

Welcome to the November edition Women's Health Grampians (WHG) Newsletter. In this edition we promote White Ribbon Day Activities, introduce the new Health Equity Framework from VicHealth, provide an update on the PhD project, celebrate our AGM and highlight a special visitor. We welcome your feedback, contribution and collaboration to both this publication and our developing partnerships.

"Celebrating our people, our partners and our work"



On Wednesday 6 November 2013 we celebrated our 22nd Annual Report at our Annual General Meeting. At the meeting we recognised the contributions of former Board Member Fayth Andrews, who resigned from the Board in September after 8 years of service. We also recognised Pat Loughnan for her 10 years of continuous employment as our Finance Administrator. Both these women have made a positive and significant contribution to what WHG is today and we sincerely thank them on behalf of the team, board and members of WHG.

Gender Analysis Tool—PhD

Claire Rooney PhD student from the University of Ballarat together with WHG is creating a Gender Audit Tool (GAT) for use with public policies and plans. The tool is included in an educational manual named the Gender and Policy Package or GaPP for short. The three year project is 18 months underway and with the active research stage with 25 participants being completed (the Delphi Technique) the tool now has five main criteria for scoring:

- Sex-disaggregated data, where data is shown for both women and men
- Gendered strategies and actions, such as projects or programs
- Language used
- Consultation, not just with women, but diverse women, and
- The inclusion of a gender equity/equality statement for sustainability

The next stage of this PhD research is to assign and adjust scores to the 5 main criteria and then the tool will enter a testing phase in January. The release of the GaPP and GAT is scheduled for early next year.

If you would like to be kept in the loop on this exciting work please contact us here at WHG or look out for further updates in future editions of the newsletter.

Visit from Natasha Stott-Despoja

On Saturday 19th October the Act@Work team Cassie and Michelle, together with WHG Program Manager Jaelyn spent an hour with Natasha Stott-Despoja, the Chair of the new Foundation to Prevent Violence Against Women and their Children. The foundation is an independent, not for profit organisation working to raise awareness and engage the community in action to prevent violence against women and their children.



During her visit to the WHG office, Ms Stott-Despoja expressed the Foundation's commitment to Primary Prevention and supporting local solutions. We look forward to working with the new Foundation and keeping them up to date with the work of WHG and Act@Work. For information about the Foundation to Prevent Violence Against Women and their Children please visit their website: <http://www.preventviolence.org.au/>

VicHealth Framework for Health Equity

On Tuesday 29th October WHG employees Claire and Simone attended the launch of “Fair Foundations: The VicHealth framework for health equity”. The framework is a planning tool for health promotion policy and practice. It outlines the social determinants of health inequities and suggests entry points for action. It is designed to be relevant for any public health issue.



For further information visit <http://www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/Publications/Health-Inequalities/The-VicHealth-framework-for-health-equity.aspx>

White Ribbon Day (WRD) 25th November 2013



Started in 1989, following a massacre in Canada, WRD is a national male-led movement to stop men's violence against women. A handful of men decided to speak out about and work to stop men's violence against women from this the awareness-raising campaign began.

In 1999, the UN designated the 25th November as International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, with a white ribbon as the symbol. White Ribbon works to change the attitudes and behaviours that lead to men's violence against women and invites men to make a difference by swearing an Oath never to commit, excuse or remain silent about violence against women. In recognition of WRD a large number of events are being held across the region some of which include:

November 18 to 22 from 10am – 2pm WRD Information Stand at Stocklands Wendouree

There will be White Ribbon Day ribbons and wristbands for sale at \$2 each and lots of information provided by all the services represented in the Ballarat Family Violence Prevention Network.

Thursday 21st November - Exhibition Opening of the paintings of men and women from Ballarat , “From Behind Closed Doors - A Creative Response to Family Violence” at the Ballarat Neighbourhood House (Sebastopol site ‘The Hub’- attached to Phoenix College).

Friday 22nd November Ballarat WRD Launch - Together with Commerce Ballarat, the Ballarat White Ribbon Day Committee will be hosting a White Ribbon Day Breakfast at 7am – 8:30am at Oscar’s Hotel & Café Bar: *“Business CAN make a difference!”* The Keynote Speaker is Detective Senior Sergeant Ron Iddles of Victoria Police and Guest Speaker Andrew Eales, Editor of *The Ballarat Courier* . Limited numbers, so get in ASAP to book your seat. please contact Commerce Ballarat on 5333 3233.

Friday 22nd November Horsham WRD Community March Say NO to Violence Against Women March @ 12.30 March from Horsham Aquatic Centre Car park finishing in May Park with a free BBQ and Guest Speaker. For more info please contact Ross Anders on 5362 1200 or ross.a@grampianscommunityhealth.org.au

For more information on WRD and events please visit: www.whiteribbon.org.au



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Please contact us if your details change or you no longer wish to receive information from Women’s Health Grampians. If you would prefer to get information via email please let us know your email address. Ph: 1800 013 432 or email: adminb@whg.org.au