

# Network Noise

The  Newsletter

April/May 1996

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... and a whole lot more!

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## State youth affairs conference — only four months to go

Planning for the State Youth Affairs Conference has been in full swing for several months now and the conference dates and venue have been finalised.

**Bardon Professional Centre  
Brisbane  
5-7 September 1996**

There have been some important developments in the organising of this year's conference. In the past, the Youth Bureau, now a division of the Department of Families Youth and Community Care, has partly funded the conference as an avenue for the professional development for the youth sector. In order to meet the professional development needs of the sector, previous conferences have included workshops on a broad range of issues affecting young people in Queensland. Some of these workshops have reflected government policy.

This year, as a condition of receiving partial funding for the conference, the Youth Bureau requires that the entire

State Youth Affairs Conference reflects the government's policy priorities, specifically, family values, early intervention and prevention. The manager of the Youth Bureau will have final approval over the conference program and other conference material.

YANQ supports the government's attempts to meet the needs of families and to develop appropriate policies around prevention and early intervention. We also believe that there are issues which are not currently reflected in government policy which should be addressed at the conference. As a result, we have met with representatives from the Youth Bureau to discuss our

*continued page 3*

# Network Noise

is the bi-monthly newsletter  
of the Youth Affairs Network of  
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## CONTRIBUTIONS ARE WELCOME

Ring, write or fax  
your latest news on

- workshops
- youth programs
- training events
- projects
- positions vacant
- change of address
- latest resources

to Judith Wootton, YANQ  
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Fortitude Valley 4006  
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## COPY DEADLINE

June/July issue  
21 June 1996

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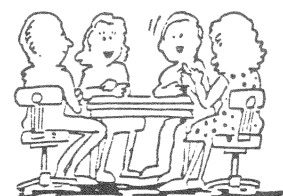
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The views and opinions  
contained in this publication do  
not necessarily represent the  
views of the Youth Affairs  
Network of Queensland.



## Coordinating Committee Update March–April 1996

YANQ is gearing up for the state youth affairs conference which will be held in Brisbane on 5 to 7 September 1996. This year, the venue is the Bardon Professional Centre, and conference planners expect the theme to focus around change and youthwork practice. The conference year is always a hectic one for staff, and as in previous years, the policy forum and conference will be run back-to-back. For more information, see the cover page article.

YANQ's review is in its final stages, with the draft report currently being reviewed by the steering group. A final report will be ready in the next few weeks.

Some recent staffing changes have occurred on the Murri and Islander Network for Young People project. Tracey Tully has left the position of Project Coordinator, and interviews are taking place on 2 May, with a new Coordinator expected to be appointed by mid-May. In the meantime, Emma Kerslake and Elaine Aorangi, the administration workers with the project, have been working overtime to keep things running.

Penny Carr, YANQ's Policy and Research Coordinator, has taken six weeks leave and is currently in Thailand! Peter See and Tony Kelly, who are both experienced workers in the youth sector, are currently sharing the locum position.

### YANQ Coordinating Committee

Jenny Gilmore (Chair)	University of Queensland
Diane Forsyth (Vice-chair)	Youth Service Providers, Cairns
Tony Parsons (Treasurer)	Youth and Family Service, Logan
Sue Wright (Secretary)	Individual
Lyn Anderson	University of Central Queensland
Catherine Black	Zig Zag, Young Women's Resource Centre
Maria Leebeek	Brisbane Youth Service
Rachel McLaren	Individual
Dermot Ryan	Queensland AIDS Council
Ben Thomson	Individual
Wallis Westbrook	Youth Sector Training Council

### Decisions made March–April 1996

That YANQ, in conjunction with the Murri and Islander Network for Young People, installs a phone line, to enable access to the Internet.

That the Coordinating Committee sign the service agreement with the Youth Bureau which outlines the terms and conditions of grant money for the state youth affairs conference.



# Young people's participation forum

YANQ's working party on young people's participation recently held a youth forum to discuss participation in government, education, youth and community services and YANQ.

The forum, held at Grunt Youth Space (in Fortitude Valley) on 29 April, was attended by 19 young people. The forum was part of the Department of Families, Youth and Community Care's Youth Advisory Forum Process, which aims to give young people an opportunity to tell the government and community about their issues.

At first not everyone knew each other so we were all a bit nervous and shy. Energy and enthusiasm levels picked up as we got to know each other by telling stories about what we had for breakfast (and what a mix it was — everything from burger rings to coco pops). Megan Williams, who was the facilitator, and other people from the participation working party talked about what the forum was for and why the government funds them. We also got to know a bit about YANQ and what the working party does.

The rest of the forum was mostly broken down into small groups so you could really have your say and others listened to you so the discussion was good. We told each other about times when we felt that our participation was important and also bad experiences we'd had. It

was really interesting to find out that many people had similar experiences and opinions.

Most people said that participation had to be your own choice and that you needed freedom to not participate. Participants also felt involvement had to be relevant and interesting to young people.

We pigged out on free pizza for tea and they even had vegetarian for once!

After tea we got into small groups again and talked about education, government, youth services and organisations and YANQ. Many, many things were discussed about how things could be better and what we could do about it. For example, one group suggested that we should have regional school councils so that young people can have a better say in what happens. Another group thought that young people should be recognised and included as part of the youth sector and not separate.

Forum participant Minna Berry will be going to the State Youth Advisory Forum to represent our group with other young people from around Queensland.



At the end we filled in some forms about what we thought about the forum so we could have our say. Everyone also got a t-shirt designed and screen printed by one of the people from the working party so that we could remember the forum.

All of this information and other things that came out during the forum will be included in the forum report available from YANQ soon.

Overall, the forum was a good chance to have your say. I just hope that it doesn't stop there.

**A forum participant**

## from page 1

concerns. There appears to be no room for negotiation in relation to the conference's overall themes.

We have, however, decided to continue to organise the conference this year. While we would value the autonomy to structure the conference program in a way that reflected both the priorities of government and the issues identified by the youth sector, we must accept the limitations placed on us this year. This has certainly been a difficult decision for YANQ.

We do wish to maintain good working relationships with the present government and to ensure our continued survival as an

organisation. It is our hope that workers in the field appreciate our dilemma and recognise that this decision will hopefully allow us to continue our work as an effective lobby group for youth issues, young people, and service providers throughout Queensland. We have every confidence that we will be able to creatively use the conference themes to provide another high-quality conference which meets the field's professional development needs.

But we need your input and participation. So far, YANQ has received a very positive response to the recent call for suggestions for program content and issues which

should be addressed at the conference. We strongly encourage individuals and groups to present workshops and encourage discussion on topical issues for the youth affairs sector. If you have any suggestions for possible workshops, presenters or speakers, please give us a call.

Further information and registration forms will be forwarded during the next few weeks.

**Sandra Fields**  
Network Development Coordinator

For further details, contact Sandra Fields at YANQ on (07) 3852 1800 or 1800 177 899.

# WORKING PARTY UPDATES

## Rural and isolated

The rural and isolated working party conducted a phone link up on 17 April to further develop the agenda for the face-to-face meeting scheduled for 29 May in Brisbane. The face-to-face meeting will provide an opportunity for rural and isolated service providers to meet with Queensland government representatives in an attempt to secure cross-departmental funding for youth programs. Other issues to be raised at the face-to-face meeting include the viability of a mobile youth service and the future of the Rural Youth Information Service under the new government.

A further phone link up is scheduled for 15 May. If you wish to be a part of that meeting or would like more information, please contact Peter See at YANQ.

## Education

The education working party is currently developing its goals with further work to be done by the policy and research coordinator prior to its next meeting at 3.30pm on Tuesday 21 May 1996 at YANQ.

Issues the working party is proposing to address include: developing interagency links with schools; suspensions and exclusions of students; lack of alternative programs; more participation by parents and students in schools and decision making processes; convergence of vocational education with general education; and English as a second language programs. These issues and possible actions to address them are yet to be finalised and prioritised by the working party.

Representatives will also meet with the Education Department in early May to discuss how the working party can be involved in two of the Department's projects. These are a pilot program to place guidance officers in three schools over a 12-month period to work with homeless young people, and a project to look at the issue of suspensions and exclusions in schools. More information on that meeting in the next issue.

**If you would like any further information about these working parties, please call Peter See at YANQ on (07) 3852 1800 or 1800 177 899.**

## Young people's participation

Busy, busy, busy!!!

The participation working party has been flat out organising a forum on participation by young people. The forum has been organised as part of the Youth Bureau's Youth Advisory Forum process. Further information about the forum is on page 3 of this issue.

**If you would like any further information about this working party, please call Sandra Fields at YANQ on (07) 3852 1800 or 1800 177 899.**

## YANQ's networking agenda

Many thanks to those members who responded to our article in the January edition of *Network Noise* calling for responses from interagencies, networks and regions who would like YANQ to visit them during the year.

While all dates have not yet been finalised, the following can be used as a guide until the end of June for centres outside the south-east corner.

10 May	Maryborough
16 May	Longreach
17 May	Winton
June	Mt Isa
	Cloncurry
	Cairns
	Townsville
	Mackay
	Rockhampton

Sandra Fields, our Network Development Coordinator, will attend May meetings. Both Sandra and our NESB Youth Issues Project Coordinator, Susan Ferguson, will be networking during June.

