



Network Noise

Newsletter of the Youth Affairs Network of Queensland Inc

Quarterly Newsletter, March 02

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Truth, Lies and Cover-ups

Welcome all readers. There has been a shaky start to the year or maybe we should say a justified start to the year. Outrageous pre-election accusations that refugees threw their children overboard. Also Peter Hollingsworth's cover-up of allegations of child sexual abuse by his clergy in Brisbane. All we need now is for the Queensland Treasury Department to be held accountable for their lack of releasing funds in relation to the Forde Inquiry and we may have a chance of living in a fairer and more just society.

Many members were able to take some time off over the festive season and renew their batteries for the year ahead. It has already been very busy and turbulent especially for the women's sector in relation to the new direction of domestic violence funding. We continue to send our thoughts and support to the workers and Management Committee of the DVRC centre who have been the recipients of a confused de-funding/re-funding process by the Department of Families.

We were not impressed by the amount

of consultation (if you could actually call it consultation) that was implemented over the months of December and January/February when many people are away on leave or had just returned. YANQ did, however respond briefly to a range of consultation processes in December and the new year such as the Queensland Illicit Drug Action Plan (QLD Health), Good practice in Youth Development (Ausyouth, Federal Government), Policy on Volunteering (QLD Government), Charter for Youth Participation (DET), and the Refugee Youth Strategy (RRAC, Federal Government).

The YANQ staff look forward to catching-up with members throughout the year and wish you all well with our joint venture to work together to improve the quality of life of young people in Queensland and thereby improve the quality of life of society.

From *Bernice*
Director YANQ

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Quote

*"In a time of universal deceit,
telling the truth is a revolutionary act."*

George Orwell

Network Noise

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CONTRIBUTIONS ARE WELCOME

Ring, write, e-mail or fax
your latest news on

- workshops & events
- youth programs
- training events
- projects
- change of address
- latest resources
- research news
- innovations

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COPY DEADLINE

June 2002 copy deadline is
May 17th 2002

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The views and opinions contained in this
publication do not necessarily represent the
views of YANQ. YANQ also does not necessarily
endorse training and resources advertised
in this publication.

General Update

New National Youth Affairs Peak Body

On 9 November 2001 a teleconference of state youth affairs peak bodies and a number of national youth sector organisations agreed to incorporate a new national youth affairs peak body.

Named the Australian Youth Affairs Coalition (AYAC), the new organisation aims to:

- Represent the rights and interests of young people at a national and international level
- Promote the well-being of young Australians
- Promote the participation of all young people in Australian society
- Provide policy advice to government and the broader community on issues affecting young people and the youth affairs field.

AYAC's formation is the culmination of several years of work, through emails and teleconferences, following the wind-up of the previous peak body, AYPAC, in 1999.

AYAC is open to two forms of membership: National Members and General Members. National Members are Youth Peak Bodies or National Youth Organisations. General Members can be youth organisations, networks, or individuals (including young people).

Inaugural Membership of AYAC costs \$10.00. Currently AYAC has no funding – the organisation is incurring some expenses and will continue to do so. Therefore members will need to finance AYAC's operations for the present. A budget is being developed, which will include consideration of membership fees and structures, ensuring they are fair and equitable.

The organisation's immediate focus is to seek further resources to become a more viable body. Members hope that limited advocacy on issues affecting young people will be possible.

AYAC members also hope to provide a forum for discussion and policy development. An open meeting for members in Canberra is planned for May 16th and 17th, 2002 for this purpose. This will also be the inaugural AGM of AYAC. More information on this will be distributed closer to the time.

AYAC's first action is to call on all those involved in youth affairs in Australia – young people, workers with youth and youth services, to become members of AYAC.

For further information please contact Bernice at YANQ.

Youth Action & Policy Association
(02) 9281 2344 (02) 9211 2037
Email Kirsty@yapa.org.au

Youth Affairs Council of South Australia
(08) 8226 3080 (08) 8226 3081
Email yacsa@yacsa.com.au

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(08) 9388 0640 (08) 9388 0650
Email yacwa@yacwa.com.au

Youth Affairs Council of Victoria
(03) 9612 8999 (03) 9620 4802
Email info@yacvic.org.au

Youth Affairs Network of Queensland
(07) 3844 7713 (07) 3844 7713
Email yanq@pacific.net.au

Youth Coalition of the ACT
(02) 6247 3540 (02) 6249 1675
Email Meredith@youthcoalition.net

Youth Network of Tasmania
(03) 6236 9093 (03) 6263 9063
Email dave@ynot.org.au

Northern Territory Youth Affairs Network
(08) 8982 2651 (08) 8982 2644
Email ntyan@darciity.nt.gov.au

Fusion Australia
(03) 6397 8280
Email daveireson@fusion.org

National Children's & Youth Law Centre
(02) 9398 7488 (02) 9398 7416
Email l.schtzer@unsw.edu.au

National Youth Coalition of Housing
(02) 9698 5833 (02) 9318 2058
Email apisarski@yaa.com.au

YWCA of Australia
(02) 6230 5150 (02) 6230 5156
Email ygals@ywca.org.au

State Youth Affairs Conference 2002

YANQ will be conducting the next State Youth Affairs Conference on Wednesday 30th October, Thursday 31st October and Friday 1st November 2002. It will be held in the Mackay/Whitsunday region. The theme will have some focus on the rights of young people and we will be holding several focus groups around the State to hear what members believe are the crucial topics/strands that need to be considered for the conference for example youth justice, NESB/CALD and Indigenous strands. The Office of Youth Affairs are sponsoring the conference and have also made available some funds for travel subsidies. Registration forms including application for subsidies will be coordinated and distributed by YANQ. If you are reading this newsletter and are not a current member/subscriber and would like to go on the mailing list for the conference please email your contact details to yanq@pacific.net.au and state your request for conference information.

