

Aspect

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From the Executive Director

INEQUALITY FUELS POOR OUTCOMES



Kasy Chambers
Executive Director

In the lead up to Christmas we often reflect on what unites us and celebrate the care we have for each other. I trust this Christmas is a time when we can find peace, hope and some rejuvenation to help us prepare for the year to come.

The end of the year, of course, is also a time when we look back. It's been a challenging year for the Anglicare network members and particularly for the people with whom we work. And I have found myself reflecting on the growing inequality that the people who are doing it toughest confront.

Inequality is a topic that gets us more than a little hot under the collar here at Anglicare Australia. Given our mission to engage with all Australians to create communities of resilience, hope and justice, that's hardly surprising. We know that inequality works against hope, works against resilience and is certainly rarely just. Further, inequality fuels poor outcomes like family violence, and poor health, in turn affecting housing and educational outcomes.

Inequality it seems is something we should seek to prevent at most costs. It would seem something we would want our governments to address.

However, as we look back across the year that was it appears to many of us that inequality in Australia is increasing. This is certainly the view of the Senate Committee tasked with

looking into income inequality. In their report [Bridging our growing divide: inequality in Australia. The extent of income inequality in Australia](#), they come to the conclusion that extreme inequality is increasing, is becoming entrenched and is affecting social mobility.

Quoted in the report, we state that "once inequality starts to restrict social mobility, that is when it becomes far too concrete for us as a society to accept". A lack of social mobility erodes hope. Hope that things can be different, hope that the current situation is not how it has to be.

One of our strategic goals tells us we are "called to speak out for those most disadvantaged". As inequality increases more people live in poverty and their experience moves further from the experiences of those in relative comfort. This disparity in how we experience day to day life in Australia leads disturbingly to less empathy for those in poverty. We see an increasing tendency to blame people for their situation rather than to seek to help.

We live at a time where it is possible for us to walk through our daily life without ever making social contact with someone who is not like us. Our social circles are increasingly homogenous as, with the help of technology, we build them around our interests, our work, our status. Research carried out by Anglicare Australia showed that people on high incomes do not realise how low government benefits and real minimum wage actually are. They assume they are much higher.

A couple of years ago during Lent, Anglicare Sydney tackled this by challenging people in local parishes to live on the Newstart amount (and to donate the difference to Anglicare Sydney). This was a lovely project to build understanding and empathy, and has now been taken up by a number of other Anglicare Australia members.

I shouldn't be surprised any longer at the ingenuity of the design of services, the genuineness of the interpersonal engagement, and the hopeful optimism that Anglicare Australia members bring to their work. This is the shining light in discussions about inequality. Work that is occurring to stop inequality becoming the status quo. Work to ensure that it does not become as accepted in our society. Work to engage people from all communities in this effort.

A society that doesn't care about its members, where people are more internally focussed, where empathy and trust are diminished. This is what inequality leads to and this is a greater poverty for us all.

The other side of that is the work done by the Anglicare Australia network. Work that builds hope and trust, and through that community and a true common wealth.

National Office News

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

The Anglicare Australia office will close for the Christmas break at 3pm on Wednesday 24 December 2014 and reopen on 9am on Monday 5 January 2015.

We wish everyone a very happy and safe Christmas and New Year holiday break, and look forward to working with you again in 2015.

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NATIONAL OFFICE OUT AND ABOUT

There has been no easing of workload during December this year. In fact, it has been one of our busiest months!

As part of an evaluation process by the Department of Social Services (DSS), Executive Director, Kasy Chambers provided feedback on the department's communication and engagement, or lack thereof, with Anglicare Australia and its member organisations.

In early December, Kasy participated in a roundtable discussion on housing affordability, hosted by Minister for Social Service, Kevin Andrews in Melbourne. The discussion was held to assist the government's consideration of housing and homelessness matters in the context of the White Paper processes on Reform of the Federation and Tax.

Kasy was also one of 12 participants at a Competition Policy Workshop in Melbourne, chaired by Professor Ian Harper of the Competition Policy Review. The roundtable was called after submissions delivered contradictory views on the opening of human service delivery to greater competition.