**If your organisation would like to meet Sandra or Susan during these visits, please contact them at YANQ on 1800 177 899 or (07) 3852 1800.**

## YANQ review

Collection of organisational information for YANQ's review is now complete and a draft report has been written.

The evaluators are in the final editing process and the review report will be completed in the following few weeks. So far we have received plenty of positive feedback and some constructive criticisms. Thank you to all those people who freely gave of their time to participate in the review.

Sandra Fields  
Network Development Coordinator

# Recreation centres program continues to hang (by a thread)

Uncertainty continues to surround the fate of the Community Recreation Centres (CRC) program. The new Minister for Emergency Services and Sport, Mick Veivers, advised YANQ that the program will be reviewed by a new Sports Advisory Council along with a range of other programs and services administered in his portfolio.

In a positive move, Mr Veivers indicated in a letter to YANQ that he supports the recommendations of the former Clem Jones Advisory Council to fund a range of projects under the program and that officers from his department will be overseeing the implementation of these projects.

The Clem Jones Advisory Council has been disbanded by the Minister with

appointments to the new Sports Advisory Council expected to be made shortly.

YANQ suspects that the CRC program will be abolished because it is a Labor initiative — a move which will not augur well for the disadvantaged communities that were potential beneficiaries of these multi-purpose recreation facilities.

YANQ will be encouraging the Minister to think again about this program and look to improve it by better targeting and assessment processes, integrating the program with recurrent program support funds and providing for direct youth representation on advisory bodies.

Peter See  
A/Policy and Research Coordinator

## Victims launch seven-point plan to address child abuse crisis

A seven-point plan to address Australia's national child abuse crisis was launched on 21 April by the Australian Association of Young People in Care, the national voice of young people in the care system.

Young people in care called on state and territory governments and the commonwealth to adopt a seven-point plan to address problems in the child welfare system at a meeting of commonwealth/state ministers in Sydney on 22 April.

Mr Andrew O'Brien, AAYPIC national spokesperson, said, 'Victims of abuse have the right to receive the best possible services and support in order for them to rebuild and move on with their lives.

'The situation of children and young people who have or are being abused will not improve until there is a coordinated approach to the problem.'

Ms Jan Owen, national coordinator of AAYPIC and author of the book *Every childhood lasts a lifetime* — which revealed widespread on-going child abuse of children in the care system last month stated, 'This seven-point plan is a call to action made to each and every government to protect

children and young people who are already in care, and those who enter care in the future.

'This plan provides a framework for discussions by all Commonwealth, state and territory community service and welfare ministers when they meet for the first time since the election of the coalition government. These ministers have a great opportunity to start with a clean slate, to adopt a fresh approach to this complex problem of child abuse.'

Ms Owen outlined AAYPIC's seven-point plan:

- 1 Full implementation of the commonwealth/state child abuse prevention strategy
- 2 Appointment of a Commonwealth Commissioner for Children to the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission
- 3 Establishment of independent statutory authorities in each state/

territory to deliver child protection services

- 4 Increased assistance to consumer bodies so the voices of children and young people are heard and their needs addressed; and provision of counselling and support services to ex-wards
- 5 Collaboration by all states and territories to ensure child welfare legislation is uniform across the country
- 6 Realistic and adequate funding of government departments and non-government agencies that provide care to abused children and young people
- 7 Involvement by the whole community — this is not a problem governments can solve alone.

For full copies of the seven-point plan or for more information, contact Jan Owen at AAYPIC on (07) 3217 1362 or 015 173 485.

# DSS two-year waiting period for migrants

The new Coalition government's extension of the waiting period for migrants for social security payments is currently causing a great deal of confusion and anxiety in migrant communities.

The Brisbane Migrant Resource Centre has been contacted by many concerned migrants seeking clarification of the new policy. The federal government has taken the unusual step of implementing this new policy before it becomes law through parliament.

All migrants who enter Australia on or after 1 April 1996 are affected by these changes and will have to wait two years before being eligible for Job Search Allowance, New Start Allowance, Sickness Allowance, Partner Allowance, Youth Allowance, Mature Age Allowance and Parenting Allowance.

## What are the implications?

In reality, no-one who enters

Australia wants to be a social security recipient. Everyone wants a job. There are many reasons why migrants have particular difficulty finding employment, such as lack of local experience, non-recognition of overseas qualifications and skills and lack of familiarity with the Australian labour market.

If people are not able to find work they will no longer have the safety net of being able to receive income support but will have to rely on community welfare agencies like the Migrant Resource Centre which already have to 'do more with less'.

For young people, this means a lack of access to the youth training allowance or job search allowance. For those

who want to be reunited with family members through family reunion, reunification may be impossible because they will not be able to financially support relatives.

What sort of message is the government sending to the rest of the world? It seems clear from these new policy initiatives that Australia is using the 'capacity to pay' as the primary measure of who is and who is not able to migrate to Australia, which is contrary to the egalitarian lifestyle and social structure migrants are attracted to when they choose to build a new life in Australia.

**Rita Prasad**  
Coordinator

Brisbane Migrant Resource Centre

## Young people and discrimination

### Forum presented by the Queensland Anti-Discrimination Commission

The Queensland Anti-Discrimination Act makes discrimination unlawful. Many people make complaints of age discrimination but very few of these are received from young people. Yet we know that many young people experience discrimination every day, which affects their access to accommodation, services and employment.

The Commission has been told that young people and youth workers do not have information about anti-discrimination legislation and how to make complaints.

This forum for youth workers is the first step in the Commission establishing better links with youth workers and young people.

The forum will be an opportunity for youth workers to:

- Meet the Queensland Anti-Discrimination Commission
- Obtain information about how anti-discrimination legislation works and how young people can use it.
- Provide advice to the Commission about key discrimination issues affecting young people
- Suggest strategies for better links between the Commission and young people.

**When: Thursday 16 May 1996 from 2.30pm to 5.00pm**

**Where: 'The Museum', Yungaba, 120 Main Street, Kangaroo Point 4169**

The forum is free. For catering purposes, could you please register by phoning Melissa Ridgway at the Queensland Anti-Discrimination Commission on (07) 3844 6099 by Wednesday 8 May 1996.



# NESBYIN update...

## YANQ receives funding for Regional NESBYINs

In the last issue of *Network Noise*, this update outlined a submission to the Australian Youth Policy and Action Coalition (AYPAC) for funding to develop regional NESB youth issues networks in three of Queensland's regional centres. Since that time, YANQ has been notified by AYPAC that our application was successful.

The project will take place over the next year. It aims to identify people in Cairns, Townsville and Mount Isa who have an interest in developing regional networks which would advocate around NESB young people's needs. These three groups would ideally be linked with the existing NESBYIN in the south-east corner of the state. These three regions were identified in the submission because representatives of the NESBYIN have visited previously and we hope to build on the contacts already made in those areas. YANQ will employ three consultants across the state to identify key stakeholders, consult about establishing a local NESB youth issues network and work out how local networks could link to the existing NESBYIN.

Susan from the existing NESBYIN will be travelling north with Sandra in June to let people know more formally about the project and to see if there is any interest in these areas in being part of it. If not, further consultations would occur in other regions of Queensland about setting up the project there. If you would like more information about this project, please contact Susan at YANQ.

## Youth forums

Hussein Ahmed, a social work student at YANQ, has been working with Snot Arts and Saba Abrahams (a

representative from the African community) to run youth forums with young people from Somalia, Ethiopia and Eritrea. The forums are part of the Youth Bureau's Youth Advisory Forum process. Last year, there was concern among network members about the fact that not many young people from non-English speaking backgrounds had been involved in this process. This year, the Youth Bureau has taken on board our concerns and has put effort into consulting young NESB people.

The forums have used community arts techniques (video, tape recordings etc.) to document the issues raised by the young people. About 15 young people have taken part in the forums. It is a good beginning for familiarising young people from these communities with the forum process. There have been several difficulties in organising the forums: a short time to organise the forums means we have not been able to include as many people as we would have liked; the idea is completely foreign to the young people and it has taken a lot of time to explain what it is all about without raising unreal expectations; all the young people involved have arrived in Australia as refugees and some young people invited to attend were highly suspicious about the process (i.e. many have had extremely negative experiences with government and could not participate as they felt wary about what their involvement would mean).

There will be a further report in the next *Network Noise* to let you know more about the results of this project.

## Visit by the Minister of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs, Phillip Ruddock

The Minister is currently conducting consultations with the electorate.

YANQ was asked to participate in a consultation in Brisbane recently. A crucial issue raised at the consultation was the change to Social Security eligibility requirements for newly arrived migrants. (Please see Rita Prasad's article on page 6 for further details about these changes.)

NESBYIN is extremely concerned about the effect this policy change will have on NESB young people living by themselves or with some of their family members.

The Federal government has stated quite clearly that it is committed to a policy of non-discriminatory migration. However, this policy is discriminatory. Only those people who are able to afford to support other family members over a two-year period will be able to be reunited with their families. Clearly, this will not be possible for a young person living in Australia by themselves. Research indicates that family networks provide most support for members in crisis. If young people cannot sponsor and support their families for two years, young people miss out on the support they need to settle in this country.

Members of the Network asked the minister to clarify the Government's policy in relation to this issue. The end result was that the Minister asked communities to give him further information about the effects it would have on young people. If you would like to give Susan any specific examples about the disadvantage this would cause young people, please call her at YANQ.

