

January [View Aspect in your browser](#)

 **In this issue**

From the Executive Director

PEAK BODIES, THE EPITOME OF CIVIL SOCIETY



Kasy Chambers
Executive Director

The new year is traditionally a time of looking forward. However, politically such a lot happened at the very end of December that it is worth looking backwards in time a little first.

The last weekend in December brought a cabinet re-shuffle. Minister Kevin Andrews, with whom we had enjoyed a long association, was promoted to Minister for Defence, and Minister Scott Morrison became the Minister for an even larger portfolio of Social Services, which now includes child care.

Between Monday 22 December and Christmas Eve, organisations received notification of the long awaited Department of Social Services (DSS) tender processes. Traditionally this might be seen as a week to wind down but for Anglicare Australia members (and others), with up to a third of their funding riding on these decisions, an early mark was not about to happen.

As I write on the last Friday in January, with the services to start on 1 March, even those services who were successful with their tenders have yet to find out exactly how successful they were.

Whilst uncertainty about jobs and services, especially at this time of year, is a horrible thing for the staff it affects and for the managers who have to break the news about redundancies, it is truly the disruption of these changes to clients and, worse again, the complete removal of funding for some services that really concerns us.

The full picture will not become clear for some until after 1 March (assuming that that deadline is adhered to). Confusion and uncertainty are only likely to increase as the date draws near and clients need to know where to go for services, or even whether services they need still exist.

This confusion is compounded by the fact that it is still relatively unclear which programs have been completely cut and won't be provided into the future, which ones will be re-funded but perhaps delivered differently, which services will have their funding extended during the transition period, and if any at all will continue unchanged.

Some services that we know have had their Commonwealth government funding removed include peak bodies in housing, homelessness and disability, and possibly in the area of financial counselling.

Of course, these areas and needs have hardly gone away. A Productivity Commission report released just this week found that housing affordability had decreased, with over 40% of those people on low incomes living in the rental market experiencing housing stress. Meanwhile, the imminent start-up of the NDIS will require more advocacy, if anything, as people move onto the scheme and start to understand their obligations and entitlements.

And yet funding to peak bodies in these areas was unceremoniously cut without warning.

Of course the allegation of self-interest of this piece - written by a peak body in support of other peak bodies - is not lost on us. However, this proximity to the issues informs the argument.

It can be easy to dismiss the role of peak bodies as "not providing direct service". However this is short-sighted and costly. Peak bodies have many roles that contribute to "direct service". They support service development and the collection of evidence to improve our understanding of the issues faced by clients using the services.

Seeking to save money by defunding peak bodies that talk to issues of housing, homelessness, disability and financial instability is a false economy. Peak bodies disseminate information, share lessons learnt across service agencies and drive service improvement. Collation of information to inform policy and evidence upon which to base service design is a key role. And one which saves money by driving services which achieve greater outcomes. In short, they provide a conduit between the government and its policy and the service users and providers.

For Anglicare Australia, perhaps the most important role of peak bodies is the prophetic one. They hold a view of society as it should and could be whilst supporting and learning from services that are ameliorating the one that we have, supporting people in need.

We can learn from each other, we don't have to make the same mistakes and we can share innovations. Surely this is the point of society over a group of individuals? Equally, surely then peak bodies for social services are the epitome of civil society?

National Office News

AUSTRALIA DAY 2015 HONOURS LIST

A number of Anglicare Australia members have had staff and volunteers recognised in the Australia Day 2015 Honours list.

Due to the scheduling of this newsletter, those people will be recognised in February Aspect, so as to not miss out on congratulating all of these deserving Australians.

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ROYAL COMMISSION REDRESS AND CIVIL LITIGATION

The Royal Commission has launched a public consultation paper on redress and civil litigation at a public hearing in Sydney today (30 January 2015).

Chair of the Royal Commission, Justice Peter McClellan said that many survivors have a pressing need for assistance, including effective and just redress. For these reasons, the Commissioners accepted that they should consider the issue of redress and make final recommendations in relation to it as soon as possible.

The consultation paper suggests that effective redress must have three elements – personal response by the institution to the survivor, guaranteed funding when needed for counselling and psychological care and a money sum which is paid in recognition of the wrong done to the individual.

