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January - February 2012 Volume A&D 6, Issue 31

GLOBAL DISABILITY & AGEING NEWS

Have a great New Year

High use of health services among Australians with disability

People with severe or profound disability rely up to 10 times as heavily on health services, such as general practitioners, as Australians without a disability, according to a report released by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW).

The report, *The use of health services among Australians with disability*, shows that the high use of health services among people with disability is linked to a high prevalence of multiple long-term health conditions, in particular the combination of mental and physical health conditions.

'The high use of services prevails even after taking into account the multiple health conditions, with or without mental health conditions,' said AIHW spokesperson Mr Sean Ackland. 'This suggests that the level of functional impairment, in addition to the presence of multiple health conditions, increases the likelihood of needing and seeking assistance from the health care system.'

The report shows that, in the 12 months before the data was collected, people with severe or profound disability were 3.5 times as likely to have consulted a specialist doctor, and 5 times as likely to have consulted both a specialist doctor and other health professionals as people without disability.

The report also shows that of all people with mental disorders aged 16–64 years, those with severe and profound disability were 2.5 times as likely as those without disability to access health services (including hospitals) for mental health problems, and twice as likely to consult health professionals (including GPs) for mental health problems.

Similarly, of all people with a combination of a mental disorder and any physical condition aged 16–64 years, those with severe or profound disability were around 3 times as likely to access health services (including hospitals), consult health professionals (including GPs), or consult mental health professionals, for mental health problems.

The AIHW is a major national agency set up by the Australian Government to provide reliable, regular and relevant information and statistics on Australia's health and welfare.

The use of health services among Australians with disability

This bulletin is the second in a series about health of people with disability. It examines the use of health services among Australians with disability based on national population health survey data.

Compared with people without disability, people aged 15–64 years with severe or profound disability were:

- 10 times more likely to have check-ups with general practitioners (GPs) at least once a month (29% versus 3%)

- 3.5 times more likely to consult specialist doctors in the 12 months before the survey period 2007–08 (56% versus 16%)
- 5 times more likely to consult both specialist doctors and other health professionals in the 12 months before the survey period 2007–08 (41% versus 8%).

AIHW catalogue number (AUS140). Available from CanPrint for \$10 (1300 889 873). Click on the link to view the [report](#).

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GLOBAL DISABILITY & AGEING NEWS

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with disability

Indigenous Australians have rates of ill-health and disability substantially higher than other Australians. Census 2006 data suggest that Indigenous people are 2-3 times more likely to need assistance with the core activities of daily living (self-care, communication and mobility) than non-Indigenous people.

Profile of Indigenous Australians with disability

- The employment rate among Indigenous Australians aged 15–64 years with disability (13%) is significantly lower than among Indigenous people without disability (51%).
- Reliance on Government pensions and allowances as the principal source of income among Indigenous people (aged 18–64 years) with severe or profound disability is similar to that for all Australians (of similar age and severity of disability).
- Indigenous Australians with severe or profound disability have very low rates of year 12 high school attainment (16%) compared with Indigenous Australians without disability (28%) in the same age range (18–64 years).
- On average 14% of Indigenous women and 9% of Indigenous men shoulder caring responsibilities.
- 30% of Indigenous Australians aged 18–64 years with the most severe levels of disability had wanted to pursue further study in the 12 months prior to survey and 13% were unable to do so because of caring or family reasons.
- Daily smoking is more common among Indigenous Australians with more severe disability (52%) than Indigenous Australians without disability or long-term health conditions (42%) in the 18–64 years age group.

Services and support

- There are 12,068 Indigenous Australians aged 0–64 years who use specialist disability services in Australia. Indigenous service users comprise 5% of all service users.
- Case management (as part of community support) and open employment support are the most commonly used service types among Indigenous Commonwealth State/Territory Disability Agreement-funded (CSTDA) service users.
- 46% of Indigenous Australians aged 18–64 years with severe or profound core activity limitations report problems accessing service providers.

More information

[Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with disability \(769KB PDF\)](#) explores the experience of Indigenous people with disability compared with Indigenous people without disability and all Australians with similar severity of disability.

[Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with disability](#)

The reports

- [The health and welfare of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples](#) (main report)
- [Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander child safety](#)
- [Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with disability](#)
- [Access to health services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people](#)
- [A profile of homelessness for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people](#)
- [Comparing life expectancy of indigenous people in Australia, New Zealand, Canada and the United States](#)
- [Contribution of chronic disease to the gap in adult mortality between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and other Australians](#)
- [Eye health in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people](#)
- [Life expectancy and mortality of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people](#)
- [Older Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people](#)

The health and welfare of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people: an overview 2011

The health and welfare of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people: an overview 2011 is a summary publication of Indigenous health and welfare statistics prepared by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. Together with a series of articles available online from the AIHW Indigenous observatory and the Australian Bureau of Statistics, it provides a comprehensive statistical picture of Indigenous health and welfare. Topics covered in the publication include: demographic characteristics; determinants of health and welfare; health and functioning; mortality and life expectancy; health across the life stages; health care and other support services; and health and welfare expenditure. AIHW catalogue number (IHW42). Click on the link to view the [media release](#) and [report](#).

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GLOBAL RECOMMENDS ... *(We hope to see you there.)*

13-14 February 2012

State Conference NDS NSW 2012

Bring It On! Are you ready?

Hilton, Sydney.

National Disability Services NSW

Early bird registration closes 27 January 2012– Don't Miss Out!

Global Disability & Health Care Services confirmed again as the major Platinum Sponsor for DS NSW 2012

We are in a time of unprecedented and transformative change. The significant shift towards more person centred ways of service delivery is just the start of a whole system overhaul that will enable people with disability to exercise greater choice and voice in the services and supports they need to live their lives.

Against the back-drop of a future National Disability Insurance Scheme and the current shift towards individualised, portable and self-directed funding arrangements, a new vision and role for disability service providers is emerging.

We've asked Government to be bold, courageous, to BRING IT ON! To make NSW NDIS ready by 2014 and to support the capacity of the NGO service sector to be the provider of choice for people with disability, their families and carers, we need to ask the tough question: Are YOU ready to be a leader for change?

Registration Brochure: [PDF \[2MB\]](#) [Word \[135KB\]](#)

[Register Online:](#) Registrations will conclude at 5pm on Wednesday, 8 February.

For registration and general enquiries, please contact Miriam Sosin on 02 9256 3133 or miriam.sosin@nds.org.au.

For sponsorship, exhibition or advertising opportunities, please contact Julie Walton on 02 9256 3115 or julie.walton@nds.org.au.

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GLOBAL DISABILITY & AGEING NEWS

Not-for Profit Reform & Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission

The Australian Government is establishing a new tax and regulatory system for the not-for-profit sector. For more information, including newsletters, public consultations and Factsheets see:

<http://acnctaskforce.treasury.gov.au/content/Content.aspx?doc=about.htm>

About

On 10 May 2011, a range of measures reforming the NFP sector in Australia were announced in the 2011-12 Budget of the Australian Government, including the creation of the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission (ACNC). The ACNC will be an independent regulator and will:

- be advised by an Advisory Board chaired by Robert Fitzgerald AM
- report to Parliament through the Treasurer
- be staffed by around 90 officers, with potential for growth if additional functions are added
- be supported by the ATO in the provision of back-office services

The Government has provided \$53.6 million over four years for the establishment of the ACNC and related structural changes required to the ATO.

	2010- 11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Australian Taxation Office (\$m)	0.0	+9.6	+23.9	+10.0	+10.1
ATO – Administered Revenue	0.0	+8.0	+10.0	+10.0	+13.0

To support the introduction of the ACNC, an implementation taskforce was established from 1 July 2011. The ACNC Taskforce is a nine member taskforce headed by Susan Pascoe AM with members from the Treasury, ATO and PM&C. Additional support is being received for the activities of the taskforce from:

- ATO which is providing operational support – building the IT portal, separating the registration function from current operations and assisting with the development of a communications strategy.
- The Treasury, which is providing budget and administrative support and accommodation for the Taskforce.

The ACNC Taskforce will engage with the Not-for-Profit sector in an open and collaborative manner on key elements of the establishment and operation of the ACNC as the national regulator.

Treasury is responsible for policy and legislation with respect to regulation and taxation of the NFP sector including:

- Developing legislation for the ACNC.
- Developing legislation for a statutory definition of “charity”.
- Reviewing fundraising legislation and ‘Companies Limited by Guarantee’ (as it relates to charities).
- Implementing reforms to better target NFP tax concessions.
- Restating the ‘In Australia’ special conditions and implementing reforms relating to public ancillary funds

Reports

There are a range of comprehensive reports available that provide useful context to those seeking information regulatory reform.

- [Contribution of the NFP Sector - Productivity Commission report](#) (January 2010)
- [Submissions: Scoping Study for a National Not-For-Profit Regulator](#) (1 march 2011)
 - [Final Report on the scoping study for a national NFP regulator](#) (4 July 2011)
- ACNC Taskforce Submission: *Senate Economics Inquiry into Mechanisms and Options for the Development of a Capital Market for Social Economy Organisations*.[\[RTF 169KB\]](#) [\[PDF91KB\]](#) (6 October 2011)

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GLOBAL DISABILITY & AGEING NEWS

Commission calls for reform of federal discrimination laws

The Australian Human Rights Commission has lodged its submission with the Attorney-General's Department for the consolidation of discrimination laws project.

The project, part of the Australian Human Rights Framework, will see all existing discrimination laws, such as those on race, disability, sex and age and the Australian Human Rights Commission Act, streamlined into one national equality and discrimination law.

The Commission argues that despite the fact that existing federal discrimination laws have been successful to some extent, discrimination remains prevalent.

Accordingly, the Commission believes that in order to promote equality in the law, improvements are needed both in the substance of discrimination laws and associated mechanisms.

The Commission says that discrimination law can be made easier to understand, comply with, and enforce through such things as ensuring greater simplicity and more consistency. It also calls for measures to improve access to justice for people and organisations seeking to assert rights, and to increase certainty for people and organisations seeking to comply with their responsibilities.

Go to www.humanrights.gov.au/legal/submissions/2011/20111206_consolidation.html

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GLOBAL DISABILITY & AGEING FEATURED ORGANISATION

NDS - National Disability Services

NDS promoting the development of quality services and life opportunities for Australians with disabilities.

NDS is the national industry association for disability services, representing over 600 not-for-profit organisations. Collectively, their members operate several thousand services for Australians with all types of disability. NDS's members range in size from small support groups to large multi-service organisations, and are located in every State and Territory across Australia. They have a national body and very active state branches.

Check out their web site at <http://www.nds.org.au>

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GLOBAL – Australian Work Visa Sponsorship for experienced overseas trained professionals in disability and nursing.

Global has been granted a pre-approved 'Labour Hire Agreement' for the sponsorship of overseas professionals in disability and nursing for 457 work visa for Australia. This approval of Global from the Australian Department of Immigration & Citizenship and the Department of Workplace Relations allows for experienced disability professionals to experience work, travel and life in Australia for up to four years. Global is also a participant in the Employers Nomination Scheme supporting residency applications.

More information available at <http://www.globalcarestaff.com/page/immigration.html>

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GLOBAL DISABILITY & AGEING NEWS

Mental health services - in brief 2011

Mental health services - in brief 2011 provides an overview on the characteristics and activity of Australia's mental health services, the availability of mental health resources, and the changes that have occurred in these over time. It is designed to accompany the more comprehensive data on Australia's mental health services available online at <http://mhsa.aihw.gov.au>.

AIHW catalogue number (HSE113). Available from the internet only. Click on the link to view the [media release](#) and [report](#).

Mental Health Services data is available in four broad subject areas ([Background](#); [Services](#); [Resources](#); and [Additional topics](#)), and reported in sixteen specific topic areas as per the previous hard copy reports. A mapping of the sixteen topic areas is available via the [latest release](#) page.

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GLOBAL DISABILITY & AGEING NEWS

Council of Australian Governments (COAG) reforms

At the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) meeting in February 2011 all governments committed to signing a National Health Reform Agreement (NHRA) with effect from 1 July 2011, which will supersede the April 2010 National Health and Hospitals Network Agreement. The NHRA and associated National Partnership Agreement on Transitioning Responsibilities for Aged Care and Disability Services provide for a split of responsibilities for aged care and disability programs at age 65, or at age 50 for Indigenous Australians.

