

Network

Newsletter of the Youth Affairs Network of Queensland Inc

Noise

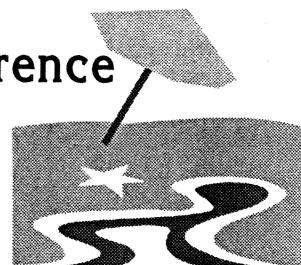
Quarterly Newsletter September 2002



Queensland State Youth Affairs Conference

30th October - November 1st 2002

Contact YANQ - <http://www.yanq.org.au>



Changing Times... Challenges and Choices in Shaping Our Future

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The youth sector has been witness to, and participants of, significant change within the human service industry. Social policy and the service delivery system have shifted at a rapid pace. The conference will explore these changes, the use of strength based approaches in our work, the rights of young people and the development of partnerships within and across sectors through providing a dynamic conference environment that encourages critical debate. The conference will be interactive, experiential, and pitched at the new and very experienced. It will be an opportunity for all people with interest in the youth sector to come together to share ideas, challenge perspectives and to shape the future of our sector.

The conference will consist of three main streams:

- 'From competition to collaboration and partnership' – A critical exploration of the current trends within the human service industry, unpacking the rhetoric and the practice.
- 'Justice' – A stream that will concentrate on ensuring that issues pertaining to access, equity, participation and rights are understood, debated and heard.
- 'Contemporary Practice' – This stream will drill down on the contemporary practice frameworks such as resiliency, strength focused approaches, risk and protective factors.

The Conference Program has been structured in a way that promotes delegates to provide direct feedback about future directions for the Youth Sector.

Critical analysis and debate will be channelled through recommendation groups to synthesis the creative ideas, issues and challenges discussed throughout the three day conference.

An exciting selection of keynote speakers have been selected from around Australia, including:

Judith Bessant is an academic at the Australian Catholic University who has worked as a teacher and researcher in youth studies since the late 1980s. During that time she has been an advocate for young people. She has also published extensively with a number of books (including *Youth Studies: an Australian Perspective* - with Sercombe and Watts), and many journal articles on youth-related issues, including policy, the media, labour market, children in detention, education, youth at risk and poverty. She is currently working on a research project investigating housing and drug use in three urban centres. Judith is also Director of the Social Policy and Advocacy Research Centre at the ACU.

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Network Noise

the Youth Affairs Network of
Queensland (YANQ) Inc. newsletter,
published every 3 months.

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Contributions Welcome

Ring, write, email 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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in this publication do not necessarily
represent the views of YANQ.
YANQ also does not necessarily
endorse training and resources
advertised in this publication.

Queensland State Youth Affairs Conference 2002

keynote speakers continued

Kerrie Tim is a Director of the National Indigenous Leadership Centre as well as the Principal of her own business, Kalkari Consultancy. As a former Executive Director to the Queensland Government, having worked for both the Department of the Premier and Cabinet and the Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Policy, Kerrie has extensive experience in public policy and administration. Kerrie's leading edge work on eliminating racism focuses on coalition building between groups working towards a fair and just society for all and strategies to assist people recover from the damage caused by racism and oppression. Kerrie's most recent international experience has included leading a workshop on recovering from the damage caused by racism in Durban, South Africa in 2001, as part the United Nations World Conference Against Racism; and leading a peer counselling workshop on eliminating racism in Israel in 2000.

John Tomlinson is a socialist and an anarchist; he spent 12 years working as a Commonwealth Government social worker and community worker in Brisbane and the Northern Territory. John taught community work for 7 years at Darwin Community College (1975-85). He was the Director of the ACT Council of Social Service (1987-93) and since then has been a senior lecturer in social policy and community work at the Queensland University of Technology. He is active in issues such as peace, civil liberties, Indigenous, refugee, unemployment and other low income earner struggles. John's play *The Death of Phillip Robertson* about an Indigenous death in custody was staged by New Theatre Sydney. He wrote *Is Band-Aid Social Work Enough?*, *Social Work: Community Work / Betrayed by Bureaucracy*, *Income Security: The Basic Income Alternative* and has been joint editor of three books on unemployment. John also writes poetry and song lyrics and is a fishing fanatic.

Dr Howard Sercombe has a long history of involvement in youth affairs, as a youth worker, academic, researcher and media commentator. Trained in social and political theory, media studies, and theology, Howard is a long term member of staff in the Youth Work Programme at Edith Cowan University. More broadly, Howard's current writing is focussed on the nature of youth work practice: how our conceptions of young people shape their practice, what makes youth work different from other interventions with young people, and the peculiar professional ethics of youth work as a practice. He is co-author of *Youth Studies: an Australian Perspective* (1998), and *Youth and the Future* (2002). Howard has three sons, now in their teens and twenties.

Alex McDonald is Campaigns & Trade development coordinator for The Body Shop in Australia. Alex is currently director of The Big Issue Australia; this company works with homeless and long term unemployed people. He is a director of the foundation for Young Australians, Australia's largest foundation dedicated to supporting young people. Alex is Director of First Australians Business (FAB) Australia's first national indigenous business mentoring program. He is currently acting as lead facilitator for the National Youth Roundtable for the Department of Family and Community Services. Alex lives on Queensland's Sunshine coast with his wife and three daughters, dogs & an associated menagerie

Dr Richard Hil is currently Senior Lecturer in Human Services at Southern Cross University. Previously, Richard has taught at the University of York, James Cook University, Sunshine Coast University College, and Queensland University of Technology. His main areas of interest are in the areas of youth justice, child and family welfare, and criminology. Richard is currently embarked on a study of youth poverty in the Coffs Harbour region. In addition to having published extensively in scholarly journals Richard has also edited a number of books and co-authored *Families, Crime and Juvenile Justice* (with McMahon, A.), *Risk Talk* and *Understanding Criminology* (both with Bessant, J. and Watts, R.). Richard is also working on an edited text entitled *Violations of Trust: How Institutions Fail Our young People*, and is co-author of *Genetics, Crime and Risk*. (with Hindmarsh, R., Hocking, B. and Campion, V).

Hassan Qhulam is the president of the Australian Hazara Ethnic Society in Australia. Hassan is a passionate advocate of refugee rights and is always up to date with the events in Afghanistan as well as issues faced by refugees in Australian jails.

IS DRUGGING CHILDREN THE ANSWER?

Thousands of Queensland children are being exposed to dangerous stimulant drugs, often through prescriptions for a 'disease' that has not been proven to exist. Children are also selling, swapping and sharing these drugs at school.

Most often, these drugs are prescribed when a child is diagnosed as having 'Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder' (ADHD). However, there is no medical test for this condition and despite millions of dollars of research, there remains no known etiology. In fact, professionals in many parts of the world have begun to question whether the 'disorder' really exists, or if it is just a label we give to children who are misbehaving. Yet the past nine years have seen a 1,300 per cent increase in prescription rates for Australian children! This raises the question of whether we are just drugging our children to get them to behave.