A detailed public consultation paper on redress and civil litigation is now available on the [Royal Commission's website](#).

Submissions on the Consultation Paper are due by 2 March. Anglicare Australia will, in the first instance at least, contribute through the General Synod Working Group on the Royal Commission. The final report will be produced by the Royal Commission in the middle of 2015, after hearings on 25 March

Public hearings

Entering into its third year, the [Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse](#) is holding public hearings in regional Australia for the first time.

Last year the government extended the Royal Commission for a further two years. The time extension will see the Royal Commission complete its final report by 15 December 2017.

The schedule of hearings for the next two months is:

February

2-13 – Public hearing: Case Study 22, Melbourne

3-27 – Private sessions in capital cities Melbourne, Adelaide, Brisbane and Sydney

18-27 – Private sessions in regional areas

23-6 March – Public hearing in Sydney

March

3-31 – Private sessions in capital cities Sydney, Perth, Canberra, Melbourne and Brisbane

10-20 – Public hearing in Sydney

17-20 – Private sessions in regional areas

25-27 – Public hearing in Sydney

THE ANGLICARE AUSTRALIA REVIEW OUT SOON!

The Anglicare Australia Review, a reflection of the year told through the eyes and voices of Anglicare clients, staff and communities, is in production and will be widely distributed in mid-February.

The Review details a wonderful set of achievements, innovations and sheer excellent service to vulnerable Australians. The pages also detail the work done by the network to not only support people in need now, but to tell their story, influence public policy and articulate a vision for a different way of being; a different society.

Many images in The Review have been kindly provided by our Anglicare network members, and we thank them for their generosity.

If you would like to receive a copy of The Review, contact Anglicare Australia's Media & Communications Manager, [Skye Owen](#).

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Anglicare member spotlight

MAINTAINING PROFESSIONAL BOUNDARIES

At the end of November 2014, ABC's [Four Corners](#) and The Age newspaper released their investigation of systemic failures at Yooralla, one Victoria's oldest and largest disability providers, to prevent abuse of vulnerable clients.

The Four Corners documentary asked how managers in a major community service provider could ignore "warning signs that staff may have been abusing people in their care, effectively allowing the abuse, including sexual assault, to continue?"

Anglicare NSW South, NSW West & ACT CEO, Jeremy Halcrow (below) tells us about the four reflections he had on watching the harrowing stories exposed by Four Corners.

1. Training and induction are critical, not just for permanent staff, but casuals and even agency staff. Induction programs need to clearly outline the rights of clients as well as educate staff about the agency's values especially the expectation that staff will treat all people with respect and dignity.
2. Risk management or audit systems for monitoring quality must be able to pick up the early warning signs of problems, including minor breaches of policy or procedures.
3. Managers need to create a supportive culture that rewards staff for being accountable rather than discourages them from being transparent.
4. When gaps, errors or failures are revealed, servant leadership means managers take responsibility for driving the response.

It was with these thoughts fresh in my mind that I hosted a training session looking at how to investigate complaints conducted by the NSW Deputy Ombudsman Steve Kinmond. Over 20 Anglicare managers, especially from our Disability and Out of Home Care operations, attended.



The NSW Ombudsman training together with the Four Corners documentary reinforces the importance of Anglicare NSW South, NSW West & ACT's code of conduct for staff which has just been updated. It also led me to reflect on whether we need to have a deeper conversation as an organisation about what constitutes a breach of professional boundaries.

At heart, professional boundaries are breached when a worker puts their own needs ahead of the needs of the person being supported. Sometimes this manifests in serious harm to a client but other times the behaviour may seem more subtle and benign with the worker becoming over-involved emotionally.

It is difficult for an organisation like Anglicare with a broad range of services to come up with an organisation-wide list of actions which definitively comply with professional standards. Early childhood educators must physically interact with the babies and pre-schoolers in their care. An entirely different workplace context confronts our youth services workers.

[Community Door](#) is a training website set up by the Queensland Council of Community Services to help strengthen rural NGOs. Its unit on "working within an ethical framework" helpfully outlines some of the warning signs that may indicate that one of our workers is overstepping a professional boundary. These include:

- developing strong feelings for the client
- spending more time with this client than others
- having very personal conversations with the client
- receiving calls at home from the client
- receiving gifts
- doing things for a client rather than enabling the client to do it for themselves
- believing only they can offer the right services to the client
- physically touching the client.

