

RASP Newsletter # 2



Part of Gippsland Community Legal Service, Anglicare Victoria

162 Commercial Road, Morwell, 3840 Phone 5135 9555 Fax 5133 0577
P.O Box 103, Morwell, 3840 Email: dale.reddick@anglicarevic.org.au

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING AT RASP?

Regional Advocacy Networks:

RASP and Gippsland Citizen Advocacy – GCA - are collaborating to provide a point of contact for six Regional Advocacy Networks:

Bairnsdale, Baw Baw, Latrobe, South Gippsland, Wellington, WHO – Wonthaggi.

The aim is to provide ongoing support for these groups once the Gippsland Regional Advocacy Network Development – GRAND project finishes at the end of October.

The GRAND project, was run by Vivianne Everett at Latrobe City. Viv has done a great job of developing and supporting these groups over the past 3 years. RASP and GCA are pleased to provide ongoing support to these groups.

The networks are made up of some very talented people who are involved in active advocacy for their communities.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN MAKING CONTACT WITH AN ADVOCACY GROUP IN YOUR AREA PLEASE CONTACT:

Dale Reddick – RASP 51359555

Jen Rowley – GCA 51339440

COMMUNITY INFORMATION SESSIONS:

The past few months have been busy with Community Information Sessions about our service, and the role of Gippsland Community Legal Service. We have also conducted a number of sessions regarding Disputes and Mediation, Human Rights and Equal Opportunity, as well as Enduring Powers of Attorney.

RASP has also participated in, and provided resources for:

- Gippsland Trades and Labour Council Workplace Expo.
- Monash University Gippsland Student Union, Health and Safe Sex Week.
- Gippsland Regional Advocacy Forum.

We are continuing our commitment to provide Information and Education sessions to service providers, including:

Benetas Community Services:

Sale October 7.

Lifeline Gippsland Regional Staff Training:

Latrobe Regional Hospital, October 18.

East Gippsland Disability Services Network:

Bairnsdale 25 November.

Upcoming Community Information Sessions:

Inverloch Lodge Monday 20 October:
Enduring Powers of Attorney.

Warragul Community House 27 October:
Enduring Powers of Attorney.

P.I.C.A.L – Cowes 14 November:
Enduring Powers of Attorney.

**Mitchell Community House – Wonthaggi
19 November:**
Equal Opportunity – Discrimination.

*Please contact Dale for further information,
or to book a Community Information Session
for your Staff or Community Group.*

ENDURING POWER OF ATTORNEY MEDICAL TREATMENT WALLET CARDS

We have received a lot of feedback from the community in relation to Enduring Power of Attorney Medical Treatment.

What would happen if you were involved in an accident or suddenly taken ill and were unable to tell medical staff that you have and EPA Medical Treatment. If you have donated this power to someone other than your spouse, the medical staff may not be immediately aware of who has the power to make decisions on your behalf.

RASP is developing a wallet – sized card alerting staff to the fact that you have an EPA – Medical Treatment, and their contact details. It also provides the contact details for EPA – Financial and EPA – Guardianship (if applicable).

If you or your clients have donated, or are about to donate Enduring Power of Attorney Medical Treatment, feel free to contact Dale for information about the EPA Card, or for fact sheets about "Medical Treatment for Patients Who Cannot Consent"

CALD COMMUNITIES

RASP has provided Community Information and Education to the Sudanese and Nigerian communities, as well as individual advocacy for members of the Sudanese community.

We are also participating on the Latrobe City Cultural Diversity Steering Committee

For further information about CALD services, contact:

**Gippsland Multicultural Services
100 – 102 Buckley Street MORWELL
5133 7072
www.gmsinfo.com.au**

LIVING LIBRARY

Following on from the very successful Latrobe Living Library event in Traralgon, there has been interest from Mitchell Community House in Wonthaggi, and Monash Student Union, in running similar events.

If you are interested in information and support in running a local Living Library, please let RASP know. Or visit.....

www.livinglibraries.org.au

Call Dale on 5135 9555 for a copy of the Latrobe Living Library Evaluation.

OTHER NEWSLETTERS:

Have you subscribed to the following newsletters and E-bulletins?

You will find them informative and interesting!

**deaf access VICTORIA – Gippsland Region
Voice and TTY – 5143 1537**

E-mail: gippsland@deafaccessvic.com.au

Local call cost: voice 1300 302 335

TTY 1300 302 325

**Disability Advocacy Resource Unit – DARU
www.daru.org.au**

GIPPSLAND COMMUNITY LEGAL SERVICE – GCLS

Koori Id Project.

Joel Orenstein, GCLS acting Principal Solicitor has developed this report and Law Reform Project.

The Koori ID (KID) Project is a submission based on the Let's GET Connected Project's research paper:

"Difficulties faced by Indigenous Victorians in Obtaining Identification".

Investigation and consultation with the Koori community, and community organisations who provide services to the Koori populations across Gippsland have identified a lack of identity documentation as being widespread.

The process for obtaining identification where there is a lack of supplementary forms, is extremely difficult, time-consuming and disempowering.

Recognizing the need for law reform in this area, GCLS in conjunction with Let's Get Connected established the KID project.

For more information regarding this project:

Joel Orenstein
Gippsland Community Legal Service
Ph: (direct) 5150 3727
Fax: (direct) 5152 7860
Email:
joel.orenstein@anglicarevic.org.au

OR:
connect to the GCLS website at:
www.communitylaw.org.au/gippsland

HANDY LINK – RESOURCE

A Guide for Advocates Attending VCAT Hearings:

Villamanta Disability Rights Legal Service Inc. together with the Mental Health Legal Centre, has produced a guide for advocates representing people at the Guardianship List of the Victorian Civil & Administrative Tribunal (VCAT).

The project was funded by the Victoria Law Foundation and is recommended for legal Advocates.

The guide is available on the Villamanta website.

www.villamanta.org.au

RASP NEWSLETTERS 2009

We will be producing a quarterly newsletter in 2009: March - June - September and December.

In the meantime, please feel free to contact Dale Reddick with any queries and suggestions for inclusion.

Ph: 5135 9555
Fax: 5133 0577
Email:
dale.reddick@anglicarevic.org.au

Or at the GCLS / RASP website:

www.communitylaw.org.au/gippsland/cb_pages/RASP.php

People are pretty much alike. It's only that our differences are more susceptible to definition than our similarities.

Linda Ellerbee