YANQ and Training

In mid 2001 the Youth Sector Training Council (YSTC) made a decision to stop trading as a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) and therefore stop delivering training programs to the Sector. YANQ has received many requests to explore this gap as well as requests for YANQ to deliver training through Queensland. Therefore we have undertaken 6 months of research and exploration through many discussions with other bodies, including YSTC, with members and government units and have decided to apply for RTO status and develop a training arm within YANQ. Currently James Finn and Natalie Bell are employed part-time to undertake the myriad of activities/tasks involved. The training arm would be intrinsically linked with policy development and advocacy and will enhance our current services. We will keep you posted regarding further developments.

Fiscal irresponsibility and social neglect by the Beattie Government

Ever since the release of the Forde Inquiry and its list of recommendation in 1998, many people in the community have been awaiting a "just" response from the Beattie Labour Government. However, the Government has not only displayed a clear lack of leadership but also a level of moral and social bankruptcy in its response to the recommendations of the inquiry.

As stated by the Forde Implementation and Monitoring Committee in their final report to the Queensland Parliament in August 2001:

"One of the key findings of the Forde Inquiry was that a major cause of the failure of the child protection and juvenile justice system was decades of under-funding. The commission recommended that funding be increased and maintained at a national average expenditure as calculated by the Commonwealth Grants Commission. The extent of the under-funding was evident in the fact that at the time that the Inquiry reported this amounted to an increase in funding of \$103 million per annum. (The committee noted in its interim report that the figure had increased to \$113 million.)

This means that in the two years since the report has been tabled, Queensland has spent \$171m less on child protection than was recommended by the Forde Inquiry."

Considering that Australia is a signatory to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and bearing in mind that the need to extend particular care to the child has been stated in the Geneva Declaration of the Rights of the Child of 1924 and in the Declaration of the Rights of the Child adopted by the United Nations on 20th November 1959 and recognised in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. In the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (in particular in article 23 and 24). In the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (in particular in article 10) and in the statutes and relevant instruments of specialised agencies and international organisations concerned with the welfare of children.

The Youth sector can not and must not allow the Queensland Government to ignore the rights and needs of marginalised young people. YANQ encourages the youth sector to read the Forde Implementation Monitoring Committee's report and to speak out on this major issue facing children and young people in this state. Nothing short of full implementation of all Forde recommendations is acceptable.

A copy of the Forde Implementation Monitoring Committee's report as well as the Government's progress report on the implementation of the Forde Inquiry recommendations is available from www.qld.gov.au/html/forde_inquiry/

Personal Profile



Rebecca Baird

Management Committee Member

Background and Work Stuff:

I commenced working in the Community Sector in 1996 at the Youth Sector Training Council of Queensland. And in 1999 I embarked on what has now been a three years involvement with Sisters Inside Inc. Sisters Inside Inc. is an independent community organisation, which exists to advocate for the human rights of women in the criminal justice system in Queensland, and to address gaps in the services available to them.

Likes:

Retail Therapy
Platforms
Buffy the Vampire Slayer

Dislikes:

Credit card bills
Filing
Paperwork

Other Comments:

I have been an enthusiastic and devoted young person on YANQ's Management Committee Since 1999. I am proud to be part of such a valuable resource for workers statewide. And I look forward to meeting up with many of you at YANQ's up coming State Youth Affairs Conference in October/November this year.

Debunking More Myths about Asylum Seekers

Reproduced from *Just Comment*, a joint publication of Edmund Rice Centre for Justice and Community Education and The School of Education, Australian Catholic University.

Myth 9

Australia is second only to Canada in the number of refugees it takes

Fact: This is incorrect. This claim is based on the fact that Australia is one of only eight countries whose immigration program actually specifies an annual quota of refugees and at 12,000 Australia's quota is the second highest on a per capita basis. However, as UNHCR reports indicate, many more than eight countries take refugees and asylum seekers – but unlike Australia they do not set a fixed number. These are the facts:

71 countries accept refugees and asylum seekers in some form or other

Of the 71 Australia is ranked 32nd

On a per capita basis Australia is ranked 38th, slightly behind Kazakhstan, Guinea, Djibouti and Syria

Of the 29 developed countries that accept refugees and asylum seekers Australia is ranked 14th. Per capita, the US takes twice as many refugees than Australia.

Myth 10

The people in the boats are terrorists

Fact: This is incorrect. Just 11 of more than 13,000 people who sought asylum in Australia last year were rejected on "character grounds". Only one was regarded as a security risk because of suspected terrorist links. He had come by air, not by boat.

Government intelligence briefings concerning the threat of terrorist attacks have not mentioned asylum seekers. There remains no evidence that any asylum seekers currently arriving by boat have any connection to terrorism. Those who perpetrated the September 11 attacks did not arrive in the United States as Asylum Seekers. They flew first class using valid papers.

The people in the boats are *fleeing from* the terrorism of the Taliban regime in Afghanistan and Saddam Hussein's Iraq. Linking the atrocities in the United States

with the boat people is akin to blaming the Jews for fleeing Hitler. People fleeing oppression have a right to claim asylum and have those claims assessed.

Myth 11

Refugees should stay in the first country they come to and 'join the queue'

Fact: Australia has not taken a single refugee from the UNHCR in Jakarta – from the so-called 'queue' – for more than three years. This is despite the rhetoric from Australian politicians for asylum seekers to be processed in Indonesia. It should also be noted that UNHCR centre in Indonesia was set up by Australia with Indonesian support. Refugees cannot stay in Indonesia because Indonesia is not a signatory to the Refugee Convention.

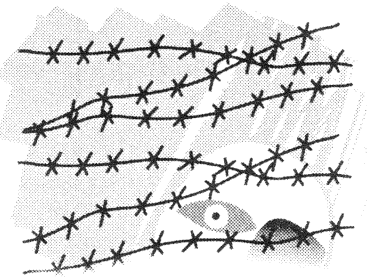
There is no requirement in international law for refugees to seek asylum in the first country they come to. Some developed countries have made this an additional requirement in order to avoid processing claims, leaving the large numbers of asylum seekers in camps in Third World countries. International law requires that asylum seekers should not be penalised according to the way in which they enter a country. Australia's current policy does not accord with this requirement.

