

CALENDAR OF COMMUNITY SERVICE CUTS AND CLOSURES

Due to the Federal Government's ongoing refusal to provide funding for the new award for community worker, that took effect in November 2001, many essential community services have been forced to cut budgets, with a direct impact on disadvantaged clients and communities.

This calendar is a schedule of service cuts and closures that have already occurred, or will occur over the coming months. The end of the financial year will reveal the true extent of the financial crisis in many organisations, so the numbers of services implementing cuts or considering closure will grow dramatically through July.

DATE	CUTS & CLOSURES	SERVICE NAME & LOCATION	IMPACT ON COMMUNITY
December 2001	Loss of 21 hour/week position	Tanderra women's refuge, Hunter region	Reduced service to homeless women and women escaping domestic violence.
Early 2002	Staff freeze 2 full time positions cut and 3 part time positions frozen	Glenray Industries, disability service in Bathurst	Curtailment of individual programs for service users. Severely restricted service provision
20 May 2002	Reduction in after school activities service from 20 hours to 15 hours One outreach centre closed. Staff hours reduced	Central Illawarra Youth Services Inc – Youth Activities Project	Cut of service to 90 young people and families that access 698 units of service per year.
22 May	Reduction from 24 hour/7 day service to weekday only service	Faith Cottage, women's refuge, Newcastle	No 24 hours/7 day crisis service for women escaping DV in Newcastle
22 May	Closed between 10am-3pm, facing loss of crisis refuge function from December 2002	Nick Kearns house, youth refuge, Bankstown	5 less beds and less support for young people in crisis. Only service in Bankstown area for young people.
22 May	Cut 1x parttime worker. Cut 24 hour service	Girls Accommodation Unit, youth refuge, Blacktown	Service will not be able to as flexible and supportive. Will not be able to take young women with high needs
10 June 2002	Forced annual leave of staff then possible closure of service.	Medley Community Sydney, youth refuge, Sydney	6 young people without housing

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17 June 2002	Cut education and prevention programs [6 hours/per week] Cuts to weekend services	Bega Women's refuge	Transport to education programs cut, & approx 8 women & 12 children women won't receive programs. 3 less women & 7 less children able to be assisted on w/ends.
30 June 2002	Reduced staff coverage, case management and services	Caretakers Youth Service, Eastern Sydney	Reduced ability to work with families and provide services to young people.
30 June 2002	Reduction of 1.5 staff hours per week.	Forster Neighbourhood Centre, Central Coast	Cuts to free financial counselling services.
30 June 2002	Reduced capacity, no new clients being accepted, only basic tasks being done, redundancies planned	Medley Community, Casula	Cuts to residential services for homeless 14-18yr olds.
1 July 2002	Reducing staff hours from a fulltime position to a 30hour per week position (4 days a week)	Holroyd Youth Services	No more food and toiletry parcels will be distributed to homeless young people. Casework and support services reduced
1 July 2002	Cut service by 20 hours per week, less casework for clients, then possible service closure	Madeay Youth Accommodation Service, Kempsey	Reduction in services for clients, so that only accommodation is offered with very limited support and assistance.
1 July 2002	Closure one day per week.	Broughton House, youth refuge in Albury-Wodonga	Reductions in service provision including linkages to other services
1 July 2002	Cuts to child care and outreach services	Corner House, women's refuges, Bathurst	Reduced services for women escaping domestic violence.
1 July 2002	Loss of 2 day/week child support worker	Erin's Place, women's refuges, Sydney	Reduced services for women escaping domestic violence.
1 July 2002	Casual staff won't be employed	Essie's Women's refuge, Western Sydney	Reduced services for women escaping domestic violence.
1 July 2002	Reduction in Saturday service hours from 12 hours to 6 hours. Outreach services will be discontinued.	Louisa women's refuge, Queanbeyan	Reduced services for women escaping domestic violence.
1 July 2002	Loss of 17hr/wk staff position	Tweed Shire women's refuge	Reduced services for women escaping domestic violence.
1 July 2002	Loss of 15 hr/wk child support position.	Marian Villa, women's refuge, Sydney	Reduced services for women escaping domestic violence.

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	Possible loss of food provision for residents		
31 July 2002	Closure of one accommodation unit, reduced staff coverage, bed capacity, safety and case management.	Southern Youth & Family Services	6 young women without housing in a region with high existing unmet need.
31 July 2002	Closure of service	Kempsey Women and Children's Refuge	No 24 hours/7 day crisis service for women and children escaping domestic violence in Kempsey
31 July 2002	Reduction of staff, under 16s will no longer be accommodated. Closure of service.	Illawarra Youth Housing Ltd, Wollongong	Less service provision to local young people. Additional pressure on staff.
July 2002	4 SAAP services facing closure or restructuring, resulting in service cuts and staff redundancies	Maist Youth Care – 4 services for homeless young people in Western Sydney,	Reduction or loss of short term accommodation for 14-18yr olds and medium to long term accommodation for young people.
August 2002	Closure	Langunyah House Youth refuge, Griffith	No 24 hour crisis service or exit service for young people in Griffith
28 November 2002	Cut back to outreach services. Cutbacks to court & other support programs [approx. 5 hours per week] No relief staff during annual leave.	Kukuna Cottage Women's Refuge, Griffith [currently a 24 hour service]	No outreach to isolated areas Transport not provided for support programs, with approximately 15 less women & children assisted. Reduction of service from 24 hrs/week during leave periods.
2 nd half of 2002	Closure	Treehouse – youth accommodation and outreach service, Wollongong	No housing for 6 young people. Loss of outreach service – 20 less young people supported.
2 nd half of 2002	Closure of respite care. Day services reduced. High support activities reduced.	Kurrajong Waratah, disability service in Wagga Wagga	Loss of services to people with all types of disabilities.
2 nd half of 2002	Closure of 1 house for people with disabilities.	Community Connections Australia, disability service in Sydney	Loss of residential support service for people with all types of disabilities
2 nd half of 2002	Reduction in staff hours from 5 to 4 days per week	Disability Information and Referral Centre, Eastern Sydney	Reduction in services for people with disabilities.