Some of these indicators are not relevant for all of our services. And for most contexts it is not a one-off event that is a problem but a pattern of behaviour. Furthermore, at Anglicare we pride ourselves on our values including "loving service"

of people in our care, so we don't want the pendulum to swing all the way to cold professional detachment.

This is a tricky subject that may be worth a conversation amongst your staff team about what appropriate professional behaviour looks like in your program.

Special Interest Networks

PEER-TO-PEER LEARNING FORUM IN MARCH

The Anglicare Australia Aged and Community Care Network is holding a Peer-to-Peer Learning Forum on Tuesday 24 March at The Larwill, Parkville, Victoria.

The forum kicks off with a dinner on Monday night (23 March) with guest speaker Rhod Ellis-Jones, principal of a management and public relations agency specialising in aged and community care. Rhod will talk on media, marketing and consumer expectations.

Tuesday's program will draw on the expertise within the Anglicare network, learning from each other, building on connections for future work together and better positioning ourselves for the change that is taking place.

Further information on the forum, for Aged and Community Care Network members, is available from Anglicare Australia Deputy Director, [Roland Manderson](#).

Anglicare Network News

BRIDGING FUNDING FOR FRONTLINE COMMUNITY SERVICES

The government has announced it will provide new bridging funding to ensure continuity of front line community services following the completion of the comprehensive grant tendering process conducted last year by the Department of Social Services.

Providers of ongoing frontline services under the grants program will have their funding extended to 30 June 2015, while new services are properly established and clients are appropriately referred. The extensions do not relate to one-off projects that may have been funded to provide ad-hoc, trial or short term services.

Current funding arrangements for emergency relief and food relief services will be extended to 31 March 2015.

Providers of some other critical community services such as financial counselling, community based mental health, local community service groups and playgroups will be offered extensions to 30 June 2015, to provide time for new services to be established and clients to be appropriately referred.

This includes most organisations with current funding agreements under the following activities*:

- Communities for Children Direct
- Family and Relationship Services for Humanitarian Entrants
- Kids in Focus
- Specialist Family Violence
- Commonwealth Financial Counselling
- Money Management Services
- Family Mental Health Support Services.

Organisations being offered bridging funding will be contacted by the department from 30 January 2015, with letters sent in mid-February to formalise these arrangements.

Organisations wishing to discuss transition arrangements, and other support available should contact the department at grants@dss.gov.au.

* Note: Activities listed for extensions to 30 June 2015 are for former grants programs.

JERRIM SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

Three Anglicare Tasmania employees have been awarded training and research scholarships for 2015.

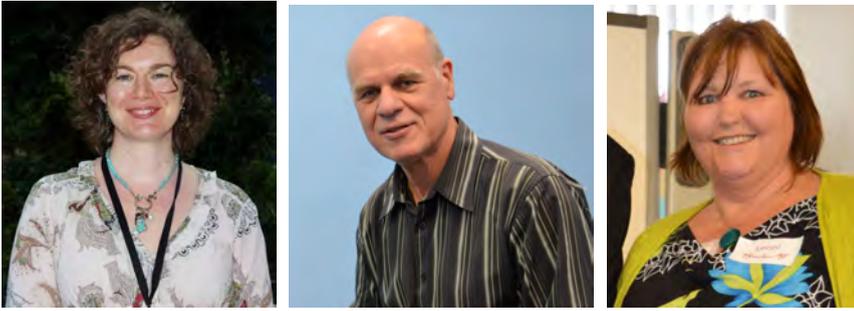
The Jerrim Fellowship is a professional development opportunity that can be used to visit projects or services, attend a conference, do an internship or complete a short course of training.

Leonie Gibb, a Disability Support worker, will undertake training to establish a mentoring program for young people with a disability.

Financial Counsellor, Bert Aperloo will research the hardship policies of energy providers in privatised markets. This will inform Anglicare Tasmania's efforts to prevent people being disconnected from essential services such as electricity and gas.

Haidee Fullard, Area Coordinator for Housing Connect, will investigate programs that work with perpetrators of family violence.

The Fellowship is named in honour of the late Bishop Henry Jerrim, the motivating force behind the establishment of Anglicare in 1983.