Some people have given up on the 'queue' and resorted to coming by boat. 24 of those who recently died when their ship sank off the coast of Indonesia had already been granted refugee status by the UNHCR in Jakarta. Many more had relations in Australia who had been provided with asylum but were not allowed access to their wives and children. Simply, the 'queue' does not work.

Myth 12

Getting tough on refugees does not affect Australia's international reputation

Fact: The Australian Government's stance on boat people has attracted widespread international condemnation. The President of Pakistan recently claimed that he should not be forced to open the border to Afghanistan to allow in refugees because Pakistan already had 2.5 million refugees whilst Australia was turning away a few hundred.



The Howard Government's policy represents a change in the Liberal party's position. In 1985 current Minister, Phillip Ruddock criticised the then Labor Government for reducing its intake of refugees from Vietnam. In 1998 the Government rejected Pauline Hanson's call for temporary visas to be given to all refugees. However, the Government later introduced a similar proposal for those arriving without valid papers. Ms Hanson also called for the use of the navy to repel boats coming to Australia in February this year, six months before the Tampa incident.

Myth 13

Australia is a 'soft touch'

Fact: Compared to other nations, Australia takes a hard-line approach to asylum seekers. All people are mandatorily detained. If successful they can only receive a 3-year temporary visa and cannot apply to have their families join them. The current policy has not stopped people coming. Asylum seekers come to Australia because they fear persecution. The numbers reflect the severity of the situation they are fleeing, not the policies of the countries they are fleeing to.

The Minister for Immigration recently commented that the drowning deaths of over 350 people trying to get to Australia would not deter others. If such events do not deter people, the costly use of the Australian navy will not deter them either. The number of asylum seekers coming to Australia has increased since the Tampa. The current policy has been extremely costly. So far it is estimated it has cost this year's budget over \$140 million in extra funding, bringing the total to \$500 million.

Myth 14

It is easier to get refugee status in Australia than overseas.

Fact: According to the UNHCR, the total acceptance rate for all asylum seekers in Australia is equivalent to other western countries.

The Government has claimed that Australia cannot afford to allow asylum seekers to land in Australia because our court system enables asylum seekers to appeal within our court system and thereby gain easier access to refugee status. In contrast, they claim that only 10-15% of Iraqi asylum seekers are granted refugee status by the UNHCR in the Middle East, and similar results are found in Indonesia. UNHCR figures do not support this. They have approved over 77% of Iraqi asylum seekers processed in Indonesia. This does not include those who gain access through the UNHCR's appeal system.

Myth 15

People who destroy their identification can't be genuine

Fact: Most refugees are not able to travel through conventional channels because they cannot obtain a passport from the government that is persecuting them, or they are fleeing from.

Identification documents enable not only Australian immigration officials to determine identity but also representatives of the regime people are fleeing. This places relatives within countries like Afghanistan and Iraq at risk. Moreover, people fleeing from political persecution are at greater risk within their own country if they can be identified when they are on the move.

Myth 16

Asylum seekers are "ungrateful" and behave badly

Fact: There has been a series of allegations in the media since the Tampa incident concerning the "behaviour" of asylum seekers. These claims have been continuously proven false. One newspaper reported that the violent activity of asylum seekers on board the Manoora led to a child having their arm broken. Defence Minister Peter Reith denied such reports. The Government has alleged that prior to being picked up by HMAS Adelaide refugees threw their children overboard. The Australian Navy's video of the incident shows that these allegations cannot be substantiated.

Myth 17

Detention centres are better than the countries they have left behind

Fact: The German Government recently condemned detention centres, comparing them to concentration camps. Many asylum seekers have been the victims of persecution in the countries they have fled. For many,

Australian detention centres continue their persecution by removing many basic human rights and freedoms including access to families, and to the media. Adequate support services for the most basic of needs are limited. Constant surveillance, musters and other intrusive practices characterise people's daily lives. According to the Head of Psychiatry at Westmead Children's Hospital, a young child confined within a detention centre was recently diagnosed with an extreme form of depression, directly attributable to his confinement. This was not a one-off case. Many cases of severe depression have been reported.

Myth 18

Sending boat people to other countries solves Australia's asylum seeker problem

Fact: Australia pays for the processing of asylum seekers who are intercepted by the navy and then transported to other countries. Total bill for this policy is now \$500 million, and rising. In contrast Iran receives \$60 million to process over two million refugees.

Countries in the Pacific will not continue to accept asylum seekers coming to Australia. In the past Indonesia has accepted people for processing. However many nations, including Australia have refused to accept those who successfully receive refugee status. This has left the vast majority of asylum seekers in Indonesia indefinitely. Many in the Pacific fear the same will happen to them.

New Public Liability Insurance Scheme for not-for-profit Community Organisations

Following recommendations made by the Insurance Taskforce, the Queensland Government is investigating the feasibility of introducing group insurance cover for these organisations.

Group insurance cover should provide for lower premiums through bulk buying.

Not-for-profit community organisations can register their interest in joining the arrangement on line at www.treasury.qld.gov.au/groupinsurance

or by phoning 07 3224 4909.

Expressions of interest are due by 28 March 2002.

Quote

*"A society for all ages
is multi-generational.
It is not fragmented,
with youths, adults and
older persons going
their separate ways.
Rather it is age-
inclusive, with
different generations
recognising and
acting upon their
commonality of
interest..."*

Annan 1998

'Liability Insurance Taskforce Report

YANQ believes that any group purchasing scheme re: Public Liability Insurance needs to have input by the community sector. It is important that:

- the voluntary nature of insurance,
- the choice of provider and
- the choice of coverage

are afforded to the community sector. These areas need to be considered in discussions regarding group-purchasing arrangements.

We commend the report, specifically Recommendations 2, 3, 5, 6, and 15 of the report which highlight some of the above mentioned areas, especially recommendation 2 which states that further investigation of group purchasing arrangement for the community sector needs to be undertaken.

Readers can communicate their views on the report (available on www.premiers.qld.gov.au) by emailing insurancetaskforce@premiers.qld.gov.au



"Keeping Up: Stories and Reflections of young refugees in Brisbane: A Worker's Guide"

Queensland Program of Assistance to Survivors of Torture and Trauma (QPASTT) was funded by Brisbane City Council to develop a worker's guide that details information for workers about young people from a refugee background. Topics covered include definitions, visa categories and world refugee hot spots, ideas of ways for organisations and individual workers to work with young people from a refugee background and a list of agency contact details plus language and religion charts. The book also includes a section on what some refugees say about arriving, settling and living in Australia, presented with photos taken by a group of young people around Brisbane.

Available for sale from
QPASTT
by calling 3391 6677

"Solid Ground"

QPASTT in partnership with CONTACT Inc. and funded by the Office of Youth Affairs produced a 15 minute video of young people from a refugee background talking about their experiences. Issues covered include settlement, school and legal issues especially in relation to those on a temporary protection visa.

Available for sale from
Contact Inc
3257 2211

From the NESB Policy Officer

Greetings for the new year!

Police Ethnic Youth Partnership Advisory Group (PEYPAG)

During 2001 the PEYPAG focused on consulting with members various networks, workers, literature and other sources of information to bring together a scoping of issues regarding police and ethnic youth relations in the Queensland context. That phase of our work was completed towards the end of last year, and this year the partnership will focus on the next step which is to consider these various issues and concerns collected and begin a process to address possible actions and strategies to forward police and ethnic youth relations.

To assist the partnership to go this next step, we are seeking expressions of interest from members in the sector to be involved in various capacities as we begin the process of developing responses to the issues raised.

Interested people are invited to attend a meeting on **Thursday 11th April, 10.00am – 12.00noon**, at the YANQ Office in West End.

We would ask that interested people RSVP so that we can send out the issues paper before the meeting for people to consider and for regional and remote members to input. It is envisioned that smaller work groups may be developed to action various issues. Please contact Michael Zgryza at YANQ (phone 07 3844 7713 or email mzgryza@pacific.net.au) to express your interest and to receive a copy of the issues paper prior to the meeting.

Refugee & Asylum Seekers

Both December's and the recent February NYIN meeting spent considerable time discussing refugee and asylum seekers issues – in particular what we can all do as a sector to raise awareness and change opinions related to this issue.

A number of suggestions were made for both individuals, organisations, and YANQ –

Lobby parliamentarians – let them know how you feel

Encourage information/advocacy opportunities for politicians (and others) to meet with young refugee and asylum seekers to hear the stories, raise awareness and combat misinformation

Disseminate further resources like the "Myths and facts" sheets to affect broad

based public perceptions – starting with our own friends and acquaintances

Endeavour to use the media to impact on public opinion and public misconceptions

Explicitly challenge and address racist and discriminatory expressions made by people as they arise

YANQ to consider developing an issues paper to disseminate through the sector, to simply show the issues of refugees, asylum seekers and TPV holders, as well as positions on mandatory detention, TPV category and treatment, children in detention, Pacific Islands solution, recent changes to immigration laws, and multicultural Australia in its broadest sense

Consider developing a public awareness / information tool/ kit / process, that can be used by the sector to engage in public education and social action to support refugee and asylum seekers.

NESB GLBT ISSUES

A possible research focus for the year may be on NESB GLBT issues. I am interested in forming a small group of interested people to consider particular issues and possible future research. Again, contact Michael Zgryza at YANQ (phone 07 3844 7713 or email mzgryza@pacific.net.au) if you are interested.

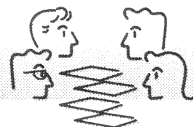
Until next time, *Michael*

Research & Development



Australia's drinkers are consuming alcohol in a dangerous manner nearly every time they imbibe, according to research published in the latest Medical Journal of Australia. Curtin University's National Drug Research Institute found almost all age groups risked acute or chronic illness by drinking above safe guidelines two thirds of the time. Young men aged 18 to 24 were found to drink dangerously 93 per cent of the time. Alcohol consumption in excess of the national safe drinking guidelines is believed responsible for about 3300 deaths each year in Australia, costing the community \$4.5 billion. Young people made up half of all deaths caused by alcohol related injuries. The Alcohol and Drug Foundation – Queensland is planning a positive campaign to promote responsible drinking by highlighting how to drink to enjoy the taste rather than drinking to get drunk.

Conferences Training/Events



Managing Sustainability 'A Quest for the Holy Grail?'

The WA Youth Affairs Conference 2002, **May 22nd-24th** Fairbridge Village, Pinjarra, WA. The themes of the conference are:

- Developing Skills and Work Practice
- Workers, Young People and their environment
- Developing Leadership and Management.

For more information contact Maria Mikolics Conference Convenor at Youth Affairs Council of Western Australia on (08) 9388 0640

Southbank Institute of TAFE Presents: The Creative Arts in Community Services & Health, An experiential workshop for health care providers, community workers and friends. The workshop explores the use of diverse modes of expression such as painting, story telling, writing, music, dance and movement

Dates: **Saturday 11th May or Saturday 3rd August 2002**

Time: 9.00am – 4.00 pm

Cost: \$100 including art materials \$70 (student concession)

Venue: Child Care Centre, 2nd floor E Block
Ernest Street Southbank TAFE

How to enrol/ for more information contact Denise Bolland,
Phone (07) 3244 5313 or 0412 724 379

Current Issues in Regulation: Enforcement and Compliance

2-3rd September 2002, Carlton Crest Hotel Melbourne

Conference Themes include:

- Current issues in regulatory enforcement
- Enforcement policies and strategies
- Empirical studies in regulatory enforcement, including ineffective enforcement
- Issues in regulatory compliance
- Compliance programs
- Regulatory failure

For more information contact Natalie

Taylor, Conference coordinator on (02) 6260 9254 or email Natalie.Taylor@aic.gov.au or visit the website at www.aic.gov.au

Leading Philanthropy and Nonprofit Organisations Conference

The Centre of Philanthropy and Nonprofit Studies is planning the inaugural 'Leading Philanthropy and Nonprofit Organisations in 2002 Conferences' to be held from 8 to 12 July 2002 at the Greenmount Beach Resort Hotel, Coolangatta.

The Program will run as two separate residential conferences. The 'Leading Nonprofit Organisations in 2002 Conference' will be conducted over 5 days and is designed for nonprofit managers who wish to improve their knowledge and skills.

The 'Leading Philanthropy in 2002 Conference' will be held over 3 days and two nights and is designed for Board Members and Chief Executives of Philanthropic organisations, and will stimulate discussion on contemporary issues in philanthropy.

For more information visit their website <http://cpns.bus.qut.edu.au> or phone the centre on 3864 1020. (From QCOS Bulletin 8/02/02)

Working with Volunteers

Tuesday & Wednesday 28 & 29 May 2002. Focuses on recruiting and working with non-traditional volunteers in a formal and nonformal programs; capacity building; and inclusive programs. More information is available in Volunteering Queensland's Calendar of Education for February-July on-line at www.volqld.org.au

WAYS –Work for Australian Youth Strategy program is an employment initiative designed for indigenous young people aged 17-25. An initiative of De La Salle Brothers and funded through the Boystown Lotteries WAYS training includes, Senior First Aid, Work Place Health and Safety, Personal Development and Vocational Skills. Contact WAYS on (07) 3808 4655

Resources/ Publications



The Stepping out for Work Pre-Employment Program

Queensland Working Women's Service (QWWS) has developed the Stepping Out for Work program, specifically for use by community-based organisations, where job seekers can overcome barriers to training and employment in a supportive environment. The program aims to provide participants with pre-employment knowledge and training through practical, experiential learning. Copies of the program are available at a cost of \$48.00 (including GST + Postage) from QWWS Ph (07) 3211 1440.

WHEN THE DRAMA CLUB IS NOT ENOUGH: Lessons from the Safe Schools

Program for Gay and Lesbian Students, by Jeff Perrotti and Kim Estheimer

Presents the work of two educators and activists who have been at the forefront of the successful Safe School Program for Gay and Lesbian Students in Massachusetts, USA. It discusses the impact of homophobia on primary and middle school students, high school athletes, teachers and parents, and gives concrete, hard won and often inspiring lessons on integrating gay and lesbian issues to create powerful change for school communities. This book is directed to those who wish to change the school climate; parents, teachers, administrators and students concerned about harassment and safety. The book includes chapters on 'Getting Started', Race and Gender', and sections on school policies and students legal rights. When the Drama Club is not Enough is distributed in Australia by Banyan Tree Book Distributors, SA and is available through The American Book Shop and The Women's Book Shop or contact the Qld agent Gay Landeta on 07 3358 5838.

Values & Youth Work



As a value driven organisation, YANQ has decided to commit a page of Network Noise, on a regular basis, to exploring and promoting the idea of value clarification in the youth sector. The following article is Copyright of S.Quixley 1995. Non-profit community organisations are welcome to use the material, provided that they don't charge for it, and that the source/author are fully acknowledged.

Articulating an Ideological Base (or, Ideology)

Part One

Early thinking on a Model for Community Services Development

This section proposes a model for organisational development in the community sector, which focuses on the following functions:

- Articulating an Ideological Base
- Assessing the need for documented ethics/ standards
- Undertaking organisational planning.
- Generating a clear Vision Statement
- Developing a policy/ procedural framework, and,

It argues that having a mutual Ideological base and Vision Statement is a fundamental prerequisite for undertaking any of the remaining functions in an efficient and effective manner.

Without common or compatible, motivations amongst key stakeholders, organisations within the corporate sector could not function. This applies even in a setting where the workers are required to exercise limited judgement.

The need for a mutual understanding of the *why?*, question is even more critical in the community sector. There are at least 2 key reasons for this:

1. The personal motivation of active participants in the organisation (eg. Workers or management) is even more central than in the corporate sector. Financial rewards are non-existent, or lower than they would be should the worker be undertaking the same functions in the corporate sector. Limited income, career path, job security and working conditions characterise employment in the non-government community sector. Personal values and beliefs, then are a key motivating force for many active participants.
2. The impact of active participants' personal motivations has a constant effect on service users. This applies at all levels, from policy to practice. Workers are required to exercise judgement from moment to moment in their work. The decisions of management have a profound impact on these judgements.

Much of the conflict within community organisations derives, ultimately, from the lack of mutual understood *ideology*

(ie. Ordered package of congruent values). If active participants are to make judgements constantly, which have some level of consistency and commonality, then a *culture of understanding* must be developed within an agencies. Without sufficient articulated common ground across all active participants, agencies in the community sector are at serious risk of ongoing directionlessness and conflict.

Each person acts out a hundreds or thousands of beliefs and values on their life. Some of these change frequently, or over time. *How then, could a group of people find and order stable, working, common ground?* Developing an articulated organisational Ideology offers one solution to this dilemma.

