



NCOSS HEALTH E-NEWS

April 2012

Volume 18

Welcome to the NCOSS Health E-News

a compilation of health related news, publications, training and events for the community services sector in NSW.

In this edition:

- [NCOSS health policy & advocacy](#)
- [Health news](#)
- [Consultations & submissions](#)
- [Government Policy](#)
- [Sector Newsletters](#)
- [Australian Publications](#)
- [International Publications](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Funding & EOs](#)
- [Conferences & events](#)

About the Council of Social Service NSW (NCOSS)

NCOSS is the peak body for the non-government human services sector in NSW.

NCOSS provides independent and

NCOSS Health Policy & Advocacy

Ministerial meetings on health budget priorities

NCOSS met with Andrew Kirk, Advisor to NSW Minister for Health in March to discuss our health priorities for the 2012-13 NSW Budget. While broadly supporting NCOSS recommendations to strengthen primary and community health and Transport for Health, additional funding appears unlikely this year with the NSW Government looking to make cost-savings across portfolios.

NCOSS met with Kevin Humphries, NSW Minister for Mental Health and Health Lifestyles and his advisors on 3 April to discuss oral health. He acknowledged that the NSW Government can undertake initiatives to improve access to oral health, but emphasized the Commonwealth's funding responsibility. The Ministry of Health is developing a Dental Action Plan that will incorporate the NSW Dental Taskforce recommendations. NCOSS has called for the Taskforce Report to be made public.

Building relationships with Medicare Locals

NCOSS, with our regional peak organisations, is meeting with Medicare Locals to promote local engagement and collaboration with the community services sector. In March NCOSS and Sector Connect met with the South West Sydney ML, who agreed to a [local community forum](#) on 24 April. We also met the Central Coast ML, which agreed to consult with the regional peak, Central Coast Community Council, as they develop their community engagement mechanisms. NCOSS is meeting with the Eastern Sydney ML in mid-April.

NGO experiences of care coordination

NCOSS is seeking case studies for a report on NGOs experiences of care coordination and transfer practices from health services into the community. The report will inform the Ministry of Health's one-year review of the *NSW Care Coordination Policy*. NCOSS is seeking examples from NGOs of both good practice and key issues at the local level. The project is due to be completed by June 2012. The report will be published on the NCOSS website. For more information or to participate, contact: Rhiannon Walker, NCOSS Student (Wednesday & Thursday) on 02 9211 2599 (ext 102) or Rhiannon.walker@ncoss.org.au.

Health Transport Project

NCOSS is researching health transport services at the local level. We are looking for input on issues experienced by customers and service providers in relation to transport to and from health appointments, as well as initiatives supporting effective health transport. NCOSS will be

informed policy development, advice and review and plays a key coordination and leadership role for the non government community services sector in NSW.

www.ncoss.org.au

Missed an issue?

View [past editions](#) on the NCOSS website.

Have your say

Comments? Items to add? Contact Solange Frost, Senior Policy Officer on 9211 2599 ext.130 or Solange@ncoss.org.au

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running two workshops in May for representatives from Local Health Districts and community based transport services to help us develop recommendations to improve health transport. If you have any examples or case studies of current issues in the health transport system, or good practice health transport initiatives, please contact Lilly O'Toole at lily@ncoss.org.au or 02 9211 2599.

Health news

[NSW Mental Health Commission](#)

Legislation to establish the NSW Mental Health Commission has been passed by NSW Parliament in March 2012. The Commission is expected to be established by July 2012. The Commission will provide for a more accountable mental health system and work collaboratively with the government and non-government sectors, and the broader community, to ensure a coordinated and integrated approach to mental health care throughout NSW.

[New Health Network](#)

A new specialty health network, Justice and Forensic Mental Health Network, has been established from the amalgamation of the Forensic Mental Health Network and Justice Health.