Jerrim Fellowship awardees [from left] Haidee Fullard, Bert Aperloo and Leonie Gibb.

PARTNERSHIP HELPS STUDENTS RE-ENGAGE

A recent partnership between [Anglicare NSW South, NSW West & ACT](#), The Food Collective and Jamie's Italian Restaurant in Canberra has given some local year 10 students to re-engage with school, and find their voice as they develop life skills and explore career paths in the hospitality industry.

The eight week program, The Big Spoon, brought people together around delicious, affordable and fresh food, while positively impacting on health, wellbeing and work. Jamie's Restaurant was very supportive of the program as it fits well with Jamie's food philosophy of working with the community to improve food outcomes for people.



Year 10 Canberra students get food preparation advice from one of Jamie's Italian Restaurant chefs.



One of the highlights for The Big Spoon participants was holding 19 metre strands of spaghetti. Students received a unit of attainment in basic food safety at completion of the program.

ANGLICARE WA CEO CELEBRATES TURNING 60

Congratulations to Anglicare WA CEO, Ian Carter AM, on his 'significant' birthday celebrations this month, at the East Fremantle Yacht Club.

Ian has long served not only the Western Australian community through Anglicare WA, but also the Australian community through various boards, including the Prime Ministers Council on Homelessness.

He is a great supporter of the Anglicare Australia network and is vice-Chair of the Anglicare Australia Council.



Anglicare WA CEO Ian Carter celebrates his birthday with his wife, Karen (left) and Anglicare Australia Executive Director, Kasy Chambers.

POSITIVE AGEING WITH BENETAS

Anglicare Australia member, [Benetas](#), prides itself on providing a positive, fulfilling experience of ageing for everyone.

In late December 2014, Benetas celebrated its involvement in the National Gallery of Victoria's Art and Memory program, designed for people with dementia.

Art and Memory involved visits and tours, facilitated by Gallery volunteers, for Benetas clients and residents, with the aim of improving their quality of life through social engagement and artwork.

And in January 2015, 1992 Melbourne Cup winner Sub Zero visited the Benetas St George's residential aged care home.



Benetas residents with volunteers from the National Gallery of Victoria's Art and Memory program.



Benetas St George resident, Robert Jordan, pats 1992 Melbourne Cup winner Sub Zero.

SUE CHRISTOPHERS ELECTED TO FRSA BOARD

At [Family & Relationship Services Australia](#)'s Annual General Meeting late last year, Senior Manager of Community Engagement at Anglicare SA, Sue Christophers was elected into one of the three vacant positions.

The other two positions were filled by, Director at CatholicCare Wollongong, Michael Austin and Director at Centacare Catholic Diocese of Rockhampton, Dr Ricki Jeffrey.

NACA AFFORDABLE HOUSING INTEREST GROUP UPDATE

The National Aged Care Alliance (NACA) set up an Affordable Housing Interest Group at its November meeting last year. Jackie Howard from Anglicare SA is representing the Anglicare Australia network on that group.

The Affordable Housing Interest Group held its first meeting in December 2014, to identify how it could play a role in discussions on the issue of housing for older people in a more focused way.

It was proposed the group identify themes and develop a paper outlining each theme for the NACA meeting in February. The major themes agreed were:

- Social Housing
- Living Longer, Living Better (LLLBB) impacts on safe and secure housing
- Social Housing beyond the disadvantaged
- Highlighting vulnerable people
- Young people in nursing homes
- National housing policy
- National housing strategy
- Linking Home Care services changing and safe housing (linked to LLLBB).

The NACA meeting is in Canberra on 12 & 13 February 2015.

National Awards **Profile**

INNOVATION WINNER - TOP END SUICIDE INTERVENTION



Welcome to the first in our series of profiles on the winners and highly commended of the Anglicare Australia 2014 National Awards for Innovation and Excellence.

These profiles are also featured in The Anglicare Australia Review, which will be released in early February.

The winner of Innovation, recognising a program activity directed to the client, or clients, that yields exceptional results that would not have been achieved otherwise, was Anglicare NT's Top End Suicide Intervention and Awareness Training program.

Suicide is a major problem in remote Indigenous communities.