Senior staff from all South Australian members, (St Johns Youth Services, ac care, Anglicare SA and Anglicare Willochra) got together to further explore how they work together. In a great example of collaboration between members, they determined principles to lead their collaboration and ability to collaborate together to explore all opportunities for better services for South Australians, including state-wide tenders.

Policy and Research Director, Michelle Waterford attended an AHURI (Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute) event at Parliament House. [From here to uncertainty: the quiet revolution in Australia housing](#) was opened by Senator Concietta Fieravanti-Wells delivered Minister Kevin Andrews speech as he was called to a Coalition meeting at the last minute. Guest speakers at the event were Chair of the Reference Group on Welfare Reform, Patrick McClure and Professor Gavin Wood from the AHURI Research Centre, RMIT University.

ACOSS held a Business Community for Tax Reform forum in Sydney in December, which Kasy attended. Dr Ken Henry (ex Secretary of Treasury and key author of the Henry Review into Tax Reform) opened the meeting with what he saw as the key context and challenges for Australia over the short and medium term.

Agreement among those present was reached on a few items, including that a simpler tax system is important for all, that affordable housing is something that both sectors will work together on and that the preservation age for superannuation should be raised in closer lines with pension age. All presenters and MC Michael Pascoe (financial journalist and commentator) agreed on one thing – that this group will be very powerful in influencing the tax agenda.

Meetings were also held with Mental Health Australia, the Smith Family and Shelter Australia.

RECOGNISE GALA FUNDRAISING DINNER

Anglicare Australia Executive Director, Kasy Chambers was a guest of Telstra at the RECOGNISE Inaugural Gala Fundraising Dinner held in Sydney mid-December.

Seated on the table of Telstra's Lauren Gamley, General Manager Indigenous Directorate, Chief Sustainability Office, was a marvelous way to experience a who's who in the world of the RECOGNISE and recognition movement.

Both major political party leaders gave deeply thoughtful and moving speeches, though there was disappointment that the Prime Minister did not use the occasion to name a date for the referendum.

The star of the night was Rachel Perkins, daughter of the late Charlie Perkins, who called on her father's memory to overcome her feelings of "inadequacy" and call to us all to commit ourselves to the task ahead. Her rousing speech had the whole crowd committing to their contribution, though hoping it wouldn't take the decades that her father's fight for the 1967 referendum had.

A proud highlight of the night was having Anglicare member agencies singled out by the RECOGNISE staff, for their support of the campaign, their hosting of events, support of individuals and their deep commitment to the movement. When Kasy asked what we could do next, she was told talk to our colleagues in other faith-based welfare provider groups; get them on board in the local communities.

Anglicare SA staff member Sonia Waters, her husband Karl and beautiful daughters shared some of their family's journey via a film and by their presence at the event. Thank you Sonia for all you have done to embed the RECOGNISE movement within the Anglicare Australia network.

ACOSS' DR GOLDIE A MOST INFLUENTIAL PERSON

ACOSS CEO, Cassandra Goldie has been named one of [Australia's 25 most influential people](#) in the Not For Profit sector. Anglicare Australia is a member of ACOSS.

[Impact 25](#) - an honour roll of the country's most influential people, working in and around the social economy – was released in December. More than 3,600 readers voted in Pro Bono Australia's inaugural online poll to choose the most influential people in the sector.

Cassandra joined ACOSS as CEO in July 2010. Previously, she was Director of the Sex and Age Discrimination Unit at the Australian Human Rights Commission. She has worked globally as a human rights advocate, including through the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women and UN Habitat. In 2012, Cassandra was recognised as one of the Inaugural Westpac/Australian Financial Review 100 Women of Influence.



Anglicare member spotlight

PARKERVILLE CHILDREN & YOUTH CARE

One of Anglicare Australia's oldest members is Parkerville Children and Youth Care in Western Australia.

