriginal health organisations across Victoria

**Describing health promotion roles to the future workforce** David Towl, Victorian Branch committee member, was instrumental in having the Federal Government Department of Education Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) Job Guide health promotion officer role descriptor revised. It was endorsed by the National Board and the descriptor now better reflects the modern role of Health Promotion Practitioners. Hopefully this will lead to more Year 10-12 students selecting health promotion as a career.

**Promoting health promotion careers** The Victorian Branch held its Annual Undergraduate Student Careers Night on the 20 September. This event involved Monash University, La Trobe University, Deakin University and RMIT and provided a great opportunity for undergraduate students to hear from health promotion practitioners, managers and new graduates currently working in the field of health promotion.

## NEW SOUTH WALES // Karen Bedford

**Advocacy** The NSW Branch sent a letter to the Hon Jenny Macklin MP, Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs supporting the housing and health program *Healthabitat*. *Healthabitat* <http://www.healthabitat.com/> featured during the national AHPA conference in Cairns this year and is an evidenced-based housing improvement program that works with Aboriginal communities to improve the health of Indigenous people in Australia by ensuring they have access to safe and well functioning housing and an improved living environment. Also we are pleased to report here that Healthabitat have just been named as the winner of the World Habitat Awards 2011! (See article in this issue).

**Professional Development** We were pleased to have Professor Maurice Mittelmark as our guest speaker at the Branch AGM earlier this year. Maurice was in Australia for another engagement and we were fortunate to be able to entice him to Sydney. Another very well received event was Stephanie Alexander's talk on her Kitchen Garden Foundation (KGF) projects. It was very timely because the event coincided with a KGF grants program announcement. She was inspirational. Over 70 people attended and they included health service workers, teachers from local schools and representatives from a variety of NGOs. Participants took advantage of the opportunity to find out more about applying for start-up funding for a kitchen garden at their school.

NSW Branch October Events: In partnership with NSW PHAA Branch we have organised an **Anti-Poverty Week seminar** with Dr Andy Marks from the St. Vincent de Paul Society as our guest speaker. Dr Marks is the author of '*Known Territory: A Study of Homelessness and Marginalisation in Katoomba*'; a report into research on the association between marginalisation and homelessness and the resulting effect on health. The event is on the 18 October.

An interactive half-day workshop titled '*Tackling Wicked Problems: new ways of working upstream*' has been organised for the 21 October in Sydney. This workshop applies the 'what' and the 'how to' of **complexity theory in health promotion work**. The workshop will be facilitated by Eric van Beurden and Annie Kia from North Coast Health Promotion Service – the very same facilitators who ran the very successful *Social Determinants Think Tank* at AHPA's national conference in Cairns in April this year.

**Branch Round Up/ continues on next page »**

## / Branch Round Up

### SOUTH AUSTRALIA // Janine Phillips

**Mentoring** Our mentoring program is a key annual event, proudly run in conjunction with PHAA. This year the program began in June with 23 mentees from various backgrounds and career stages. Previously the program ran for three months but based on feedback from mentees who felt they would have benefited from a longer experience, the program has been extended to six months. This is also the second year we have partnered with AHPA's NT Branch with seven mentees and three mentors from the NT.

**Primary Health Care Practitioner Award** Another joint project between PHAA and AHPA (SA Branch) is the Primary Health Care Practitioner Award to recognise outstanding primary health care practice in SA. This award has been offered for several years and we believe goes some way to acknowledging the great work of our unsung, dedicated and highly skilled practitioners. Candidates are nominated by their peers for demonstrating commitment and excellence in primary health care, contributing to the promotion of primary health care at an organisational level and advocating for primary health care and also for acting as a mentor to others. So far, all winners have been country practitioners and this year was no exception. The award will be announced and presented at the PHAA State Population Health Conference on 29 October.

**Career Pathways and Workforce Development** Our other area of focus is strengthening the workforce and supporting career pathways for health promotion officers. There is soon to be a new Enterprise Bargaining Agreement process in SA and AHPA (SA Branch) is working with SA Health to have Health Promotion Officers moved into the professional stream in the new agreement. This follows work in Queensland where this has already occurred. This has implications for members in the future and is why SA is taking a major role in the AHPA National Accreditation Project. SA Health has supported this project by providing partial funding to finance the consultant who is soon to be announced.

### NORTHERN TERRITORY // Emily Raso

Here in the NT, a superb dry season is coming to a close, the humidity is starting to get a little testing and the tourists are dwindling away. 2011 has seen the AHPA NT Branch form a strong partnership with the Australian Water Association NT Branch, which has led to combined PD and well attended social events.

A few of our fabulous PD events have included:

**Health in All Policies - Case Studies from Water Projects in South Australia** Ms Carmel Williams, Manager of SA Health's Health in All Policies (HiAP) Unit provided a comprehensive presentation of the HiAP approach. This had a particular emphasis on the cross-sectoral approaches which have been instrumental in moving the approach from conceptual development to practical implementation. The Water Security Health Lens Analysis Project was a relevant and interesting case example.

**Connecting Through Communication - Health Promotion that Matters** Professor Don Ruben and a study tour group from the University of Georgia (USA) participated in a joint health promotion forum with the NT Department of Health and AHPA NT Branch. The theme "Communication, Health & Culture/Sustainability" spurred fascinating and thought-provoking discussions.

**Careers Pathways in Health Sciences Road show** Through funding from CSIRO, the AHPA NT Branch, in partnership with the NT Department of Health ran a health science road show for Science week in Tennant Creek and Darwin. A diverse panel of AHPA members discussed their academic (health) background and the range of interesting and challenging jobs that it has led them to. The audience of students from Essington Senior College and Casuarina Senior College (in Darwin) reported it was of great value. Essington Senior College even reported they were keen to look into adding Population Health to their VET program.

A big THANKYOU to our hard-working Executive Committee - Talia, Ayrлие, Dagmar, Alana and James - who are constantly prepared to go above and beyond to arrange stimulating and enjoyable events for our AHPA NT Branch members. We may be small – but we are enthusiastic!

### QUEENSLAND // Kirsty Pickering

The AHPA QLD Branch Executive has been meeting monthly and working hard to implement the QLD Branch Operational Plan.

**Newsletter** A new edition of the Queensland Health Promotion Quarterly has been developed by the newsletter committee, focusing on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health. The newsletter is a great opportunity to share work that is happening in Queensland with our health promotion colleagues. The focus of the next edition will be on oral health.

**Advocacy and Communication** The advocacy and communication committee is working hard to prepare for advocacy opportunities leading up to the Queensland State Government election, as well as updating the Queensland section of the website, including profiles for the QLD Branch Executive members, all previous newsletters and minutes from the past 12 months.

**Professional Development** A fantastic professional development event was held by the professional development committee on 19 July 2011. Professor Rob Donovan presented 'Social Marketing as a Public Health Strategy'. This event was offered in Brisbane, Sunshine Coast and Townsville and was an excellent opportunity to learn more about social marketing within the realms of public health. The bi-annual member survey will be undertaken shortly which is an opportunity for Queensland members to provide input into future professional development events and other services members would like to see from the branch.

**20th National Conference** The 20th National Australian Health Promotion Association Conference Organising Committee has been able to take a rest after the conference held in Cairns from 10–13 April 2011. An evaluation report is currently being developed and documents relevant to the conference including the conference program, PowerPoint presentations, ThinkTank Summary and conference photos are now available at <http://www.healthpromotion.org.au/events/past-events/304-20th-national-conference>

**Call for Nominations** It has been a busy year to date for the QLD Branch Executive and we will soon call for nominations for the 2012 Queensland Branch Executive. The call for nominations will be circulated to all QLD members in mid-November as the QLD Branch AGM will be held in late January 2012.

**Branch Round Up/ continues on next page »**

## / Branch Round Up

### TASMANIA // Petrina Nettlefold

**Committee** The Tasmanian Branch has recently undergone a few changes so the current Committee members are: President Petrina Nettlefold, Minutes Secretary Glen Paley, Treasurer Sarina Laidler, and the general committee members are: Jacquie Maginnis, Miriam Herzfeld, Sally Barnes, Kathryn Unwin, Fiona Watts and Annette Davey.

**Professional Development** A recent lunchtime forum was held via videoconference throughout Tasmania featuring the HOVER (Healthy Options in Vending- an Employer Resource) Project auspiced by *Eat Well* Tasmania. This project investigates the availability of healthier food options in Tasmanian workplaces. The first phase of the project focused on nutrition criteria and selection of food options available in workplace vending machines as well as implementation of healthier food products in some workplaces and hospital sites. The second phase will focus on engagement with the food industry to further the development of new healthier vending options. This project is achieving great results, with vendors approaching HOVER to be part of the project and many individuals choosing the healthier products. This is another example of the great health promotion work being led in the non-government sector.

**Advocacy** Another key project that the AHPA Tas Branch is proudly involved in is the Social Determinants Fact Sheet project, which is a collaboration with TasCOSS and the Department of Health and Human Services to develop a set of fact sheets focusing on the social determinants of health and what this means for Tasmanians. Essentially these fact sheets will be used as key documents to raise awareness and understanding of social determinants in the Tasmanian context and for locally based advocacy by the branch and other members more broadly. It is anticipated that these fact sheets will be finalised before the end of the year and will be launched and workshopped throughout 2012.

During our most recent committee meeting there was productive discussion around the development and implementation of a proactive advocacy strategy for the Branch. The focus of this plan will reflect the advocacy issues chosen by the national working group through the development of state specific position statements on these issues. The other guide for our activity in advocacy will be the social determinants fact sheets when they become available, so watch this space....

## Welcome to new members

### ACT

Kris Feeney

### NSW

Monique Desmarchelier

Rebecca Dowling

Bree Hamill

Healthy Cities Illawarra Inc  
[Michelle Havill]

Sally Hudson

Kate Hunter

Keryn Johnson

Rosemarie Johnston

Toyofumi Katagiri

Mary-Anne Land

Pamela Lopez-Vargas

Emily Low

Mental Health Association  
NSW [Lisa Maude]

Lauren Elizabeth Murray

Jeanne O'Riordan

Anne-Maree Parrish

The University of Sydney  
Kylie Sly

Luke Wolfenden

### NT

Andrew Packer

Kristen Solem

### QLD

Shalane Anderson

Robin Armstrong

Taisa Eliza Baars

Natalie Davis

Kim de Lacey

Discovery Coast Community  
Health Service [Maria de Vries]

Gabrielle Dorman

Susan Johnston

Katrina Jones

Michelle Kerley

Sheleigh Lawler

Carmel McNeill

Jacqueline Mepstead

Kristyn Middleton

Codie Norris

Teniele Oates

Cassandra O'Brien

Marina Paine

Queensland Rail -Health &  
Wellbeing Team [Tracey Pascoe]

Susan Scarr

Hannah Scope

Kate Theodore

Michelle Thorne-Stones

Rebecca Tretheway

Julie Twomey

Ashley Walton

Melanie Warwick

### SA

Brooke Atkins

Verity Jane Goode

Crystal Grant

Donna Mackereth

University of South Australia

Nicole Walker

Isla Woidt

### TAS

Kym Blechynden

Alexandra King

### VIC

Converge International Ltd  
[Daniella Benjamin]

Rhonda Gale

Miriam Henderson

Liza Meggs

Catherine Naylor

Lauren Purnell

Shaun Raby

Zoe Rust

Kate Ryan

Pepita Szafranski

Sheila Thomas

Caroline Torres

Lauren Treby

Claire Trethewey

Elizabeth Turnbull

Nikita Wheaton

Jenny Williams

Cassandra Wright

### WA

Leesa Bartlett

Nicole Bowser

Michelle Buck

Paola Chivers

Chenae Doust

Shannon Eggleston

Jessica Fahey

Elise Gordon

Danica Hall

Melissa Harrison

Justine Holmes

Jake Johnson

Tracey Koh

Lauren Lucas

Carly Martin

Denise McPhee

Patti Mo

Sonia Murphy

Ebony Nardi

Dan O'Connor

Charlotte Bridie Pickering

Lorren Portolan

Chloe Scherini

Heather Thorne

Alisha Wells

Fiona Williams

Briony Williams

Eden Williams



## Events and conferences

### OCTOBER 2011

*Take the next steps: Share results and sustain action*

#### **2011 Gippsland Health Promotion Conference**

Auditorium, Monash University,  
Gippsland Campus

**11 October 2011**

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

### NOVEMBER 2011

#### **Impacts & Outcomes 3rd Australian Rural and Remote Mental Health Symposium**

Ballarat, Vic

**14–16 November 2011**

<http://anzmh.asn.au/RRMH11/index.html>

*Mission: Impossible? Evidence-based & the future of global health.*

#### **Joanna Briggs Institute International Convention**

National Wine Centre,  
Adelaide, SA

**7–9 November 2011**

<http://www.joannabriggs.edu.au/events/2011Convention/index.html>

#### **Building a Child Friendly Community: National Conference**

#### **ARACY (Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth)**

Brisbane, Qld

**4–5 November 2011**

[http://www.aracy.org.au/index.cfm?pageName=events\\_calendar&full=oDBooA24-BB46-252D-4611AB64CEE67E68](http://www.aracy.org.au/index.cfm?pageName=events_calendar&full=oDBooA24-BB46-252D-4611AB64CEE67E68)

