



Have you checked out our snazzy new website yet?

www.westernlinkages.org.au

Check it out! You will find:

Diary dates - Regularly updated with details of workgroups, forums and committee meetings - its all in one easy spot! And not just for Western Linkages events either. Other events of regional significance will be included as we become aware of them, to help avoid clashes.

What we've done - some great resources and examples of regional collaboration, including:

- Domestic Assistance Snapshot
- Personal Alarm discounts
- Respite Snapshot

Inforama!



NEED EVIDENCE FOR YOUR FUNDING SUBMISSIONS?

COMPUTER BASED TRAINING ACCESSING ABS PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

On 7th May 2008, Pam Balfour from the Australian Bureau of Statistics will provide computer based training on accessing ABS products and services. There will be two sessions held in the training room at Domiciliary Care SA, Woodville.

The first session will be in the morning and is designed as a **brush-up for those who attended Pam's training last year. The session will cover what has changed and offer an opportunity for answers to any questions** arising from that training. For example, since the March 2007 training the results from the 2006 Census of Population and Housing have been released.

The second session will repeat the training from last year and is suitable for new and existing users of the ABS website. It would be a valuable introduction to ABS data for those considering undertaking other ABS courses. The sessions will run for approximately 2 to 2.5 hours on Wednesday 7th May (times to follow).

Training overview:

ABS on-line publications and data are free to download from the ABS website, www.abs.gov.au, and this information seminar aims to increase awareness of the content of the ABS website and Census Data.

At the end of this seminar participants will:

- ★ be aware of the design, layout and content of the ABS website
- ★ be able to browse, search for and retrieve a range of information from the ABS website
- ★ be aware of the conditions of use of ABS information
- ★ know where to find other ABS services and help.

If you are interested in attending please complete the online registration form via: www.westernlinkages.org.au

MEETING DATES

West East Dementia Action Workgroup Meeting – 16 April

Social Isolation Workgroup Meeting – 14 May 2 – 3:30

Dementia Action Workgroup Meeting – 5 May 9:30 – 11:00

Western Linkages Steering Committee Meeting – 22 May

WEDAC
(West East Domestic Assistance Collaboration)



An opportunity for domestic assistance providers to come together to network and address common goals. Next meeting is Wed 16 April, in the Eastern region. The cross regional competition for providing the best morning tea is about to hot up, so please come along!

If you want to be added to the mailing list for this group please send your details to Lui Divenuto at: lui.divenuto@dfc.sa.gov.au

What's new at Western Linkages...

We are looking at ways to reduce the amount of emails we send out. Is that a collective sigh of relief we hear? We hope to achieve this by.....

- Establishing a section on our website where previous minutes and agendas can be accessed by workgroup members via a password. We hope this will make it easier for you to participate in regional collaboration.
- We will trial posting our newsletter on the website and sending a brief email to advise that it is available for download, rather than clogging up everyone's in-boxes.

Did you know.....

- We have a new Chairperson! At its last meeting, the Steering Committee extended a big **thankyou** to **Camilla Kinnane** for filling the role of Chairperson over the past two years. Our new Chairperson is **Bev Young** from Southern Cross Care, and vice Chair is **Liz Sloggett** from the Transitional Care Unit at TQEH.
- Farewells.... to the following Steering Committee and Workgroup members...**Julie Bonnici** who is leaving the Regional Manager position in ACH Group to take up another role in ACH.... **Cathy Isam** from RDNS who has moved to the Dept of Health.... **Sharyn Johnson** from Masonic Homes who has also taken up another role within Masonic...we hope to work with you all again! A **BIG** thankyou to **Julie Bonnici** who has made a significant contribution to Western Linkages, leading workgroups and Steering Committee at various stages over the past 6 years as well as helping to establish the Elder Friendly Communities project. We will miss you all!
- 'Interactive Ochre Cultural Awareness Training' is coming by June 30! In response to a national and industry need, "Interactive Ochre" delivers an Indigenous perspective on cultural awareness training. Funded by the Commonwealth, it is designed to assist non-Indigenous Australians to work more effectively with Aboriginal people. Further details will be circulated as they become available.

The OFTA newsletter for March is now available for download from their website, including an update on the Access Points demonstration project. Visit

<http://www.familiesandcommunities.sa.gov.au/Default.aspx?tabid=1048>



On 18th February Western Linkages' annual forum was held at the Education Development Centre in Hindmarsh. Concurrent sessions, panel sessions and expo stands provided attendees with a multitude of opportunities to access information on western service provision.

The expo stands provided opportunity for attendees to:

- garner information from agency reps,
- graze the mobile finger food
- be introduced to new colleagues in service provision in the western region
- catch up with misplaced colleagues and friends

... all with network, network, network in the back of their minds!

The evaluation sheets were overwhelmingly positive. The opportunity to network, the information made available by the expo stands and through the concurrent and panel sessions were highly regarded by respondents.

Attendees appreciated the snappy presentations which left many wanting more. Panel sessions enabled attendees to ask the panellists some tricky questions about:

- Metro Access Team & Aged Care Assessment Teams
- And Regional Domestic Assistance

We would like to thank everyone who organised, participated, evaluated and/or attended Info-rama. The feedback we have received, both formally and anecdotally has been great. There is renewed interest in many of the workgroups and the information flow (and referrals) between participating agencies is proof that Western Linkages continues to be a highly successful source of collaboration between service providers in the western region.

Consumer Representative Nominations for Western Linkages

Western Linkages is inviting existing consumer groups to nominate a representative to join our steering committee. Consumers will be required to:

- Broadly represent the needs of older people, carers and people with a disability in the Western metro region
- Act as a point for exchanging information and ideas at a variety of levels
- Provide feedback to the Western Linkage project on issues as they arise
- be existing members of a consumer reference group.

If you would like further information please contact Western Linkages Project Officers.

Social Innovation in SA

As a result of Dr Geoff Mulgan's involvement as an Adelaide Thinker in Residence, partners in the residency, are pleased to announce

The History and Future of Social Innovation Conference, Adelaide, 19-21 June 2008.

The conference aims to examine key issues and trends in social innovation and the factors that may influence or inhibit innovation.

[For further information click here.](#)

Home Maintenance Officers Forum

The HMO forum was successfully held in March. Big thankyou's go out to:

- **Sue Sharp** from the City of Port Adelaide Enfield for leading the organising group
- **Irene Young** from City of West Torrens for being the other half of that group! (very exclusive membership requirements)
- **Terry Alderton** from Port Adelaide Enfield—for sharing his lock-smithing abilities!

Also featured on the day were sessions on identifying asbestos and hi-line hardware (grabrails). Western Linkages and the Eastern Regional Collaborative Project were pleased to support the organising group for this event.

Transitional Care Program

The Transition Care Program provides short term support for older people at the end of their hospital stay. The program is aimed at people who require more time and support in a non hospital environment to complete their recovery process, optimise their functional capacity and finalise their longer term care arrangements. The Transition Care Program can run for up to 12 weeks (average of 8 weeks duration) in a residential and/or community setting depending upon individual care needs. It is therapy focussed and based on an individualised care plan developed with the older person and their family/carer(s). The program provides a package of services that can include low intensity therapy (physio, occupational therapy, social work), nursing and/or personal care , assistance with daily household tasks, exercise program, loan of equipment and recommendation of minor home modifications.

Eligible people are older people who are:

- in hospital and nearing the end of their hospital stay
- able to benefit from a program that will help them improve their recovery and restore as much independence as possible

Eligibility for the TCP is determined by the Aged Care Assessment Team

Hospitals that refer to the Transition Care Program in the Northern region are The Queen Elizabeth, Royal Adelaide, Lyell McEwin, Modbury, St Margaret's Rehabilitation and Hampstead Rehabilitation Hospitals. The Transition Care Program's office is in the new administration building at Hampstead and can be contacted on:

- Sally Sobels, Program Manager, Ambulatory and Primary Health Care Directorate T: 8222 1864
- Angela Ellis, Maaik Overduin, Administration T: 8222 1862 F: 1300 724 900
- Karen Hales, Transition Care Program Coordinator - Registered Nurse, T: 8222 1882 M: 0423 294 410
- Karlie Bell, Transition Care Program Coordinator - Occupational Therapist, T: 8222 1887 M: 0403 607 746

SA Ageing Atlas

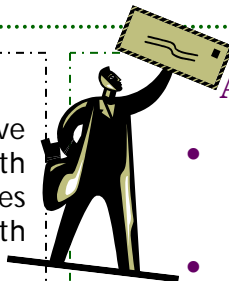
Planning SA has produced an interactive internet-based 'Ageing Atlas' to help with the future planning of housing and services for the growing number of older South Australians.

The Ageing Atlas combines population data and projections with other research to give:

- projected number of older residents in all metropolitan Adelaide and country councils by age group, through to 2021
- provide the number and type of existing accommodation for aged people by council area.

Follow this link to the planning sa website and the ageing atlas:

<http://www.planning.sa.gov.au/go/ageingatlas>



Are you on our general mailing list?

- **If you have received this newsletter direct from Western Linkages, it is because you are on our mailing list.**
- **To be added or removed from the mailing list please email us at westernlinkages@dfc.sa.gov.au**

Mailing list subscribers receive:

- **regular updates on issues impacting upon service provision in the West, including funding rounds**
- **Western Linkages newsletters**
- **Invitations to regional consultations, forums and events.**

The mailing list is intended for community service providers with an interest in services to older people, people with a disability & their carers in the West. We have separate mailing lists for each of our workgroups.