Stimulant medication seems to quiet children down, whether they are considered 'ADHD' or 'normal', but studies have shown it does nothing to improve educational performance and has absolutely no long-term benefits. The most popular medications, dexamphetamine and methylphenidate (Ritalin), are central nervous system stimulants and are closely related to cocaine. Both dexamphetamine and methylphenidate are controlled drugs under Schedule 8 of the Health (Drugs and Poisons) Regulation (1996), and they are classified as specified condition drugs under section 78 of the same regulations, with additional supply and use restrictions. Medical professionals have raised concerns about serious long-term side effects, including deficits in growth, cardiac problems and even possible changes in brain development. In the short-term, stimulants often cause a 'zombie-like' effect in children, dampening their natural spontaneity and curiosity. Many children report feelings of sadness and depression while taking these drugs, raising concerns about increased risk of suicide. Despite the fact that these drugs are not recommended for use with children under the age of 6, they are prescribed in Queensland to children as young as 18 months old! Considering that this is a diagnosis without a disease and actually based on such things as 'often does not follow through on instructions and fails to finish schoolwork and is often forgetful in daily activities', this is a frightening state of affairs for Queensland children. Any child who is a problem for their parent or teacher could find themselves being told they have a 'disease', despite the absence of any evidence whatsoever, and in the United States, parents have been accused of medical neglect and have lost custody of their children for refusing to subdue them with these dangerous and powerful drugs. We could be heading down that same road here in Queensland.

Most everyone agrees that much more research is needed on the problems with the ADHD diagnosis and the risks of stimulant medication, yet the number of children given prescriptions continues to skyrocket. This is especially troubling when there are many safe interventions for families experiencing child behaviour problems, including family therapy, parenting education and supportive counselling. Interventions in the classroom taking into account the unique personalities and learning styles of more active or distractible children often prove successful. Yet Queensland children continue to be drugged by the thousands, without truly informed consent by their parents and without ANY consent by the children themselves, while drug companies reap the astronomical profits.

YANQ is extremely concerned about the possibility that Queensland children are being needlessly exposed to dangerous drugs in order to control their behaviour, based on a 'disease' that may very well not even exist. As a result, YANQ has been exploring the issue in depth and has produced a report, which was launched on 2nd September during Child Protection Week. We hope to see formal inquiries conducted by the appropriate agencies, taking into account not only the strongly pro-medication perspective promoted by the drug companies and some physicians, but also the extensive and well-documented international evidence about the dangers of stimulant medication and the uncertainties about the diagnosis of ADHD. Electronic copies of the report can be obtained by sending an email to yanq@pacific.net.au or by visiting our website at <http://www.yanq.org.au>

AUSTRALIANS HEAD TO YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SUMMIT WITH WORK IN MIND

Young Australians will be joining approximately 1000 of their peers from around the world at the Youth Employment Summit in Egypt this September to launch a Decade Campaign of Action so that an additional 500 million young adults, especially youth facing poverty, will have productive and sustainable livelihoods by the year 2012.

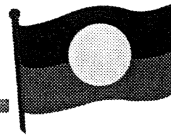
Hosted by the Egyptian Government in Alexandria from 7 - 11 September 2002, the Youth Employment Summit (YES) will see a further 1000 delegates from government, civil society, multilateral agencies and private sector organisations join youth leaders in what is, surprisingly, the first major international conference to be convened on the subject.

"YES will be a thriving marketplace of ideas for addressing the growing global youth employment crisis, where deals will be done, relationships formed, capacity built, and projects developed and launched" says Cameron Neil, the YES Australian Country Network Coordinator.

The Summit will include a Ministerial Conference, Innovation Marketplace, Good Practice Awards, Workshops, and Skills Development Courses. Groundbreaking virtual activities will take place that will make this a truly participatory worldwide event. All these components will contribute to creating the platform and building the capacity necessary to achieve YES's goals over the coming decade.

Cameron, a 26 year old YANQ member, comments further. "There is a growing recognition amongst the global community that achieving peace, eradicating poverty and curbing environmental devastation in our globalising world requires providing meaningful opportunities for young people to participate in their communities and to experience productive and sustainable livelihoods. Failure to address youth unemployment, social exclusion and the growing gap between rich and poor, both between and within nations, threatens to tear apart our communities."

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YANQ believes that the primary culture of Australia is Aboriginal. We recognise that Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and South Sea Islander peoples are 3 separate cultures. We recognise Aboriginal people as the permanent custodians of mainland Australia, including those areas of land whose owners have been wiped out as a result of racist policies and acts. We use the term custodianship in the context of protection and care for the land. YANQ is committed to respecting Murri communities and individuals. We seek to understand their responses to policies and issues affecting them. We are committed to learning about their understandings of the impact of decisions on them. YANQ apologises for the past and present social mistreatment of Murri and Islander people created by colonisation, and is committed to supporting the healing process.

Indigenous Imprisonment and Vagrants, Gaming and Other Offences Act 1931.

ANTaR Qld has taken up the issue of Indigenous imprisonment as a major focus for the year. As you may be aware, indigenous people are imprisoned in Queensland at 15 times the rate of Non-indigenous people, with resulting severe impact on the wellbeing of indigenous communities. In particular, ANTaR is concerned about some provisions of the Vagrants, Gaming and Other Offences Act 1931 (Vagrants Act), which is a major route into the criminal justice system for Indigenous Australians, often for very minor offences. We are writing to ask for the support of your organisation on this issue.

ANTaR understands that a new Summary Offences Bill will shortly be considered by Cabinet, ahead of being tabled in Parliament. We believe that it is the intention of the Government to repeal the Vagrants Act, but to transfer some of its provisions to this new bill. ANTaR considers that the Vagrants Act is outdated, and the continued use of its provisions under the guise of new legislation will do nothing to improve the way in which the criminal justice system impacts upon Indigenous Australians, nor will it improve the ability of the police to deal with public order concerns.

We have prepared a submission to the Queensland Government to express our concerns and urge the Government to take this opportunity to seek a constructive dialogue with Indigenous communities and find alternative solutions to the social problems which lead to so-called public order offences, rather than continuing the criminalisation of many Indigenous Australians.

We have written our submission from the point of view of a (predominantly) non-indigenous organisation supporting Indigenous communities, and have tried to make it clear that we are not speaking on behalf of indigenous peoples.

ANTaR Qld makes two practical recommendations that we believe are necessary first steps:

1. The decriminalisation of minor offences that do not harm person or property. In particular, we recommend that the indecent language, threatening, abusive, insulting words, and the disorderly behaviour provisions of the Vagrants, gaming and Other Offences Act 1931 be rescinded and not be transferred to the Summary Offences Bill, currently in preparation. We also recommend that current practices, which criminalise illness such as alcoholism, drug addiction, and mental illness, be replaced by providing properly funded and support treatment and diversionary facilities.
2. The establishment or upgrading of police monitoring bodies and procedures in respect of racial harassment, racial discrimination and the exercise of police discretion in relation to arrest and laying charges. Additionally, the establishment or upgrading of educational, remedial, and where necessary, disciplinary procedures, to ensure that racial discrimination is abolished in practice, as well as in principle. This recommendation needs high profile leadership from the Police Minister and Police Commissioner to ensure implementation in practice.