Following extensive consultations with homeland communities, the Top End Suicide Intervention and Awareness Training team produced a suite of strong visual posters, talking posters and mats that conveyed the meaning of steps for suicide prevention; specifically speaking to the Yolngu people from north-east Arnhem Land.

Anglicare NT has developed a reputation for quality work and resource development that can save lives.

So much so that the NT Mental Health Services want to transfer the learnings from this project into other communities throughout the Northern Territory.

Our judges commended the process of starting with the community and working backwards, and the effort to capture a particular view of the issue and framing the intervention specifically around that.

Anglicare Australia received 15 nominations for Innovation in 2014.



Anglicare NT's Wayalwanga Marika works on one of the program posters.

[DOWNLOAD FULL PROFILE](#)

Research and Resources

RICHEST 1% WILL SOON OWN MORE THAN REST

Validating last month's editorial on inequality by Anglicare Australia Executive Director, Kasy Chambers, Oxfam has warned that the richest 1% of the world's population will have more combined wealth than the remaining 99% of people next year unless the rapid rise of inequality is stopped.

In the lead-up to the annual World Economic Forum in Switzerland, Oxfam released [research](#) on exploding inequality across the globe, a disturbing picture of a rapidly widening chasm between state of the art condos and shantytowns.

Oxfam Australia's Chief Executive Dr Helen Szoke said inequality was holding back the fight against global poverty at a time when 1 in 9 people do not have enough to eat and more than a billion people still live on less than \$1.25 a day.

"The scale of global inequality is staggering, and while there has been talk on the global stage about inequality, the reality is that the gap between the richest and the rest is widening fast," Dr Szoke said.

SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

The [Australian Rechabite Foundation](#) has announced the opening of its small grants program.

The small grants program supports research projects which will contribute evidence for policies to reduce alcohol problems and to community-based initiatives that foster change to reduce adverse effects of alcohol.

Applications close on 2 March 2015. Funds will be distributed on the signing of Funding Agreements by no later than 29 May 2015.

Sample Funding Agreements are available upon request to arfoundation@australianrehabites.org.au

TAX: ARE WE PAYING OUR FAIR SHARE?

The Australian Council of Social Service (ACOSS) has released a new report on Australia's taxation system which examines how fair our tax system is currently.

The first in a series, [Tax: Are we paying our fair share?](#) addresses some of the key questions about the direction that tax reform should take.

The report found that Australia's tax system is not as progressive as is often believed. The overall combination of income and indirect taxes in Australia, including state stamp duties and payroll tax, means that most households pay around the same proportion of their incomes in tax overall.

The federal government has foreshadowed tax reform and Anglicare Australia will be responding and participating.

ANNUAL REPORT ON GOVERNMENT SERVICES

2015 marks the 20th edition of the annual [Report on Government Services](#), providing information on the equity, effectiveness and efficiency of government services in Australia.

This comprehensive report, covering 16 service areas, will be progressively released in seven volumes between 28 January - 6 February 2015.

Reports released to date are Housing and homelessness, and Community Services.

THE FUTURE OF HOUSING FOR OLDER AUSTRALIANS

Aged & Community Services Australia (ACSA) has released a [Position Paper](#) stating that a national affordable housing strategy must be developed by all three levels of government and housing providers to ensure appropriate housing for older Australians into the future.

The Position Paper also calls for concessions and reforms to housing, planning and tax arrangements. It will inform ACSA's advocacy to government, submissions to inquiries and meetings with relevant stakeholders.

SURVEY REVEALS DEMENTIA RESEARCH PRIORITIES

A survey commissioned by the [National Health and Medical Research Council](#) has revealed that finding ways to prevent dementia, improving diagnosis and better care are considered top priorities for future dementia research.

The survey sought views from consumers (people with dementia, their family and personal carers), researchers (new and established), medical practitioners and aged care providers around Australia.

The results will be used to inform the research agenda of the NHMRC National Institute for Dementia Research.

VIDEOS EXPLAIN CHANGES TO AGED CARE

As part of the [Let's talk about changes to aged care](#) campaign, a series of videos have been produced that present real life stories and experiences of older people and carers in residential and home care.

- It's important to talk about aged care explains how planning ahead gives people more choice and control in finding the care that is right for them.
- Changes to aged care describes the specific changes to aged care people should know about.
- Aged care should be decided by the person who knows you best...you talks about how aged care can be hard, but there are a range of services available to cater to everyone's needs.
- Home care and services – Home based support explains how people now have a greater choice and greater flexibility.