[NSW Kids and Families](#)

A new statutory health corporation, NSW Kids and Families, will be established on 1 July 2012 to give effect to the Garling Inquiry recommendations. NSW Kids and Families will champion the health interests of children and young people in all settings and across health services for babies, children, adolescents, mothers, parents and families. This corporation will be chaired by the Hon Ron Phillips.

IPTAAS administrative changes

EnableNSW, a unit of Health Support Services which currently administers PADP, is to take over the central administration of the Isolated Patients Travel and Accommodation Assistance Scheme (IPTAAS). NSW Health is hosting a stakeholder consultation on the proposed changes to streamline program administration.

NSW Health NGO Advisory Committee (NGOAC)

The Health NGOAC met on 27 March 2012. The Ministry of Health advised that the organisational restructure and lack of internal capacity has delayed implementation of the NGO review recommendations. There has been no progress since the last meeting in November 2011. NCOSS has written to Dr Rohan Hammett, the new Deputy Director-General to seek a meeting about the NSW Health NGO Program and the NGOAC.

Consultations & submissions

[Towards an Aboriginal Health Plan for NSW](#)

NSW Ministry of Health

Consultation has opened on the development of a new 10-year plan to improve Aboriginal health. Submissions on the draft discussion paper are open until 22 June 2012.

Youth Health Survey 2012

NSW Association for Youth Health

A survey by the peak body for youth health, NAYH, for people working in the youth health field in NSW. The survey is open until the end of April.

2012 Carer Survey

Carers NSW

This biannual survey is for anyone in NSW who provides unpaid care and support to a family member or friend who has a disability, mental illness, drug or alcohol dependency, terminal illness, chronic condition or who is frail. The results inform Carers NSW policy and advocacy work. The survey is open until 30 April 2012.

ANPHA Stakeholder Engagement Strategy

Australian National Preventive Health Agency (ANPHA)

Comments are sought on how ANPHA engages with others to inform action and advice, build strategic partnerships and to support disease prevention and health promotion efforts throughout the Australian community. Closing date for submissions is 4th May 2012

Health Professional Prescribing Pathway (HPPP) Project

Health Workforce Australia (HWA)

HWA is developing a framework for a nationally consistent workforce approach to the prescribing of medicines by health professionals (other than medical practitioners). People who have had an adverse medicine-related experience or who take medicines to treat a mental illness are wanted to participate in paid, confidential research that will inform the project. Contact Murray Benton on 02 9091 8018 or mbenton@incaconsulting.com.au.

Australian Community Sector Survey

Australian Council of Social Service (ACOSS)

The ACOSS Australian Community Sector Survey (ACSS) is an annual survey of community services across Australia. It is the only major survey about the sector. It is a key advocacy tool in highlighting unmet demand for services and key challenges facing organisations trying to address them. The survey closes on 30 April 2012.

National Anti-Racism Submissions

National Anti-Racism Partnership

Call for submissions to inform the development of the National Anti-Racism Strategy to prevent and reduce racism. A [Discussion Paper](#), [summary paper](#) and [online survey](#) is available. Submissions close 11 May 2012.

New Long Term Master Plan for NSW

Transport for NSW

Submissions on a [Discussion Paper](#) that will inform the development of the New Long Term Master Plan for NSW is open until April 27.

Government Policy

[NSW Healthy Culturally Diverse Communities Policy](#)

NSW Government

The new NSW Health Policy and Implementation Plan for Healthy Culturally Diverse Communities, 2012- 2016 will be launched on 26 April 2012. The Plan includes strategic directions to improve the health status of culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) groups including women, emerging communities, refugees and people living with a disability.

Sector Newsletters

- [Consumers Shaping Health](#) (April 2012), Consumers Health Forum of Australia
 - [intouch](#) (April 2012), Public Health Association of Australia (PHAA)
 - [NAYH E-news](#) (March/April 2012), NSW Association for Youth Health
 - [The Mind Reader](#) (March 2012), Mental Health Association NSW & ARAFMI
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Australian Publications

[Understanding and Working with NSW Medicare Locals](#)

General Practice NSW

The fact sheet provides advice to external groups on the best possible way to work with NSW Medicare Locals.

