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MEDIA RELEASE

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Anglicare Australia conference tackles the Indigenous issues

Anglicare Australia will hold its national conference in Darwin next week with a full program including debate probing the implications of the Federal Government's intervention into indigenous communities.

The conference from Sunday September 2nd to Tuesday September 4th is the national meeting of the Anglicare Australia network and includes delegates from every State and Territory of Australia and from associate organisations in New Zealand and Papua New Guinea.

"Whatever the nature or organisational structure of the agencies' work of care and justice, putting people first is a priority. There are many good news stories but also many challenges, not least the social, political and economic climate in which we operate," said Anglicare Australia's new Executive Director, Kasy Chambers.

"The current intervention in the Northern Territory is of great interest to our members and we are looking forward to exploring what it means on the ground in the NT," Ms Chambers said.

Other research topics to be presented include the impact of climate change on the poor and the effects of the welfare to work provisions that have seen Centrelink clients lose their payments for weeks at a time.

A highlight of the annual conference is the presentation of the 2007 Anglicare Awards. The awards, sponsored by Ansva Insurance, showcase the innovation and excellence of the Anglicare member agencies, their staff and volunteers.

The Anglicare Australia network, now in its 10th year, delivers a diverse range of services with a total income of \$636 million. The network works with over 445,000 Australians every year. More than 10,000 staff and 20,000 volunteers serve people at every stage of the life course.

For details of the program go to: <http://www.anglicare.asn.au>

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THE VOICE FOR ANGLICAN CARE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE IN AUSTRALIA

This statement represents the views of Anglicare Australia, as the national peak body of the Anglicare network. It may not necessarily represent the views of the Anglican Church of Australia or the views of an individual member of the Anglicare Australia network.

Some program highlights

4.30pm Sunday 2 nd Sept	Opening Worship and Welcome to Country The Most Revd. Dr Phillip Aspinall, Primate of Australia The Right Revd Greg Thompson, Bishop of the Northern Territory Larakia People	<i>Christ Church Cathedral, Darwin</i>
9.00am Monday 3 rd Sept	Keynote Address 1 <i>Reinventing the tools for addressing social disadvantage</i> Ms Olga Havnen, Co-ordinator, Combined Aboriginal Organisations of the NT, ACOSS Board member and Indigenous advocate Keynote Address 2 <i>Walking the many paths that draw our cultures together.....our journey forward</i> Ms Raymattja Marika, Teacher and Linguist, NT Australian of the Year 2007 Keynote Address 3 <i>Title: How are we faring working together?</i> Ms Emma Burchill, Cape York Partnerships	<i>The Ballroom Crowne Plaza Hotel, Darwin</i>
Workshops session 11:30am Monday 3 rd Sept	Tony Nicholson, Executive Director The Brotherhood of St Laurence Climate Change from a Social and Economic Perspective: <i>How climate change will have a disproportionately adverse impact on poorer and more vulnerable people, including the aged, migrants, Indigenous and rural Australians</i>	<i>Crowne plaza Hotel</i>
5.00pm Monday 3 rd Sept	Government House Reception & Presentation of Awards Hosted by the Administrator of the NT, His Honour Mr Ted Egan AO Presentation of Anglicare Australia Awards sponsored by ANSVAR Insurance	<i>Government House</i>
9.15am Tuesday 4 th Sept	Keynote address <i>Looking after Territory Kids – Looking to the Future</i> The Hon Marion Scrymgour NT Minister for Family and Community Services and Minister for Child Protection	<i>The Ballroom Crowne plaza Hotel</i>
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Workshops session 1pm Tuesday 4 th Sept	Camilla Hughes, Research and Policy Officer, Anglicare Tasmania Return of the Debtors' Prison? Centrelink, Debt and Seeking Justice	<i>Crowne Plaza</i>

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