



Community Housing Council of SA Inc. (CHCSA)

"The Peak Body for Community Housing Organisations in South Australia"

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Weekly E-Bulletin 07/07 - Friday 23rd March 2007

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"Food Justice: From the Ground Up" ~ The Don Dunstan Foundation

The Don Dunstan Foundation invites you to our 2007 'foodie' forum: **Food Justice: From the Ground Up** on Thursday April 19, 5.30 p.m. at the Radford Auditorium, Art Gallery of SA. This is a celebration of 'accessible food': farmers' markets, community gardens, the Community Foodies programme. It also highlights social justice issues related to food: health, knowledge, power and access.

The **Community Housing sector in South Australia** has played a major role in establishing community gardens and the Community Foodies: join us in telling their stories.

Amanda Blair (media personality; mother; member of SA Social Inclusion Board) will MC contributions from **community gardeners**, **community foodies**, **Prof Fran Baum**, WHO Commissioner and **Zannie Flanagan** of the Willunga and Adelaide Showgrounds Farmers' Markets.

Come and be stimulated and provoked by the speakers and tempted by the light refreshments that follow, thanks to Urrbrae Agricultural High School and Adelaide Showground Farmers Market.

Booking: \$20 (DDF subscribers: \$16) E-mail: josie.covino@adelaide.edu.au; Phone: 8303 3350 by 16 April please.

"Strong Community, Healthy State" Campaign Launch ~ from SACOSS

At 3 pm on Sunday, 25 March the **Strong Community, Healthy State (SCHS)** campaign will be launched in the **courtyard of the Torrens Building, 220 Victoria Square**.

The SCHS campaign, which is being led by SACOSS, AMCO the ASU and the LHMU is focussing on the need to build workforce attraction and retention within the community sector. The first step of this campaign, which will be promoted at the launch on the 25th, is to lobby the state government for increased resource levels to improve salaries within the sector.

As we all know, the community sector is finding it increasingly difficult to attract and *retain* appropriately qualified and experienced staff, as too many other sectors are able to offer more

stable, secure and better remunerated jobs. Of course, the ultimate focus of the *SCHS* campaign is to improve service levels for our clients but we recognise that this won't be possible without also strengthening our workforce.

Most of us will be familiar with the pressures that are placed on clients and colleagues due to high levels of staff turn-over and the constant need to recruit and train new staff. Services that were looked at as case studies generally reported a real decline in State Government funding. In one case, this decline has been 25% over 10 years. At the same time as these reductions in real funding, there has not been a commensurate reduction in demand for services.

This situation is simply unsustainable, both for our sector and our colleagues and the clients whom we serve.

SACOSS urges all of their members to attend the SCHS campaign launch on 25 March!!!

Further information is available on the Campaign page of the SACOSS Website, please click <http://www.sacoss.org.au/strongcommunity> . To contact SACOSS, please phone (08) 8226 4111 or visit their Website by clicking <http://www.sacoss.org.au/index.html>.

"Nonviolent Crisis Intervention" ~ 4-day Instructor Certification Training Course by the Crisis Prevention Institute (CPI)

Violence is a serious problem facing service professionals today. Abuse whether physical or verbal impacts on the organisation in terms of individual injury, demoralisation, poor performance, safety & security of staff and volunteers etc.

The "**Nonviolent Crisis Intervention**" training increases people's effectiveness in dealing with disruptive and assaultive behaviour. The Course represents a holistic approach to aggression and prevent violence. The Course embodies a core philosophy of providing for the best possible care, welfare, safety and security for all staff, volunteers and those in your care.

This worldwide accredited Course will only be presented in NSW, Queensland and South Australia this year, with limited places for each of those Courses. Participants will discover how to master the intervention techniques they have learned so they are able to teach them to other members of their Organisation. In addition, participants are taught how to effectively conduct and customise the "Nonviolent Crisis Intervention" course for in-house training, with participants receiving a CPI Professional Staff Instructor and are carefully evaluated.

