

Newsflash

OCTOBER 2010

Latest Board Information

The Board has welcomed Aimee Brabazon from the Bendigo and District Aboriginal Cooperative (BDAC) and Matt Jones from Murray Plains Division of General Practice (MPDGP) to the Board to join:

- Peter Abraham, Chief Executive Officer, Heathcote Health (Chairperson)
- Liz Hamilton, Executive Director Community & Continuing Care, Bendigo Health (Deputy Chairperson)
- Carolyn Wallace, Manager Community and Cultural Development, City of Greater Bendigo
- Jude Holt, Director of Corporate Services, Loddon Shire Council
- Mike Parker, Chief Executive Officer, Inglewood & Districts Health Service
- Kim Sykes, Chief Executive Officer, Bendigo Community Health Services
- Linda Beilharz, Executive Officer, Women's Health Loddon Mallee
- Craig De Lacy, Executive Officer, Central Victoria General Practice Network
- Judy Keath, Acting Chief Executive Officer/Director of Nursing, Boort District Health

At its September meeting, the Board discussed the new Partnership Agreement and approved Loddon Campaspe Multi-Cultural Services and EASE Inc as new Level 2 Members.

The Board also received reports on :

- The PCP partnership with Flinders University and McCarthy Psychology Services to undertake a significant project funded by the Department of Health and Ageing on "Palliative Care for People with Dementia: Building Capacity in Rural Residential Aged Care Facilities". This project will develop a model of implementation of best practice in palliative care for people with dementia, built around a CD-based interactive training resource for residential care facility staff and, in particular, to support the translation of knowledge into practice. Heathcote Health will be participating in this project along with a number of other Victorian and South Australian Nursing Homes. Dr Sam Davis from Flinders University will manage the project.
- Strategic Plan and Integrated Health Promotion Plan reviews. These reviews have commenced and will be submitted to the Department of Health Regional Office Director, Ann-Maree Conners, in March 2011.

Continuous Improvement Framework Committee

The inaugural meeting of the Continuous Improvement Framework Committee on Service Coordination is being held for PCP members on 19 October 2010 at 2.00pm. The meeting will be held at the PCP Offices in Bendigo and will be chaired by Jenny Harriott, Rural Health Team Manager, Bendigo Health.

During the development of the Bendigo Loddon PCP Strategic Plan, it was agreed that agencies would work together to encourage e-communication and develop processes and pathways so consumers could get the right service at the right time in the right place.

Any partner organisation that is involved in service coordination and would like to be involved with the Continuous Improvement Framework Committee, please advise Leanne Oberin, by phone 5448 1624 or email pcpadmin@bchs.com.au, of the name, title and contact details of your organisation's suggested representative. Representatives on the Committee need to have a strong understanding of working with clients and able to make decisions on behalf of their organisation. They should be well placed within organisations to drive the development and implementation of change with support and authority provided by their senior manager/executive officers.

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Connectingcare and E-referral Traffic

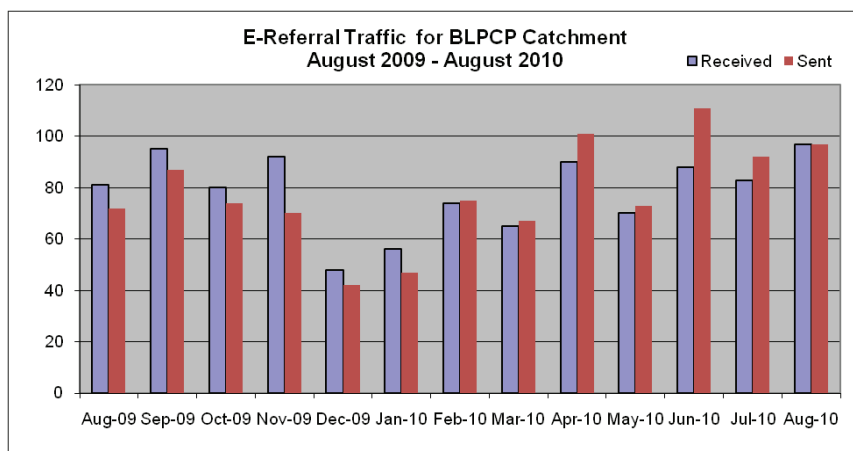
During August the following organisations have received and/or sent e-referrals through Connectingcare.com:

Received e-referrals

- Bendigo Community Health Services—Family Support
- Bendigo Health—HART, Referral Centre and Rural Health Team
- Inglewood and Districts Health Service—Inglewood Campus (Community Transport and Community Health Nurse)
- Loddon Mallee Housing Services—Bendigo (Housing Support for the Aged and Community Connections Program)
- Mind—Solomon Street (Bendigo)
- St Luke's Bendigo— Recovery Focused Mental Health Service—Whirrakee, Financial Counselling

Sent e-referrals

- Bapcare—Loddon Mallee
- Bendigo Health—Bendigo Campuses and Regional Services, and Community and Regional Psychiatric Services
- Commonwealth Respite and Carelink Centre
- Inglewood and Districts Health Service—Inglewood Campus
- Loddon Mallee Housing Services—Bendigo
- Loddon Shire Council—Serpentine Office
- St Luke's Bendigo - Child First and Gamblers Help



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.

Health Reform

Ongoing discussions between the Chairpersons and Executive Officers of the PCPs in the Loddon Mallee Region have resulted in a decision to plan and implement a forum on Health Reform in the Primary Health Care Sector which will be held in December 2010 in Bendigo.

The key objectives of this forum include:

1. To inform key stakeholders of the processes engaged by the Federal and State Governments and respective agencies in determining the boundaries, roles and function of the future Primary Health Care Organisations (PHCOs/Medicare Locals).
2. To encourage stakeholders to ascertain the relevant and appropriate partnerships required for their communities.
3. To promote and apply engagement, participation and ownership processes in the model of Health Reform for local communities.
4. To prepare a Loddon Mallee position statement to Victorian's Department of Health to assist in negotiations with the Commonwealth.

An invitation list is currently being developed by the four PCPs involved—Bendigo Loddon, Campaspe, Central Victorian Health Alliance and Southern Mallee.

A Note from Jenny Mitchell

My 6 months at Bendigo Loddon PCP has come to an end. I have learnt lots, met some great people and achieved my goals! I wish you all well and appreciate the patience and support I have received.

I am returning to my mental health promotion position at CAMHS and am happy to hear about/be involved in/resource any mental health promotion activities coming up. Contact details jmmitch@bendigohealth.org.au.

Free
Training

Elder Abuse Awareness and Response

Vic Uni has been contracted by the Office of Senior Victorians to develop and deliver training programs statewide to professionals and workers in Victorian government funded agencies and networks which provide services to older people. The workshops (either full-day or half-day) are designed to assist workforce groups to recognise and respond to elder abuse, and to support the management of suspected elder abuse cases.

Workshop One: Recognise and respond

The target audience for the half-day session includes any person who has direct contact with an older person in the course of their employment, who can, as a result of this contact, play a vital role in identifying potential cases of elder abuse (eg police, health care and justice workers, HACC workers, welfare and family support workers). Workshop One will cover Orientation to Elder Abuse and how to recognise it, and How to respond to Elder Abuse.

Workshop Two: Recognise, respond and assess

The target audience for the session includes those that have a responsibility to respond to suspected cases of Elder Abuse. This may arise as a result of contact with older persons or supervision of workers in direct contact with older persons (eg GPs, supervisors, team leaders, line managers, those professionals in specialist roles tasked with an older people portfolio). This full day program incorporates the content of Workshop One and will cover Orientation to Elder Abuse and how to recognise it, How to respond to Elder Abuse and Professional obligations.

BLPCP is pleased to be hosting this training . Details are:

Dates: Thursday 21 October 2010

1.30pm to 4.30pm; Workshop 1 (for Direct Care staff)

Afternoon tea provided

Friday 22 October 2010

9.30am to 12.30pm; Workshop 1 (for Direct Care staff and Managers)

1.30-4.30pm; Workshop 2 (Workshop 1 is a prerequisite for Managers to attend Workshop 2)

Morning and afternoon teas and lunch provided

Venue: Best Employment, 26-28 St Andrew's Avenue, Bendigo

RSVP: By 14 October 2010, please [click here](#) to register.



Limited to 20 places per Workshop

Kids with Confidence

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) and St Luke's are running a five week **program for children aged 7 to 12 living in families affected by mental illness**. The program will be a lot of fun and includes education about mental illness, mental health and coping strategies. It will be held once a week after school and will commence October/November.