Parkerville protects and cares for the most vulnerable children and young people in the Perth metropolitan area and into the Murchison and Wheatbelt regions of Western Australia, by providing a therapeutic environment that uses a range of professional services.

Parkerville Chief Executive, Basil Hanna says the facts surrounding child abuse and the effects on children are all the inspiration his organisation needs to want to make a difference.

"The facts around child abuse are saddening, disturbing and frustrating and the effects are catastrophic for the individual child," Basil said. "We believe we make a positive difference in a child's life. We also believe the most important job you can do in this world is look after children and young people."

"We are currently we are caring for and providing treatment for some 1200 children and young people who have experienced trauma from abuse. We also care for many of their families. And we could not achieve the positive outcomes we do for children without the support and interest from our community."

Parkerville's core business remains a response to the "high needs child", many of whom have suffered chronic histories of multiple abuse and display a range of trauma-related behaviours.

Programs and services offered at Parkerville range from foster care to school based programs, outreach programs, youth accommodation services, family preservation programs, therapeutic services for families, trauma and assessment treatment and more.

Parkerville history

Parkerville has a long and interesting history (some of which is outlined below).

Sister Kate, born to affluent English parents, had always shown a great deal of interest in helping those less fortunate than herself and, at the age of 22, she joined the Community of the Sisters of the Church where her first appointment was at an orphanage. In 1902, Sister Kate and Sister Sarah travelled with an entourage of child migrants in response to an invitation from the Dean of Perth to establish a girl's school and orphanage.

Two Perth institutions are today a reminder of their pioneering work: Perth College at Mt Lawley and Parkerville Children and Youth Care.

The Sisters set about establishing a school, but were increasingly concerned about accommodation for the growing number of children in their care. Sister Kate had her sights set on establishing an orphanage away from the city.

In 1903, the Sisters found an 18 acre block of land in Parkerville, which they purchased. They believed it was the ideal spot for the children and that the country air would strengthen the constitutions of young children and make them healthier.

The Community of Mundaring was very supportive to the children and the Sisters, but none better than a Mr Walter Padbury, one of Western Australia's greatest colony builders and first Mayor of Guildford. Walter was orphaned at age 11.

In 1905, Walter employed a builder and members of the local community to build a brick house large enough to house up to 40 children. His action was a catalyst for further Community response, with washing machines and other machinery provided, 100 fruit trees planted, and a 6,000 gallon water tank built, along with a baker's oven. A second brick house was built by the locals and a nursery established.

The spirit Walter had inspired in the local community now spread to larger authorities. In 1906, the government provided assistance to Parkerville. The WA State Children's Bill was introduced to Parliament and the work at Parkerville Children's Home was a catalyst for its documentation.



Sister Kate introduced the concept of cottage homes, in which a cottage mother cared for a number of children in a single house. Each child was seen as an individual, with different needs and abilities. Every child had the potential to succeed in life given the right opportunities and environment.

Education of the children followed through from nursery to kindergarten and on to school, which was built in 1909. That same year, a chapel was erected.

From those early beginnings solid philosophies were established and remain the basis of the work conducted at Parkerville Children and Youth Care today.

"Our history is very important to our organisation, because it inspires us to carry on the work that our founders commenced on 5 May 1903," Basil said.



Anglicare Network News

FOUR YOGIE AWARDS FOR ANGLICARE NSW & ACT

Anglicare NSW South, NSW West & ACT won four of the 10 YOGIE Award categories this year, demonstrating the quality of Anglicare's work in youth services in Canberra.

The annual YOGIE Awards, hosted by the Youth Coalition of the ACT and the Community Services Directorate, recognise, celebrate and reward outstanding practice in working with young people. The awards have been running now for 11 years.

Youth and Educational Support Services Outreach Team Leader, Nat Oliver received the Lifetime Achievement Award. Nat joined Anglicare in August 2013 supporting new teams with her depth of knowledge and understanding of the importance of youth work. Nat has worked in the youth sector for 20 years.