The process of developing and Ideological Base could include:

- Looking at the society we live in, and developing an analysis of it. *How does it work for those using the agency services?*
- Looking at how we would like society to be. *What sort of systems/ processes would be needed for this society to work? What would the role of individuals/ groups/ government be? What would it mean for those using agency services?*
- Looking at strategies best suited to *getting there*. *Which are compatible with the values/ beliefs of active participants within the organisation?*

Undergoing this type of thinking can assist in identifying the motivations of active participants in the organisation ... the people who will be acting on their individual values constantly! It should aid in identifying common ground and differences across key players. *Is there sufficient common ground for these people to work together? Is the common ground sufficiently clear to enable articulation of an organisational Ideology?*

Development of an Ideological Base could be represented as the foundation of a 3-dimensional triangle:

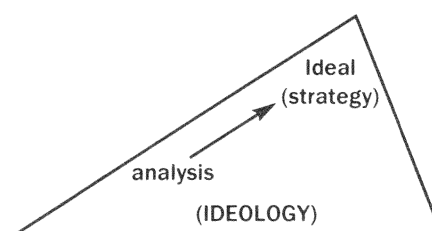


Diagram1: Components of Ideological Base

Once clear organisational values are in place, it becomes much easier to :

- Make quick judgements about compromises, because there is a reference point for those decisions.
- Develop policies and procedures, which should always be tested for their compatibility with the Ideological Base.

Interagency Meetings



Beaudesert Interagency

Contact: Michael Wallace
PO Box 572 Beaudesert, Q 4285.
Ph (07) 5541 3762, Fax (07) 5541 3654.
Meets last Wednesday of the month
10am - 12noon (general), 12 noon onwards (youth issues)
at Illoura Centre, 31 Duckett St, Beaudesert.

Beenleigh and District Interagency

Contact: Sharyn Bloomfield,
Beenleigh Community Health,
PO Box 386, Beenleigh Q 4207.
Ph (07) 3290 9833 Fax (07) 3290 9899.
Meets 2nd Thursday of the month 2 - 4pm at
Community Health,
10-18 Mt Warren Blvd, Mt Warren Park.

Brisbane Inner Urban Youth Interagency

Contact: Mitchell Dobbie
Drug Arm, 83 Castlemaine St Milton.
Ph (07) 3368 3822 Fax (07) 3367 3289.
Meets 1st Wednesday 10 - 12pm of the month at
Drug Arm

Caboolture Youth Network (YCAN)

Contact: Janine Carter
Caboolture Shire Council.
Ph (07) 5420 0342, Fax (07) 5420 0350.
Meets 3rd Wednesday of each month 12:30 - 3pm at
Caboolture Shire Council,
Level 3 King St, Caboolture.

Gold Coast Youth Network

Contact: Sylvia Raylance
C/- Gold Coast Youth Service
PO Box 740 Burleigh Heads Q 4220,
Ph (07) 5572 0400 Fax (07) 5575 2604
Meets Last Wednesday of month, 10.30am
at Robina Uniting Church Community Complex
4 Greenwich Crt Robina.

Inala Youth Interagency

Contact: John Rigsby-Jones,
Inala Youth and Family Support Service,
PO Box 141, Inala Q 4077.
Ph (07) 3372 2655 Fax (07) 3372 2710.
Meets at 12:00pm on the 2nd Thursday of the month at
Centrelink Office, 2nd Floor, Wirrway Parade, Inala.

Ipswich Youth Focus

Contact: Mark Smith
Ipswich City Council
PO Box 191, Ipswich Q 4305.
Ph (07) 3810 6656, Fax (07) 3810 6741.
Meets monthly on the 1st Tuesday of the month at
12:30pm at Ipswich Health Plaza, Bell Street, Ipswich

Logan Youth Interagency Network

Contact: Sean Cleary
Logan City Police-Citizens Youth Club, PO Box 152
Woodridge 4114
Ph: 3208 7341 or Email: pcyo.inroads@bigpond.com
Meets 2nd Monday each month from 3pm to 5pm at the
Logan PCYC Conference room (PCYC is situated behind the
Logan City Council Chambers - next door to the swimming
pool) Jacaranda Ave, Woodridge.

Pine Rivers Youth Service Providers Network

Contact: Di Cattling,
Youth Care Pine Rivers
PO Box 143, Strathpine Q 4500.
Ph (07) 3881 2823 Fax (07) 3881 1047.
Meets 1st Monday of every second month, 2pm at
16 Lincoln St, Strathpine.

Redcliffe Youth Service Providers Network

Contact: John Doherty
Redcliffe City Council, PO Box 66, Redcliffe Q 4020.
Ph (07) 3889 5733 Fax (07) 3889 5320.
Meets 6-8 weeks, contact John regarding next meeting date
3pm at the Meeting Room Peninsula Business & Tourism
Centre 35-37 Redcliffe Parade, Redcliffe.

Redlands Youth Network

Contact: Christine D'Arcy,
Bayside District Health Service,
PO Box 585, Cleveland Q 4163.
Ph (07) 3240 8311 Fax (07) 3821 4782.
Meets 3rd Monday of each month 9:30am - 11:30 am
at Redlands Health Service Centre, Hospital Grounds,
Cleveland.

South-east Youthlink Interagency

Contact: Jillan Covey
JPET, 34 Sanders St, Upper Mt Gravatt, Q 4122.
Ph (07) 3349 2855 Fax (07) 3349 3593.
Meets 2nd Tuesday of the month, 9am - 11am Carina Youth
Agency Old Cleavland Road, Carina

Youth Health Interagency

Contact: Jeff Cheverton at Brisbane Youth Service
PO Box 1389, Fortitude Valley Q 4006.
Ph (07) 3252 3750 Fax (07) 3252 2166 .
Meets every two months at Child and Youth Mental Health
Service, Cnr Water and Rogers Sts, Spring Hill.

Wynnum Youth Network

Contact: Danielle Jenkins
BABI Youth and Family Support
PO Box 69 Wynnum Q 4178.
Ph (07) 3393 4170 or Fax (07) 3393 5808.
Meets every 3 months, 9:30am - 11:30am. Venue changes.

Interagency Meetings



Bundaberg District Youth Sector Network

Contact: Peter Callen
PO Box 2252 Bundaberg Q 4670
Ph (07) 4154 0324
1st Thursday of month at Youthworx, Svensson St, Bundaberg

Cairns Youth Services Network

Contact: Lee Storck
West Cairns Youth Development
PO Box 359, Cairns Q 4870
Ph (07) 4032 3699 Fax (07) 4032 3966
Meets last Thursday of month 3:30pm
Cairns City Library, Abbott St Cairns

Central and North Burnett Community Service Network (YDIG youth development initiative group)

Contact: Andrew Crowthers & Jodie Manskie
Monto Neighbourhood Centre
PO Box 97, Monto Q 4630
Ph (07) 4166 1733 Fax (07) 4166 3186
10am to 3pm, Meets 1st Monday of month (venue changes)

Central West Youth Network

Contact: Katrina George
PO Box 191, Barcaldine Q 4725
Ph (07) 4651 2221 Fax (07) 4651 1778
Meets every 2 or 3 months, Venue changes.

Emerald Youthlink Network

Contact: Mathew Sampson
Rural Youth Worker, Emerald Shire Council
PO Box 21, Emerald Q 4720
Ph (07) 4982 0540 Fax (07) 4982 0540
Meets 1st Thursday of every 2nd month
Venue changes.

Gladstone Youth Interagency

Contact: Andrea Hughes
Gladstone City Council
PO Box 29, Gladstone Q 4680
Ph (07) 4972 4855 Fax (07) 4972 6557
Meets 1st Wednesday of month
Neighbourhood Centre 105 Toolooa St, Gladstone

Hervey Bay Youth Sector Workers Network

Contact: Sue Lawler
Hervey Bay City Council
PO Box 5045, Hervey Bay Q 4655
Ph (07) 4197 4330 Fax (07) 4197 4303

Warwick Youth Network

Southern Downs Health Service District
Contact: Julieanne Williamson
PO Box 273, Stanthorpe, Q 4380
Ph (07) 4681 5260 Fax (07) 4681 5228
Meets quarterly, 1st Wednesday of month
Warwick Community Health Centre

Innisfail Community Sector Network

Contact: Rebecca Hyde
PO Box 887, Innisfail Q 4860
Ph (07) 4030 2255 Fax (07) 4061 6005
Meets Bi-monthly at Parish Centre, Rankin Street, Innisfail

Mackay Youth Connection & Network Inc

Contact: Amanda Sulter
Mackay Youth Support Service
PO Box 1813, Mackay Q 4740
Ph (07) 4951 0510 Fax (07) 4957 7637
Meets 3rd Tuesday of the month 11.15am at Community Health Centre

Magnetic North Youth Service Providers Association Inc.

Contact: Monica McCabe
PO Box 230, Aitkenvale Q 4814
Ph (07) 4771 3648 Fax (07) 4721 5804
Meets 3rd Tuesday of month from 10:30am
Migrant Resource Centre T&G Building, Cnr Stanley & Flinders Sts, Townsville

Mt Isa and District Youth Interagency

Contact: Alvin Hava
QLD Health
PO Box 2958, Mt Isa Q 4825
Ph (07) 4744 4805 Fax (07) 4749 0663 or
Madonna Kennedy, Tropical Public Health
Ph: (07) 4749 5623 Meets Monthly

Rockhampton Combined Youth Interagency & Suicide Prevention

Contact: Julie Hill
QLD Health
PO Box 501, Rockhampton Q 4700
Ph (07) 4920 6923 Fax (07) 4920 6870
Meets 3rd Tuesday of month at the Community Health Centre at 9:30am to 11.40am

South Burnett Youth Development Network

Contact: Shirley Varrall
PO Box 326, Kingaroy Q 4610
Ph (07) 4162 5052 Fax (07) 4162 5120
Meets monthly at Child Health Building, Kingaroy

Sunshine Coast Youth Workers Forum

Contact: Terri Shine
Caloundra City Council
PO Box 117, Caloundra Q 4551
Ph (07) 5420 8200 Fax (07) 5420 8728
Meets every 6 weeks at Alcooringa, Ballinger Rd, Buderim

Toowoomba Youth Organisations Network (TYON)

Contact: Ed Bradbury
Department of Education
PO Box 38, Toowoomba Q 4350
Ph (07) 4688 4412 Fax (07) 4688 4498
Meets monthly (venue changes) for details contact Ed Bradbury

Membership/Subscription Application Form Tax Invoice

all relevant fees have 10% GST included. Must be paid by personal cheque, money order, credit card or cash

ABN 28 205 281 339

Category Applied For:

Individual / Young Person (aged 12-25years) Membership ☐

**YANQ Membership
Application Form**

Title _____ First Name _____

Family Name _____

Postal Address _____

Suburb _____ State _____ Code _____

Phone (H) _____ (W) _____

Fax _____ Mobile _____

E-mail _____

Receiving Centrelink ☐ \$5.00

Young Person ☐ \$10.00

Income <\$25,000 ☐ \$15.00

Income \$25,000 - \$50,000 ☐ \$40.00

Income > \$50,000 ☐ \$50.00

Must be paid by personal cheque, money order, credit card or cash

Organisational Membership ☐

Organisation _____

Contact Person: Title _____ First Name _____

Family Name _____

Position _____

Postal Address _____

Suburb _____ State _____ Code _____

Phone (W) _____ Fax _____

Mobile _____ E-mail _____

Community Not for Profit Organisation

Funding <\$100,000 ☐ \$55.00

Funding \$100,000 - \$250,000 ☐ \$80.00

Funding \$250,000 - \$400,000 ☐ \$120.00

Funding >\$400,000 ☐ \$150.00

For Profit Organisations

Community Organisation ☐ \$165.00

Subscriber ☐

Department/Service _____

Contact Person: Title _____ First Name _____

Family Name _____

Position _____

Postal Address _____

Suburb _____ State _____ Code _____

Phone (W) _____ Fax _____

Mobile _____ E-mail _____

Community Not for Profit

Individual ☐ \$60.00

Organisation ☐ \$160.00

For Profit ☐ \$15.00

Government Department or Service ☐ \$40.00

Federal, State, Local ☐ \$50.00

N.B If for some reason you are unable to sign the values and vision statement of the Network you are entitled to become a subscriber after submitting the relevant fee.

Pay by Credit Card:

☐ American Express ☐ Mastercard ☐ Bankcard ☐ Visa

Card Details



Name on Card _____

Amount _____

Expiry Date _____

Signature _____

Please send application; cheque; money order or credit card details to YANQ 30 Thomas St, West End Q 4101

I.....have read and support the objects and the values summary of the Network and hereby request to become a member of the network.

Signed Date

I.....a current financial member of the Network, second the application.

Signed Date

Youth Affairs Network of Queensland Inc

who are we?

The Youth Affairs Network of Queensland (YANQ) Inc is the peak community youth affairs organisation in Queensland.

Representing over 400 individuals and organisations from Queensland's youth sector, we promote the interests and well-being of young people across the state by:

- disseminating information to members, the youth sector, and the broader community
- undertaking campaigns and lobbying
- making representations to government and other influential bodies
- resourcing regional and issues-based networks
- consulting and liaising with members and the field
- linking with key state and national bodies
- initiating projects
- hosting forums and conferences

We advocate on behalf of young people in Queensland, especially disadvantaged young people, to government and the community. We promote and support cultural diversity. We encourage the development of policies and programs responsive to the needs of young people.

Your membership and support is vital in providing a voice for young people's issues in Queensland.

who can join?

Membership of the network may be granted to youth organisations, Youth Workers and young people in the non government youth sector who have:

Agreed to support the objects and values summary of the network and paid the prescribed fee and completed the relevant application form

Subscriber

Any other individual or organisation interested in the work of the network is entitled to become a subscriber after submitting the relevant fee.

Become a member..... and make a difference!

Keep up to date

- Free newsletter quarterly, Network Noise
- Free Infact sheets distributed regularly
- Discount on other YANQ publications, such as Transitions
- Information on-line at our website
- Access to library resources
- Free-call 1-800 line for regional members

Make valuable contacts

- Participate in youth policy development
- Join YANQ's working parties
- Receive support and information for your regional and issues-based networks
- Contribute to our newsletter

Access professional development

- Discounts at YANQ forums and training events
- Discount at YANQ's Biennial State Youth Affairs Conference

YANQ Aims

Working together to improve the quality of life of young people in Queensland and thereby improve the quality of life of society

YANQ Objects

- To promote the interests of the youth sector particularly the interests of disadvantaged and marginalised young people, throughout Queensland.
- To enable the participation of young people, particularly disadvantaged and marginalised young people, in the Network and wider community.
- To advocate with and for young people, particularly disadvantaged and marginalised young people.
- To lobby to achieve long term social change in the interests of young people particularly disadvantaged and marginalised young people.
- To support and encourage the development of new means of meeting the rights and needs of young people, particularly disadvantaged and marginalised young people.
- To contribute to the development of the youth sector through networking, research and information provision.
- To develop policies on issues affecting the youth sector.
- To ensure that the Network has adequate resources to properly address issues affecting the youth sector.
- To function in a manner consistent with the Values and Vision of the Network.

join today!

Simply fill in the application form, detach and return it to YANQ with your membership fee payment. For more information please call us on (07) 3844 7713 or 1800 177 899 (available for regional Qld)

Summary of our Values

At YANQ, we believe that everyone is unique. At the same time, human beings share a lot in common, and are essentially social. We envisage a society where everyone lives in harmony. For this to happen, society must both value every individual and seek the best outcome for the community as a whole. There is the same diversity amongst young people as the rest of the community: like everyone else, young people need to feel respected and valued. When young women and young men are treated as important, the rest of society will gain from their insights and experiences.

We aim to contribute to developing a society that genuinely includes all its members. That's why we are committed to promoting multiculturalism (in its widest sense), and supporting and respecting the wide range of cultures that are part of Australian society. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people always have been, and always will be, the first people of this land. Because of their special relationship with the land, indigenous culture will always have a particular significance in Australian society. Focussing on reconciliation with indigenous people is an important starting point toward creating a more inclusive society. It also provides a model for other areas of action, including strategies toward improving the situation of young people.

We believe that the most effective way to achieve constructive social change is for people to work together. Economic, social and political change is happening all the time, and it is critical that we constantly assess and reassess our strategies if we are to influence change. Both the process and outcomes of change must be fair if sustained, constructive social change is to occur.

We believe that everybody is entitled to have their basic emotional and material rights met. The central role of governments is to ensure that this occurs. Unfortunately, at the moment, governments in Australia focus on supporting global economic interests. Whilst we believe that everyone is fundamentally equal, some sections of our society do not have access to their fair share of society's resources. This includes young people, whose basic human rights are currently not being met. YANQ is committed to encouraging positive discrimination on behalf of those groups which miss out in society so that this type of social injustice will be overcome. It is only when everyone's fundamental rights are fulfilled, and each has the means to fully participate, that it will become relevant to talk about "mutual obligation" between society and its members.

We believe that a range of strategies is required to achieve constructive social change. Governments in Australia appear committed to stopping the voice of those who challenge their misplaced priorities. YANQ is responsible for being a strong public voice which lobbies and advocates on behalf of those young people who particularly miss out in society, and of young people as a whole. To undertake this role effectively, it is crucial that we draw on the expertise of those working most closely with issues affecting particular groups of young people - young women and young men themselves, youth workers and youth organisations. That's why networking is another important social change strategy; it enables the youth sector to participate in collective action.

Ultimately, YANQ's credibility is maintained by practicing what we preach. Our whole structure is designed to ensure that our values and vision permeate the organisation. We are committed to maintaining an open, flexible, accountable, consistent, inclusive, valuing approach in all our dealings - within YANQ, and in our relations with our members and the wider community. We are committed to applying our values in everything we say, and everything we do.