[Preventive Health and Promotion Framework for Medicare Locals and Preventive Health and Health Promotion Toolkit](#)

Australian General Practice Network (AGPN)

The framework and toolkit have been developed to assist Medicare Locals in meeting their obligations around preventive health and health promotion (PH&HP), which exist as part of their wider responsibility for population health planning and primary health care co-ordination.

[Activity Based Funding and Mental Health – Issues Paper](#)

Mental Health Council of Australia (MHCA)

Issues paper on the application and impact of Activity Based Funding (ABF) to mental health that will be implemented on 1 July 2013.

[Causes of Death, Australia, 2010](#)

Australian Bureau of Statistics

Statistics on causes of death for Australia, together with selected statistics on perinatal deaths.

[Cancer incidence projections, Australia 2011 to 2020](#)

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

This report presents detailed projections of cancer incidence in Australia for 2011 to 2020. It shows the number of cases of cancer diagnosed in Australia each year is projected to rise over the next decade for both

males and females.

[Estimating the future burden of cancers preventable by better diet and physical activity in Australia](#)

The Medical Journal of Australia

Estimates the number of cancers to be diagnosed in 2025 that could be prevented solely due to changes in diet and physical activity.

[Risk factors contributing to chronic disease](#)

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

This report examines negative health determinants, known as risk factors, and provides insights into their prevalence. It examines the most common combinations of risk factors in the community, and highlights the potential for lifestyle behaviour changes that may lead to health gains for individuals and the population. It provides the most comprehensive picture to date of Australian lifestyle behaviours that can contribute to chronic disease.

[Chronic Condition Management Strategies in Aboriginal Communities](#)

Flinders University and the Aboriginal Health Council

Final report of a project to evaluate, and where possible develop and demonstrate effective and transferable chronic condition management strategies in Aboriginal communities, and to generate research evidence about their processes, impact and health outcomes.

[Diabetes: the silent pandemic and its impact on Australia](#)

Diabetes Australia

Report by the Baker IDI Heart and Diabetes Institute investigates why growing numbers of Australians are diagnosed with this disease each year.

[Oral health and use of dental services: Findings from the National Dental Telephone Interview Survey 2008](#)

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Findings from the national dental survey. While nearly 60% of adult Australians visited the dentist in the year prior, one in three say they avoid or delay dental visits because of the cost.

[Medical workforce 2010](#)

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

This report presents information on the medical practitioner workforce, based primarily on estimates derived from the National Health Workforce Data Set: medical practitioners 2010, the first in this new series. The data set contains information on the demographic and employment characteristics of medical practitioners who were registered in Australia in 2010.

[Think Tank Report on Healthy Built Environments](#)

Healthy Built Environments Program, UNSW

A report summarising the HBEP's 'End of Year Strategy Meeting' has also been completed. This report summarises ideas for collaborative research projects, engaging a broader range of professionals in healthy built environments work and ways to improve how we communicate the healthy built environments message. The full report is available here.

International Publications

[A New Way to Talk About the Social Determinants of Health](#)

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

This document shares a way to create more compelling, effective and persuasive messages that resonate across the political spectrum.

[Continuity of care for older hospital patients: A call for action](#)

The King's Fund

This paper focuses on those aged 70 years and older with multiple health problems and explores how continuity of care affects them and the people closest to them.

[Public Reporting on Health Care Quality and Costs](#)

Health Affairs

Do report cards and other measures of providers' performance lead to improved care and better choices by consumers? This paper asks if public reporting of health provider performance leads to better consumer choices and improvements in care.

[Roadblocks to Reform: Beyond the Usual Suspects](#)

Centre for Health Economics and Policy Analysis

This paper looks at the failure of healthcare system reform in 20 countries. Three main explanations have been offered for why such reforms are so difficult: institutional gridlock, path dependency, and societal preferences.