The Outstanding Achievement in Youth Participation Award went to the Youth Connections Program. The program has provided holistic support to young people at risk of disengaging with astonishing success. Unfortunately, the federal government will not be funding the program beyond 31 December.

A commendation award for Outstanding Contribution to Young People Award was given to Shyanne Watson. Shyanne is the Youth Education Programs Coordinator and will soon move across to the Registered Training Organisation position. Her dedication to young people at risk has been outstanding.

Excellence in Research and Evaluation was awarded to the Limiting Futures: Youth Unemployment in the ACT report undertaken as part of Anglicare's Anti-Poverty Week campaign. The work of Research and Advocacy Officer, Claire Lloyd-Jones must be acknowledged in this project that has positioned Anglicare at the forefront of advocacy for young people regarding youth unemployment.



LEFT: Nat Oliver receives her Lifetime Achievement YOGIE Award from ACT Minister for Children and Young People, Mick Gentleman MLA.

RIGHT: Research and Advocacy Officer, Claire Lloyd-Jones receives the YOGIE award for



The Youth Connections team with Mick Gentleman (from left) Nat Oliver, Gen Lai (Family & Youth Services Manager), Jenny Kitchin (Director of Community Services) and Jessie Booth.

AC.CARE WINS REGIONAL AWARD

Anglicare Australia member, ac.care (Limestone Coast) was awarded the Community Group Award at the recent South Australian Regional Awards, held to celebrate and showcase the achievements of individuals, groups and organisations that have made significant contributions to regional South Australia.

ac.care was also inducted into the Hall of Fame which is designed to recognise those who have won three or more Regional Awards on different occasions since its inception in 2000.

ac.care Limestone Coast services include foster carer recruitment and support, homelessness, Aboriginal services, community centres, family and children's services, a Family Relationship Centre, low-income housing, adult community education, and financial counselling. The organisation has raised over \$100,000 through donations, and administers \$13 million of government and philanthropic grants.



Pictured from left to right: Michelle Waters (Board member), Brooke Wilson (Family Services), Kelly Gribben (Family, Community & Homelessness Services), Damian Buckley (Territory Manager, Kion Dairy & Drinks for the sponsor Farmers Union Iced Coffee) and Trish Spark (Homelessness Services).

ANGLICARE MEMBERS GET NEW AGED CARE PLACES

Anglicare members are the recipients of new aged care places following the conclusion of the [2014 Aged Care Approvals Round](#) (ACAR), to help meet demand for residential aged care across the country, and support people to stay in their own home for longer.

Our funded organisations are Anglicare Willochra, Benetas, Anglicare SA, Anglicare Sydney and Anglicare Southern Queensland.

The ACAR is the process that allocates funding for new government residential aged care and home care places and for capital grants each year.

CHANNEL COUNTRY LADIES DAY

The annual Channel Country Ladies Day proved popular this year with 150 women gathered in the remote south western community of Betoota, 100 kilometres from Birdsville and close to 1400 kilometres west of Brisbane.

Anglicare Southern Queensland's learning and development facilitator Sue Simpson and Tracey O'Brien headed out with the women to support the Drought Relief Program.

The women replaced their normal roles as farm hands, teachers and cooks on their drought-stricken farms, with classes in photography, painting, singing, and tie-dyeing. There were guest talks from doctors, nurses, poets and business women and quite a bit of pampering from hairdressers and massage therapists. Some of the rural retailers also joined the event to give the ladies an opportunity to enjoy some retail therapy.

Anglicare staff organised a Children's Program to entertain the children while their mothers received some much needed rest and relaxation. Tents were set out for accommodation and the children's program was staged in an unused stables.

"Some of the women travelled for days to be there," Sue said. "And it was quite a treat for the children. Aged from eight months to three years, none of them had ever attended day care and some had never met another child."

"We decorated ginger bread men, played Pin the Tail on the Donkey, decorated photo frames and filled them with polaroid photos of the two days, painted drink coolers for their fathers, made cards and coloured in," Sue said.

The event was captured by Women's Weekly for an upcoming edition and aired on ABC's Landline program on 2 November.

