

CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

If you wish to have forthcoming conferences or events listed in the National Child Protection Clearinghouse Newsletter, and on the Australian Institute of Family Studies web pages, please send details to conferences@aifs.gov.au.

Victimisation of children and youth Portsmouth, New Hampshire, US

11–14 July 2004

This International Research Conference will be conducted by the Family Research Laboratory and Crimes Against Children Research Centre, University of New Hampshire and co-sponsored by The Family Violence and Sexual Assault Institute, San Diego, CA.

Further information: Email sarahg@cisunix.unh.edu. Web: www.unh.edu/fri/conference2003/index/

Early childhood international links Melbourne, Vic

.521–24 July 2004

This XXIV World Congress of the World Organisation for Early Childhood Education is a unique opportunity to highlight its concern for early childhood development across the world. The overall theme of the Congress is "One World: Many Childhoods". The program will provide opportunities to explore issues such as children in difficult circumstances, innovation in service delivery, indigenous children's needs and services, and children's health and social services. Participants will be challenged to think carefully about the types of programs delivered to young children.

Further information: The Meeting Planners, 91-97 Islington Street, Collingwood, Vic 3066. Phone: (03) 9417 0888. Fax: (03) 9417 0899. Email: omep@meetingplanners.com.au. Web: www.omepaustralia.com.au/

National child and family services conference Sydney, NSW

2–4 August 2004

Knowledge into Action! Effective Practice for Child and Family Services – this conference will have streamed sessions on: out of home care for children and young people; working with Indigenous children, families and communities; supporting families – prevention and intervention; and participation of children and young people.

Further information: Sharon Low, Conference Organiser, Matrix On Board. Email: sharyn@mob.com.au. Phone: (02) 4572 3079. Fax: (02) 4572 3972. Web: www.acwa.asn.au/conf2004/

Abuse of children Hollywood, CA, US

4–7 August 2004

The 12th Annual Colloquium of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC) is a

major source of education and research necessary for professionals in the field of child maltreatment, including: mental health, medicine and nursing, law, law enforcement, education, prevention, and child protective services.

Further information: Tricia Williams, PO Box 26901, CHO 3B3406, Oklahoma City, OK 73190. Phone: (405) 271-8202 Fax: (405) 271-2931 Email: Tricia-Williams@ouhsc.edu. Web: www.apsac.org

Infant, child and adolescent mental health Gold Coast, Qld

September 2004

The Australian Infant, Child, Adolescent and Family Mental Health Association has announced that the 5th National Conference will be held in conjunction with the 2004 MHS Conference. The conference theme is "Harvesting hope across the lifespan".

Further information: Web: www.aicafmha.net.au/conferences/goldcoast2004/index/

Shaken baby syndrome Montreal

12-15 September 2004

The First North American / Fifth National Conference on Shaken Baby Syndrome will provide participants with many educational, networking and social opportunities through keynote and panel presentations, workshop sessions, specialised training institutes, exhibits and receptions. Two additional full-day training institutes are planned, a mock trial of a SBS case, and a prevention institute.

Further information: Steven Franks, National Centre on Shaken Baby Syndrome, 2955 Harrison Blvd., Ste. 102, Ogden, UT, 84403. Email: sefranks@mindspring.com. Web: www.dontshake.com.

Child abuse and neglect Brisbane, Qld

19-22 September 2004

NAPCAN is hosting the 15th International Congress on Child Abuse and Neglect in partnership with ISPCAN (International Society for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect). The Congress theme is "Working Together for a Child Safe World".

Further information: ISPCAN 2004 Congress Secretariat, ICMS (Qld) Pty Ltd, PO Box 3496, South Brisbane Qld 4101. Phone: (07) 3844 1138. Fax: (07) 3844 0909. Email: ispcan2004@icms.com.au. Web: www.congress2004.com/

**Family violence
San Diego, California**

19–22 September 2004

The title of the 9th International Conference on Family Violence is “Working Together to End Abuse: Advocacy, Assessment, Intervention, Research, Prevention, and Policy”. Conference co-hosts are: Family Violence and Sexual Assault Institute (FVSAI), San Diego, CA; Children’s Institute International (CII), Los Angeles, CA; and Alliant International University (AIU). The conference will be preceded by training institutes and workshops.

Further information: Web: www.fvsai.org/

**The critical early childhood years
Melbourne, Vic**

1–2 October 2004

This is the 3rd National Conference from the Queen Elizabeth Centre, an early parenting centre with an 85-year history of supporting and educating parents. Titled “The Critical Early Childhood Years: Rethinking

Current Interventions and Strategies”, the conference themes are: Care and education in early childhood; New understandings of early childhood; High needs families and high-risk infants; Prevention and early intervention for parents and children: building competence; Early parenting education.

Further information: Gini Solutions, PO Box 123, East Kew Vic 3102. Phone: (03) 9859 5508. Mobile: 0419 178 138. Fax: (03) 9859 0519. Email: giniolutions@bigpond.com. Web: www.qec.org.au/

**Foster care
Canberra, ACT**

29–31 Oct 2004

Papers are invited for the National Foster Care Conference, which has the theme “Walking Together: People, Policy and Practice”. Papers will be grouped under four sub-themes: Facilitating co-operation; People; Policy; and Practice.

Further information: Web: www.fostercare.org.au/national/

NEW RESOURCE

Helping young people get involved in meetings about their lives



“Everybody should have a say in what they do in their life.” (John, 12 years)

Meeting together – deciding together is a new practical resource to help adults involve children and young people in meetings where decisions about their lives are made.

Adults often have formal meetings to make decisions about what will happen in the life of a child or young person. It could be a meeting about a child’s or young person’s legal, health or housing needs, or a regular case-planning meeting for a young person in care.

Whatever the circumstances, it is important that the child or young person has the opportunity and support to have their say about what they would like to happen. *Meeting together – deciding together* has lots of practical ideas and exercises to make it easier for adults to help children and young people “have a say” in meetings. It looks at how to prepare for a meeting, how to support the young person’s participation during the meeting, and how to follow-up after the meeting.

Children and young people helped to write the resource, contributing their great ideas and practical suggestions.

Meeting together – deciding together is the third part of the New South Wales Commission for Children and Young People’s *TAKING PARTicipation seriously* kit. The kit also includes *Sharing the Stage*, which helps organisations involve young people in decision-making, and *Conferences and Events*, which helps organisations plan and organise events so young people can participate fully.

***Meeting together – deciding together*, along with other parts of the *TAKING PARTicipation seriously* kit, can be downloaded free from www.kids.nsw.gov.au/publications/taking.html or purchased in hard-copy by contacting the Commission for Children and Young People. Phone (02) 9286 7276. Email: kids@kids.nsw.gov.au.**