However, ANTaR Qld recognises that the complexity of the problem and its many interacting factors means that these recommendations, however practical, will not of themselves solve the problem. In view of this, we further recommend:

3. The adoption of the principle of genuine negotiation with Indigenous communities as equals, to establish and support the process of self-determination for those communities. For negotiations to be genuine and conducted on an equal basis, impoverished Indigenous communities must be empowered with resources, facilities and time, and there must be commitment to implement the negotiated outcomes.

ANTaR Qld is encouraging other community organisations to make submissions to the Queensland Government on this issue. QUT Law Faculty has advised us that they will make a submission from a legal point of view. The ANTaR Qld submission will be sent to the Police Minister, the Attorney General, the Families Minister and the Premier (address details below).

Alternatively, community organisations and interested individuals could write letters supporting the ANTaR Qld submission. If you would like a copy of the ANTaR Qld submission, or any other information about this issue, please contact the ANTaR Qld office on phone 38449800 or email: antarqld@dovenetq.net.au or contact Tamara Walsh, Faculty of Law (Research), QUT on phone 38645208 or email: tamara.walsh@qut.edu.au.

We realise that, in addition to submissions to government, we need to raise awareness. Together with QUT Law Faculty, we are planning a public meeting for the evening of Thursday 3rd October at which professor Chris Cunneen will speak on this issue (details to be confirmed). Suggestions and involvement with this or other public awareness activities would be very much appreciated. We would also appreciate a copy of any action taken by your organisation.

Please support ANTaR Qld in its fight for justice for Indigenous Australians

General Update

YANQ Meeting with Nicola Roxon

The YANQ Policy Officer met with Nicola Roxon (Commonwealth Shadow Minister for Youth) on July 2nd to discuss Commonwealth issues confronting young people from the Queensland community Youth Sector context. Besides sharing the view from the sector that Labour needed to become a credible opposition and develop some policies - especially on the issues of refugees and asylum seekers, a number of issues and positions covered with her, in brief, were:

A Youth Policy Focus On A Commonwealth Level

- What's happened? We have a minister, but no responses.
- What's happened to the Footprints Report initiatives?

Income Support

- The misdirection of the whole welfare reform agenda
- Opposition to "Work for the dole"
- Opposition to Mutual Obligation
- The need for increases in Youth Allowance, and greater access
- The continuing concerns around Centrelink Breaches

SAAP/CAP

- The high rates of youth homelessness, and the need for increased funding for states, especially QLD in regard to SAAP is needed.

Multicultural

- Opposition to Mandatory detention
- The need for a humane Refugee policy
- Opposition to the 'Pacific Islands' solution
- The need to continually address racism – the response needs to be more than harmony grants
- The continued ongoing funding for multicultural focused solutions – especially in relation to family and young peoples projects
- Concerns around skilled migration entrants – they cannot get a job due to non-recognition of skills and prior learning, or perceived discrimination

Health

- The need for bulk billing for young people
- Access to GP's
- Automatic issuing of Medicare cards at 15
- Promotion and prevention focusing on young people

ALP's Proposal For A National Children's Commissioner

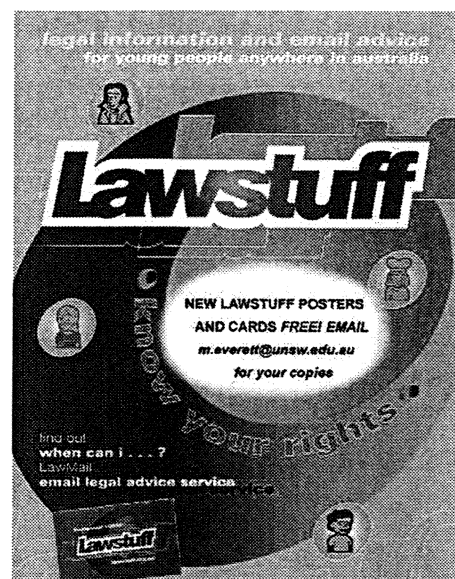
- CROC – signatory but no domestic legislation to make it real
- National Children's commissioner needs to have teeth
- ADHD – over medication of children as behaviour control

Alternative Education Programs

- Needs to be co-ordination of Federal / State initiatives
- What has happened with the Poems & Full Service schools?

Employment

- No real response nationally for youth unemployment or effective job creation
- Appalling state of Queensland's youth unemployment rates



www.lawstuff.org.au is the National Children's and Youth Law Centre's legal information website for young people. It's stuffed full of facts, true stories and useful referrals for young people around Australia. The site covers topics such as Hit the Road! (cars and driving issues) On the Job (employment information) and Know Your Rights At School. There's also LawMail, an email advice service that provides legal information and advice in response to young people's questions.

We'd like more young people to know about services available to them. The NCYLC is currently promoting Lawstuff and LawMail around Australia and we've produced some fantastic new posters and cards. If your organisation would like some of these free posters and cards, contact Meghann Everett on m.everett@unsw.edu.au or 02 9398 7488 and we'll send them to you!

Policy Platform Update

Policy Platform drafts Progress is continuing on the development of six new policy platforms drafts for inclusion in the 2002 edition of YANQ's Policy Platform. A number of targeted and continuing discussions have occurred to gain feedback on the positions before they are printed later in the year as draft positions for members.

Samuel Walker has been busy consulting with members of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender (GLBT) community in regard to the GLBT Youth policy, the Youth Justice Coalition has considered the Youth Justice position, and Non-English Speaking Background Youth Issues Network (NYIN) has discussed the Refugee and Asylum seeker policy.

Health, Youth Suicide, and Income Support focused discussions will be held soon.

Latest drafts of the policy positions will be available on the YANQ website during September as they become available, to enable members and others in the sector to comment on these initial drafts and continue to have input before the final draft release.

Comments may be emailed to YANQ, marked **Attention: Policy Platform**.

SEXUAL HEALTH TRAINING PROJECT

The findings of the Statewide Needs Assessment Project (SNAP) are now available. This project, jointly run by Brisbane Youth Service and Youth Link, examined the training needs of youth workers and allied professionals in working with marginalised young people around sexual health. The project was initially funded through the Queensland Health Communicable Diseases Unit in 1988 to deliver HIV/AIDS Prevention campaigns with marginalised young people in Brisbane, Townsville and Cairns. The projects have been reoriented to train workers across the State around sexual health.

Sexual health was defined beyond contraception and sexual transmitted infections to include sexual identity and sexual diversity (including same sex attraction), self and self esteem, choice, decision making, relationships, gender, legal issues negotiation and sexual assault. The project is run within a sexual health rights framework whereby the development of sexuality is an integral part of all people. Additionally, it is believed that access to information, resources and support to make informed choices and freedom from harassment, exploitation and abuse is a right for all young people.

In short, sexual health is an important issue that workers are responding to across the State. Workers identified a range of individual, agency and community barriers that impacted on the effectiveness of their work in this area. The following key interventions were noted as effective and ineffective.

Effective interventions	Ineffective interventions	Atmosphere created
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informal education and interventions • One to one education, interventions and referral • Personal counselling • Applied interactive workshops • Provision of sexual health specific resources (condoms and lube, pregnancy tests etc) • Printed resources that are youth friendly • Community education and community development • Local action to increase young people's access to health services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overly formal education and interventions • Episodic, one off interventions with large groups • Information overloading • Long education or intervention sessions • Culturally inappropriate interventions • Printed resources that are not youth friendly • Interventions developed without the participation of young people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Casual and non-threatening • Building positive and trusting relationships • Being non-judgemental • Confidential • Listening • Youth friendly, fun, lively, visual, invoke language that is youth focused • Ensuring services are accessible and welcoming to a diversity of young people

The recommended training would deliver not just information, but opportunities for skill development. This training would build on core youth work skills and be relevant to work roles and local contexts. The support of agencies would ensure that the training translated into changes in policies, work practices and outcomes for young people. The delivery of accredited training was also considered as an incentive for workers, as it meant recognition and transferability of skills.

The project has now entered the implementation of training phase. This will entail the development of resources for youth workers to use in their work with young people and the delivery of learning exchanges for workers to share expertise that is role and workplace specific. The project staff will also be available to provide resources and support to individual workers and agencies to trouble shoot sexual health issues. The first training resource will be available in October.

We'd like to hear about all the great things that you are doing around sexual health with marginalised young people.

Have you developed?

☐ Workshops ☐ Funky activities with young people ☐ Resources (pamphlets etc) ☐ Peer education programs
☐ Services on sexual health ☐ Networks or joint projects in your local community
☐ Local community action on sexual health ☐ Assessment, intervention or evaluation tools
☐ Any great tips or practice expertise you'd like to share

Let us know so we can learn from each other.

Project staff for the Sexual Health Training Project

North Queensland
(North of Rockhampton)

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(Rockhampton and South)

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Student Profile

Samuel

My name is Samuel Walker and I am a fourth year student at the School of Social Work at UQ. I'm doing my final year placement with YANQ, developing policy. The policy I am undertaking is focussed on Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender young people. My main passion is challenging heteronormativity in society and the youth sector.



So many issues that we consider youth issues, such as homelessness, drug and alcohol abuse, suicide and self-harming are so much more likely to affect young LGBT people than their hetero counterparts. I say this not to diminish the effect that these issues have on straight people but to illustrate the point that homophobia and heteronormativity in the youth sector is counterproductive to the best interests of our clients. For example, a recent study in Chicago estimated that 40-50% of young homeless people are LGBT. When faced with figures such as these, it is clear that youth workers cannot afford to assume their clients are heterosexual.

The development of a LGBT Youth policy represents a progressive and concrete step forward for YANQ. It will free workers and the organisation up to tackle the homophobia in society that affects young people. It will allow YANQ to respond, in a value driven way, to the needs of young LGBT people, LGBT community organisations and workers. This policy is an enormous learning curve for me. My history is in student activism; I am currently Male Queer Sexuality Officer with the UQ Union. The UQ Union is not an organisation driven by policy, therefore developing responses to situations like homophobia on campus is a much more flexible process that is largely left to the discretion of the executive. At YANQ I have to adjust to whole new ways of doing things, not to mention the politics of the youth sector, which are so much more complex and intricate than the clearly delineated student factionalism.

The other project I am working on is writing a briefing paper, on behalf of YANQ for the state youth advisory committee (SYAC). This paper will be on age of consent for anal sex. Currently in Qld, the age of consent for any sexual relations is 16 except for anal sex, which is 18. This position is ridiculous and clearly targets and discriminates against the gay male population. It is my position that if people are able to consent to sex at a certain age, then they are able to consent to anal sex at the same age. The current law is clearly out of step with the experience of the population, and therefore should be changed to reflect modern attitudes to sexuality. How well the government will receive this remains to be seen.

I look forward to meeting all the members of YANQ and making strong links with all of you.

Jennifer

My name is Jennifer and I am in my final year at QUT, studying Social Science (Human Services). I am currently undertaking placement with Y.A.N.Q, and during my time here, I will have particular focus on researching interagency groups.



With the complex and multiple needs of youth in our communities, successful interagencies can be a key element in bridging the gaps and collaborating service delivery within that geographic/demographic area. Y.A.N.Q will soon distribute a survey to those of you who are members of an interagency group, and your input will be greatly appreciated. I very much look forward to gaining insight into this field from your professional expertise and experiences, and I hope that the findings of this research study will benefit the co-ordination of agencies within this sector.

NOT GOODBYE, JUST A SEE YOU SOON!

A big Hello to you all!

As you may be aware, I have left YANQ and have been wondering aimlessly round Queensland for the last month. I want to say a huge thankyou to all the members, staff and management committee of YANQ who have been a great support over the last two years as I completed my Human Services degree at QUT. This isn't goodbye, I look forward to working with many of you in the field and putting into practice many of the skills I've developed over the last two years.

Cheers
Peta Ballard



**In times of change, learners inherit the Earth,
while the learned find themselves beautifully
equipped to deal with a world that no longer
exists.**

Eric Hoffer

Conferences Training & Events

WHAT IS YANQ TRAINING?

YANQ has just become a Registered Training Organisation and can deliver the Nationally Accredited Certificate III and Certificate IV in Youth Work. Supporting members is a key role of YANQ and many community based training providers have pulled out of training delivery in the last two years. In response to this, YANQ is currently developing some strategies to meet the training needs of the Youth Sector and ensure our members are informed and involved in the ongoing evolution of Community Services training.

What is the benefit of a Training Arm?

We are hoping to develop a system for community based youth agencies to develop and deliver their own training in partnership with YANQ Training as the Registered Training Organisation. We believe that the expertise and experience within the sector needs to be incorporated into training opportunities but also recognise that many organisations have difficulty meeting the administrative and auditing requirements of being a Registered Training Organisation in their own right. A set of guidelines for developing training resources and workshops will be ready in time for the State Youth Affairs Conference in Late October. There will also be a workshop at the conference and briefing meetings at other locations for people interested in developing training.

Another feature of YANQ Training will be adding value to the many forums and resources already developed through YANQ by incorporating training components. This will help to ensure that training resources and opportunities are developed based on the needs of our members.

New resources and training opportunities developed will be promoted here in the Network Noise through regular updates.

Why has accredited training become so complicated?

Constant changes have led to a great deal of confusion within the Community Services Industry in regards to training. A new Training Act and Australian Quality Training Framework have been introduced in the last two years and the new reviewed Training Package for the industry is due for release by the end of the year. YANQ is committed to ensuring members are kept up to date with these changes, as well as lobbying for the needs of youth workers to be recognised in the change process. Again, regular updates through Network Noise will be our main forum for communicating these changes as quickly as possible. We are currently investigating the potential impact of the new training package on the sector and will be reporting on this as soon as possible.

So what happens next?

It's early days yet, and resources are very limited, but we are hoping to introduce a range of training services over the next few months. Two part-

time staff have been employed to support YANQ Training. Natalie Bell and James Finn will be at YANQ office on Tuesdays. Some potential trainers have also been identified and resources for two units of competency have been completed. Pilot training events have occurred on the Sunshine Coast and Central Queensland Regions, resourced by the Integrated Skills Development Strategy.

In the near future you can expect:

- A catalogue of training resources and events
- Development of a network of trainers
- Piloting of joint training projects with member organisations
- Regular updates in training issues
- Introduction of new training projects

How can YANQ members get involved?

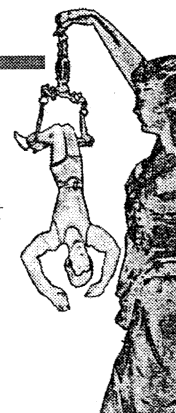
At this stage we are looking for individuals and organisations that are interested in collaboratively developing and delivering training. If you are a qualified trainer, would like to become one, or are interested in training development, phone or email YANQ and ask for an Expression of Interest in Training Form. The information gathered in this process will guide and inform our actions over the next few months.

"Beware the leader who bangs the drums of war in order to whip the citizens into a patriotic fervour, for patriotism is indeed a double-edged sword. It both emboldens the blood, just as it narrows the mind. And when the drums of war have reached a fever pitch and the blood boils with hate and the mind has closed, the leader will have no need in seizing the rights of the citizenry. Rather, the citizenry, infused with fear and blinded by patriotism, will offer up all of their rights unto the leader and gladly so. How do I know? For this is what I have done. And I am Caesar."

Julius Caesar

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.



DEVELOPING A PROCEDURAL FRAMEWORK

Part Three

This stage of development is concerned with establishing structural systems, compatible with the Ideology of the organisation. Often, development of such a process is necessary to meet legal requirements. Some of the procedural areas which might need to be clarified are:

Constitution – Is the organisation's constitution consistent with its declared Ideological base? Are the decision-making processes proposed, for example, consistent with the strategy for social maintenance/ change identified?

Policies – Which areas of need for policy development are indicated by the organisation's ideological base and purpose? What gaps exist? Are current policies consistent with the ideological base and vision? What about policies related to industrial rights? Or social justice priorities?

Staffing – What competencies are required of staff? What is the place of ideology in employment policies and procedures? Do existing employment-related policies and procedures fit with the organisation's values/ Vision? Do Duty Statements reflect these values? What about staff training?

Organisational Structure/ Lines of Responsibility – Is the organisation's structure clear? Is it compatible with ideology/ vision? Is the division of labour clearly articulated? What is the role of Management Committee, compared with Manager?

Financial and Administrative Systems – Again, are they consistent? Adequate?

Development of a procedural framework is critical to the process of planning.

Without this backdrop, spontaneous and often inconsistent decisions can be made about respective rights and responsibilities of key players, during the planning process.

Here's one way to represent the policy/procedures stage of organisational development:

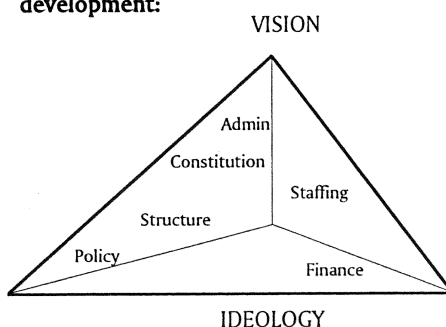


DIAGRAM 4: THE PROCEDURAL SIDE OF THE TRIANGLE

These are the support systems for starting to move toward achieving the organisation's Vision. Critical to effective work in this phase of development, is the constant appraisal of assumptions – *Is the way we've always done it consistent with our values? What is the relationship between organisational conclusions and the systems embodied by law and tradition in the corporate sector (often the source of assumptions about good practice)? Are there other areas in which mechanisms are needed to meet organisational priorities?*

Undertaking Organisational Planning

A number of critical differences between the corporate and community sectors were identified earlier in this paper. Factors such as an inability to reliably undertake long/ medium term concrete funding, limited access to infrastructure/ flexible funding, frequently unpaid/ paying manage, and changing stakeholders/ interests, means that the process of planning requires different foci in the community sector. *This is why the term strategic planning has been used in this section.*

Given the enormous changeability and vulnerability of the community sector ...

...to undertake planning without first developing an ideological base and vision is neither efficient nor effective.

...to undertake detailed planning, beyond predictable funding availability/guidelines may not be efficient or effective.

...to be committed to a comprehensive strategic plan, beyond predictable funding availability/guidelines, may even be damaging/counterproductive.

The focus during this phase should be on always undertaking planning with an eye on the big picture – that is, the Ideology and Vision of the organisation.

Essentially, the process concentrates on two phases:

1. making the Vision more concrete and explicable.
2. planning direction within the predictable funding future and the degree of predicability of organisational functioning.

Becoming involved with concrete planning beyond these limits is liable to be demoralising for participants, and make the organisation vulnerable when external pressures/priorities change. Making plans that absorb the majority of staff time in an organisation, fails to acknowledge the time taken in infrastructural tasks (particularly, where paid management doesn't exist), and does not allow for unexpected demands (where these are frequently an organisational feature).

To be continued in the December edition of Network Noise

"Reason is but an item in the mystery; and behind the proudest consciousness that ever reigned, reason and wonder blushed face to face."

words of a gifted English writer'



It has again remained a busy three months for the NESB Policy Officer position, in the temporary dual policy role at YANQ and all that this entails. As this is being written, a funding application has been submitted and we are awaiting the outcome of that submission. As people will know well, all this makes for a tense time, but I am constantly humbled by the levels of understanding, support, and positive attitudes of those in the multicultural and youth sectors to the current situation, and the collaborative commitment to continuing our important focuses on the needs of NESB young people.

This is a testing time, and there is light at the end of the tunnel. I look forward to the next edition of Network Noise, where we will hopefully be able to announce positive future directions. Until then, the work goes on.

NESB Youth Employment Issues

The May meeting of the Centrelink Multicultural Advisory Committee received a presentation on the arrangements for the third round of the New Job Network tenders as announced in the May Federal budget. This enhanced Job Network addressed a number of recommendations that arose through the Job Network Independent review.

At this meeting, we called for the opportunity to consider the new proposals in more depth, especially as to the issues of employment relating to multicultural communities, and a forum was called at the end of June. Multicultural sector workers were invited to hear again how this enhanced Job Network would be enhanced, and participants were able to input, and challenge, the proposals to enable better outcomes for multicultural communities.

A number of these issues will be pursued by the Multicultural Employment Network convened by MDA.

I have also been able to input into the employment network on the range of employment issues confronting NESB young people around the State, gleaned from our regional and local networking strategies. The employment network is seeking to have an enhanced focus on NESB young peoples' issues, and I am looking forward to

continuing to collaborate with them on these issues.

Coping In A New World – Further Analysis Queensland Transcultural Mental Health Centre has been able to engage in a new round of analysis of our Coping in a New World Data. Subsequently, more in-depth analysis is occurring, focusing on the specific issues, needs, and findings of those participants who were refugees or who had experienced refugee like incidents. The findings of this new level of analysis will be a welcome companion document to Coping in a New World, and the beginning (I hope) of further specific analysis of the data. Findings will be available by the end of the year.

Subjects covered in the new round include:

- * Risk and protective factors of young people from refugee backgrounds
- * Particular experiences of young people from refugee backgrounds compared to young people from non-refugee backgrounds
- * Particular experiences of carers of young people from refugee backgrounds compared to young people from non-refugee backgrounds
- * Issue raised by service providers in relation to young people from refugee backgrounds to young people from non-refugee backgrounds
- * Coping strategies outlined by young people from refugee backgrounds
- * Any other significant issues highlighted in the data collected from young people from refugee backgrounds
- * Personal perspectives by carers on caring for young people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds with mental health issues
- * Perspectives by young people about their carers
- * Comparison of responses between young men and young women respondents

NYIN – July / August Meetings

The July NYIN meeting heard updates on a number of current initiatives and well as focusing on some key areas. The meeting made a number of suggestions regarding possible NESB youth focused workshops for the State Youth Affairs conference later in the year, discussed the continuing focus and work of the network in the event that the NESB Policy Position at YANQ was not

refunded, and commented on the State Government's Education and Training Reforms Green paper and outcomes from YANQ's consultation processes, through the lens of ensuring equity and access for multicultural youth people in future reforms. These comments were included in YANQ's submission document to the green paper consultation process.

NYIN also welcomed the announcement in the State Budget that there was to be a renewed focus on an ESL framework under the Education Departments Students At Risk policy, and voiced its desire to work with Education Queensland in pursuit of this goal, which has been the focus of long and continual advocacy throughout the sector.

The August meeting discussed the future Ethnic Gangs research project, future activities for the network, YANQ Refugee and Asylum Seeker draft policy position, and had a long discussion regarding a number of issues surrounding NESB young people and substance misuse, particularly community education, detoxification and rehabilitation access, and ongoing support for young people. Discussion was also held on NESB youth gambling issues, and parenting concerns.

Resources

A number of reports/resources have been made available in the last few months which I would recommend people to download and consider.

Second Generation Australians

This study, available through the DIMIA website, examines the social, economic and demographic outcomes of second generation Australians. Some of the outcomes examined are educational attainment, employment, occupational status, language shift, and family formation patterns. The study also explored the issue of intergenerational mobility by examining whether the second generations outcomes are related to their parents' socio-economic background.

While the study is based primarily on data from the 1996 Census, there is a wealth of information, trends, and food for thought throughout the report that adds to our understanding of second generation migrant young people, who are often forgotten in our continuing work.



I would recommend people obtaining a copy. A PDF version can be downloaded from the DIMIA website at www.immi.gov.au/publications/2gen/index.htm

The Housing and other service needs of recently arrived immigrants

I would also recommend this report from the Australian Housing and Urban research Institute that looks at housing and other service use by recent immigrants in Australia. The analysis is based on the examination of data from the longitudinal Survey of Immigrants to Australia, with three waves of surveys applied to immigrants who arrived in Australia between September 1993 and August 1995. Thus, while the data is dated in relation to recent policies and service changes, the understanding gained in variable service use between different categories of immigrants is highly welcome as we attempt to increase access and equity for migrants and refugees, and develop enhanced service responses especially in the area of access to safe and secure housing.

This report can also be downloaded off the web, from the AHURI site, www.ahuri.edu.au

Consumer Issues & Youth: A research report into best practice in consumer education targeting young Australians

This research report presents findings aimed at improving the Government's understanding of youth consumer issues, and was prepared for the Commonwealth Consumer Affairs Advisory Council. Thus, the report is wide ranging. While not specifically targeting NESB young people, it has a number of sections relating to young people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

It notes that financial services, mobile phones, buying a car, accommodation and the most important youth (and NESB youth) consumer issues, and has a section on best practice in consumer issues relating to NESB youth, listing a number of important strategies to enable access to consumer information. These include: targeting consumer materials to relevant intermediaries in ethnic communities (eg community workers, migrant resource centres and others); developing specific targeted (issues and language) material for consumers from NES backgrounds, holding seminars (again specific issue and language) in conjunction with local migrant and ethnic communities; and the continual need for consumer information to be translated into a variety of languages.

Again, this is a worthwhile resource report to consider, especially in relation to the continuing concerns of mobile phone debt, young people and NESB young people, and can provide a framework for developing targeted consumer education responses for NESB young people on a range of consumer issues.

Police & Ethnic Youth Partnership – QLD

Over the past couple of months, the main continuing focus of this initiative has been to develop a workshop on police and ethnic youth relations for the forthcoming State Youth Affairs Conference, and to investigate sources of funding to enable to development of the community/police training kit to enhance ongoing local relations.

At present, we are also considering how best to implement the Queensland arm of a new national ethnic gang research project to build on the Melbourne research – Ethnic Youth Gangs in Australia: Do they Exist? - conducted in 1999. The study will involve evidence based research to determine the extent of ethnic youth gang behaviour in Australia, and the methodology will require the identifying and interviewing of young people belonging to social groupings which could be seen as or classified as "gangs" in its negative (or stereotypical) context. We will be consulting with the Youth sector shortly to attempt to identify and broker contact with this target group of the study, but I am happy to hear from any workers who can help in identifying and assisting our part in this national project.

The series of reports from this study can be downloaded in PDF format from www.amf.net.au/projects/ethnic.html

In many ways, this research is timely, as the media occasionally renews its focus on 'ethnic gang' problems here in Queensland; most recently with the July Courier Mail front page story carrying the banner "Ethnic Kids Crime Row" which noted that "Crime committed by ethnic people was spiralling out of control because of a language barrier between migrants and their Australian born children."

There is no doubt that the continuing controversy surrounding ethnic youth involvement in crime and the rapid growth of sensationalist media reporting (especially considering the 'gang rape' events in Sydney), will go on if driven by misunderstandings and ignorance. In many respects, there has been little empirical information regarding the actual activities of collective groups of young NESB people. The 1999 Melbourne study dealt with the issue of youth gangs, the nature of youth groups formation, group activities, and the nature and dynamics of "gang" membership.

There are clear conclusions in relation to groups revolving around similar interests, similar appearance or ethnic identity, and the need for social belonging. There are a variety of socio-economic factors impacting on these young people both as individuals and as groups. There are a number of relationship and authoritarian factors which harass these young people, and there are clear findings in relation to conflict, media reporting, and 'criminal activity'. But the clearest outcome of this initial study was to expose the myths and confusions surrounding the activities and formations of ethnic young people coming together for support and acceptance.

This forthcoming piece of research in Queensland is vitally important to document the facts and realities of groups of NESB young people, which will then allow us to respond to negative media portrayals and reported exacerbations of individualised local issues.

Until next time

Michael
(a/NESB Policy and Network Officer)



→ continued from page 3

AUSTRALIANS HEAD TO YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SUMMIT WITH WORK IN MIND

**Queensland Children at Risk:
The over diagnosis of "ADHD"
and overuse of Stimulant Medication.**

PDF version of this report is available
from <http://www.yanq.org.au>

**Coping In a New World: The Social
and Emotional Wellbeing of young
people from culturally and
linguistically diverse backgrounds.**

The final report of the NESB Youth
Mental Health Needs Assessment
Project is available as a PDF document
from <http://www.yanq.org.au>

YOUTH HOMELESSNESS SURVEY 2001

The results of a youth homeless
survey conducted in August 2001
among 1,930 schools and Supported
Assistance Accommodation Program
(SAAP) services across Australia shows
that 8.4% more young people aged
12 - 18 are homeless today than
7 years ago.

While the Australian average is 14
homeless per 1000 young people,
Queensland's rate was higher with
18 homeless per 1000 young people.

Perhaps a key finding is that it been
assumed that the homeless population
is distributed in the same way as the
general population. SAAP funding is
allocated in a broadly pro rata basis
based on this assumption.
The research clearly shows that this
is not the case for young people
and clearly evidences the need for
increased SAAP funding for Queens-
land to respond to the higher (and
growing) number of homeless young
people.

The report is available at
www.rmit.edu.au/tce/ssp/yp

"YES recognises that creating productive and sustainable livelihoods for young people is vital for the future of all nations and our globalised world. The issue of youth liveli-hoods, engagement and empowerment must be given significant attention."

While many Australians are involved in YES - it has two people on the 13 person International Youth Leaders for Employment Advisory Group; it is one of 10 countries represented in the YES Secretariat; it is contributing significant intellectual capital - and two YES preparatory events have been held here (the International Youth Parlia-ment in October 2000 and the International Young Professionals Summit in October 2001), YES has not received significant national attention from the media, governments, industry or civil society.

While the low profile might reflect the traditional Australian "she'll be right, mate" attitude, Australia does have significant challenges to face with regards to youth employment. Certainly, the magnitude and nature of the problem is different for many of Australia's developing nation neighbours in the Asia-Pacific. Yet many communities in Australia are reeling from youth unemployment figures around 20 - 30%, social exclusion grows and poverty rises.

The young Australians, and their older colleagues, heading to YES envisage a better and brighter future for Australia and its young people. YES-Australia, the YES Australian Country Network representing a cross-sectoral collaboration of individuals and organisations, will work together after YES to launch the Decade Campaign of Action in Australia.

"It is important to understand that our meeting in September is the start; the real work will begin once we leave Egypt and get back here" says Cameron.

The post-YES plans for YES-Australia include a series of workshops and presentations around the country (including the YANQ Conference in October) to inform people in all sectors on the outcomes of YES, build commitment to (and engagement with) the Decade Campaign of Action, and work towards initiating a number of projects that catalyse youth livelihoods through enterprises that deliver environmental and social solutions.

Further information on YES can be obtained through its website
<http://www.youthemploymentsummit.org>

To find out about and join YES-Australia,
go to <http://projects.youthemploymentsummit.org/YES-Australia>

You can also contact Cameron Neil, YES Australian Country Network
Coordinator, via cameronneil@iypf.org.

ARTWORK WANTED:

VISUAL CONTRIBUTIONS for future YANQ Publications
Photographs, Graphics, Cartoons, Collages etc.

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TO SHOWCASE THEIR ART!
All contributions will be fully acknowledged in each publication.

Contact YANQ

Ph 07) 3844 7713 or 1800 177 899

Email: yanq@pacific.net.au





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
at the Illoura Centre 31 Duckett St, Beaudesert

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 10am -12pm
at Drug Arm 83 Castlemaine St Milton

Beenleigh and District Interagency

Contact: Dorothy Aldred: 3884 2756)

Caboolture Youth Network (YCAN)

Contact: Jeanine Carter
Caboolture Shire Council
Ph (070) 5420 0342 Fax (07) 5420 0350
Meets 3rd Wednesday of every month 12.30 - 3pm
at Caboolture Shire Council, Level 3, 33 King St Caboolture

Gold Coast Youth Network

Contact Sylvia Roylance
C/o Gold Coast Youth Services
PO Box 740 Burleigh Heads Q4220
Meets last Wednesday of the month 10.30 - 1230 at Robina
Uniting Church Community Complex, 4 Greenwich Court Robina

Inala Youth Interagency (LARGEFLY)

Contact: John Rigsby-Jones
Inala Youth and Family Support Service
PO Box 141, Inala Q 4077
Meets 12 pm on 2nd Thursday of the month
at Centrelink Office 2nd Floor Wirraway Parade, Inala.

Ipswich Youth Focus

Contact Mark Smith
Ipswich City Council
PO Box 191, Ipswich Q4305
Ph (07) 3372 2655 Fax (07) 3810 6741
Meets 1st Tuesday of the month at 12.30pm
at Ipswich Health Plaza Bell St Ipswich.

Life's Worth It - Sandgate

Contact: Bruce Cornish
Ph: (07) 3869 0277
Meets 2nd Tues every 2nd Month
Sandgate Uniting Church
116 Board St Deagon

Logan Youth Interagency Network

Contact: Melissa McKeering
Community Youth Development Officer
Logan City Council
Ph: (07) 3862 5632 Fax: (07) 3808 0014
Email: Melissamckeering@logana.qld.gov.au
Meets 2nd Monday of the month 3pm - 5pm at Logan PCYC
Conference Room Jacaranda Av, Woodridge. (PCYC is situated
behind the Logan City Council Chambers next door to the
swimming pool)

Moggill Rd Corridor Youth Network

Contact Heather Douglas
Hdouglas21@hotmail.com

Pine Rivers Youth Service Providers Network

Contact: Di Cattling
Youth Care Pine Rivers
PO box 143 Strathpine Q4500
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: Darren Dallinger
Redcliffe City Council, PO Box 66, Redcliffe Q4020
Ph (07) 3889 5733 Fax (07) 3889 5320
Meets 2nd Wednesday of every second month 3pm
at Redcliffe Area youth Service

Redlands Youth Network

Contact: Christine D'Arcy
Bayside District Health
PO Box 585, Cleveland Q4163
Meets 3rd Monday of the month 9.30am -11.30am, at Redlands
health Service Hospital Grounds Cleveland

Service Providers Action Group For Youth

Contact: Ryan Foster (Piccabeen)
Ph 3354 2555
1st Thursday of every 2nd Month at 3pm - to be confirmed

South-east Youthlink Interagency

Contact Jillian Covey
JPET 34 Sanders St Upper Mt Gravatt Q4122
Meets 2nd Tuesday of the Month 9am -11am at JPET house 1792
Logan Rd Upper Mt Gravatt

Youth Health Interagency

Contact: Jill Diggles
Ph: 3356 7377 or 33540225
Meets quarterly at different venues 2.30pm - 4.30pm.
Next meeting is 19 Nov at Qld Aids Council with a guest speaker.



Bundaberg District Youth Sector Network

Contact: Peter Callen
PO Box 2252 Bundaberg 4670
Ph (07) 41540324 Fax (07) 41531212
1st Thursday of month - Bundaberg Skill Centre,
Bigara Rd, Bundaberg

Mackay Youth Connection & Network Inc

Contact: Amanda Sulter
Mackay7 Youth Support Service
PO Box 1813, Mackay Q 4740
Ph (07) 4951 0510 Fax (07) 4957 7637
Meets 3rd Tuesday of the month 11am Community Health Centre

Cairns Youth Service Network

Contact: Fiona Norman
West Cairns Youth Development
PO Box 359, Cairns Q 4870
Ph (07) 40443031 Fax (07) 40443830
Meets last Thursday of month 3.30pm
Cairns City Library, Abbott St Cairns

Central and North Burnett Community Services Network

(Ydig - youth development initiative group)
Contact: Andrew Crowthers & Amy Friend
Monto Neighbourhood Centre
PO Box 97, Monto Q 4630
Ph (07) 41661733 Fax (07) 41663186
Meets 1st Monday of the month 10am to 3pm (venue changes)

Central West Youth Network

Contact: Ellie Tarver
PO Box 102, Longreach Q 4730
Ph: (07) 4658 0431 Fax: (07) 4658 3265
Meets every 2 months (Venue charges)

Emerald Youth link Network

Contact: Mathew Sampson
Rural Youth Worker, Emerald Shire Council
PO Box 21, Emerald Q 4720
Ph (07) 49820540
Every 6 weeks from 20 / 8 – next is 1st Thursday in Oct

Gladstone Combined Youth Interagency and Youth Suicide Prevention Network

Contact: Andrea Hughes
Gladstone City Council
PO Box 29, Gladstone Q 4680
Ph: (07) 49766300 Fax: (07) 49726557
Meets 1st Wednesday of the month at 1130am.
Neighbourhood Centre, 105 Toolooa St Gladstone.

Hervey Bay Youth Sector Workers Network

Contact: Sue Lawler
Hervey Bay City Council
PO Box 5045 Hervey Bay, Q4655
Ph: (07) 41974330 Fax: (07) 41974303
Meets last Tuesday of each month at 1030am,
contact Sue for venue details.

Innisfail Community Sector Network

Contact: Wendy Shultz
PO Box 887, Innisfail Q 4860
Ph: (07) 40302255 Fax: (07) 40616005
Meets 2nd Thursday of the month at Parish Centre,
Rankin Street, Innisfail

Magnetic North Youth Service Providers Association Inc

Contact: Alex Salvador
PO Box 1858, Townsville Q 4810
Ph (07) 47724800 Fax (07) 47721840
Meets 3rd Tuesday of month from 10.30am
Migrant Resource Centre T&G building,
Cnr Stanley & Flinders Sts, Townsville.

MICAT (Mt Isa Combined Action Team)

Contact: Helen McKerrow
Education Qld
PO Box 1050, Mt Isa Q 4825
Ph (07) 4744 8222
or Madonna Kennedy, Tropical Public Health
Ph: (07) 47495623 Meets Monthly

Rockhampton Combined Youth Interagency and Suicide Prevention

Contact: Julie Hill
Qld Health
PO Box 501, Rockhampton Q 4700
Ph: (07) 4920 6923 Fax (07) 4920 6870
Meets 3rd Monday of the month at Community Health Centre
9.30am to 11.40am

South Burnett Community Network

Contact: Leslie Burgess
CTC Youth Service
PO Box 490, Kingaroy Q 4610
Ph (07) 4162 7788 Fax (07) 4162 2783
Meets 1st Tuesday of month at Wondai Hospital meeting room.

South West Youth Interagency

Contact: Glen Brassington
Qld Health
PO Box 219 Charleville Q4470
Ph (07) 4654 4388 Fax (07) 4654 4389
Meets once a month contact Glen for details

Sunshine Coast Youth Workers Forum

Contact: Arties Shepard
PO Box 84, Maroochydore Q 4558
Ph: (07) 5409 7000 Fax: (07) 5409 7001
Email artie@kings.org.au
Contact Artie for details

Toowoomba Youth Organisations Network (TYON)

Contact: Ed Bradbury
Department of Education
PO Box 38, Toowoomba Q 4350
Ph: (07) 4616 9111 Fax: (07) 4616 9100
Email edward.bradbury@qed.qld.gov.au
Meets every 6 weeks for details contact Ed Bradbury
Next meeting 3.30pm Thurs 12 Sept, South Qld Institute of Tafe

Warwick Youth Network

Southern Downs Health Service District
Contract: Julianne Williamson
Po Box 273, Stanthorpe, Q 4380
Ph (07) 46815260 Fax (07) 46815228
Meets Quarterly, dates change Warwick Community Health Office.

YANQ Membership/Subscription

Application Form Tax Invoice

ABN: 28 205 281 339

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

Category Applied For:

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

Title _____ First Name _____

Family Name _____

Postal Address _____

Suburb _____ State _____ Code _____

Phone (H) _____ (W) _____

Fax _____ Mobile _____

Email _____

Receiving Centrelink	\$ 5.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Young Person	\$ 10.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Income < \$25 000	\$ 15.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Income < \$25 000 - \$50 000	\$ 40.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Income > \$50 000	\$ 50.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Must be paid by personal cheque, money order, credit card or cash		

Organisational Membership ☐ **Organisation** _____

Contact Person: Title _____ First Name _____

Family Name _____

Postal Address _____

Suburb _____ State _____ Code _____

Phone (H) _____ (W) _____

Fax _____ Mobile _____

Email _____

Community Not for Profit Organisation		
Funding < \$100 000	\$ 55.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Funding \$100 000 - \$250 000	\$ 80.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Funding \$250 000 - \$400 000	\$120.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Funding > \$400 000	\$150.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
For Profit Organisations		
Community Organisation	\$165.00	<input type="checkbox"/>

Subscriber ☐ **Department/Service** _____

Contact Person: Title _____ First Name _____

Family Name _____

Postal Address _____

Suburb _____ State _____ Code _____

Phone (H) _____ (W) _____

Fax _____ Mobile _____

Email _____

Community Not for Profit		
Individual	\$ 60.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Organisation	\$160.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
For Profit	\$ 200.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Government Department or Service: Federal, State, Local	\$185.00	<input type="checkbox"/>

Pay by Credit Card: American Express ☐ Bankcard ☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa ☐

Card Details - - -

Name on Card _____ Amount \$ _____

Signature _____ Expiry Date _____

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 _____

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.

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?

Full Membership

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.