Susan Ferguson

**For more information about NESBYIN, contact Susan Ferguson at YANQ on 1800 177 899 or (07) 3852 1800.**

# Murri network update

'There was movement at the station', and, obviously, Aboriginal Affairs is one portfolio feeling the impact of that movement. Hopefully, contributions by the government to the welfare sector will not be affected, and Murri and Islander organisations will not suffer a 'backlash' effect through funding cuts. The needs of indigenous young people and the community have not changed and we must constantly remind the government of this!

Despite these events, the Murri and Islander Network for Young People is determined to ensure the project continues. We have recently completed consultations in the Far North with a few days spent in Cairns, the Tablelands and Townsville. The consultations covered a large area and a wide variety of organisations and services. We thank all those who were hospitable and helpful during our visits.

Our regional trip was aimed at setting up relationships between the Aboriginal and Islander community and the Murri and Islander Network for Young People. It also acted as an excellent platform for identifying needs and promoting our upcoming forums in Townsville on 13 and 14 May, and Brisbane on 3 and 4 June. The forums are aimed at all people who work with Murri and Islander young people. These forums will address issues such as the role of the indigenous youth worker, the development of a network of information dissemination and support for workers, the development of best practice models for dealing with service delivery to indigenous young people, personal and professional issues affecting youth workers such as professional training and health issues (stress!), investigating funding/grant requirements and reporting mechanisms, and applications for government grants and submissions.

Consultations with organisations indicate that there is an awareness of the problems confronted by young people in their area. Many are willing to act immediately to rectify the situation, or at least contribute to, or assist with, the support agencies and services available to young people in

the community. In addition, our informal consultations revealed that major problems were similar across organisations. The major indigenous youth problems identified were lack of self-esteem, unemployment, lack of positive role models and negative media portrayals of Aborigines and Aboriginal organisations.

Although these appear to be deeply embedded social problems, any movement in the 'right' direction can help broaden avenues of opportunity for our children's children. We were constantly reminded by the elders 'that the children of today will be the elders of tomorrow. For the continuation of our culture we must ensure that our children are constantly encouraged and nurtured, thus ensuring the development of themselves and the survival of their culture and dreaming.'

Many may see this as an idealistic view. However, the project hopes, by assisting in the development of indigenous youth workers and the services that they provide, that workers will acquire appropriate skills and knowledge to address the problems that indigenous young people face today.

Work is also advancing on our database. The database will provide information about organisations that service indigenous young people at any level in the state. Should you require information about registering on our database, the youth workers' forums or about our regional consultations, please contact either Elaine Aorangi or Emma Kerslake on 1800 177 899 or (07) 3852 1800.

Emma Kerslake  
for the Murri and Islander  
Network for Young People

## Scholarships and awards for 1996 — Trust for Young Australians

### Travel scholarships

will be available for young people aged 15 to 25 whose education has been limited, who have been unemployed for all or most of the time since leaving school, and who are showing outstanding skills development during their participation in a government work experience and/or training program.

A travel scholarship enables a young person to gain valuable work experience with an organisation overseas during a four-week trip. The work experience will be related to the work experience and/or training undertaken by the scholarship winner in Australia, and will be structured to meet the specific training and development needs of the participant.

### Youth leadership awards

will be available for young people aged 15 to 25 who have been working in a community youth program for at least six months in paid or voluntary work, and who are acting as good role models for other young people and making a valuable contribution to programs for young Australians.

The awards are designed to encourage young people who show leadership abilities. The awards recognise the potential of these young people and the contribution they can make to Australian society. A youth leadership award enables a young person to gain valuable experience of different models of youth programs in two overseas countries during a four-week trip.

## NOMINATIONS

The closing date for nominations for both travel scholarships and youth leadership awards is 30 September 1996. Nomination forms will be available from May 1996, from the Trust for Young Australians, 357 City Road, Southbank Vic 3006  
☎ (03) 9645 7977 Fax (03) 9690 9317.

# New drug and alcohol program for young people

The Alcohol and Drug Foundation — Queensland has launched a new program called Drug and Alcohol Response Teams (DARTS), to help young people address issues associated with alcohol and drug abuse.

DARTS aims to empower young people by providing information, resources and support, enabling them to plan and implement their own short-term community action projects.

The DARTS program will provide young people with skills to run programs for their peers with the support of parents, youth workers, support workers and youth groups.

Funded by the Health Promotion Council through Queensland Health, the DARTS program also provides

outlines of project ideas. These include health information stalls, boozeless cruise projects, poetry workshops, a go-cart derby and a community mural project.

To help communities understand the DARTS program, project officers Kerry Campbell and Jane Lightbody are travelling around Queensland presenting information sessions.

Important program strategies include community training and project development. Three written resources

have been produced to support these strategies: an instructor's manual (to be used in the delivery of the community training session), a community training manual (workbooks for community training participants), and a DARTS handbook (a 'how to' manual to be used in running DARTS projects).

For further information on the DARTS program, contact Kerry Campbell or Jane Lightbody on (07) 3831 4094.

## The Queensland Youth Alliance

The Queensland Youth Alliance was formed in August last year, at a special meeting of the major youth organisations called to discuss the previous government's community values policy.

Several meetings were held to draw up guidelines for the alliance and to share the aims and objectives of the organisations who were interested in forming the alliance. These were finalised in November 1995 and the alliance was formally announced at a press conference on 10 March 1996.

The aims of the alliance are:

- To foster better understanding and cooperation among members of the alliance, and between the alliance and the government to enhance the delivery of the alliance's services to the community.
- To pursue issues/activities of mutual interest for young people, provide a forum for the exchange of ideas and an opportunity for networking.
- To gain and foster recognition of the important role that members of the alliance play in supporting young people and the community.

Members of the alliance are:

- The Scout Association of Australia (Queensland branch),
- the Girl Guides Association (Queensland Australia),
- The Duke of Edinburgh's State Awards Committee,
- Girls Brigade,
- Boys Brigade,
- Queensland Police Citizens Youth Welfare Association, and
- Surf Lifesaving Queensland.

Other organisations whose aims and objectives align with the alliance will be invited to join and this process has commenced, with four to receive invitations in the next few weeks.

The alliance chairperson for 1996 is Mr James Priest, Chief Commissioner of the Scout Association, with secretarial support provided by the Queensland Scout Centre. The Chairperson will be elected annually.

For more information about the Queensland Youth Alliance, contact Mr James Priest, c/- Scout Association of Australia on (07) 3870 7000.

## VIRTUAL VALLEY! (OR BRUNSWICK AND BEYOND)

Virtual Valley is a project for young people (around 16–30 years) who live in and around Fortitude Valley (or just seem to spend a lot of time here).

By using the Internet, Virtual Valley will give you the chance to tell the world about your 'home'. You could learn how to use a digital camera, how to treat and manipulate your shot digitally, and how to place the image you create onto the Internet.

The skills gained in VV could be especially useful to you if you ever need to promote yourself or your work — in this town, across this continent, or around the planet...

**Call Contact Youth Theatre for more information on (07) 3216 1399, or come and see us at Grunt, 192 Brunswick St, Fortitude Valley 4006**

# Community Administrators Network (CAN)

With increasing accountability requirements and other demands on administrators in the community sector, a support group for these workers is long overdue. A group of administrators met recently to discuss what such a group would do, and how.

The outcomes from this meeting were both productive and exciting.

It was agreed that all community sector administrators were welcome. Representatives from community centres, youth groups, women's groups and disability groups have attended the two meetings held so far.

Participants at the initial meeting identified common concerns, regardless of the specific group they represented.

Issues and topics identified for further discussion were:

- insurance requirements of community organisations and the relevance of policies provided by insurance companies
- lobbying funding bodies for salaried administration positions, at a realistic level, given the multi-

skilling required to work in community organisations

- identifying an accounting package for computers which is relevant to the reporting requirements of community organisations
- training in accounting practices used in the community sector
- the need to keep up with current changes in legal and taxation requirements of community organisations
- developing an administrators' relief work pool

Participants also identified the need to have time to seek support from other administrators. Because these workers are generally office-based, there are skills required in supporting other members of staff and being able to develop a working

relationship with workers whose work focuses are completely different.

We are hoping that CAN will provide an avenue for administrators to share issues and talk about their work. It is hoped that meetings will be held on a monthly basis and a guest speaker or discussion group will be organised each month as issues arise.

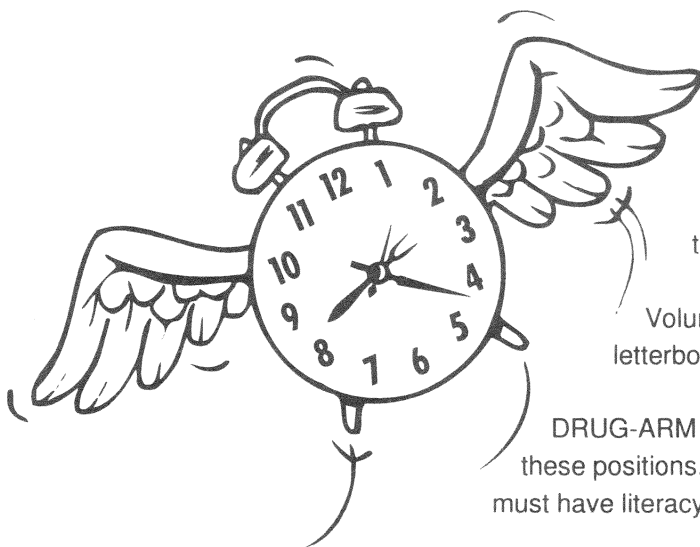
Administrators are welcome to come to those meetings that they feel are relevant to their particular need.