[Primary Care and Public Health: Promoting Integration to Improve Population Health](#)

Board on Population Health and Public Health Practice (BPH)

Identifies a set of core principles for the integration of primary care and public health.

[Ethical and Economic Perspectives on Global Health Interventions](#)

IZA Policy Paper No. 38 March 2012

This paper suggests how contemporary global institutions shaping the development, pricing and distribution of vaccines and drugs may be modified to deliver large improvements in health.

[Symposium: Comparative Approaches to Reducing Health Disparities](#)

2012 Annual Review of Public Health (Volume 33) April 2012

Compendium of articles on health inequities.

[Towards Health-Equitable Globalisation: Rights, Regulation and Redistribution. Final Report to WHO Commission on Social Determinants of Health](#)

Globalization Knowledge Network

Describes a number of key 'clusters' of pathways leading from globalization to changes in SDH, provides an inventory of potential interventions and provides a list of the specific research synthesis papers.

Resources

[e-Learning resources on healthy built environments](#)

Healthy Built Environments Program, UNSW

Online Education Resources with links to lectures, forums and educational videos on a variety of healthy built environment topics, such as food security, climate change, the importance of social interactions for health, the health benefits of physical activity and healthy planning.

[New national website on eating disorders](#)

Australian Government

The new website is an online resource for information on eating disorders, where to get help across Australia, and features an evidence-based clearinghouse for research and resources on eating disorders

Funding & EOIs

[Community Relations Grants](#)

Community Relations Commission

Funding for NGO initiatives that encourage participation and partnership in the community, including new and emerging communities, intercultural and interfaith projects, community mentoring programs and significant events. Closing date is 27 April 2012

[Endeavour Foundation Endowment Challenge Fund 2012 Grant Round](#)

Endeavour Foundation Endowment Challenge Fund (EFECF)

Grants are available for non-profit organisations to enhance engagement and social inclusion for people with a disability (especially intellectual disability), and for researchers and postgraduate students undertaking research into significant issues for the Australian disability sector. Applications close 8th May 2012.

[Teleweb ITA](#)

Department of Health and Ageing

Invitation to Apply for Funding (ITA) to suitably qualified organisations to deliver telephone counselling, self-help and web-based programs. The ITA will close on 15 May 2012

[Health and Medical Research Program Grants](#)

National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)

Grants scheme to support researchers to pursue broad based, multi-disciplinary and collaborative health and medical research relevant to better health. Applications close 6 June 2012.

[Health Development Grants](#)

National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)

Grants Scheme for research at the early proof-of-principle or pre-seed stage to support the commercial development of a product, process, procedure or service that if applied, would result in improved health care, disease prevention or provide health cost savings. Applications close 11 July 2012.

Conferences & events

[Understanding the Mental Health Act](#) *NEW*

Various dates
Sydney

Free 1-day workshop for workers by New South Wales Institute of Psychiatry on the Mental Health Act. Upcoming dates are: 3 August; 7 September; 5 October; 13 November; 14 December. Registration essential: contact [Paula McGaulley](#) at NSWIOP.

[Performance Management and Appraisals](#) *NEW*

24 April 2012
Sydney

NCOSS Management Support Unit and Jobs Australia present a free, half day seminar for board members and managers of services funded by the Ministry of Health and/or Aging, Disability and Home Care. [Registration](#) is essential.

[2012 NCOSS Sector Development Conference](#) *NEW*

3 May 2012
Sydney

This year's theme is The Buck Stops with the Board: Management Committees as the Employer. NCOSS offers a limited number of complimentary registrations and travel subsidies to enable small rural and regional NGOs to participate in the conference.

[Moving the National Oral Health Agenda Forward in Australia](#) *NEW*

26th April 2012, 6pm-8pm
Sydney

Forum on oral health reform hosted by the Public Health Association of Australia (NSW Branch). Key note presentation is Greens Senator Richard Di Natale.

[ANZSGM Annual Scientific Meeting 2012 Dementia: Managing Not to Forget](#) *NEW*

2-4 May 2012
The Hilton Hotel, Sydney

The theme encompasses the journey of a dementia patient from prevention, early symptoms and diagnosis, current and emerging treatments, to managing advanced disease.

[Living Well Conference](#)

2-3 May 2012
Sydney

Mental Health Association conference for mental health professionals, practitioners, carers and for people who have recovered from, or experience mental illness

[Sir Michael Marmot on Health Equity - What Works](#) ***NEW***

8 May 2012, 7.00pm
Canberra

Sir Michael Marmot, one of the world's leading public health experts talking on health equity. [RSVP](#) by Monday 30th April 2012.

[NCOSS Regional Visits](#) ***NEW***

15-17 May 2012
Wagga Wagga, Deniliquin and Albury

NCOSS will be holding consultations in the Riverina to gather community feedback about the key social issues in regional NSW.

[National Medicines Symposium](#)

24-25 May 2012
Sydney

Hosted by the National Prescribing Service (NPS).

[13th National Immunisation Conference](#)

19-21 June 2012
Darwin Convention Centre NT

Hosted by the Public Health Association of Australia for a wide range of professionals engaged in immunisation.

[Australia's Health 2012 Conference](#)

21 June 2012
Canberra

This national conference of the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare will highlight the latest authoritative information on the health of Australians, and the Australian health system, in the context of health reforms.

[Leading Learning: The Purpose, Role & Practice of Leadership Development](#) ***NEW***

25-30 June 2012
Sydney

A powerful & innovative masterclass for OD, HR, Leadership Development and Change practitioners, developed and delivered by The Benevolent Society's leadership centre, Social Leadership Australia

[The Third People's Health Assembly](#)

11 July 2012
Cape Town South Africa

The People's Health Movement (PHM) is a global network bringing together grassroots health activists, civil society organizations and academic institutions from around the world.

[Summer School: Social Determinants of Health](#) ***NEW***

9 - 13 July 2012
London UK

The multi-disciplinary course by the UCL International Institute for

Society and Health will be presented by experts in the field, including Professor Sir Michael Marmot, through lectures, workshops, and group discussions.

2012 Primary Health Care Research Conference

18-20 July 2012
Canberra

7th Annual Family Planning NSW Conference 'Raising the Bar' *NEW*

17-18th August 2012
UTS, Sydney

Join Family Planning NSW and a panel of health professionals for two insightful days of workshops, activities and panel discussions on reproductive and sexual health

2012 Population health congress

10th - 12th September 2012
Adelaide Convention Centre

The second Population Health Congress, held every 4 years, will focus on population health in a changing world. The Congress is being organised and sponsored by the four leading professional population health organisations: the Public Health Association of Australia, the Australian Health Promotion Association, the Australasian Epidemiological Association and the Australasian Faculty of Public Health Medicine.

16th Annual Chronic Diseases Network Conference 2012

20-21 Sept 2012
Darwin

Two-day workshop, *Promoting Healthy Childhood – preventing Chronic Conditions*, will explore the range of factors during the early years that contribute to chronic diseases later in life, and strategies to address these factors.

Australian Healthcare & Hospitals Association 2012 National Congress

24 – 27 September 2012
Sydney

The Quantum Leap - Measurement: redefining Health's boundaries?
Is the joint conference of the AHHA and ACHS

4th Australian Rural and Remote Mental Health Symposium

Adelaide
19-21 November 2012

The conference theme is *Putting People First*.

Australia's Sexual and Reproductive Health: A Call To Action

20-21 November 2012
Melbourne

The Public Health Association of Australia, in partnership with Sexual Health and Family Planning Australia host the first Australian conference on sexual and reproductive health.