- Residential care outlines the range of residential care options to meet people's needs.

YOUNG RESEARCHERS WANTED FOR DEMENTIA CHALLENGE

Australia's best up and coming researchers are being encouraged to apply for [new fellowships](#) to support research into dementia.

The joint fellowships will be funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council and the Australian Research Council. Applications close: 1700 hrs (5:00pm) AEDT, Wednesday 11 March 2015

HARMONY DAY EVENT REGISTRATIONS OPEN

Registrations are now open for this year's [Harmony Day](#) events.

Harmony Day (Saturday 21 March) is Australia's largest national multicultural event. It gives people the opportunity to celebrate Australia's cultural diversity and recognises community groups and individuals who have promoted community harmony.

Visit Harmony Day's social media feeds to find out how to be involved.

Facebook: [HarmonyDay_AUS](#) | Twitter: [@HarmonyDay_AU](#) | Instagram: [@harmonyday_au](#)

AUSTRALIAN HEARING NATIONAL BUS TOUR

An [Australian Hearing National Bus Tour 2015](#) was launched in January, offering free hearing checks and raising hearing health awareness.

One in six Australians currently have some form of hearing loss, with this number expected to rise to one in four by 2050.

Over the course of the year, up to nine of blue and white buses will cover 253 000 kilometres and visit over 1 500 venues across Australia. No appointment is necessary. Australian Hearing provides free hearing checks to any interested adults who visit the bus on the day.

MENTORING OPPORTUNITY FOR NFP EXECUTIVES

National mentoring specialist, McCarthy Mentoring, has launched its [Executive Not-for-Profit Mentoring Scholarship](#) for 2015.

The scholarship is designed to assist a leader within the Not-for-Profit sector progress their career, strengthen their leadership skills, manage organisational challenges and increase the impact of their work in the community.

The scholarship includes participation in a six month Executive Mentoring Program, with a mentor external to the winner's organisation.

The scholarship is open to a member of an executive team reporting to the CEO or equivalent in any Australian Not-for-Profit organisation. Applications close 5pm, Thursday 12 February 2015.

ACNC RELEASES NEW TEMPLATE CONSTITUTION

The [Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission](#) (ACNC) has worked across the sector and government to develop a template constitution to assist small charitable companies limited by guarantee.

The new template is designed to help small organisations that are:

- a not-for-profit organisation that wants to incorporate as a company limited by guarantee and register as a charity with the ACNC
- an existing company limited by guarantee that wishes to become a charity registered with the ACNC or
- an existing company limited by guarantee that is a registered charity and wants to update its constitution.

The template constitution is supported by a detailed clause-by-clause guide, a quick checklist for completing the constitution and a table that sets out which sections in the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth) may be relevant to clauses in the template constitution.

Charities of all types and sizes are encouraged to contact the ACNC if they need guidance and support. Charities can call 13 ACNC (13 22 62) or email advice@acnc.gov.au.

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY KEEN TO WORK

A study commissioned after the government announced the McClure Review into Australia's social security system has found that people with disabilities are keen to work, but some are instead opting for voluntary and unpaid work because they can't break into the labour tight market.

The National Welfare Rights Network partnered with People with Disabilities Australia and Mental Health Australia on the report, to hear from people about their own experiences finding work or studying while managing a serious illness.

[The report](#) reveals the fallacy of the assumption that people on Disability Support Pension don't want to work. It also casts doubt on the presumption that the social security system is the best tool for activation. Many people are already motivated, but the support structures and opportunities are just not sufficient.

ADDRESSING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

An advisory panel on violence against women has been established to address the problem of violence against women at a national level.

Retiring Victorian Police Commissioner, Ken Lay APM, and the 2015 Australian of the Year, Rosie Batty, have agreed to be the founding members of the panel.

Every week in Australia a woman is killed by a current or former partner and one in three women over the age of 15 experience physical violence in their lifetime.

Building on the National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children, the Commonwealth will seek the agreement of all states and territories to prioritise the implementation of a national Domestic Violence Order (DVO) scheme.

And the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) will consider the enactment of a national approach to dealing with online safety and the misuse of technology, so women can be protected against newer forms of abuse.