For further information, please contact:

Nerida Roberts at Zig Zag on (07) 3843 1823, Carmel Taylor at Community Living Program on (07) 3862 1052 or Kitty Carra at Rock'n'Roll Circus on (07) 3891 6022.

## Next meeting of the Community Administrators Network:

24 May 1996 from 9am to 11am at the Quakers Centre, 10 Hampson Street, Kelvin Grove 4059  
Contact: Nerida Roberts, Zig Zag Young Women's Resource Centre, 575 Old Cleveland Road, Camp Hill 4152 ☎ (07) 3843 1823



## Do you have a few hours to spare?

DRUG-ARM needs volunteers who can donate their time on an occasional basis.

Volunteers are required for mailout processing and for letterbox dropping.

DRUG-ARM requires no previous experience or training for these positions. However, volunteers must be able to walk and must have literacy and numeracy skills.

Please consider helping DRUG-ARM in its vital ministry of welfare to those affected by the use of alcohol and other drugs and education and awareness to the wider community.

If you can help, please call the Volunteers Coordinator on (07) 3368 3822.



# Family violence education program

Through funding from Commonwealth resources, a program has been established to deal with the issue of family violence and violation in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities throughout Australia.

Each state and territory has been given funds to set up teams to implement a program out of organisations and agencies designated for that state. The program is to be known as the 'National Family Violence Intervention Program', and the Queensland office has been established in Cairns.

Recommendations for a program dealing specifically with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people came from a national enquiry into violence conducted in 1989-90. Each state or territory will operate in a manner that is culturally and spiritually appropriate to that state and funding has been set aside to cover travel, accommodation and workshop facilitation expenses.

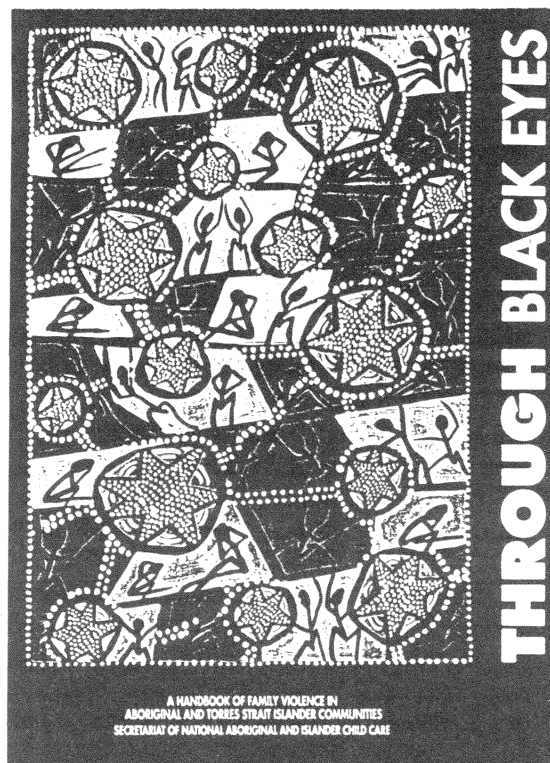
## Aim

The project aims to help reduce the incidence of family violence in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

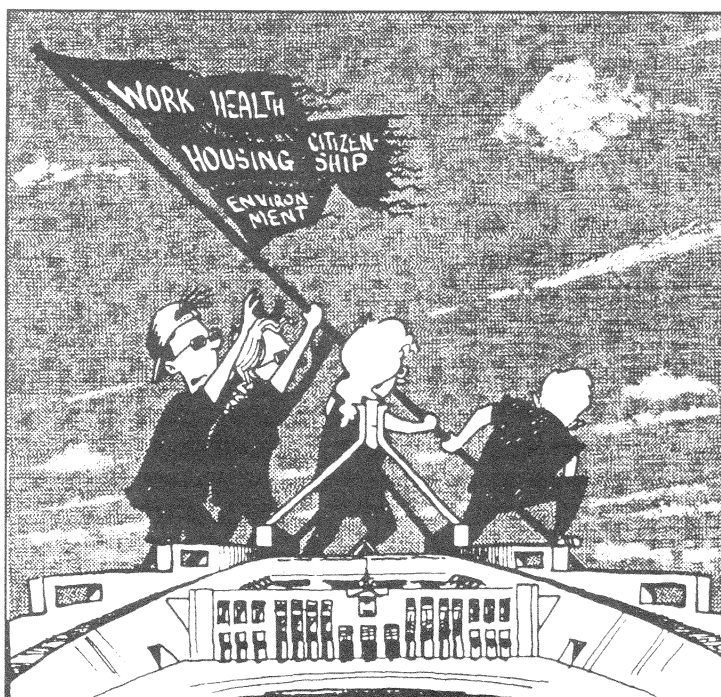
## Objectives

- To raise the awareness of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to approaches for addressing family violence
- To train representatives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in the skills required to address family violence within a community development context
- To provide on-going support for these Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to address family violence.

The team for Queensland will consist of one team leader and three community-based trainers and can be contacted at Yuddika Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation, PO Box 1111, Cairns Q 4870  
☎ (070) 511 388 or fax (070) 514 426.



A resource kit is available from the Queensland team. It includes a publication called 'Through Black Eyes', a handbook on family violence in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.



## Young People

## Staking Their Claim

AYPAC Youth Gathering '96

September 30th -

October 2nd 1996

Melbourne (venue T.B.A.)

A conference for young people and those who work with young people.

# 1996 Queensland Housing Conference

Four years after the inaugural state housing conference, Queensland Shelter is looking to build on developments in the sector and run another three-day conference. The program is being developed through consultation with peak housing groups, the state government and housing workers.

**When:** 15–17 August 1996  
**Where:** Mercure Inn, Townsville (formerly Colonial Gardens Resort)  
**Who:** This conference will be relevant to housing workers, community support workers, academics, students, public housing tenants, community housing operators, private tenant groups, housing advocates, government staff and housing industry decision-makers.

If you would like any further information, please contact Queensland Shelter

**☎** (07) 3397 5188  
**Fax** (07) 3397 5272  
**email** shelterq@peg.apc.org  
**Mail** PO Box 393, Stones Corner Q 4120

## What is Shelter and what does it do?

Queensland Shelter is a community-based organisation committed to working towards a fairer, more just housing system. It looks at the causes of homelessness and inadequate housing in the current system of housing provision.

The organisation acts as a channel of communication between community groups concerned with housing issues. It helps develop a coordinated approach to housing issues by the community sector, amplifying the community's voice on these issues.

Shelter also has access to a wide range of material on housing through its national networks. We see our role as disseminating this information throughout Queensland with newsletters, and by meeting specific requests from community groups.

## Family Planning Queensland — Certificate Course

This course is suitable for enrolled nurses, teachers, social workers and other education and health workers. Courses A and B together comprise the Family Planning Certificate Course. Certificates are issued after satisfactory completion of Course A and B and an examination. Participants not requiring the certificate can opt to do either Course A or B.

### Course A — Reproductive Health

This course enables participants to gain a comprehensive knowledge of fertility, fertility control and sexual health, as well as family planning philosophies and procedures.

**Dates:** 11–14 June 1996  
**Times:** 9.00am–4.00pm  
**Cost:** \$200  
**Closing date:** 28 May 1996

### Course B — Aspects of sexuality

This course enables participants to gain knowledge and understanding of human sexuality and related issues.

**Dates:** 16–19 July 1996  
**Times:** 9.00am–4.00pm  
**Cost:** \$200  
**Closing date:** 2 July 1996

## Teaching sexuality in the community

This course is suitable for nurses, youth and community workers and others who do not have classroom experience but who intend to work with groups both in the classroom and in a less structured environment. The course is designed to enable participants to gain a greater understanding of knowledge, attitudes and teaching strategies appropriate for teaching a variety of groups about human sexuality.

**Dates:** 5–7 July 1996  
**Times:** 9.00am–4.00pm  
**Cost:** \$150  
**Closing date:** 24 May 1996

For course information, contact Family Planning Queensland, 100 Alfred Street, Fortitude Valley 4006 ☎ (07) 3252 7922

# What is Consumers Health Advocacy?

We are an independent community-based organisation which strives for a fair and sensitive health system. We promote the rights of consumers to have a say in all aspects of health care.

## How do we do this?

- By supporting and informing consumers of their health rights
- By developing a network of consumers to support change in the health system
- By writing, speaking out and collectively acting on health issues that affect all Queenslanders who use the health system.

## What is advocacy?

Advocacy refers to the act of defending and recommending a cause or position. Consumers Health Advocacy defends your health rights as a consumer. We make recommendations for changes to aspects of the health system which you believe are less than satisfactory.

If you are interested in becoming a member, or receiving further information, please contact:

Reply Paid 1302, Consumers Health Advocacy, PO Box 1302, Toowong Q 4066 ☎ (07) 3871 0466 or fax (07) 3871 0699

If you are in North Queensland, contact our Cairns office ☎ (070) 314 988



## Training workshop

Legal responsibilities of management committees and risk management

Recently there has been increasing publicity about the risks of people acting on management committees in a voluntary capacity and finding themselves personally liable when something goes wrong.

The goal of this workshop is to inform members of management committees of their legal responsibilities and to suggest ways of reducing the legal risks by using risk management.

