



Monthly Bulletin

April/May 2007
Volume 1 Issue 2

AECSSU, PO Box 276, ENMORE NSW 2042
www.aecssu.org.au admin@aecssu.org.au
Ph: (02) 9516 4473 Fax: (02) 9516 5495

Welcome to our April/May Monthly Bulletin

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Welcome
- 1 New Staff Member
- 2 What's New in Children's Services
- 3 Conference Information
- 4 Bus Registration
- 4 Dates to Remember
- 4 Upcoming Conferences
- 4 About the NSW AECG

'Do not follow where the path may lead. Go instead where there is no path and leave a trail.'

Muriel Strode

Time has flown since our March bulletin. Hopefully you all enjoyed our first edition.

This month there is important information in regards to requirements of your service.

The ATSIECSAG Conference is near approaching and the Management Committee is very excited about the content the conference is offering this year for Preschool services. The committee is looking forward to your participation at the conference, so hopefully we will see you there.

New Staff Member

Hi everyone, my name is Damita McGuinness. I was successful in gaining the position of Administration Officer with the AECSSU in April.

I am looking forward to meeting people at the Conference and putting faces to names. In the meantime, please feel free to Contact me at anytime and I will do my best to assist you.



What's new in Children's services

Centralised licensing

- All children's services licenses will be received, processed and issued centrally at DoCS Head Office now, instead of the Regional Offices
- The Children's Services Directorate at Head Office will now operate as a one-stop shop for all your licensing needs. eg., processes, enquiries about regulatory requirements, application forms or any other matter related to licensing
- The Regional Children's Services Advisors (CSAs) will still continue to conduct compliance activities and report outcomes back to DoCS Head Office
- DoCS Head Office will establish and maintain a list of DoCS approved Authorised Supervisor, who will be issued a reference

Current forms and processes have been simplified and redesigned to make it more user-friendly. Guides have been developed to assist applicants and licencees in completing the application form.

The introduction of centralized licensing will be rolled out regionally with services being contacted 4 weeks prior.

Amendment to the *Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998*

Recent amendments to the *Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998* covering the registration of out of school hours care services came into affect on 23 February 2007. The amendments relate to:

- Provision for a children's service to have two authorized supervisors
- Provision for making of regulations to enable probity checks to be carried out on all people over 14 years residing at the home of a family day care carer or home-based carer
- Provision for the making of regulations for out of school hours care
- The exemption from licensing requirements for informal child minding services provided in connection with a hospital or health service

Fact sheets about the amendments can be download from

www.community.nsw.gov.au

Licensing of school-based children's services (preschool)

The implementation of licensing of school based preschools will commence in 2008. All schools will be contacted regarding these changes with briefing sessions being conducted by DoCS to support schools in meeting regulatory requirements.

Conference information

- At the conference there will be a workshop on Resource making/sharing, where services will be invited to share information on the development of resources and how those resources are implemented into the program within the service and what outcomes have been achieved through the effective use of them.
- If your service is interested could you please contact the Conference Co-Ordinator Rob Roberts on 95164473 or email rob.roberts@aecssu.org.au.
- There will be *Department of Education Science & Training (DEST) Regional Workshops* held at the conference which will be compulsory for each service within a specific region to attend these workshops. At the workshop the Regional Managers will give an overview of their role and how it impacts on the effectiveness of your service in relation to funding and programs that can be accessed ie. Parents, Schools Partnership Initiative (PSPI). Also there will be an opportunity to brainstorm strategies for improved relationships and communication, open discussion and question time and networking with other services.
- This year by popular demand Koori Faces is back and will be held on our fundraising night in support of the Jo Pender Scholarship. Hopefully, all services will be participating with their wonderful acts, so lets get practising. Wonderful prizes to be won. On the night an admission fee of \$3.00 will be charged for each conference participant to attend the dinner and entertainment.
- For the duration of the conference Catherine Chen ATSI ECSAG's Accountant will be in attendance to assist Preschool services who would like any advice or support from her in relation to financial issues or enquiries. Those services that would like to access Catherine could you please see her to make an appointment. Also please ensure that you bring your documentation etc with you to the conference.
- The majority of the workshops have now been confirmed for the conference. A list of the workshops will be available on the AECSSU website www.aecssu.org.au by the 1st June 2007.

Conference Update

- Time is running out for Conference Registrations, please ensure that you get your registration into Rob Roberts, Conference Co-ordinator via fax 9516 5495 or post PO Box 276, Enmore 2042
- Services that are having difficulties with funding to attend the conference to contact your DEST Regional manager.
- Accommodation will be provided on the Thursday evening after the conference for people who have to travel more than 6 hours.

Bus registration

If your bus is due for registration in the near future please take note. Road and Transit Authority require an engineering certificate to certify that your seatbelts have been fitted to your bus correctly. Without this certificate you will not be able to register your bus. Please contact your local RTA for further information.

DATES TO REMEMBER

DEST- Financial Acquittal is due with your INDIGO online report of your performance.

DUE 31st MAY 2007

ATSIECSAG Conference Registration due NOW.

26-28th June 2007.

If you are having any problems regarding attendance to conference please contact your local regional DEST office.

About the NSW AECG

The strength of the NSW AECG Inc. is in the participation of all concerned at the local community level. We strive to empower and build the capacity of our members through active involvement in education and training.

The NSW AECG Inc. is an independent, community-based Aboriginal organisation that provides advice to the education sector for real and sustained outcomes for Aboriginal people in New South Wales.

The NSW AECG Inc. welcomes the participation of all involved and interested in Aboriginal education at all levels. The NSW AECG Inc was established to give Aboriginal people a voice in education and training in NSW.

Upcoming Conferences

Country Children's Services Association Annual Conference -

Friday 15th June to Sunday 17th June 2007, Rydges Lakeside, London Circuit, Canberra. Phone CCSA: 02 4782 1470

Inaugural - Hear, speak, live

The conference will be held on 4th to 7th September at the Seaworld Nara Resort Gold Coast QLD. It will focus on Otitis Media and its impact on the health and well being of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander children and young people. For further information Contact Bonny Marsh -

Email: RCH-deadlyyears@health.qld.gov.au

Ngadluko Ngartunnaitya FOR OUR CHILDREN

The conference will be held on 19th to 21st September 2007 in Adelaide at the Adelaide Convention Centre. The conference will provide an opportunity for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organizations, policy makers, researchers, government representatives, other non-government organizations and various industry representatives to gather and make renewed commitments to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.

Enquiries to Sharyn Low Phone 4572 3972 Email sharynlow@pacific.net.au

The NSW AECG Inc. strongly believes that real change in Aboriginal education and training outcomes can only happen through ongoing continued consultation and the development of real partnerships with all stakeholders.

Carlo Svagelli, President of the NSW AECG.