The Commonwealth will assume full responsibility for aged care, including aged care services under the Home and Community Care Program, from 1 July 2012 and has committed to not substantially altering service delivery mechanisms before 1 July 2015. The NSW Government is working with the Commonwealth to ensure minimal disruption to clients and existing providers, and real improvements for clients and carers across the state. ADHC is committed to ongoing communication with the sector on matters arising from the reforms.

- [Fact sheet 1 - COAG Age Split Outcome - Impact on NSW HACC Services \(PDF\)](#)
- [Fact sheet 2 - Transition and Planning for NSW Services \(PDF\)](#)
- [Fact sheet 3 - COAG Reforms - Update on Transition Arrangements \(PDF\)](#)

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GLOBAL SCHOLARSHIPS NEWS

Churchill Fellowship

Applications open: 1 November 2011 and Applications close: Monday 28 February 2012

A Churchill Fellowship aims to provide an opportunity for Australians to travel overseas to conduct research in their chosen field that is not readily available in Australia.

A Churchill Fellowship is a remarkable opportunity to travel overseas for a minimum of four and a maximum of about eight weeks to conduct research into a topic that you are passionate about. It is for anyone who feels that they have exhausted all research opportunities within Australia and would like to see what overseas currently has to offer. Every application is assessed based on merit, a demonstrated need for the proposed research, the perceived benefit to Australia and a willingness to share the overseas findings and knowledge with the Australian community.

More details and links on our Global Scholarships & Grants Guide web page at http://www.globalcaresaff.com/page/scholarship_guide.html

Check out our **Global Scholarships Guide** at http://www.globalcarestaff.com/page/scholarship_guide.html

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*** the NSW Home Care contract for casual personal care staffing.**

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- *in home personal care & nursing*
- *holiday & family reunion escorts*
- *recreation and leisure outing support*
- *community access and day program staffing*
- *hospital specials & medical appointment escorts*
- *individual client support package staff*
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GLOBAL DISABILITY & AGEING NEWS

Ron Merkel QC wins the 2011 Human Rights Medal

The Honourable Ron Merkel QC has won the **2011 Human Rights Medal**. Mr Merkel was recognised for his advocacy, often on a pro bono basis, in some of the most significant human rights cases in Australia. He is widely recognised for as one of Australia's leading public and administrative law practitioners specialising in the areas of human rights, civil liberties, the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, migration law, equal opportunity and anti-discrimination law.

The **Young People's Human Rights Medal** was awarded to 19 year old **Tshibanda Gracia Ngoy** for her human rights work in the community. A caseworker for refugee families, radio co-host, tutor for international students, and youth motivational speaker, Tshibanda is also a member of the Illawarra Regional Advisory Council (IRAC), the NSW Multicultural Youth Network (MYN), and Strategic Community Assistance to Refugee Families (SCARF).

Awards were also presented to Swags for Homeless, Ten News journalists Matt Moran and Hugh Riminton for the Skype Scandal, and **Adele Horin for a series of articles uncovering human rights abuses in licensed boarding**

houses in NSW.

More than 450 people attended the annual event at the Sofitel Sydney.

Commission President Catherine Branson QC also delivered the Human Rights Day Oration and announced a major new community engagement initiative – Something in Common.

Go to http://www.humanrights.gov.au/hr_awards/finalists.html for details of all winners.

GLOBAL DISABILITY & AGEING NEWS

Core Equipment List

[Core Equipment List web site](#)

The Core Equipment List has been developed in response to the National Disability Agreement (NDA) aids and equipment reform priority.

The list outlines categories of aids and equipment that are currently available in all states and territories. Specific items provided under each sub-category may vary between states and territories and sub-category items which are available in some, but not all, jurisdictions have not been included on the list but will continue to be available locally.

Access to items on the list is subject to the relevant eligibility requirements for respective state/territory aids and equipment programs and for further details, individuals should contact the equipment scheme in their state or territory.

GLOBAL DISABILITY & AGEING NEWS

Shuffle sees increased profile for health and ageing

In the recent reshuffle of the Federal Cabinet, the sectors represented by community services and health had the spotlight turned on them with many of the new high-profile ministers being given portfolios covering our industries.

