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Newsflash

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PCP Strategic Plan 2009 - 2012

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Planning has commenced for the Bendigo Loddon PCP Strategic Plan for the next three years. An Advisory Group has been established to guide the development of the Plan. The members of the Advisory Group are: Peter Abraham, Mike Parker, Jude Holt, Barry Secombe, Liz Hamilton, Linda Beiharz and Karen Riley.

The Strategic Plan will replace the PCP Community Health Plans and the following process will be used:

PREPARATION

Use of local population health data as evidence.

Completed

PCP Community Well being profile is located at www.blpcp.com.au

PRIORITY SETTING

PCP Member Organisations to agree on three priority population groups and three health promotion priorities. The population groups should reflect member agencies priorities and where they wish to allocate resources.

These will be identified at the PCP Planning Forum to be held on 20 February 2009 and facilitated by Andrew Hollo - Workwell Consulting.

ACTIONS / DIRECTIONS

Consultant appointed to:

1. Conduct interviews and forums with member organisations to ensure the Plan reflects their views.
2. Establish goals for each priority area.
3. Identify the actions for Service Co-ordination, Integrated Health Promotion and Integrated Chronic Disease Management for each of the 3 priority groups and partnership capacity building strategies.
4. Identify roles and responsibilities for member organisations and for PCP Office.
5. Prepare the Plan.

An Integrated Health Promotion Catchment Plan will be developed by the Health Promotion Co-Ordinating Committee to intersect with the Health Promotion Plans of each member organisation and flow from the Strategic Plan. At least one of the Statewide Health Promotion priorities must be represented in the IHP Catchment Plan.

If you have not yet responded to the invitation to attend the Planning Forum at the Foundry Hotel on 20 February 2009, you are encouraged to contact the PCP Office on Ph: 5448 1624 or email: blpcp@bchs.com.au as soon as possible.

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Complex Health Needs Care Co-ordination Project

The Department of Human Services has recently funded four demonstration projects around the State to improve the interface between DHS Disability Accommodation Services and the community and primary health sectors. In the Loddon Mallee Region, Bendigo Community Health Services (BCHS) will undertake the project and the Bendigo Loddon PCP Project Staff will focus on improving service co-ordination and assisting in building the capacity of health services staff to work with people with an intellectual disability.

Fifty five (55) residents living in Disability Accommodation Services in Bendigo have been identified and the Case Co-ordinator employed by BCHS will:

- Review health plans and files
- Assess health needs
- Refer to health services where there are gaps
- Improve communication between the GP, health professionals, the resident and their family, and disability staff

Because there is a common misconception that people with an intellectual disability receive health care from specialist services and are not eligible for generic health services, this demonstration project aims to:

- Improve service co-ordination
- Improve care planning
- Develop better quality health interventions
- Increase the confidence, awareness and resources within the disability services sector and the community health and primary health sectors.

For more information on this project please contact Jeanette Grant ph: 5448 1624

ECHO - Extending the Capacity of Healthcare Organisations

ECHO is a flexible and responsive Victorian based organisation that works in partnership with individuals and organisations in the health care sector to:

- strengthen and support continuous improvement
- enhance consumer experiences and outcomes.

ECHO will extend the capacity of healthcare organisations through facilitating consumer participation, quality improvement, service review, program evaluation and by mentoring, supporting and building upon existing skills of individuals.

Training Schedule 2009:

Workshop	Date	Cost
Supportive Care in Cancer	2 March 2009	\$350 +GST
Evaluation - A Practical Approach	starts 17 March 2009	\$900 +GST
Managing Change	24 March 2009	\$350+GST
Reviewing Care and Identifying Priorities for Improvement	24 April 2009	\$350+GST
From Proposal to Final Report	starts 1 May 2009	\$1200+GST
Communication Skills for Front Line Staff	16 June 2009	\$250+GST
Consumer Participation	22 July 2009	\$450+GST

All workshops will be held at:

The Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, College of Surgeons' Gardens, Spring Street, Melbourne

For further information:

Seleena Sherwell, Ph: (03) 9885 2123 Fax: (03) 9885 0173

Email: seleena.sherwell@echohealth.com.au

SEXUAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK 2009

In an effort to raise community awareness of sexual health, the Bendigo Loddon Primary Care Partnership's Sexual Health Task Group, is facilitating the region's first 'Sexual Health Awareness Week'. To coincide with Valentines Day, the week will be held from **Monday 9 February - Sunday 15 February 2009**.

The group thinks that Valentines Day is the perfect time to remind people to look after themselves and their partners. As Sexually Transmitted Infection rates continue to rise in Victoria, the Sexual Health Task Group is aiming to remind the community of the importance of practicing safe sex and having regular sexual health check ups.

Chlamydia was the most frequently reported Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) in Victoria in 2008, with more than 12,000 reported cases. That was up 9% from 2007 and is 22% more than 2006. Syphilis rates have also increased. Annual surveillance data collected by the Victorian Department of Human Services indicates the number of syphilis infections in Victoria has increased from just a single case in 2001 to almost 1000 diagnoses within the last two years. Importantly, not everyone with an STI will experience or notice symptoms and while condom use (with water-based lube) remains the best method of protection against HIV, it doesn't prevent all STI's. So having a regular sexual health check up is another key strategy for sexually active people to use in looking after their sexual health.

The Sexual Health Task Group is supporting a range of local activities for the community and for professionals working in the region including:

Community Information and Resource Stalls

Hargreaves Mall, Bendigo
10am – 3pm, Wednesday 11 February 2009.

And

Barrack Reserve High Street, Heathcote
9am-12.30pm, 7 February 2009

Bendigo Community Health Services will be providing FREE Chlamydia testing at both their Central and Eaglehawk sites throughout Sexual Health Week.

To promote Chlamydia Testing cards will be handed out throughout the week.

**GOTTEN
SOMETHING
FROM SOMEONE
SPECIAL
L A T E L Y ?**



STIs 101

Getting to know Sexually Transmissible Infections(STI's)

The day workshop will provide an introduction and update to STIs including:

- Current Epidemiology
- Clinical Signs
- Modes of Transmission
- Available Treatments

This workshop will also examine strategies for talking about sexual health with clients and sexual health promotion initiatives. This is an essential workshop for anyone who wants to gain a basic understanding of STIs and beneficial for those looking to refresh, update or build their knowledge/skills for their professional role.

Date	Thursday 12 February 2009
Time	9.00am - 3.30pm
Venue	BRIT, Bendigo
Cost	\$33.00
RSVP	Friday 6 February 2008 Kylie O'Brien Ph: 03 5443 8355 kylieobrien@can.org.au

To help celebrate the week you and your friends are invited to a fun and entertaining game of.....

'SEXY TRIVIA'

B Central, Mundy Street Bendigo
WHEN: Wednesday 11 February
TIME: 4.00 – 6.00pm

Fantastic prizes, giveaways and free pizza on offer!!!

To book or find out more please the CAN Resource Centre on Ph: 5443 8355; Email: can@can.org.au or Jo McGann on Ph: 5434 6000

For more information regarding Sexual Health Awareness Week or any of the scheduled events, contact the CAN Resource Centre on 5443 8355, email can@can.org.au .

Board Builder Conference 2009

The Annual Board Builder Conference will be held on Friday, 27 February, 2009 at the Telstra Dome in Melbourne.

This is a key learning experience for:

- * All community organisations - such as community groups, sporting groups, arts groups,
- * All board and committee members,
- * Staff who work with a board/committee,
- * Community members who want to get onto a board/committee.

Our Community knows from its research and practical engagement with thousands of community organisations and councils that responsible, safe and dynamic boards are the essential ingredient to ensure the high performance and sustainability of the entire organisation.

At the Board Builder conference 2009 participants will learn:

- * Why governance matters to community organisations
- * How to improve board-staff relationships
- * How to be a better chairperson
- * What you should know if you're new to the game
- * And much more

To find out more and to register for this event, please go to:

www.ourcommunity.com.au/boardbuilder2009

If you have any questions, please contact:

Ph: 03 9320 6800 or service@ourcommunity.com.au

2009 Loddon Mallee Allied Health Conference Change: Embrace What's New

**Quality Resort All Seasons Bendigo
Friday 27 February 2009**

REMINDER: The 2009 Loddon Mallee Allied Health Conference is to be held in Bendigo on Friday 27 February 2009. An Early Bird registration fee of \$50 will apply to registrations received before February 6th 2009.

For further information: www.alliedhealthnetwork.org.au

Or contact:

Sally Harris, Coordinator, Loddon Mallee Allied Health Network, sharris@bendigohealth.org.au, 0407 808 939
or

Carol Parker, Region of Choice Project Officer, cparker@bendigohealth.org.au, 5454 6413

BCHS Public Health Forum invites you to join Regional Public Health Community

If you have NOT already registered with mc2, register now by clicking on the link :
<http://mc2.vicnet.net.au/html/register.html>

After activating your registration, or if you have already registered, follow the steps below:

- To join Regional Public Health Community follow this link: <http://mc2.vicnet.net.au/home/hltpub?invite=1> then click on JOIN [bottom left]
- If you are not currently logged into mc2, you will be prompted to LOGIN [Don't have an mc2 Login? Then Register with mc2 first]
- Click YES to join the group

For more information or HELP:

- Call VICNET Help Desk on 8664 7001 or 1800 629 835
- View the Online Help: <http://mc2.vicnet.net.au/help/>
- Email: mc2@vicnet.net.au
- Find out more about the online communities at mc2: <http://mc2.vicnet.net.au/about/>

Funded by the Victorian Government and coordinated by VICNET, there is no charge for registration / using mc2.