"The experience was one which we will never forget," Sue said. "We hope our contribution as representatives of Anglicare and the Drought Relief Program made a difference to the lives of these unique women who face adversities we can only imagine."



AGL COMMITS TO VULNERABLE ENERGY CUSTOMERS

Anglicare Australia member, Brotherhood of St Laurence, was one of [seven community organisations](#) that publicly welcomed AGL Energy Limited's \$6m commitment to provide greater support for vulnerable energy customers, and urged other energy companies to follow suit.

With its [Affordability Initiative](#), AGL is committing to a range of improvements to Queensland Council Of Social Service, Public Interest Advocacy Centre, St Vincent de Paul Society, South Australian Council Of Social Service, Brotherhood of St Laurence, Kildonan Uniting Care and Financial Counselling Australia.

AGL will commit to improving accessibility of support information for customers, improving the training of employees dealing with energy affordability issues as well as introducing a dedicated phone line and email address for financial counsellors

and community workers to access AGL hardship specialists.

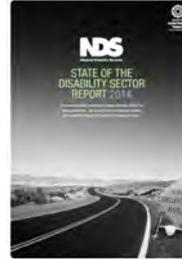
[Download a copy of AGL's commitment.](#)

Research and Resources

STATE OF THE DISABILITY SECTOR REPORT

The first [State of the Disability Sector Report](#) was released by National Disability Services in December.

The report includes: a business confidence index for the disability sector, the first in-depth measurement of how disability service providers are faring during this period of major reform; an analysis of the challenges of implementing the NDIS around Australia; and a broad review of disability policy and trends.



COMMUNITY SERVICES UNABLE TO MEET DEMAND

The largest survey of Australia's community services sector reveals that 80% of frontline agencies are unable to meet current levels of demand with the resources they have.

The [ACOSS survey](#) of almost 1,000 community service workers shows that 43% of services are simply unable to meet the needs of people coming to them for help. A further 37% can 'almost' meet demand. Only 20% reported being able to meet demand fully.

HOMELESSNESS ASSISTANCE ON THE INCREASE

According to a report, [Specialist homelessness services: 2013-14](#), the number of Australians receiving support from homelessness services rose in 2013-14, with more assistance provided to people who risk falling into homelessness due to domestic and family violence and housing crisis.

The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) report shows about 254,000 Australians accessed specialist homelessness services in 2013-14; an increase of 4% from the previous year.

One third of all clients – an estimated 84,774 adults and children - received assistance as a result of experiencing family or domestic violence.

For the first time, the report includes information on specialist homelessness services clients who had a long term health condition or disability that restricted their everyday activities.



ADDRESSING OPPOSITION TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROJECTS

Australian Housing & Urban Research Institute (AHURI) has released a Research and Policy Bulletin on [Understanding and addressing local opposition to affordable housing projects](#).

AHURI says community opposition to affordable housing development can be addressed by increasing transparency and community participation in the planning assessment process, obtaining political support at the local level and improving the public image of affordable housing.

NEW BSL RESEARCH ON EMPLOYER ENGAGEMENT

'Employer engagement' covers a wide range of approaches to assisting disadvantaged jobseekers.

Anglicare Australia member, the Brotherhood of St Laurence, has released a preliminary study, [Understanding employer engagement programs for disadvantaged jobseekers](#), that proposes there is a continuum of approaches from welfare-oriented to labour-market oriented.

It identifies common features of some current programs involving employers in Australia and not-for-profit labour market intermediaries.



CREATING DIGITAL INCLUSION FOR INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS

[Making the Connection](#) is a free e-book of essays commissioned by the Telstra Foundation aimed at identifying the pathways for greater Indigenous digital inclusion in Australia.

As the internet continues to play an increasing role in our lives, the gap between those who are connected and those who are not is also increasing. This is particularly so with many Indigenous communities in Australia where distance, language, education and many other factors add to the complexity of the digital inclusion equation.

The essays show how Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people readily embrace the digital environment yet face a number of barriers too important to ignore when it comes to the opportunities of the digital economy.

Making the Connection records a range of perspectives about the path to digital excellence: from the social media practitioner to the corporate CEO; from stakeholders in remote areas to city locations; from the academic perspectives to those who will make change happen. There are hard-won lessons and questions, but there is a firm focus on the prize - digital inclusion across Indigenous Australia and the important steps needed to get there.



AUSTRALIA A VERY CONNECTED NATION

New [Australian Communications and Media Authority](#) (ACMA) research shows that while internet connections have stabilised, Australians' appetite for data and content is ever-increasing.

Key insights into Australia's rapidly changing communications and media market are contained in the ACMA Communications Report 2013–14.

Australians are using more devices to connect to the internet, with nearly seven in 10 (68%) using three or more different devices. The most popular are mobile phones (76%), laptop computers (74%), desktop computers (67%) and tablet computers (54%).

The amount of data Australians are using is continuing to rise. In the 2013-14 year the volume of fixed-line data downloads increased by 53% - and the volume downloaded on mobile devices rose by a staggering 97%.



UNLOCKING CARE: PRISONER MENTAL HEALTH

New research has found that improved connections with health services for people leaving prison and their families is a critical first step in addressing mental distress and ensuring smooth reintegration into the community.

[Unlocking Care: continuing mental health care for prisoners and their families](#), a report from The Australia Institute, found that the incidence of moderate and severe mental health issues increases after release from prison.

The chance to build a continuous mental health care system, known as 'throughcare', is possible now following steps taken in recent years to integrate health services in many states. Expanding support to include the families of prisoners and those people recently released from prison would maximise the effectiveness of throughcare programs.

NEW APP FOR DEAF, HEARING AND SPEECH IMPAIRED

The [Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency](#) has released a new smartphone and tablet app as part of the National Relay Service (NRS).

The new app, which is now available free-of-charge for Apple and Android devices, will enable Australians who are deaf, hearing or speech impaired to easily access the NRS through the convenience of their smartphone or tablet.

The NRS app is a world first for relay services. It allows users to access multiple call types through the app as well as allowing them to save commonly used phrases to make calls quicker and easier.

The app is available now for download through the [Apple App Store](#) and [Google Play](#).

LONGITUDINAL SURVEYS OF AUSTRALIAN YOUTH

The first annual report of the [Longitudinal Surveys of Australian Youth \(LSAY\)](#), released in December, provides an overview of the LSAY program of work and what it tells us about young people; the findings from the research program, showcasing the suite of work on school effects; and an overview of the products available from the LSAY dataset.

The LSAY program is clearly important as an evidence base for youth policy, providing information on the educational and occupational outcomes of young people up to the age of 25 years.

The longitudinal nature of LSAY allows for more nuanced and sophisticated analytical techniques and these assist in answering important policy or research questions.

This report sets the scene by discussing what LSAY is and how the program of work operates. It then provides an exploration of the many types of data LSAY contains. One chapter is dedicated to the important topic of the effect that schools have on student outcomes and the remainder lists recent published research in which LSAY data have been used.



Government Policy and Information

NDIS QUARTERLY REPORT

The National Disability Insurance Scheme's [Quarterly Report](#), released at the end of November, found trials sites are demonstrating strong progress as more Australians with disabilities receive the support they need through NDIS packages.

The latest quarterly figures include an update on the new trial sites in Australian Capital Territory, the Barkly region of the Northern Territory and the Perth Hills in Western Australia, which commenced on 1 July 2014. The trial of the WA State Government's NDIS My Way model also started on 1 July 2014 in the Lower South West of Western Australia.

These new sites joined existing trial sites in the Hunter in New South Wales, the Barwon region in Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania, which commenced in July 2013.

TRANSITION TO NEW CHSP ARRANGEMENTS

Further details of the new [Commonwealth Home Support Program \(CHSP\)](#), which will begin from 1 July 2015, have been announced.