Our ministerial representation in Cabinet across our two industries, and skill and workforce development is as follows:

- Health - Tanya Plibersek MP
- Mental Health and Ageing, Social Inclusion - Mark Butler MP
- Community Services, Indigenous Affairs, Families and Disability Reform - Jenny Macklin MP
- Housing and Homelessness - Robert McClelland MP
- School Education, Early Childhood and Youth - Peter Garret MP
- Employment, Workplace Relations - Bill Shorten MP
- Tertiary Education and Skills - Senator Chris Evans
- Industry and Innovation - Greg Combet MP
- Community Services, Indigenous Employment (outer Ministry) - Julie Collins MP

A new listing of all ministerial positions will be available through the Australian Parliament House website www.aph.gov.au/house/members

Global Gazette Disability & Ageing

Archive editions available at

<http://www.globalcarestaff.com/page/newsletter.html>

GLOBAL DISABILITY & AGEING BOOKS GUIDE

Mental Health of Children and Adolescents with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

Edited by David Dossetor, Donna White and Lesley Whatson. The book aims to provide a comprehensive framework for health professionals to address the complex needs of these children in a holistic way. This comprehensive guide provides a solid foundation on the topic which includes a focus on family and carers, evidence-based interventions to promote skill development and mental health, and a model for the integration of service systems. Published by [IP Communications](#).

Global Accessibility News

The Global Alliance on Accessible Technologies and Environments (GAATES) announced its worldwide launch of an international accessibility news service. The weekly news service will promote and create awareness on accessibility of the built social and virtual environments, including architectural and infrastructural design, transportation systems, electronic information, web and communication technologies. The information is gathered daily from news sources around the world, and presented as Headline News, categorized by Geographical Regions: Africa, Americas, Asia-Pacific, Europe and the Middle East. More information: <http://globalaccessibilitynews.com>

Severe Personality Disorders

Edited by Bert van Luyn, Salman Akhtar, W. John Livesley. AUD\$150.00 (price inclusive of GST) Originally published in 2007, this book is about understanding and managing patients with severe personality disorders. Published September 2007 Hardback | ISBN-13:9780521856515 | Temporarily unavailable - available from August 2011. Also available in [Paperback](#) | [Adobe eBook](#) | [Mobipocket eBook](#)

Key Learning Skills for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders: A Blueprint for Life

By [Thomas L. Whitman](#) and [Nicole DeWitt](#) Paperback: £19.99 / \$27.95 2011, 246mm x 173mm / 10in x 7in, 336pp ISBN: 978-1-84905-864-3, BIC 2: VFX JNSG2. Finding a way of simultaneously addressing the sensory, motor, emotional, communicative, cognitive and social needs of children on the autism spectrum can be a real challenge, and choosing from the vast array of options available is a daunting task. This book provides a blueprint for an educational intervention program that is evidence-based, comprehensive in scope and integrative in its approach. <http://www.jkp.com/catalogue/book/9781849058643>

Human Rights basics

The purpose of this material is to inform the general public about United Nations human rights work. It provides answers to the most frequently asked questions about the United Nations human rights programme as well as information on how to use the system to address human rights violations.

[Working with the United Nations Human Rights Programme: A Handbook for Civil Society](#) (PDF)

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GLOBAL DISABILITY & AGEING GUIDE TO POLICIES & GUIDELINES

Women with Disabilities Australia (WWDA) releases a policy paper

WWDA has recently released a Policy Paper entitled "Assessing the situation of women with disabilities in Australia: A human rights approach". This Paper uses a human rights framework to document the range of data, research and information needed in order to give a comprehensive assessment of the situation of women with disabilities in Australia. The need for this work has long been emphasized by women with disabilities themselves, and most recently identified as a priority area by the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) Monitoring Committee. More information: <http://www.wwda.org.au/subs2011.htm>

