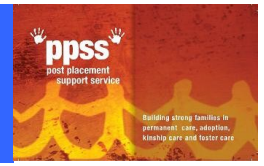




e-News from the FCAV/PPSS Carer Information & Support Service November 2010 edition



Welcome to the November edition of e-News. Here is an update on key issues and upcoming events.

FCAV / Prime Focus Consulting Conference 27 & 28 October 2010

Thanks to everyone who attended the Conference themed The Good, The Bad & The Ugly. There were **230** attendees at the conference and FCAV sponsored **90** of them. Thanks to Minister Neville and Bernie Geary for starting the day off, Magistrate Peter Dotchin from the Children's Court of Victoria was a highlight as he provided some valuable insights into the children's court and Robyn Miller and Helen Barnacle gave us much to think about on day one. Lanai Vasek and her experience of foster care, and Kathy Walker on education, kept the audience enthralled on day two.

The following quote exemplifies the overall feedback received about the event: "As a foster carer, I found it thoroughly refreshing to be able to network with other carers, as well as others from child protection and other agencies. I deeply valued the opportunity to have access to such a broad range of topics presented, allowing me to follow personal interest topics, presented by amazingly experienced presenters." *Jody Crisp*

Upcoming Training/Conferences/Workshops

Dr. Dave Ziegler is coming to Victoria for 3 sessions!

Dr. Dave Ziegler Presents : The B.R.A.I.N. Workshop Changing difficult children from the inside out

Although there are hundreds of theories to work with difficult children, a new approach may be the best yet because it incorporates research, brain science, and treatment approaches that have been tested and found successful with the most difficult children. The B.R.A.I.N. Workshop will give participants the understanding and the tools to be successful with children who do not respond or improve with usual approaches.

Mildura : Grand Ballroom, The Quality Hotel, Seventh Street

15th November

9:30am—4pm

RSVP to MASP : 03 5021 6500

Ballarat: Mercure Ballarat Hotel, 613 Main Road

24th November

9am—4pm

**RSVP to Sonja on 9415 6066 or
Sonja@primefocusconsulting.com.au**

Melbourne: Treacy Centre, 126 The Avenue, Parkville

26th November

9:30—3:30

**RSVP to Sonja 9415 6066 or
Sonja@primefocusconsulting.com.au**

Cost \$95 for Carers & \$150 for Workers (exclusive of GST)

Competition: FCAV e-News Bonus!

FCAV is sponsoring 5 people to attend Dave Ziegler in *Melbourne on 26 November*.

**Please register your interest to
competition@fcav.org.au by the**

17 November 2010

Good Luck

Hold the Date—FCAV Regional Training is set for 2011

Gregory Nicolau presents: Take a Walk on the Wild Side—Communicating Change

Swearing, violence, withdrawing, tantrums, lying are but a few behaviours traumatised children and adolescents use to tell their 'story' and stay in control. Developing communication skills that enable a worker or carer to translate the meaning of the behaviour and make it transparent, promotes healing. Further it assists the child or adolescent to create a 'language' that enables those around them to more easily understand what it is they need.

Mark Your Calendar:

> 8 February 2011—Gippsland Region, Italian Australian Club, Morwell 9am-4:00pm.

>5 March, Warrnambool >15 March, Horsham >17 May—Shepparton > 19 May—Wodonga

For more details visit the FCAV website at www.fcav.org.au for more details as they come to hand!



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Snapshot—What's happening at FCAV

Annual Report: We recently completed our annual report for 2009/2010. See our annual report for reflections on the 2009/10 regional visits, carer snapshots, updates on information sheets and a summary of the Caller Information and Support Service (CISS.) [Click here](#) or visit www.fcav.org.au and navigate to About Us > Governance and Resource tab

FCAV/PPSS Information Sheets—Progress Update: Work is well underway on our info sheets 'Caring for Aboriginal children and young people.' and 'Supporting gay and lesbian carers'. Work has also commenced on information sheets that will outline the welfare to work Centrelink reforms and inter-country adoption.

Remember, there are a several information sheets, covering a variety of useful guides, such as Quality of Care, and these can be accessed by visiting our website at www.fcav.org.au

New Board Members: A very warm welcome to our new elected Directors of the FCAV Board. **Karen Dobby, Joan Graham and Andrew Kauler.** We're also excited to have **Sophie McNamara and Catherine Young** who have been co-opted onto the Board.

State Election News

FCAV is excited to see child welfare is a major election issue!

Victorian Labour Government has released their policy document "A Fairer Victoria" and have promised to play an active part in protecting our most vulnerable children. The promise includes more financial resources to FCAV, as well as, establishing a new Kids First Fund to provide financial assistance to children in care to participate in activities.

The Coalition have announced to support Victorian students with an expanded welfare officer plan. It has also announced an early intervention plan to break the cycle of abuse. This initiative includes young people in residential care, leaving care, and a long-term study assessing the impact of out-of-home-care on children.

Concession Cards at a Glance

There is a great link to 'Concessions at a glance' that provides a comprehensive outline of concession cards available for you to assist you financially. DHS has a great website that allows you to quickly find the best concession card for your needs. <http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/concessions> Concession cards at a glance and what they offer can be viewed at:

http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0019/403561/dhs-concessions-at-a-glance.pdf

Competition Winners

Well done to the winners of the **Spring Cleaning** competition prize won by:

- ◆ Joe Hartland
- ◆ Angie Pickering
- ◆ Tracey Cocks
- ◆ Lorraine Maddocks

Winners of the Bryan Jeffrey's **My Big Brain Book** are:

- ◆ Dennis Clelland
- ◆ Andrea Failla
- ◆ Joanne Gregg
- ◆ Bronya Monro-Stevens

Congratulations

The **winner** of the Kwik Kopy USB stick in the last months newsletter is the lucky...

- ◆ Francis Quinlan

Christmas cards and hampers



Get your Christmas cards sorted!

www.christmascards4charity.com.au/create

Get your Christmas hampers here

www.charityhampers.com.au/create

Send an e-card

www.charityecards.com.au/create

create
FOUNDATION

Creating Opportunities for Children & Young People in Care