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Newsflash

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New Partnership Agreement

The PCP has recently developed the new Partnership Agreement for members of the Bendigo Loddon PCP. This Agreement will remain in place until 2012. The Partner organisations will be able to choose which level of partnership that suits their organisation.

Level one partners will be limited to 12 and these will be those who agree to be a respondent to the Department of Health Funding Agreement for the PCP. These partners will be members of the Governance Board of the PCP and will be responsible for ensuring that the PCP implements its strategic plan and meets the deliverables agreed with the Department of Health. Level one partners are able to hold PCP funds and be the lead agency for PCP projects and will receive priority for workforce development activities.

Level two partners will be those who sign the Partnership Agreement and endeavour to participate in at least one of the deliverables. These are Integrated Health Promotion, Integrated Chronic Disease Management, or Service Coordination and e-referral. Level two partners are also able to be funded as the lead agency for PCP projects and will receive priority for workforce development activities.

The Associates are those who do not necessarily participate in PCP activities but wish to be kept informed of PCP work. Associates are not able to claim PCP membership and do not have priority for any PCP funded workforce development activities or projects, but may attend if vacancies are available.

The new Partnership Agreement will be sent out to all current members shortly, together with a PCP Application Form.

New Look for Website



The design and structure of the Bendigo Loddon PCP's website has recently been redeveloped and has now been released.

The website continues to provide access to information and resources to support work in the PCP catchment. Quick links have been introduced to the Strategic Plan, Integrated Health Promotion Plan and the Connectingcare Services Directory. The website will continually be updated with future events and governance issues. Publications that should assist BLPCP members are contained on the site, together with the Community Profile of the Greater Bendigo and Loddon communities. This is provided to assist partners in planning, preparation of submissions and to present the evidence of need for new programs and services. The Community Profile is updated regularly as information becomes available. "Newsflash" is also posted on this site.

We hope our partner organisations are able to utilise this website and that Partnership staff are able to participate in PCP activities and projects.

Visit www.blpcp.com.au to view our "new look" website.

Connectingcare and E-referral Traffic

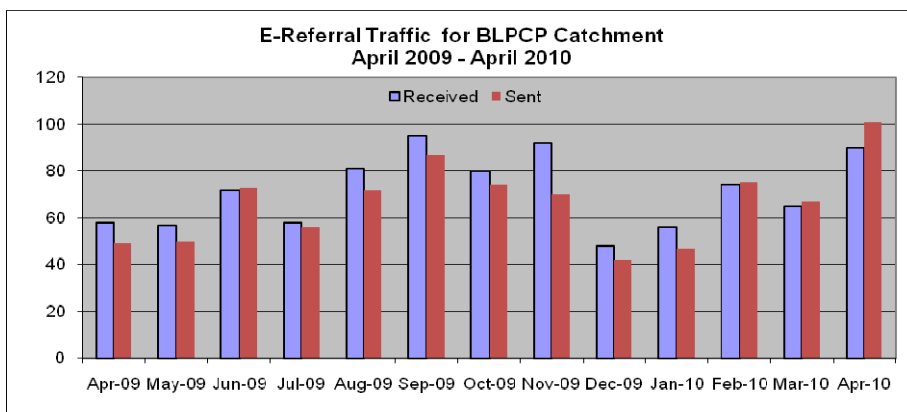
During April the following organisations have received and/or sent e-referrals through Connectingcare.com:

Received e-referrals

- Bendigo Community Health Services—Family Support
- Bendigo Health—HART/ACAS, Referral Centre, PAC, and Rural Health Team
- Department of Human Services—Public Housing Advice and Assistance, and Specialist Information and Referral Team
- Golden City Support Services—Community Support
- Mind—Prevention and Recovery Centre
- St Luke's Bendigo—Disability Support Services, Financial Counselling, and Recovery Focussed Mental Health Service

Sent e-referrals

- Baptistcare
- Bendigo Community Health Services—Family Support
- Bendigo Health—Bendigo Campuses and Regional Services, and Community and Regional Psychiatric Services
- Commonwealth Respite and Carelink Centre
- Department of Human Services
- Inglewood and Districts Health Service
- Loddon Shire Council
- Mind—Prevention and Recovery Centre
- Northern District Community Health Services
- St Luke's Bendigo—Child First



If you would like more information about Connectingcare and e-referral, would like to be able to send electronic referrals or would like training on how to use Connectingcare, please contact Leanne Oberin at the Bendigo Loddon PCP Office on 5448 1624.

Victorian Government Elder Abuse Prevention Strategy

Update

This strategy involves the promotion of elder abuse prevention information throughout the State. The objective of the Bendigo Loddon PCP's Strategic Plan in relation to elder abuse is, in accordance with the Victorian Government's With Respect to Age document, to raise awareness and increase community understanding of elder abuse within the aged care services sector and the general community.

The Office of Senior Victorians has funded Bendigo Loddon PCP to conduct local elder abuse prevention sessions in the region. Women's Health Loddon Mallee is the lead agency for this project.

Bendigo Loddon PCP has undertaken to establish Elder Abuse Networks in Greater Bendigo and Loddon.

The first meeting of the Bendigo Elder Abuse Network was held on 20 May. This group's role is to develop a local interagency protocol and referral pathway for addressing elder abuse in Greater Bendigo. The members have agreed to meet monthly to get this work done. We will also be considering what other relevant roles or tasks the network might undertake in the future.

For further information please contact Jenny Mitchell on 5448 1683, or email jennymitchell@bchs.com.au.

ThinkUKnow - Cyber Safety Project

The Australian Federal Police's ThinkUKnow program publishes a monthly newsletter. It provides up to date information on the issues around cyber safety. The latest edition includes information on 'reputation management'. The Loddon Mallee Cyber Safety Project will be promoting this concept with schools and community groups as a key message to create a culture of safety and ethical digital citizenship. The ThinkUKnow website also has excellent information and resources for schools and community groups. Visit <http://www.thinkuknow.org.au/site/index.asp> to join the ThinkUKnow website.

Cervical Screening Initiative for the Bendigo Loddon Catchment 2010

The Bendigo Loddon PCP has an established Sexual Health Task Group (SHTG) that has been working together since 2002.

The 2010 SHTG work plan consists of four key objectives, one being to increase cervical screening rates in the community. Data from the Victorian Cervical Cytology Registry, 2008 indicated that cervical screening rates in Greater Bendigo were around 59.8% and Loddon 57.5% respectively.

The SHTG has been working with local agencies including Bendigo Community Health Service (BCHS), Dingee Bush Nursing Centre, Heathcote Health and Inglewood and Districts Health Service to implement sustainable strategies to increase cervical screening rates. So far 5 Scholarships have been taken up by agencies for RN Div 1 nurses to complete the training necessary to conduct Pap tests in their community.

An initiative is also underway to increase screening rates through the establishment of more day and after hour clinics. Agencies have applied for funds to employ a credentialed Pap Test Practitioner one day per month, over a four month pilot period.

The SHTG is pleased to work with the agencies involved in these initiatives to increase the cervical screening rates for the Bendigo Loddon community.

For further information on the Cervical Screening Initiative contact BLPCP Project Worker, Brett Belot, on 5448 1682 or email brettbelot@bchs.com.au

Encouraging Best Practice in Residential Aged Care (EBPRAC)

The EBPRAC Project funded by the Department of Health and Ageing is an initiative to improve evidence-based clinical care for aged care residents. The funding allows the Project Consortium to work together to tackle issues specific to rural residential aged care in creating dementia friendly physical and social environments. Monash University School of Rural Health (Bendigo) has been the lead agency for the Consortium comprising Monash University, McCarthy Psychology Services and Bendigo Loddon PCP, together with seven nursing homes in rural Victoria, including Boort District Health and Inglewood and Districts Health Service. Dr Sam Davis formerly with Monash has taken up the position of Course Coordinator of Postgraduate Studies in Applied Gerontology with Flinders University resulting in a change of Consortium partner and lead agency for the EBPRAC Project to Flinders University.