The CHSP consolidates four home support programs into one:

- Commonwealth Home and Community Care (HACC) Program
- National Respite for Carer Program (NRCP)
- Day Therapy Centres (DTC) Program
- Assistance with Care and Housing for the Aged (ACHA) Program.

Two years of funding will be offered to the majority of service providers with contracts under existing programs that will form the CHSP.

There will be a review of sector support and aged care advocacy activities that are currently funded within existing programs, which will be extended to October 2015. Providers of these services will be contacted in the new year regarding review arrangements.

MICK GOODA REAPPOINTED COMMISSIONER

Mick Gooda has been reappointed the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner.

Mick, a descendent of the Gangulu people of central Queensland, has been an advocate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander affairs for over 25 years and was first appointed to the role within the Australian Human Rights Commission in February 2010.

As Social Justice Commissioner, he advocates for the recognition of the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in Australia and seeks to promote respect and understanding of these rights among the broader Australian community.



NEW MEMBERS OF AUSTRALIAN MULTICULTURAL COUNCIL

New members of the Australian Multicultural Council were announced in December.

The role of the Council will be to advise the government on ways to sustain and support socially cohesive communities, further harness the economic and social benefits of Australia's cultural and linguistic diversity, advise on how to promote social cohesion by fostering the successful integration of migrants into the broad Australian community.

The Council members are:

- Chair: Dr Sev Ozdowski OAM – an Australian human rights advocate and social researcher, former senior civil servant and Human Rights Commissioner and Disability Discrimination Commissioner for the Australian government from 2000 to 2005.
- Dr Bulent Hass Dellal OAM – the non-executive Director and Deputy Chairman of the Special Broadcasting Service (SBS).
- Ms Helena Kyriazopoulos – Access and Equity Unit Coordinator at Alzheimer's Australia and Secretariat of the National Cross Cultural Dementia Network.
- Ms Faiza Rehman – born in Karachi and migrated to Melbourne in 1997; she was a contestant on Masterchef Australia in 2013.
- Mr Vasan Srinivasan – member of the Victorian Government Ethnic Business Council.

COMMONWEALTH SENIORS HEALTH CARD

As part of the 2014-15 Budget, the government will make changes to the [Commonwealth Seniors Health Card](#) (CSHC) from 1 January 2015.

Untaxed superannuation income will be included in the CSHC eligibility assessment and a CHSC holder can go overseas up to 19 weeks and retain their benefit.

On 20 September 2014, income limits for the CHSC were indexed. Indexation will continue annually each September.

Anglicare Events

ANGLICARE EVENTS

The Anglicare Australia Review release
Date: February 2015
National

Anglicare Australia National Conference
Date: 13-16 September 2015
Venue: Canberra

Sector Events

SECTOR EVENTS

[Board Builder Conference 2015](#)

Date: 23 February 2015
Venue: Moonie Ponds, Melbourne

Launch of The Hidden Harm: Alcohol's impact on children and families
Date: 24 February 2015; 10am-12noon
Venue: NSW Parliament House, Theatre, 6 Macquarie Street, Sydney
RSVP: by Friday 20 February 2015 to glenis.thomas@fare.org.au or call 02 6122 8600.

[Pathways for Vulnerable Children Conference: Reforming systems to improve service delivery and quality of care](#)

Date: 17-18 March 2015
Venue: CQ Functions, 113 Queen Street, Melbourne

[Australasian Conference on Child Abuse & Neglect Conference](#)

Date: 29 March - 1 April 2015
Venue: Rendezvous Grand Hotel, Auckland, New Zealand

[Child Aware Approaches Conference](#)

Date: 18-19 May 2015
Venue: Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre

[The Australian and New Zealand Addiction Conference](#)

Date: 20-22 May 2015
Venue: Outrigger Surfers Paradise, Queensland

[No2Bullying Conference](#)

Date: 29-30 June 2015
Venue: Outrigger Surfers Paradise, Gold Coast

[National Op Shop Week](#)

Date: 23-30 August 2015

National

[National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Care's National Conference](#)

Date: 15-17 September 2015

Venue: Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre