

COPMI

News Update

9 June
2009

A regular news brief on the recent activities of the team from the Children Of Parents with a Mental Illness national initiative.

Inaugural COPMI World Conference – Hilton Adelaide October 26-28 2009 ON-LINE REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!! EARLYBIRD PRIZE DRAW

All registrants who apply during the earlybird registration period (prior to 1 September 2009) will go into the draw for a prize consisting of a library of 10 books with a 'children of parents with a mental illness' theme. Titles include the acclaimed novels, *Saving Francesca* (by conference speaker, Melina Marchetta), *Lockie Leonard Legend* (by Tim Winton), and *Helicopter Man* (by Elizabeth Fensham), as well as SANE Australia publications *Joe's Diary* and *You're Not Alone*.

Workforce Development

All modules for the *Keeping Families & Children in mind: COPMI Mental health worker education resource* have been built. Alpha testing will continue over the next two weeks. Ethics approval has been given by Monash University for the evaluation of the pilot training phase of the resource which will occur in the North West region of Tasmania and the Eastern metropolitan region of Melbourne in August.

A registration form to become a trainer has been widely distributed and there is much interest in the process. People interested in becoming a trainer can contact Kylie and register their interest now. The first trainer workshop will be held in Adelaide on October 28 this year. Individual workers will be able to access the resource from October 26th, after it is launched. For more information email Kylie Eddy: eddyk@aicafmha.net.au.

Consumer & Carer Participation

Chris attended the Australian Health Promotion Association (AHPA) national conference in Perth, where she presented two posters. The first, produced by Elizabeth Fudge was on the '*Challenges in promoting the mental health of an "invisible population" group*' and the second by Chris, was about Consumer/Carer Participation. This conference provided Chris with some great networking opportunities. Another meeting has been held with the COPMI National Family Forum (CNFF) to progress the preparation of the plenary session they will be presenting at the World Conference in October; David Boots also provided advice and an offer of technical support to the group developing the presentation. Chris is also establishing a register of names of consumers and carers who would be prepared to talk with the media, if the need arises, particularly at the conference. For more information, email Chris Alliston: allistonc@aicafmha.net.au

Information Resource Development

The first complete draft of the new *MindMatters* resource has been finished and will be pilot tested by David Boots at a workshop within a professional development event hosted by *MindMatters* in Sydney in June.

The feedback on the *Piecing the Puzzle Together: Raising young children when mental illness is part of your life* and its associated early childhood workers resource, *Helping to Piece the Puzzle Together*, has been collated. This will be discussed by the COPMI Information Resources Consultation Group, and a subsequent re-edit of both documents will follow. Concurrently we are also working on the design and production costs of a large oversized paper clip to be distributed with the booklet. This is because the cover of the booklet will have a detachable folder that is designed to hold a Care Plan. For more information, email Elizabeth Fudge: fudgee@aicafmha.net.au.

Website changes

The left hand menu items no longer contain information. All information is now accessed through the rollout items. Wiki access has been moved to the top menu bar and a new menu item **Workforce Development** has been added with its own set of rollouts. If you are unaware of the most recent additions to **Programs and Services** or new resources that have been added to the website, then it is worth 'subscribing' to the COPMI website RSS feeds service. To do so, go to the **Subscribe to RSS feeds** button on the left hand menu and complete the required information. Website enquiries can be directed to either David Boots (bootsd@aicafmha.net.au) or Susan Hubbard (hubbards@aicafmha.net.au).

Research and Evaluation

The latest issue of GEMS (Gateway to Evidence that MatterS) has been added to the website. It's titled '*When a parent is hospitalised: the impact on children*' by Drs Harry Sivec and Patricia Masterson. Enquiries re submitting information for a future GEMS should be made by email to: researchevaluation@aicafmha.net.au (Drs Darryl Maybery and Andrea Reupert).

Darryl met with David Boots to explore the possibility of having short videos on the **Research and Evaluation** component of the COPMI website. The videos will provide advice, tips and techniques from experienced evaluators on the processes of evaluation. These new web pages are still under development and will hopefully be on-line in the next month or so.

David Boots

Communications Officer
COPMI National Initiative
Ph (08) 8367 0888, Extension 26
Fax (08) 8367 0999
bootsd@aicafmha.net.au

Ground Floor, Norwich Centre
77 King William Road
North Adelaide
South Australia 5006
www.copmi.net.au