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1. Sector News and Resources

- **Monitoring poverty and social exclusion 2008**

Published by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, this is the 10th annual report on the Monitoring of Poverty and Social Exclusion in the UK.

Download: [Monitoring Poverty and Social Exclusion 2008](#)

- **The Alchemy Project Feasibility report**

The Alchemy Project Feasibility report documents the findings of the cross -sector consultations undertaken to explore leadership development issues, needs, challenges and strengths within the sector.

Download: [The Alchemy Project Feasibility Report](#)

- **National Compact Consultations – report**

This report provides an initial snapshot of the views of the sector on the development of a National Compact with the Commonwealth Government. It is based on national consultations undertaken by the Australian Council of Social Service (ACOSS), as well as other consultations undertaken by Government.

Download: [Final Report](#)

- **‘How many wheelchairs can you push at once?’ — Productivity in the community services sector in Victoria**

This report argues that further productivity gains are unlikely in the sector without jeopardising service delivery outcomes. Opportunities exist to improve outcomes and productivity but such opportunities require further funding to be realised. The findings of this report are the result of an extensive survey of 198 Victorian NGOs, in-depth consultation with 13 NGO representatives, and analysis of economic theory on productivity.

Download: [‘How many wheelchairs can you push at once?’](#)

- **Good Governance Program for DADHC Funded Boards – survey**

The [Good Governance Program](#) will be a state -wide learning and development program aimed at the voluntary Board members of small to medium NGOs that provide services funded by [DADHC](#) (including HACCC and disability).

This survey is an opportunity to have input into the Good Governance Program.

Complete [the survey](#).

- **“Transition to CHC08” - workshops**

[NSW Community Services and Health Industry Training Advisory Body \(ITAB\)](#) invites Community Services Training Providers, Employers, Enterprises, Peak Organisations and Unions to participate in workshops to explore the implementation of the new CHC08 Community Services Training Package in NSW.

More information available @ <http://www.csh-itab.com.au/#regional>

2. Management Support Unit (MSU):

- **Protecting Human Rights - PIAC Workshops:**

The deadline for submissions to the national consultation on human rights protection is the end of May 2009. The training PIAC is providing in March will be very timely for anyone planning or preparing a submission. The workshops don't assume any prior knowledge and will give participants the tools to lead discussions about human rights discussions.

Dates and locations:

Sydney CBD: 27 March 2009

Newcastle: 19 March 2009

Cost: \$80

More information: kaki@piac.asn.au

Download registration form: <http://www.piac.asn.au/training/trainingcal06.html>

- **Quality Improvement for Management and Governance**

Almost all government funding agreements with NGOs now require organisations to participate in a quality improvement process. Continuous quality improvement is a broad management term that describes a process through which organisations systematically assess and improve their performance along a range of criteria. The Management Support Unit has produced a new information sheet – *Quality Improvement Standards for Management and Governance in the Community Services Sector* – to assist organisations seeking to develop their management and governance processes.

Download: [Information sheet](#)

- **Community Builders**

Communitybuilders.nsw is an interactive electronic clearing house for everyone involved in community level social, economic and environmental renewal. This site contains extensive material useful for governance and management. In particular, refer to the section titled *Get Organised*.

<http://www.communitybuilders.nsw.gov.au/>

- **Authorisation to fundraise**

What do we do if someone wants to raise funds on behalf of our charity?

When an organisation or individual seeks to fundraise on behalf of a charity, they must be authorised, in writing, to collect any donations. Assuming the individual or organisation is not receiving a financial or other benefit, the written authorisation must meet certain requirements. Read more on The NSW Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing web site: http://www.olgr.nsw.gov.au/charitable_hot_topics.asp

3. Insurance

- **Community Resilience Award Open - \$50,000**

The Insurance Council of Australia has announced an award of \$50,000 for an organisation that has a (winning) proposal that can build community resilience, in the face of extreme weather events. The closing date is April 15th.

Read more: <http://www.insurancecouncil.com.au/Default.aspx?tabid=1592>

4. NCOSS ICT Strategy

The NCOSS ICT Strategy Report "*Community Connexions: Addressing the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Needs of the NSW NGO Human Services Sector*" details a three-year integrated strategy to address the current and emerging ICT needs of the sector. The research has revealed a pronounced need for much greater investment in the ICT capacity of the sector, and a compelling case for making that investment now and across the *whole* sector in NSW.

Download: [Executive Summary](#)

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For further information about Sector Development at NCOSS, contact Catherine Mahony, Catherine@ncoss.org.au

Council of Social Service of New South Wales (NCOSS)

66 Albion St, Surry Hills NSW 2010

phone: (02) 9211 2599

fax: (02) 9281 1968

email: info@ncoss.org.au

web: <http://www.ncoss.org.au>

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