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2 nd half of 2002	Closure of service.	Civic Residential Services [Supported accommodation services in Southern Sydney]	32 adults with intellectual disabilities will not be housed or receive drop in support.
2 nd half of 2002	Closure of 20% of service	Warrah, disability service in Sydney	Reduction in residential services for people with disabilities with high support needs.
2 nd half of 2002	Cuts to client activities and training	Seton Villa, disability service in Sydney	Loss of services to women with all types of disabilities.
2 nd half of 2002	On call service has already been cut. Possible closure of service.	The Embassy Youth Accommodation Service, Newcastle	Will not be able to take as many clients with high needs. Additional pressure on workers.
2 nd half of 2002	Reduction in staff numbers	FPA Health, Ashfield	Reduction in levels of service delivery
2 nd half of 2002	Tightening household budget, less activities for young people. Already Sole worker service extra worker will not be available except in extreme emergencies	Southern Highlands Youth refuge, Bowral	Less service provision to local young people. Additional pressure on staff.
2 nd half of 2002	Closure of service or replacement of residential unit with outreach.	Young People's Refuge, Leichhardt (auspiced by Youth Accommodation Association)	Change in target group and young women will not have residential service. Reduced service coverage now.
2 nd half of 2002	33 full time jobs lost, all casual positions lost.	Madeay Options Inc, disability service on North Coast	Loss of services for people with disabilities and their families.
31 December 2002	Reduced case management and staff coverage from August	Bridge Youth Refuge in Southern Sydney	Reduced supported accommodation services to homeless 16-17yr olds in crisis.
January 2003	Closure of service	Dunrossil, disability service in Sydney	Loss of services to people with intellectual disabilities.

Funding Crisis in Community Legal Centres

Community Legal Centre	Impact
North and North West	From July 1, 2002 Reduction in solicitor hours has led to closure of outreach to Guyra and Walcha. Reduction by 50% in outreach services to Gunnedah, Narrabri, Morree, Inverell, Glen Innes



Northern Rivers	From July 1 2002 Closing 1 day/week ; reviewing outreach, currently 6 outreach services, likely there will be closures; cancelling 1800 number within 3 months
Hawkesbury	From July 1 2002 Re-grading positions to reduce staff costs; considering reducing office hours, reducing outreach, limiting CLE, and may have to reduce casework.
Blue Mountains	Out-grown premises but can't afford to relocate due to under-funding for number of years; Increasingly high workload & reviewing case load and hours of service.
Illawarra	Loss of position with functions being absorbed by other staff to avoid reducing service hours. Higher workload on fewer staff.
Dubbo	From July 1, 2002 Recent significant reduction in staff hours, reviewing further staff hours, and operating hours for the service; considering reducing outreach services &/or legal advice sessions.
Macarthur	Reduction in staff hours and no outreach due to under-funding over prolonged period.
HIV/AIDS Legal Centre	From July 1, 2002 Immediate reduction in phone advice from 5 days to 2 days, loss of two p/t staff including junior Sol position; reduction in rural outreach; reduction by 30% in casework; 3 CLE Projects on-hold (Legal resources re HIV and Women; Disclosure; Insurance)
Shoalcoast	12 month buffer with Project funds, concern re SACs Award, will likely have to reduce service in 12 months
South West Sydney	Restructured last year in preparation for the new Sacs award. Reduction in staff – Book keeper & Principal sol, and therefore reduction in direct client services. Premises totally unsuitable but have no money to relocate. Cut law library dramatically, only purchasing absolute minimum to run the practice.
Inner City Legal Centre	Under funding being absorbed through reduction in solicitor hours this year. Inevitable reduction in case work to follow. (Advice provided by volunteers). Further CLE reduction, and limited policy work
Hunter	From July 1, 2002 Reduction in solicitor hours; Reduction in Raymond Terrace & Gloucester outreach; New outreach service in Maitland being reviewed re sustainability ; Reviewing hours of service.
Mt Druitt	Outgrown premises, cramped and inadequate. No outreach services. Continuing phone advice sessions but with limited technology. Increase in casework, very little CLE, and law reform activities.

	Insufficient resources to train and support volunteers.
IARC	Currently reviewing service and current staffing. Unable to meet the increasing demand for phone advice particularly from rural areas (20% of calls are from outside Sydney metro area). Large unmet need for caseload assistance due to current funding.
Wirringa Baiya	Case work falling well behind the demand, unable to provide CLE in rural areas, limited in rural outreach due to lack of funding.
Disability Discrimination Legal Centre	Reduction in service delivery. Likely reduction in staff hours in 12 months. Currently reviewing the service.
Broken Hill	Restricted outreach provided due to funding levels
Consumer Credit	50% reduction in advice line hours; likely reduction in staff in near future due to low levels of core funding; threats to viability of the service.

For more information:

Alan Kirkland, Director, NCOSS – 0418 620094