For more information or to register, please contact Faye on 5454 7752. There are a limited number of places available.

Centre Against Sexual Assault—Upcoming Training

The **Working with Adolescent Survivors of Sexual Assault Workshop** covers theoretical frameworks and extends skills in working with adolescent victim/survivors of recent or past sexual assault. Issues for adolescent survivors are explored, and strategies included for working with issues of anger, guilt and sexuality. **This workshop is being held on Friday 19 November, 9.15am to 4.00pm.** You must have completed previously the "Responding to Disclosures" or equivalent as it is a prerequisite for this workshop.

The introductory workshop **Responding to Disclosures of Sexual Assault** is relevant to generalist practitioners, counsellors, support workers, students, and those who work with victim/survivors of sexual assault. Participants will develop an understanding of the key issues, myths, effects and how to respond effectively to disclosures. **This workshop is being held on Friday 26 November, 9.15am to 4.00pm.** This workshop, or equivalent, is a prerequisite for attendance at other workshops.

The **Working with Adult Survivors Workshop** will explore the impact of the trauma of childhood sexual assault and recent sexual assault on adult survivors. Strategies for reducing the impact of their trauma will be utilised. **This workshop is being held on Friday 3 December, 9.15am to 4.00pm.** "Responding to Disclosures" or equivalent is a prerequisite for this workshop.

The workshops will be held in the upstairs meeting room, 8 Olinda Street, Bendigo (there is no wheelchair access). Delicious lunch and morning and afternoon teas provided. **For a registration form contact CASA on 5441 0430.**

Free
Workshop

Mental Health Management

The National Disability Coordination Officer (NDCO) Program has been funded to facilitate **workshops for Mental Health Service Managers and Disability Employment Service Managers** around Victoria with the **purpose of increasing organisational mental health awareness, holistic services delivery, risk identification and management, service response procedures and effective communication with important community services and supports**. Managers will be guided through a discussion style workshop that will assist in the development of an organisational mental health management policy.

Please contact Sally Bailey on 9784 0400, 0439 897 027, dco@skillsplus.com.au; or Annette Forbes on 9784 0400, afortbes@skillsplus.com.au to register for the following workshop in this region:

Date: Tuesday 9 November 2010

Time: 10.00am to 3.00pm

Venue: Comfort Inn, Central Deborah, Bendigo

Creating a Healthier Future

Population Health Approaches to Planning

14—15 October 2010; Hilton on the Park, Melbourne

- Develop your understanding of population health planning
- Hear from sector experts
- Inform VHA policy
- Network with health and social service colleagues

This **Victorian Healthcare Association (VHA) Conference** will provide a variety of perspectives on population health approaches to planning from leaders across government, politics, academia and industry.

Population health approaches to planning are integrated and collaborative approaches that demand that health and non-health sectors, government departments and service delivery agencies work together to address the health issues faced by their communities.

The VHA welcomes health service CEOs, executives, board members and health promotion coordinators as well as those representing Primary Care Partnerships, Divisions of General Practice, not-for-profit organisations and all levels of government concerned with health and social planning.

Register Online: www.vha.org.au

Mental Health Promotion Leaders' Symposium

The Mental Health Promotion Leaders' symposium will support people with coordination and capacity building roles to enhance mental health promotion practice. Promoting mental health and wellbeing is "everybody's business" for that reason the symposium will be conducted by accredited trainers who themselves work in sectors such as arts, education, sports, crime prevention, local government, community and health. Because

Participants will reflect on current National and Victorian policy directions and the opportunities for mental health promotion, be introduced to evidence supporting the five determinants of the VicHealth Participation for Health Framework, develop skills in organisational change management to enhance mental health promotion practice, receive resource material relevant to the design of evidence based mental health promotion activity and learn how to apply VicHealth's Partnerships Analysis Tool, the Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Tool and the Evidence Bases Resource.

Date: 25 October 2010

Time: 9.30am to 4.30pm (lunch provided)

Venue: VicHealth Ground Floor, 15-31 Pelham Street, Carlton.

Registration close
8 October 2010

This is a pilot course - there is no cost, however, spaces are limited. For further information please contact Sarah Posner on 9667 1310 or sposner@vichealth.vic.gov.au.

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