Alison Campbell is the Best Practice Manager working in partnership with the management and staff of the nursing homes to achieve the outcomes of the Project. Alison can now be found at the Bendigo Loddon PCP Office. Her contact details are email alisoncampbell@bchs.com.au, or mobile 0419 347 579.

This shift in administration does not affect the excellent work being undertaken by the EBPRAC Consortium and all involved in the project will still be working closely to ensure that the last six months of Consortium activity leads to an excellent resource for other residential aged care facilities across the country.

Monash University School of Rural Health's support for the EBPRAC Project over the last 18 months is greatly appreciated.

Crusoe Reservoir and No 7 Park—Access for All

Crusoe Reservoir and No 7 Park is only minutes away from the centre of Bendigo. Surrounded by the Greater Bendigo National Park this unique area provides an abundance of environmental beauty, cultural heritage and recreational features.

This nature and historical park is an ideal location for people of all abilities to enjoy a range of low impact recreational activities such as bush walking and cycling.

Facilities on site include 'easy access' formed and compacted gravel paths; notably a 1.1km circular track around the reservoir. Other features include accessible toilets, seating and picnic tables, interpretive signs, a pedestrian bridge and a timber gateway.

For further information visit City of Greater Bendigo website, http://www.bendigo.vic.gov.au/Page/Page.asp?Page_Id=3756.



New Better Health Channel

Better Health Channel is the Victorian Government's award-winning health website. It has a great new look and new features to make finding reliable health information easier. It offers expert and up-to-date health information on conditions and treatments, healthy living, relationships and family, and services and support. Promote the Better Health Channel at your workplace or health event and go into the draw to win some great prizes.

For more information, please contact Terry Truman, phone 1800 126 637, email terry.truman@health.vic.gov.au or visit www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au.

Free

Elder Abuse Workshops

Information Session and Discussion Workshops for Bendigo and Loddon Seniors

**What is elder abuse?
How can we deal with it?**

Come to a free information session and discussion workshop for the general community, community workers and carers on how to help protect and safeguard the rights of older people in the City of Greater Bendigo and Loddon Shire.

A speaker from Seniors Rights Victoria will describe the free help and advice available on this complex issue.

There will be one workshop in the Loddon Shire and one in the City of Greater Bendigo. **Dates have not been set for these workshops, however, to register your interest or for further details contact Teneille Summers on 5443 0233 or email Teneille.summers@whlm.org.au.**

Mindful Friday Forum—the Many Colours of Trauma

This forum explores the many and different colours of trauma. How does a multiple or chronic trauma experience differ from a single-trauma event? The presenters will draw upon their work with the recent bushfires, refugee and war-related trauma, and maltreatment within the social and cultural contexts within which they work.

Presenters: Tim O'Leary and the Take Two Training Team

Venue: MINDFUL—Centre for Training and Research in Developmental Health,
Building C, 50 Flemington Street, Flemington

When: 18 June 2010, 9.30am to 4.30pm (registration from 9.00am)

Cost: \$75.00 (GST Free) (morning tea and light lunch provided)

For further information please email mindful-info@unimelb.edu.au or phone 9371 0203.

Strength Training Posters

Through the 'Enhanced Rural Network of Strength Training (ERNOST) project funded by "Go For Your Life", strength training posters were created to encourage people to undertake strength training in their own homes. Strength training helps to increase strength, maintain bone density, improve mobility, balance and decrease the risk of falls and chronic disease.

Posters can be put on the wall at home to guide a home-based strength training program.

The posters are an A2 size and are available by contacting the Bendigo Loddon PCP Office on 5448 1624, or emailing blpcp@bchs.com.au.

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