The 4-day Instructor Certification Course is scheduled for the 22-25 October 2007 at the Education Development Centre, Hindmarsh. The cost is \$1,349 per participant with a 10% discount applicable to registrations received prior to 20th April 2007 making the cost only \$1,214 per participant.

Further information, including Course content and Registrations are available from the CPI Website, please click <http://www.crisisprevention.com>. Toll Free number from Australia is 1800 55 3247; from New Zealand is 0800 44 9187.

Education & Training ~ Office for Community Housing

Teena Handyside has recently been appointed **Acting Education & Training Officer** for the Office for Community Housing (OCH) whilst **Frances Richards** is currently **Acting Senior Consultant with CHO Services**.

Most people would have had the opportunity of meeting Teena as she has been a member of the Education & Training team at Office for Community Housing for the last 2 years.

If Community Housing Organisations have any particular training needs they would like tailor-made to their particular Organisation, then please speak with Teena. In conjunction with it's programmed Training Calendar, the Office for Community Housing does offer opportunities for CHOs to access direct and tailor-made training specific to the Organisation's needs.

To access the latest edition of the Office for Community Housing Training Calendar, please click <http://www.communityhousing.sa.gov.au/site/page.cfm?u=170>. Further information is available by contacting Teena at Office for Community Housing on (08) 8207 0171.

Notice to CHCSA Members ~ Upcoming Forums ~ repeated item

The CHCSA wishes to remind members of the following changes to upcoming Forums:

- **CHCSA Associations' Forum** ~ (Due to the Good Friday Public Holiday) the **APRIL** Associations' Forum will be held on **Friday 30th March 2007** in the CHCSA Board Room from 9.30am - 12noon.
- **CHCSA Hills & Southern Forum** ~ (Due to the Easter Monday Public Holiday) the **APRIL** Hills & Southern Forum will be held on **Monday 2nd April 2007** at the Noarlunga Health Village from 10am - 12noon.
- **CHCSA Northern Forum** ~ (Scheduled Tuesday 10th April). Following on from last week's E-Bulletin, the Northern Forum has been temporarily suspended until further notice.

"Garage Sale" - Northern Suburbs Housing Co-operative ~ repeated item

Northern Suburbs Housing Co-operative Tenant Members will be holding a Garage Sale on Saturday 24th March 2007, in the carpark at the rear of their offices.

Items for sale will include cakes, biscuits, jams, bric-a-brac, second hand clothes & goods, plants, shoes, books, children's toys, etc. There will also be a sausage sizzle for everyone to enjoy.

Proceeds from the Garage Sale will be used by the Tenants for future bus trips and Christmas luncheon.

So come along to the carpark at the rear of 472 Regency Road, Prospect (corner of Regency Road & Struan Avenue) on Saturday 24th March 2007 from 8.30am onwards and pick up a bargain.

<p><u>STAFF</u> Executive Officer - Ciarán Synnott Manager, Admin/Finance/Communications - Maria Demasi Administration Officer - Ante Gajic Senior Policy Officers - Matt Fisher & David Kilner Sector Resource Worker - Philip Studt Spanish Speaking Worker - Domingo Garcia</p>	<p><u>CASUAL TRAINERS AND VOLUNTEERS</u> Casual Trainers – Liz McCarthy, Graeme Gow, Philip Studt, Kate Reynolds Volunteers – Evette Johnson, Renfrey Ansell and Anton Studt</p>
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DIARY DATES

Friday 30th March	CHCSA Associations' Forum
Monday 2nd April	CHCSA Hills & Southern Forum
Wednesday 4th April	CHCSA Disability Focus Group
Friday 6th April	PUBLIC HOLIDAY - GOOD FRIDAY
Monday 9th April	PUBLIC HOLIDAY - EASTER MONDAY
Wednesday 11th April	CHCSA Central Forum
Friday 13th April	CHCSA Co-op Rep Council
Friday 13th April	CHCSA Policy Committee
Saturday 14th April	CHCSA Spanish Speaking Forum
Wednesday 25th April	PUBLIC HOLIDAY - ANZAC DAY

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