NATIONAL CAMPAIGN FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

The Foundation for Young Australians (FYA) launched its [Innovation Nation - 1000 Ideas for a Better Australia](#) campaign in January, calling it the first youth-led conversation about innovation and entrepreneurship in Australia.

Innovation Nation gives young people the opportunity to drive Australia's future by sharing their ideas and solutions to some of the country's most pressing problems. Those with the best ideas will have the opportunity to secure \$10,000 in seed funding to turn their dream into a reality.

Ideas can be submitted through the [Innovation Nation website](#) or via Twitter, using the campaign hashtag #ImIN2015. Young Australians, aged 13-29, are invited to submit their idea by 27 March 2015.

'OTHER-ORIENTED' VOLUNTEERS MORE SATISFIED

Researchers at La Trobe University in Melbourne have found that volunteers who are primarily motivated to help others were more likely to report higher levels of well-being, satisfaction, and intentions to continue volunteering than volunteers who were primarily 'self-oriented'.

[Motivations to Volunteer and Their Associations With Volunteers' Well-Being](#) measured self-esteem, wellbeing, self-efficacy, social connectedness, and social trust of more than 4,000 volunteers.

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUSTRALIA APPOINTMENTS

The three-year Chair and Deputy Chair appointments to [Regional Development Australia](#) (RDA) committees across Australia were announced this month.

The 55 RDA committees will provide advice to the government on critical issues affecting each region and are a mechanism to increase access to Australian government programs in their communities.

They will also assist local community stakeholders to develop project proposals and direct them to appropriate public and/or private funding sources—including the National Stronger Regions Fund.

LONG-TERM OUTCOMES OF FORGOTTEN AUSTRALIANS

With the aim of building knowledge about the range of experiences and outcomes of people who have lived in child welfare institutions and other substitute care, the University of NSW has instigated a national research program.

The research project, [Long-term outcomes of Forgotten Australians Study](#), will identify critical points in care leavers' lives and events that have contributed to the development of both positive and negative life outcomes.

It will endeavour to contribute to enhancement of service provision to this study population, refinement of current systems of out of home care and provision of transition services to care leavers, and inform international understanding of the needs of those who have grown up in care.

NEW NATIONAL TRAINING COMPLAINTS HOTLINE

Vocational education and training (VET) students and employers now have a new complaints hotline to report rogue training providers.

The new one-stop-shop hotline is a joint initiative with state and territory governments. The hotline directs complaints to the appropriate Commonwealth, state or territory organisation for help.

The National Training Complaints Hotline is accessible on 13 38 73 (Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm nationally) or via email at skilling@education.gov.au.

Anglicare Events

ANGLICARE EVENTS

The Anglicare Australia Review release

Date: early February 2015

National

Anglicare Australia National Council meeting

Date: 18 February 2015

Location: Canberra

Anglicare Australia Research Network meeting

Date: 24-25 February 2015

Venue: Anglicare WA & Foyer Oxford, Perth

Anglicare Australia Media & Communications Network meeting

Date: 25-26 February 2015

Venue: Anglicare WA & Foyer Oxford, Perth

Anglican Care Network NZ

Date: 18 March 2015

Location: Wellington, NZ

Peer-to-Peer Learning Forum

Anglicare Australia Aged and Community Care Network

Date: 24 March 2015 (dinner PM 23 March)

Venue: The Larwill, 48 Flemington Road, Parkville, Victoria

Anglicare Australia HR Network meeting

Date: 27 March 2015

Location: Sydney

Anglicare Australia National Conference

Date: 13-16 September 2015

Location: 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.

[2nd Australasia Ageing Investment Forum 2015](#)

Date: 4-5 March 2015

Venue: Intercontinental Melbourne The Rialto

[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

[7th Australasian Drug & Alcohol Strategy Conference](#)

Date: 17-20 March 2015

Venue: Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre

[Harmony Day](#)

Date: 21 March 2015

National

[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

[16th International Mental Health Conference](#)

Date: 12-14 August 2015

Venue: QT Hotel, Gold Coast

[National Op Shop Week](#)

Date: 23-30 August 2015

National

[SNAICC \(Secretariat of National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Care\) National Conference](#)

Date: 15-17 September 2015

Venue: Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre