



HICSA NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2012

Healesville Indigenous Community Services Association Inc.
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Acknowledgement of Country

The Board of the Healesville Indigenous Community Services Association Incorporated would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land, the Wurundjeri, and pay respects to their Elders past and present. We would also like to acknowledge those peoples, including Elders, who came to live on Wurundjeri land from all over Australia as a result of dispossession from their homelands, and in more recent times through choice. We will strive to uphold a cultural respect model that further includes and strengthens all our people, stories, traditions and culture for now and future generations.

Welcome to 2012!! We hope that you all had a wonderful Christmas and New Year and we look forward to catching up with you in the coming year.

Exciting things have been happening at HICSA, we now have 4 part-time staff working including Fiona Mawson, Stephanie Grubb, Kirsty Savage and Bronwyn Forster. Here is an introduction and yarn about them.

Stephanie Grubb

Hi, my name is Steph and I started working at HICSA in early January as Program Coordinator. I have studied and worked in the NT and WA for many years. I have 2 young children and their dad is from the NT as well. In Victoria I have been working in Community Health - specifically Aboriginal Health, where last year I supported Elders in organising the two 'Welcome To Country Ceremonies' for babies and older children. I am really excited about working at HICSA as there are so many opportunities to run programs for the community in Healesville and surrounding areas. Listed in this newsletter are details of programs we are running with many more to come. I would also love to hear from anyone who has any other ideas or activities we could maybe run from HICSA. Thank you and I look forward to meeting with all of you.

Fiona Mawson

Hi my name is Fiona and my role at HICSA is Service Development and Governance Coordinator. I have lived in Healesville for 15 years and have 2 grown up children. Originally, I come from Katherine, where I was born, and later Batchelor in the N.T.

Along with the HICSA Board I am working towards establishing HICSA as a belonging place that is Welcoming to everyone. I have worked with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community in Healesville for the past 5 years in different roles and am very happy to now be working for HICSA. Mostly my role involves looking after the governance and business needs of HICSA, but I can also play the Djembe drum (a little) and work as a counsellor for Eastern Health.



Fiona Steph and Alex



Kirsty and Bronwyn- Community Engagement Workers

(Alex is Steph's daughter - who really wanted to be in the photo!!)

Bronwyn Forster and Kirsty Savage

We are the Community Engagement Workers for The Healesville Reconciliation Precinct for Children and Families. We are employed by HICSA and our role is to support the flow of information from the community and agency workers to and from the Project Executive Group (PEG). There are 7 organisations in Healesville working together to develop a place for young families and their children which embraces reconciliation and cultural awareness. The Boorai Early Years Program which is currently located at the Badger Creek Preschool will be moving to the Robyn Jane Children's Centre in Haig Ave Healesville. The building is being redeveloped and the car park expanded.

The PEG are seeking feedback on the Vision Statement and other aspects of the new precinct. We welcome your comments and suggestions on this project. Please call us at HICSA, write or draw in the art sketch pad at Oonah or have a yarn with us at one of the Community lunches. We look forward to working with you on this wonderful opportunity for the Healesville community!

Bronwyn & Kirsty

The Healesville Reconciliation Precinct for Children and Families

In the coming months we are meeting with:

The Reconciliation Model Working Group will be meeting on Monday 27th February

PEG - Tuesday 28th February

Everyone will be gathering to celebrate with the community at an

OPEN DAY March 17th 9.00am to 1.00pm

Haig Ave, Healesville

Phone: 5962-2940

Email: engagementofficer@hicsa.org.au

PROGRAMS/PROJECTS AT HICSA – THE BELONGING PLACE



My name is Meg Renfrey and I have been coordinating a digital story telling project which has become known as the '**The Elders' Project**' and is now nearing its concluding stages.

Filmed interviews with Aunty Dot and Uncle Eric have now been done, intended for HICSA's use and archives. This project was conceived by Anne, Doseena and Fiona, who saw the importance of capturing our Elders' stories for community.

Permissions, engagements, preliminary meetings, preparations, video equipment, team work, shot locations, subject placement, backgrounds, noise, re- arrangements, lighting, catering, interviews and invading Elders' homes for a day... just a few of the elements involved in the Elders Project over the past few months, in which we've been privileged to play a part. Aunty Dot and Uncle Eric were both naturals before the camera, working hard at being interviewed and patient with rehearsals and setting up.

It has been a team effort, with design and technical supervision by John Swales of Swinburne University and technical assistance from Bronwyn Anderson and Luci Finlay, graduate media studies students, whose valuable participation helped things to go smoothly.

Driving Deadly and Safe

HICSA continues to develop the Driving Deadly and Safe program. In 2011, 18 young , and not so young people travelled down to METEC in Kilsyth to participate in the Pre-Learner driver education program. Most of them went on to get their L or P licence. The biggest hurdle for many who are under 21 years and want to get their licence is 'clocking up' the 120 hours of supervised driving. The Yarra Ranges Council can assist with this through the 'L to P' program which links a young driver with a volunteer driver and a driver education car. However, HICSA is investigating a

similar program and will let community know when it is ready to go. If you want more information give Steph a call on 5962 2940

DRUMBEAT

Drumbeat is fun! Learn different rhythms on Djembe drums. Held on Wednesday afternoons at Oonah (HICSA), from 3 to 4pm during school terms. No charge. Everyone Welcome.



Women's Health, Healing and Leadership Circle

Starting on Wednesday 14th March HICSA will be running a 10 week program for women between 11am – 1pm, with a pampering day at the end. It will involve healthy lunches, health education/support and a walk after lunch, and lots of fun!! Please contact Steph for more information. This program is funded by the Johnstone Gumption sub fund of the Victorian Women's Trust.

The Towards a Just Society Education Bursary is designed to provide financial assistance to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people for education expenses. Examples of expenses can include, but are not limited to Education and course fees (primary, secondary, tertiary), text books and stationary, Uniforms and equipment , excursions and camps, travel and accommodation to access education interstate or out of the region. **If you would like to make an application for help with education expenses please contact HICSA on 59622940.**

Community Lunches

HICSA will host monthly community lunches. The first one for the year is 13th February to celebrate the National Apology. We will let you know the dates for the rest!!

We also have an **Employment folder** of various job opportunities in the region. Please drop in and see us or give us a call for further information.

OTHER EVENTS AND PROGRAMS IN THE EAST/OUTER EAST

Mullum Mullum's Twilight Market

Saturday 3rd March 2012

4pm—8pm

At 47 Patterson Street

East Ringwood

For further information Mullum Mullum

Indigenous Gathering Place

Phone: 03 9725 2166

Koorie Country Music Concert

Featuring: Johnny Lovett & Stray Blacks

Thursday 1st March 2012 7:00pm

Aborigines Advancement League, 2 Watt Street Thornbury

Celebrating 50 years in County Music, Uncle Johnny Lovett will perform songs from various CD releases. A rare and unique opportunity to catch a true Koorie Country Music Legend.

Pre Sale Tickets available soon - Supper; Drinks at Bar Prices

Posters will be distributed soon!

Anthony Lovett

Aboriginal Community Services Officer

Victorian Aboriginal Community Services

Association Ltd

Ph: 03 9416 4266 Fax: 03 5334 1768 Mob:

0402 655 983

Healesville LIN'S (Local Indigenous Network) Meeting

Tuesday 13 March

Tuesday 24 April

Venues and times to be advised closer to the event.

Alana Marsh| Indigenous Community Development Broker Eastern Metropolitan Regional Team Department of Planning and Community Development

T: 03 9296 4614 | M: 0448 526 088

Eastern Metro Regional Family Violence Action Group

Is hosting a Family Day in support of White Ribbon

Come along and support the men of the EMR pledging to stop violence against women in our community

Activities include: Men's Pledge Balloon Release, Music and Traditional Dancers, Walk Around the Lake, Face Painting Free Feed and Much More

For more information contact: Jamie Thomas on 0467786676 or 9871 2679

When: Sunday 12th February - 2pm till 4pm

Where: Lilydale Lake

Address: 435 Swansea Rd, Lilydale (MELWAY 38 G6)

Woman's Health Check Day

Friday 17th February from 10am to 2pm at EACH – 75 Paterson St, Ringwood East

Tarot card readings, Massages, showbags, dental check, health check etc, Lunch provided
Please contact AHPACC on 98373999 for more info.

The Melbourne Didgeridoo and Cultural Festival

Including Mark Atkins, Bruce Rogers, Ganga Girl, One Fire Dance Troupe, Wilbur Wilde

When – Saturday 3rd March between 11am and 10pm.

Where – Mia Mia Gallery, Westerfolds Park, Templestowe.

Boorndawan Willam Aboriginal Healing Service

Dhum-Djirri Ngarra-Jarra (talk to heal)

Come along and share your Life's journey in a supportive,

Culturally safe environment. Rediscover yourself whilst enjoying cultural activities, making new friends, building knowledge, awareness and self-resilience

Where: 75 Patterson St Ringwood East

When: Thursday 2nd of February (fortnightly thereafter)

Time: 5pm til 8pm (Light supper provided)

Our vision of Healing: Strong individuals and family; Safe Communities; Healthy Lives

Contact Jamie Thomas

Men's Healing Support worker

On: 0467 786 676 or 98712679

"Through culture we heal, through sharing we grow strong together



Eastern Health invites Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander community members to participate in our patient experience project. If you have been a patient at the Emergency Department at the Angliss Hospital, Box Hill Hospital or Maroondah Hospital then we would like to hear about your experience. In

January and February 2012 we would like to talk to you either face to face or via telephone. Your feedback is important to us and will inform improvements that we will be making to our services. Please contact Valetta Fraser on 9871 3514 or 0428 319 189 to arrange a time for a yarn, or email Valetta at valetta.fraser@easternhealth.org.au Please note that you will receive a gift voucher for your participation.

"CHILDREN, CHOICES AND CHALLENGES" **- 3 WEEK COURSE FOR PARENTS**

Do you wonder why your kids aren't listening to you or how to deal with their anger and your own?

Do you want to stay connected to your child & improve Communication while maintaining a healthy relationship?

Do you find living with kids exhausting and frustrating?

Are they just driving you completely batty? Come and share your ideas, skills, solutions and frustrations and get some new strategies to help with healthier relationships!

Including Information on building connections and links to local support services & a time to pamper yourself - a Free Hand Massage at the end of Week 3

Who: Mums, Dads & carers of children aged 0- 10 years

When: Mondays: 20th & 27th Feb & 5th March 2012

Time: TBA

At: Upper Yarra Family Centre, Upper Yarra Road, Yarra Junction

Cost: Free and Free Child Care Available, Bookings essential

Bookings: Jenny Syme 5967 1769
jenny.syme@anglicarevic.org.au

Rediscovering Parenting Piece by Piece (Relationships Australia Victoria)

For women who have been affected by family violence and would like support with parenting skills.

- Are you struggling to communicate with the children?
- Are you having difficulty setting boundaries and disciplining your children?
- Are you at a loss with dealing with the strong feelings your child is expressing?
- And are you wondering what to do when your best ideas don't work?

When: 6 week group commencing: February 15th - March 21st

Time: 10 am to 12 noon

Where: 83 Boronia Road, Boronia

Cost: \$10 per 2 hour session (negotiable)

Contact: 9725 9964 for further information and registration

BREAKING THE CYCLE

A group for mothers, fathers, partners, step-parents, carers whose adolescent is abusive and/or violent at home

Do you feel that you are walking on eggshells?

- feel threatened, frightened or controlled by you son/daughter?
- Do other family members feel scared?
- no longer in charge?
- isolated and alone?
- Would you like to find ways to help your son/daughter become more responsible and respectful?

8 week program *****BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL*****

CONTACT: Emma Holdsworth 9735 4188
RSVP by 27th Jan 2012

WHEN: Tuesday evenings 7th Feb to 27th March 2012 6:30pm-9pm.

WHERE: Anglicare, 47-51 Castella Street, LILYDALE

Please call to express interest in possible daytime group later in 2012

Governance Training.

As you may know Aboriginal Affairs Victoria (AAV) in conjunction with Victoria University have developed a training program in Business Governance for Community members and others currently involved in boards or wishing to expand their knowledge of the administrative workings of

Community organisations. Four 3-day workshops will be offered during 2012 to introduce participants to Aboriginal Business Governance in Victoria. For those who are interested the workshops will be followed by a four week Certificate IV course of training and study in Business (Governance) run through Victoria

University. The dates for the 2012 Business Governance training workshops are;

• **Tuesday 17th April to Thursday 19th April in Melbourne (location to be advised)**

Youth Governance Training Workshop

• **Tuesday 27th November to Thursday 29th November in Melbourne (location to be advised)**

Tracey Meehan | Community Agent Aboriginal Affairs Victoria Department of Planning and Community Development T: 03 9208 3252| M: 0427 533 109