The workshop takes three hours. It is presented by Mandy Doon and involves presentation of information and practical exercises in small groups. It is designed to be informative and fun.

The cost of the workshop is \$500 and can be shared by two organisations getting together for the workshop. However the workshop is designed for no more than 20 participants. In addition, a training manual is available for \$10.

If you would like more information about the workshop, call Mandy Doon of Doon & Associates Solicitors, on (07) 3899 2182.

## Palm Beach Family Support Service Youth information and resource service

**Palm Beach Family Support Service is pleased to announce the opening of the new Youth Information and Resource Service in its centre.**

This service works in conjunction with existing services in the centre but is targeted towards young people aged 12 to 17 years.

The Youth Information and Resource Service has information on a wide range of topics, including drugs and alcohol, career, education, health, recreation, resume service, self awareness, counselling and referrals.

We will also be organising teen esteem workshops in the future and encourage local young people to voice their ideas and opinions.

**Hours** 3.00–5.30pm, Tuesday to Friday

**Contact** Sharon Jones — Youth Resource Worker

**For more information, contact Sharon on  
(07) 5598 1505**

**or come in and see us at 16 Third Avenue,  
Palm Beach 4221!**

# What's in store for young people

## *Pathways to Real Jobs: the Coalition's*

### policy on employment and training

Throughout the federal election campaign, the Coalition made youth employment one of its key issues. Now in government, it refuses to commit to a target number of jobs to be created or to an unemployment target, or to any measure of accountability beyond 'jobs for all that want them.'

This assurance is little comfort to the 662,000 young people who want jobs and more work and who are looking to the new government for concrete proposals to back up the rhetoric. Recent media coverage on youth unemployment has already turned to peddling the dole bludger myth. Some in the media seem determined to create the perception that many young people don't want jobs. Such a political environment would conveniently take the heat off the government. Their response to the hype will illustrate their approach to the unemployed. They can either reject the dole bludger myth or use it to get themselves off the hook.

In its employment and training policy, the Coalition approaches youth unemployment in several ways: increased job creation via small business revitalisation; developing Youth Employment Strategies at the local level through regional and community employment councils; improving the transition from school to work; and providing access to post-school employment and training, including apprenticeships and traineeships.

The Coalition believes that the most effective job creation policy is to help small business, which has provided most job growth over the last ten years. Measures to encourage small business include improvements to the capital gains tax, repealing the current unfair dismissal law, and cutting the 'paperwork burden' by 50 per cent in the first year of government. Coalition documents also outline a number of national economic policies to promote job creation, such as a commitment to no new taxes and no increases in existing

taxes; micro-economic reforms to relieve Australian enterprises of unnecessary costs and labour market uncertainties; and measures to encourage savings and investment. Through this National Job Creation Strategy, the Coalition will ensure that a greater number of real jobs become available for young people. The Coalition has also guaranteed, as part of its national strategy to reduce youth unemployment, that youth wages will be underpinned by the existing award wage minima.

Revitalising small business is put forth as the panacea for unemployment, especially for young people. Yet a clear pathway from deregulation to job creation has not been defined. The 'trickle down' theory that industrial relations reform will result in bountiful employment opportunities is at best tenuous and at worst deceitful. The Labor government failed to recognise the need for government-initiated job creation strategies and the Coalition is poised to make the same mistake.

The employment policy does not commit to a target number of jobs to be created, nor does it set an unemployment target for any point in the future. However, the Coalition has said that it will define targets for youth unemployment at a regional level and has delegated the responsibility to the newly-established Regional and Community Employment Councils (RCEC), which will be piloted in five regions and communities with high levels of unemployment. The primary responsibility of the RCECs is to work with the regional business community to plan and deliver training as well as promote small and

medium business developments in that area. The RCEC will be employer-led, with representatives from group training, vocational education providers, governments, service clubs, educational and community organisations, young people and older unemployed. These councils have been given the responsibility for developing regional Youth Employment Strategies, to provide assistance to school leavers and other unemployed young people to access training that is relevant to employment in that community or region. The Coalition clearly states that RCECs represent a shift in responsibility for solving unemployment from the Commonwealth bureaucracy to the community level.

A significant (if not the sole) job creation component for young people is the Coalition's Green Corps. The Coalition has re-directed \$68.4 million over three years from labour market programs to create full-time employment for young people 17 to 20 years, working on environmental and heritage projects. The range of activities will include survey and data collection, land care, eco-tourism and restoration activities and will be tied to a clear community-based conservation task for part of the participants' placement. The program is voluntary and, when fully established in three years, will provide 2000 full-time positions per year. Seventeen-year-old participants will receive \$190 per week and 18 to 20 year olds will receive \$270 per week, wages which are roughly equivalent to National Training Wage rates for the lowest skill level.

The Coalition employment policy



also addresses the transition of young people from school to work. The Coalition supports the extension of the jobs pathway guarantee mooted by the Labor government (but funded from the existing labour market program budget allocation). They support the Australian Student Traineeship Foundation and pledge \$5 million (from \$200 million allocated to modernise the apprenticeship and traineeship scheme — see below) to ASTF to fund at least 100 workplace coordinators. To improve direct linkages between schools and the workforce, the Coalition will re-direct \$20 million of funding from the Australian National Training Authority (ANTA) to secondary schools for accredited vocational education and training (details contained in the Coalition's schools and TAFE policy). The Coalition will also maintain Youth Access Centres as a separate identified network and use the YACs as brokers to provide immediate assistance to early school leavers before they become long-term unemployed.

The Coalition's strategy for training is premised on abolishing much of the current training reform agenda and replacing it with an industry and enterprise driven training system energised by incentives and a coherent nationally agreed framework. The Australian National Training Authority will be maintained and charged with the responsibility for developing a national training market and national skill pool. However, accreditation of providers, programs and certification will be in the hands of industry.

Improvements and expansion of traineeships and apprenticeships were first announced in the Coalition's youth statement, *Giving hope to our youth*. The Coalition will re-allocate \$200 million of Working Nation labour market program funding to modernise, expand and simplify the existing system. The Coalition asserts that the existing system is not appealing to employers and cites numerous problems, including rigid arrangements under the industrial award system; a complex administration bureaucracy.

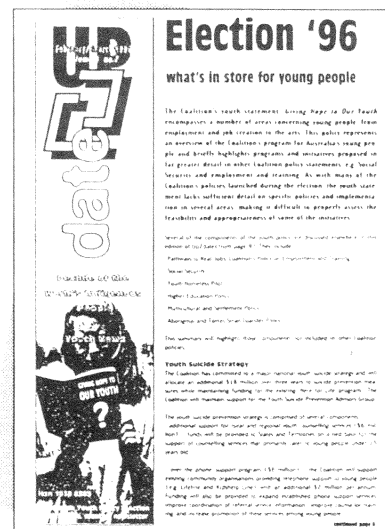
and heavy union involvement. The new arrangement, the Modern Australian Apprenticeship and Traineeship System (MAATS) will, among its objectives and aims:

- expand apprenticeship and traineeship opportunities for women;
- expand the occupational base and make it more flexible;
- develop formal links between MAAATS and the secondary school system;
- promote the value of workplace training within the community and hence its status among early school leavers;
- provide an enhanced role for Group Training Companies who will act as brokers, and will receive additional funds to become employers of apprentices and trainees, with the goal of trebling the number of placements over the next three years;
- establish part-time traineeships to allow young people the opportunity to convert a part-time job into a traineeship as well as allow senior secondary school students to combine a traineeship with their studies;
- enable industry bodies to self-accredit courses for their particular industry;
- permit employers and apprentices to choose the appropriate off-the-job training provider; and
- remove the maximum age limit for employing an apprentice or trainee.

The Coalition has yet to identify which programs will be scrapped to fund the MAATS, making it impossible to determine whether the reforms are worth the price. Perhaps their pledge to re-establish the successful Jobs Placement and Employment Training (JPET) program for unemployed homeless young people signals a commitment to maintain programs which enjoy strong community support and target the most disadvantaged jobseekers.

Carol Croce  
AYPAC Policy Officer

Reprinted from the February/March  
issue of AYPAC's *Up2date*



The February/March issue of AYPAC's newsletter, *Up2date*, examines the implications of the change of federal government on the lives of young people.

Copies of *Up2date* are available  
from AYPAC ☎ (06) 247 1666

**australian  
violence  
prevention  
awards  
1996**

Are you involved in a program which is designed to counter violence in our society?

Do you know of a program that works towards a safer community?

The Australian Heads of Government Violence Prevention Awards has a fund of around \$100,000 to reward such programs.

And the time for entries in the 1996 award is now.

The program could deal with children, the family, indigenous people, women, men, the aged, sport - the 1996 Violence Prevention Awards

are open to any scheme which fits the criteria set out in the application form, available from: 1996 Violence Prevention Awards

GPO Box 2944  
Canberra 2601

or phone

(06) 260 9237 or fax

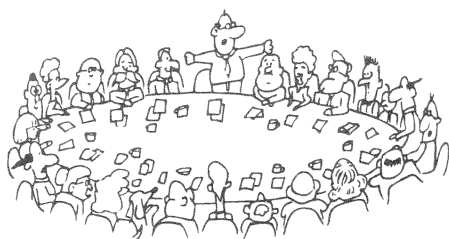
(06) 260 9201.

It's your chance to get recognition for big or small programs which help to stop violence in Australia.