*The Future of Food lies in Your Hands!*

#### **PHAA's 2nd National Food Futures Conference**

Hobart, Tasmania

**22–23 November 2011**

<http://www.phaa.net.au>

#### **Social Participation: Knowledge, Policy and Practice Conference**

#### **The Institute for Social Participation**

La Trobe University

**28–29 November 2011**

[www.latrobe.edu.au/isp](http://www.latrobe.edu.au/isp)

### DECEMBER 2011

*Promoting Healthy Active Lifestyles through accessible & inclusive sport & recreation*

#### **2011 Disability Sport and Recreation Festival – Diversity in Disability**

Federation Square,  
Melbourne, Victoria

**2 December 2011**

[www.dsrf.org.au](http://www.dsrf.org.au)

## WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT VIRAL HEPATITIS HEALTH PROMOTION?

**Registrations are NOW OPEN for the 2011 National Health Promotion Conference - Joining the Dots for Successful Health Promotion, Brisbane 24 & 25 November 2011.**

Hepatitis Australia is hosting a two-day conference for health and community workers with an interest in viral hepatitis health promotion.

The theme of the 2011 conference is *Joining the Dots for Successful Health Promotion*. The conference will demonstrate and explore programs, projects and practices that use a mix of collaborations, interventions and/or capacity-building strategies to deliver successful viral hepatitis health promotion.

This two-day conference will feature:

- Plenary addresses from health promotion experts
- Skills workshops
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workshop
- Presentations on successful viral hepatitis health promotion projects, programs and practices
- Facilitated discussions on topical issues.

Visit the Hepatitis Australia website for more information on abstract submission and registration:  
[www.hepatitisaustralia.com](http://www.hepatitisaustralia.com)



**September 2012** Important diary date for all working in health promotion

## Population Health Congress 2012

10–12 September 2012

Adelaide Convention Centre, Adelaide, Australia

The first Population Congress was held in 2008 and it was a great success. So we are doing it again. The Congress for next year is being organised and sponsored again by the four leading professional population health organisations in the Asia Pacific region: the Public Health Association of Australia, the Australian Health Promotion Association, the Australasian Epidemiological Association and the Australasian Faculty of Public Health Medicine. The organising committee will soon be calling for abstracts so visit AHPA's website regularly at <http://www.healthpromotion.org.au/> and stay up to date by clicking on the Population Congress link on the first page.

<http://www.conferenceco.com.au/pophealth/>

# Update

Newsletter of the Australian Health Promotion Association

## Advertising Price Guide

September 2011 – All prices inclusive of GST

### Eighth page advertisement (landscape)

Members \$25.00

Non members \$35.00

### Quarter page advertisement (portrait)

Members \$35.00

Non members \$45.00

### One third of a page advertisement (portrait)

Members \$45.00

Non members \$55.00

### Half page advertisement (landscape/portrait)

Members \$55.00

Non members \$65.00

### Full page advertisement (portrait)

Members \$65.00

Non members \$95.00

Bookings for advertising in *Update* must be received two weeks prior to the deadline for submission of articles.

The deadline for the next *Update* is **Thursday 1 December 2011.**

Please provide all text in Word and pictures and photos as picture files eg JPG.

Additional costs will apply if typesetting or layout is required.

Articles appearing in the *Update* do not necessarily reflect the views of the Australian Health Promotion Association.

Contributions are welcome and for the December 2011 edition please send to [updateahpa@gmail.com](mailto:updateahpa@gmail.com)

## Are your colleagues members of AHPA?

To find out about AHPA and the benefits of becoming a member ask them to click on [www.healthpromotion.org.au](http://www.healthpromotion.org.au) and sign on now.

To renew your membership do so online – just click on [www.healthpromotion.org.au](http://www.healthpromotion.org.au)