Contact us now.

Entries must close on 31 May 1996.

# VIOLENCE



## Regional interagency meetings

May–June 1996

### Regional Queensland interagency meetings

#### Cairns Region Youth Services Network

23 May 1996 at 3.30pm  
Cairns FRS,  
218 McLeod Street, Cairns

Contact Diane Forsyth  
Youth Service Providers Inc  
PO Box 7479, Cairns 4870  
☎ (070) 316 179

#### Central West Youth Network

June 1996  
Winton

Contact Rick Robson  
c/- DTSY  
PO Box 218  
Longreach 4730  
☎ (076) 581 888

#### Youth Services Interagency

4 June 1996 at 12 noon  
Youth Access Centre,  
Fitzroy Street, Rockhampton

Contact Tricia Miller  
Youth Access Centre  
PO Box 1331  
Rockhampton 4700  
☎ (079) 227 107

#### Mt Isa Youth Forum

Not available  
Education Centre, Mt Isa

Contact Youth Development Officer  
C/- DTSY  
PO Box 1605  
Mt Isa 4825  
☎ (077) 432 130

#### Gladstone Youth Interagency

15 May 1996 at 11am  
Neighbourhood Centre  
105 Toolooa St, Gladstone

Contact Gail Law  
Gladstone City Council  
PO Box 29  
Gladstone 4680  
☎ (079) 724 855

#### Bundaberg Youth Forum

6 June 1996 at 9.30am  
Community Development Office,  
Upstairs, Target Arcade

Contact Lou Gatti  
C/- Community development office  
PO Box 253  
Bundaberg 4670  
☎ (071) 532 227

#### SunCoast Youthworkers Forum

16 May 1996 at 10am  
The Place, Beach Street,  
Maroochydore

Contact Patrice O'Callaghan  
C/- Youth Access Centre  
PO Box 1174  
Maroochydore 4558  
☎ (074) 420 888

#### Gold Coast Youth Network

29 May 1996 at 10.30am  
Gold Coast Youth Service  
15 Oak Ave, Miami

Contact Kerry Schonfisch  
Gold Coast Youth Service  
PO Box 740  
Burleigh Heads 4220  
☎ (07) 5572 0400

#### Beautesert Interagency

12 June 1996 at 10am  
Illoura Centre  
31 Duckett St, Beautesert

Contact Marg Moss  
C/- Beautesert Community  
House, 4 Davis Street  
Beautesert 4285  
☎ (07)5541 3762

#### Toowoomba Youth Organisation Network

16 May 1996 at 10am  
Venue to be advised

Contact Ed Bradbury  
Department of Education  
PO Box 775  
Toowoomba 4350  
☎ (076) 384 899

#### Magnetic North Youth Service Providers

21 May 1996  
TAFE, City Campus, Room A212

Contact Karyn Buosi  
Townsville City Council  
PO Box 1268  
Townsville 4810  
☎ (077) 714 431

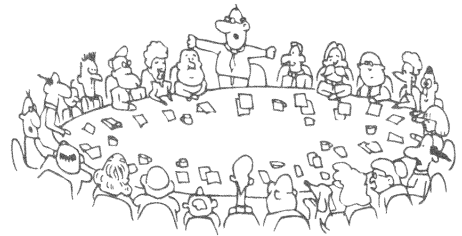
#### Mackay Youth Connection & Network Inc

15 May 1996 at 2pm  
YACCA, 10 River St, Mackay

Contact Diane Macrae  
Mackay YACCA  
PO Box 3223  
North Mackay 4740  
☎ (079) 512 661

# Regional interagency meetings

## May-June 1996



### South-east Queensland interagency meetings

#### Redlands Youth Network

20 May 1996 at 2pm  
CES, 27 Mt Cotton Road,  
Capalaba

Contact: Bettina McGrath

C/- Redlands CES  
27 Mt Cotton Road  
Capalaba Q 4157  
☎ (07) 3245 9333

#### Caboolture Youth Network

19 June 1996 at 1pm  
Youth Access Centre,  
11 Haskings Street, Caboolture

Contact: Damien Edwards

C/- Youth Access Centre  
PO Box 482  
Caboolture 4510  
☎ (074) 908 078

#### Logan Youth Interagency

28 May 1996 at 3pm  
Logan Regional Resource  
Centre, Woodridge

Contact: Pat Taylor

C/- Youth Access Centre  
PO Box 645  
Woodridge 4114  
☎ (07) 3808 0570

#### Wynnum Youth Interagency

Not available  
Community Corrections Office  
2/71 Clara Street Wynnum

Contact: Bettina McGrath

C/- Redlands CES  
27 Mt Cotton Road  
Capalaba Q 4157  
☎ (07) 3245 9333

#### Youth Issues Task Group

12 June 1996 at 2.30pm  
The Base, Cnr Mills and Queen  
Sts, Goodna

Contact: Rachel Robinson

The Base  
PO Box 228  
Goodna 4300  
☎ (07) 3818 3118

#### Brisbane Youth Interagency

Not available

Contact: Sgt Mike Colby

City Police Station

☎ (07) 3258 2402

#### Inala Youth Interagency LARGEFLY

14 June 1996 at 1pm  
CES Conference Room, cnr  
Corsair Ave & Civic Centre, Inala

Contact: John Rigby-Jones

C/- Inala Youth & Family Support  
Service  
PO Box 141  
Inala 4077  
☎ (07) 3372 2655

#### Ipswich Youth Focus

12 June 1996 at 12noon  
West Moreton Community  
Health Auditorium, Bell St,  
Ipswich 4305

Contact: Michelle Ruthenberg

C/- TEQ  
PO Box 669  
Ipswich 4305  
☎ (07) 3812 2359

#### North Albert Youth Interagency

6 June 1996 at 2.45pm  
DFCS Meeting room, 1st Floor,  
100 George Street, Beenleigh

Contact: Kerry Clayton

C/- BAYS Inc  
PO Box 1147  
Beenleigh 4027  
☎ (07) 3287 1290



## Case Management Services for people with disabilities

The Department of Social Security is seeking tenders from suitably qualified organisations, to provide one-to-one case management to people with disabilities, under the **More Intensive and Flexible Services Pilot**.

The More Intensive and Flexible Services Pilot will provide an opportunity for people with a disability with high support needs, multiple disabilities, unstable or chronic conditions to access customised, intensive and flexible services of a pre-vocational nature. These services will provide participants with the skills required to access rehabilitation and/or vocational training under the Disability Reform Package (DRP).

The Pilot will be conducted over a two year period commencing 1 July 1996 in the DSS Areas of **East Victoria** (covering the east and north-eastern suburbs of Melbourne, Wangaratta, Shepparton and Echuca) and **Central Queensland** (covering Brisbane suburbs north of the Brisbane River up to Bundaberg).

The Department of Social Security wants to hear from organisations capable of providing case management services including assessment of needs, counselling, support and facilitation of access to required services, for people with disabilities.

Further information, as well as Pilot specifications, selection criteria and application requirements can be obtained from the Disability Review and Development Section in DSS Canberra, by ringing Margaret McKenzie on (06) 244 5693 between 9.00am and 5.00pm Monday to Friday.

Applications with necessary supporting documentation must be received by the Department of Social Security on or before COB 20 May 1996.

T3322C



COMMONWEALTH DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES

## Expressions of Interest Consultants

The Office for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Services (OATSISHS), a Division within the Commonwealth Department of Health and Family Services, is establishing a register of consultants who are able to provide services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community controlled health and related organisations in suburban, rural and remote locations around Australia.

The Office is particularly interested in receiving expressions of interest from consultant/s with expertise in one or more of the following areas:

- financial administration,
- management and procedure development,
- committee development and support,
- staff training, community development,
- conducting reviews of services and facilitating service planning.

Proposals from, or joint proposals with, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander consultants would be strongly encouraged.

To obtain selection criteria phone (06) 289 9367 or for further information contact Dawn Plested on (06) 289 9337.

Submissions should be forwarded to the address by 9 May 1996.

**Director  
Program Development and Support  
Office for Aboriginal and Torres Strait  
Islander Health Services  
GPO Box 9848  
Mail Drop 17  
Canberra ACT 2601**

*The Department of Health and Family Services  
is an equal opportunity employer.*

T3140C



## CONSULTANCY TENDER PROJECT 300 EVALUATION

**Purpose:** To evaluate the effectiveness of the implementation of the government's program to move 300 people from the psychiatric hospitals into the community and assess outcomes for the individuals involved.

**Background:** Project 300 is a joint project involving the Departments of Health, Families, Youth and Community Care, and Public Works and Housing. The project will provide packages of support, including mental health services, disability support services and housing to 300 people over the next three years to enable them to move out of psychiatric hospitals and return to live in the community.

### Objectives:

1. To evaluate the quality of life for the individuals following the move to the community and to identify whether this conforms to acceptable standards in the community.
  2. To evaluate the contributions of housing, disability support services, informal support networks and access to mental health services, to the person's quality of life and the process of change in which they are engaged.
- Scope:** The evaluation will cover the 300 people moving to the community as part of Project 300.
- Time Frame:** People will return to the community during 1996/97/98. The evaluation will be conducted over three years from 1996 to 1998.

Contact for further information:

**Elizabeth Wherrett  
Project Manager  
Mental Health Branch  
Queensland Health  
GPO Box 48  
Brisbane Q 4001**

**Phone: (07) 3234 0677 Fax: (07) 3234 1362**

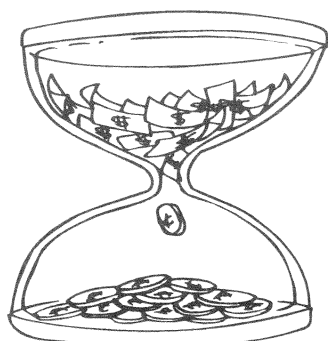
Closing date for submissions: 20 May 1996.



funding

funding

funding



## PRE-VOCATIONAL TRAINING, SECONDARY REHABILITATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

The Department of Social Security is seeking tenders from suitably qualified organisations to provide pre-vocational training, secondary rehabilitation and support services for people with disabilities, as part of the **More Intensive and Flexible Services Pilot**.

The More Intensive and Flexible Services Pilot will provide an opportunity for people with a disability with high support needs, multiple disabilities, unstable or chronic conditions to access customised, intensive and flexible services of a pre-vocational nature. These services will provide participants with the skills required to access rehabilitation and/or vocational training under the Disability Reform Package (DRP).

The Pilot will be conducted over a two year period commencing 1 July 1996 in the DSS Areas of **East Victoria** (covering the east and north-eastern suburbs of Melbourne, Wangaratta, Shepparton and Echuca) and **Central Queensland** (covering Brisbane suburbs north of the Brisbane River up to Bundaberg).

The aim of this tender is to establish a pool of service providers that can be drawn upon to assist Pilot participants in achieving the goals as set down in their action plan, established in conjunction with their Case Manager. It is expected that pre-vocational training, secondary rehabilitation and support service providers will be contracted on a case by case basis as required.

Further information, as well as Pilot specifications, selection criteria and application requirements can be obtained from the Disability Review and Development Section in DSS Canberra, by ringing Sandra Beckerleg on (06) 244 6272 between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm Monday to Friday.

Applications with necessary supporting documentation must be received by the Department of Social Security on or before COB 20 May 1996.

T3324C



COMMONWEALTH DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES

## Youth Suicide Prevention Initiative

**Background** \$13 million is available over four years to implement the Youth Suicide Prevention Initiative.

The funding is being used to establish a program of national demonstration projects in youth suicide prevention, which will develop new and better ways of working with young people at the highest risk of suicide. A longer term aim is to integrate best practice in youth suicide prevention into standard approaches to youth health and to young people in crisis or at risk of suicide. Projects are being advertised sequentially.

Proposals are now being sought for the following project.

### FOR YOUNG PEOPLE BY YOUNG PEOPLE IN RURAL COMMUNITIES

Submissions are invited from local community agencies in rural or remote areas with catchment populations of 25,000 or less to develop, evaluate and disseminate approaches to youth suicide prevention which meet local community needs, and involve and active participation of young people.

Activities will need to be culturally appropriate, however, school awareness programs or projects which give individual young people primary responsibility for the identification, referral or support of other young people at risk of suicide will not normally be considered favourably.

The successful applicants will be required to:

- develop their proposals in conjunction with young people and other community members;
- incorporate an interagency response;
- be responsive to the needs of diverse groups of young people within their community, who are in need of special support;
- develop evaluation plans to identify successful strategies and materials to allow replication of them in other rural communities of the same type.

**Applications:** It is expected that young people will be involved in the design, monitoring and evaluation of project activities.

Projects could commence in July 1996 and would be expected to be completed by September 1998.

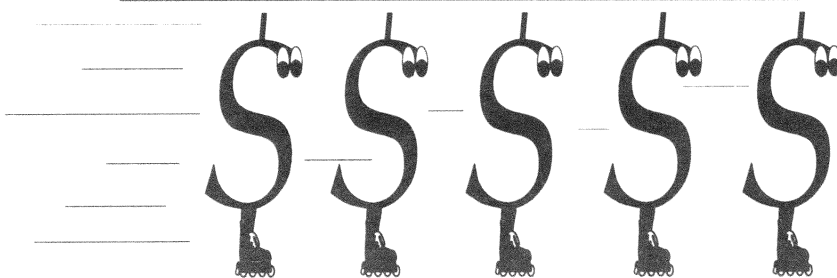
A tender brief and application form are available from the Mental Health Branch by phoning (06) 289 7823 or faxing (06) 289 7703.

Applications close 24 May 1996.

Proposals should be forwarded to the address below:

**Ms Joan Lipscombe**  
Assistant Secretary  
Mental Health Branch  
Department of Human Services and Health  
MDP 37  
GPO Box 9848  
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Attention: Lesley Roxbee, Project Officer.



# conferences

# workshops

# conferences

**Making it work: A national summit on the future of work**

Dates: 23–24 May 1996

Jointly organised by the Commission for the Future of Work and the Brotherhood of St Laurence Future of Work project.

**For more information, contact Susan Newell ☎ (02) 332 4355 or Fiona Macdonald ☎ (03) 9483 1383.**

## Suicide and Gender

Suicide Prevention Australia's fourth annual conference

Dates: 25–26 May 1996  
Venue: Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre, Darling Harbour, Sydney

**For more information, contact Suicide Prevention Australia, PO Box K998, Haymarket NSW 2000 ☎ (02) 211 1788 or fax (02) 211 0392.**

## Community work, youth work and popular education

This conference will provide a space where workers and activists can think, learn, discuss and plan more effective action.

Dates: 24–26 June 1996  
Venue: Haymarket campus of the University of Technology, Quay Street, Sydney

**For more information contact Karen Vaughan, School of Adult Education, UTS, PO Box 123, Broadway NSW 2007 ☎ (02) 330 3807 or fax (02) 330 3939.**

## Drugs — Policies, programs and people

The Winter School in the Sun is an intersectoral school and conference conducted by the Alcohol and Drug Foundation — Queensland.

Dates: 1–4 July 1996  
Venue: Brisbane City Travelodge

**For more information, contact Winter School in the Sun Secretariat, Alcohol and Drug Foundation — Queensland, PO Box 332, Spring Hill Q 4004 ☎ (07) 3832 3798 fax (07) 3832 2527.**

## Pathways, personal issues and public participation

The Youth Research Centre is sponsoring a mini-conference for youth researchers and others involved in the youth sector.

Date: 31 May 1996  
Venue: Alice Hoy Building, Room G242, The University of Melbourne

**For more information, contact Anne Sheehan or Jasmina Radulovic ☎ (03) 9344 8251 fax (03) 9344 8256.**

## Making the connections

### Training pathways to secure employment

Examining the linkages and barriers to employment and training.

Date: 22 May 1996  
Venue: Wesley Centre, Sydney

**For more information, contact Susan Newell or Anna Saminsky at ACOSS ☎ (02) 332 4355 or fax (02) 332 1515.**

## Youth Sector Training Council Workshops

### Working from your strengths

A 'power with' approach to short-term counselling  
A two-day workshop on counselling skills using varied participatory training approaches to explore a wide range of counselling topics. Presented by Suzi Quixley

Dates: 20–21 May 1996  
Venue: Conference Room, Level 1, Cnr Amelia St and St Pauls Tce, Fortitude Valley

### Preparing for audit

A half-day workshop for management committee members and staff involved in financial management and administration for non-profit organisations. Presented by Jenny O'Reilly and Julie Sultmann.

Date: 5 June 1996  
Venue: Level 1, Cnr Amelia St and St Pauls Tce, Fortitude Valley

### Tax obligations for employers

A half-day workshop for anyone in the community services industry responsible for employing staff. Presented by Jenny O'Reilly and Julie Sultmann.

Date: 15 May 1996  
Venue: Level 1, Cnr Amelia St and St Pauls Tce, Fortitude Valley

**For more information about the above workshops, contact the Youth Sector Training Council, PO Box 459, Fortitude Valley Q 4006 ☎ (07) 3852 2311 or fax (07) 3852 1441.**

# YSTC to conduct anti-racist training

The Youth Sector Training Council received a Youth Bureau grant to deliver anti-racism training across Queensland.

YSTC has contracted Annie Goldflam to train trainers in anti-racist training across the state. This will build a pool of experienced and proficient anti-racist trainers in Queensland.

The ART has been developed and conducted by Annie Goldflam and the YSTC (WA) over the past few years. ART focuses on raising participants' awareness of racism, particularly as it is expressed towards Aboriginal and Islander and non-English speaking background people, and helps participants develop specific anti-racism skills and strategies to overcome it. ART is accredited and adaptable to the needs of workers in rural and remote areas.

In the past, Cairns and Mackay workers, in both NESB and mainstream organisations, have identified racism in the local community as a significant issue demanding a practiced response. Both regions have high Aboriginal and Islander, non-English speaking background and South Sea Islander populations.

The training project will be conducted in July and August. Two Brisbane workshops will be presented on 22-23 July and 25-26 July. A Cairns workshop is scheduled for 5-6 August, and a Mackay workshop for 8-9 August.

For more information, contact the Youth Sector Training Council on (07) 3852 2311.

# QCOSS - YSTC tender for Integrated Training Strategy approved

QCOSS and YSTC have embarked on a commitment to increase the quality, relevance and accessibility of training in the community sector across Queensland.

The joint project will provide relevant and *accredited* training for workers, volunteers and management committee members of the five programs covered by the Integrated Training Strategy. This will occur either through existing training programs or by creating and accrediting new ones.

In order to implement the project, a range of training structures and processes will need to be put in place to support the delivery of training. This will include things such as:

- collaboration with the State Training Committee in the development of an appropriate State Training Plan
- the establishment of regional training advisory groups to ensure that the Project receives specific advice from target groups for the strategy
- development of a brokerage model for training delivery whereby a range of local and statewide training providers with specific expertise will be used
- training and accreditation of assessors/mentors and workplace supervisors at regional level to enable the large number of workers who have no formal recognition of their skills to access recognition of prior learning.

The State Training Committee will play an important role in advising the project and providing feedback on its development.

A particular emphasis will be placed on developing flexible delivery

methods over time to ensure that services in rural and isolated parts of the state can benefit from this strategy. The project has had some preliminary discussions with organisations which have expertise in the flexible delivery of education packages and, although this is potentially very expensive, there is scope for the numbers trained to be significantly increased by the use of open learning technologies.

The training delivered through the strategy must encourage access by indigenous services and those from non-English speaking backgrounds. This will be achieved by linking in with specialist staff from other training agencies as well as recruitment of specialist staff to the project in its second year. It will also be important that general training for mainstream issues addresses cultural issues.

In order to assist groups covered by the ITS, the project will run a series of workshops and information sessions to familiarise people with the National Training Agenda and provide details about how the project will be implemented over the coming months. An information update will be regularly produced to advise about progress and developments.

For further information contact:

James Finn  
Project Officer  
Youth Sector Training Council  
PO Box 459  
Fortitude Valley Q 4006  
☎ (07) 3852 2311  
Fax (07) 3852 1441

## Young parents referral guide

The Gold Coast Young Parents Group has completed a Young Parents Referral Index Guide.

The guide addresses a range of issues, including:

- contraception
- choices and alternative options
- housing and budgeting
- pre- and post-natal care
- support
- coping with changes
- and much more...

The group has researched and collated this booklet to provide a range of information for young parents, presented in a user-friendly format.

Copies are available free of charge to services that work with young parents and/or children on the Gold Coast. For more information, contact Kerry Schonfisch at the Gold Coast Youth Service on (07) 5572 0400.

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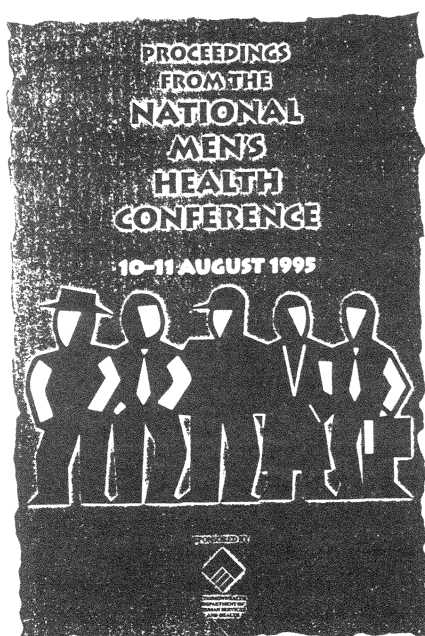
### YOUNG PARENTS GUIDE AND REFERRAL INDEX



## Youth suicide prevention — a parent's guide

The Scout Association of Australia, with support from Dr Paul Lee of the Department of Child Psychiatry at Monash University, has produced a booklet providing information on youth suicide prevention. The booklet covers facts and myths, protective factors, prevention of youth suicide, and lists national resources.

## Proceedings from the National Men's Health Conference



The National Men's Health Conference was convened by the Commonwealth Department of Human Services and Health in recognition of evidence suggesting that men's health experience differs from women's, as does their interaction with health services.

Over 500 delegates attended the conference, held in Melbourne on 10-11 August 1995. The issues covered at the conference were wide and varied, ranging across physical and mental health, socialisation, sexuality and the impacts of differing cultural backgrounds. Several papers specifically address young men's health issues.

Copies of these proceedings are available for \$19.95 from the Commonwealth Government Bookshops or by mail order, by phoning 132 447.

## The New Players

Consumer and community representation in Queensland's health system

This report, by Irene Oppen for Consumers Health Advocacy considers the role of consumers in health service delivery. The project aimed to provide a sound information base for improving consumer and community sector representation in Queensland. It recognises that a constructive partnership between consumers, health service providers and bureaucrats is necessary to bring about a more consumer-focussed health system.

Available free of charge (plus postage for organisations) from Consumers Health Advocacy, PO Box 1302, Toowong 4006 ☎ (07) 3871 0466 or 1800 620 689.

# YOUTH AFFAIRS NETWORK OF QUEENSLAND INC

## WHAT IS YANQ?

The Youth Affairs Network of Queensland (YANQ) Inc. is the independent, non-government umbrella organisation of groups and individuals from Queensland's youth sector.

Operational since 1989, YANQ was incorporated in January 1991. The Network acts to promote the interests and well-being of young people in Queensland, especially disadvantaged young people. It advocates for them to government and the community and encourages the development of policies and programs responsive to the needs of young people.

YANQ also supports the development of regional networks in the non-government youth sector. It is YANQ's view that the development of stronger networks will lead to better services for young people as information and skills are shared.

*YANQ consists of over 450 individual and organisational members throughout Queensland, including youth services, advocacy groups, church groups and community organisations with interests in areas as diverse as juvenile justice, housing, health, rural issues, young people with disabilities, young women's issues and young people from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-English speaking backgrounds. Associate members are drawn from federal, state and local government bodies.*

## WHAT DOES YANQ DO?

YANQ employs three core staff and a number of project staff in its Brisbane-based secretariat. It undertakes a variety of activities designed to raise the profile of and encourage action on issues affecting young people. Activities include:

- submissions to government reviews
- making representations to government and other influential bodies
- undertaking campaigns and lobbying
- consulting and liaising with members and the field
- publishing newsletters and journals
- initiating projects
- disseminating information to members and the field
- providing training and
- cooperating with interstate and national youth affairs bodies.

## HOW DOES YANQ WORK?

YANQ is managed by a Coordinating Committee elected by the Ordinary (non-government) membership to oversee its day-to-day operation and supervision of staff.

YANQ holds a Policy Forum at least once a year at which delegates representing the membership give direction for YANQ's policy-making and activities for the next twelve months. Delegates to Policy Forum must be Ordinary members.

YANQ working parties on specific issues may be formed at any time during the year. Any interested member may participate in such working parties.

YANQ's decision making processes are based on a consensus model.

## YANQ PUBLICATIONS

### NEWSLETTER

*Network Noise* is the bi-monthly newsletter of YANQ. Members are encouraged to contribute to the newsletter which is ideal for communicating news on • training events • youth programs • interagency or youth forum meetings • publications and resources • positions vacant • changes of address. *Network Noise* is distributed to subscribers and YANQ members only.

### JOURNAL

*transitions* is the YANQ journal published three times per year. It presents in-depth articles on research and topical issues of relevance to youth affairs, both in Queensland and nationally. It is an ideal forum for youth service providers to describe and analyse their work. *transitions* is distributed to subscribers and members only.

## WHO CAN JOIN?

*Membership of YANQ is open to anyone with a proven interest in youth affairs*

### ORDINARY MEMBERSHIP

Is available to individuals and organisations from the **non-government** sector and entitles you to • nominate for the Coordinating Committee and Policy Forum • full voting rights • six newsletters and three journals per year • information on campaigns and reviews • opportunities to participate in YANQ workshops.

### ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

Is available to individuals, departments and services from local, state or federal **government** and entitles you to • six newsletters and three journals per year • information on campaigns and reviews • opportunities to participate in YANQ workshops. Associate members do not have voting rights and cannot nominate for the Coordinating Committee or Policy Forum.

### SUBSCRIBERS

Subscribers receive six newsletters and three journals per year.

## MEMBERSHIP FEES PER ANNUM

Young person	Individual	Income < \$16,000	\$5.00
		Income \$16,000–\$50,000	\$10.00
		Income \$50,000<	\$25.00
Non-government Organisation		No funding	\$40.00
		Funding < \$100,000	\$60.00
		Funding \$100,000<	\$75.00
Government	Department or Service		\$75.00
<b>Subscribers</b>		<i>transitions &amp; Network Noise</i>	\$60.00

*Membership fees are due and payable on a calendar year basis (covering the period 1 January–31 December)*



## YANQ MEMBERSHIP / SUBSCRIPTION FORM

(Contact) Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation / Dept: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Ph: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

### MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY APPLIED FOR

Individual	Income < \$16,000	N-G <input type="checkbox"/>	Govt <input type="checkbox"/>	\$10.00
	\$16,000 - \$50,000	N-G <input type="checkbox"/>	Govt <input type="checkbox"/>	\$25.00
	Income > \$50,000	N-G <input type="checkbox"/>	Govt <input type="checkbox"/>	\$40.00

Organisation	No Funding	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$10.00
	Funding < \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$40.00
	Funding > \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$60.00

Young Person ☐ \$5.00

Government Department or Service ☐ \$75.00

### SUBSCRIBERS

*Transitions & Network Noise only*

☐ \$60.00

*Please tick if appropriate*

ATSI individual/organisation ☐

NESB individual/organisation ☐

I hereby subscribe to the aim and objectives of YANQ and enclose a cheque/money order for the prescribed membership/subscription fee.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*Membership applications must be approved by the YANQ Coordinating Committee*

Please return Membership/Subscription Form to: YANQ, PO Box 116, Fortitude Valley Qld 4006