Muir, K. and Goldblatt, B. (2011), **Complementing or conflicting human rights conventions? Realising an inclusive approach to families with a young person with a disability and challenging behaviour**, *Disability & Society*, 26(5): 629-642, United Nation's conventions exist to help facilitate and protect vulnerable people's human rights: including people with disabilities (Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, 2006) and children (Convention on the Rights of the Child, 1989). However, for some families where a family member has a disability, there may be inherent conflicts in meeting stand-alone human rights conventions. These conventions should work together to ensure that young people with disabilities and challenging behaviour and their parents and siblings all have equal rights to full participation in social, economic and civic life. Yet service system deficits mean that this is not always the case. This paper argues that governments need to provide a whole of family and community support approach to ensure the human rights of all family members are met. This is a transnational complex ethical, moral and human rights issue that needs to be debated and addressed.
<http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/09687599.2011.589195>

Australian Disability Support Pension

Information about eligibility, income and assets, residence requirement, payment rates, other benefits, claiming and more. [CentreLink Information page](#)

The right to decent work of persons with disabilities

This publication provides an invaluable overview of the principal international legal instruments, policies and initiatives of relevance to the rights of people with disabilities, with a particular focus on employment and work. It focuses on the different options available to people with disabilities who wish to work in open/competitive employment, sheltered employment, supported employment and social enterprises and examines the trends in each of these categories, highlighting the key issues faced in each case.

Consultations with families of children with disabilities on access to services and support - final report

Final consultation report with families of children with disabilities on access to services and support. Between late May and August 2010, we consulted with over 300 parents and carers of children with disability across NSW about their current experiences in accessing and using services designed to support their child, and their family as a whole. [Final consultation report families of children with disabilities.pdf](#)

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GLOBAL ONLINE DIRECTORIES GUIDE

Early Childhood Intervention Infoline - 1300 65 68 65.

For the cost of a local phone call, the Infoline provides information about early childhood intervention services across NSW

Crisis Support Contacts – Sydney <http://www.sydneyingleparents.org.au/Crisissupport.html>

Alive 90.5 fm Australian Spectrum with Ross Fear (Your Editor of the Global Gazette)

Tuesday nights 9 to 12 pm for all Australian blues, roots, jazz, folk, indigenous and contemporary music. Studio guests. Blues, Folk and Jazz Gig Guide. tomorrow's weather today and music.

Internet Radio Streaming worldwide online at www.alive905.com [follow the Listen Live links]

The studio guests have included: = Mike McClellan, The Atlantics, Bill Chambers, Anne Kirkpatrick, Jeff Duff, Karen Lynne, Claude Hay, Sally Street, Pat Drummond, Stormcellar, Dave Tice (ex-*Buffalo*), John J Francis, Mississippi Shakedown, Mark Aberle, Tansy Mayhew, Nerds & Music, Cam Mackeller, Wheelers & Dealers, Wheeze & Suck Band, Mothers Of Intention, Taylor & the Makers, Sydney Blues Roots Festival Special and many more.

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GLOBAL DISABILITY & AGEING GRANT NEWS

The Supported Accommodation Innovation Fund (SAIF)

The Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA) is administering the Supported Accommodation Innovation Fund (SAIF). SAIF provides \$60 million in funding over three years to build up to 150 innovative, community-based supported accommodation and respite places for people with disability.

Projects could include renovations to existing homes, pooled resources to build contemporary accommodation services close to community and health services, or the modification of established buildings. A number of different types of organisations will be eligible to apply.

Applicants will need to be able to demonstrate that they have secured funding to meet ongoing support costs to sustain the supported accommodation either from a state or territory government or from alternative funding sources such as philanthropy. A single contact point for each state and territory is provided for applicants to seek advice on ongoing support funding.

FaHCSIA's preferred model of service delivery is for accommodation and support services to be separated (i.e. provided by two different organisations). This model aims to allow individuals to experience housing and support provided separately rather than by a single provider which may have been the only option previously available. However, this preference does not preclude a sole provider delivering both housing and support services if they have developed an innovative model for doing so.

SAIF is an Activity of the Services for People with Disability Program.

For guidelines, application forms and more information please visit the web site <http://www.fahcsia.gov.au/sa/disability/funding/saif/Pages/default.aspx>

Applications to FaHCSIA for this SAIF funding round close at 3pm 20 January 2012.

GLOBAL DISABILITY & AGEING RESEARCH NEWS

Residential aged care in Australia 2009-10: a statistical overview

Residential aged care in Australia 2009-10 provides comprehensive statistical information on residential aged care facilities, their residents, admissions and separations, and residents' dependency levels. At 30 June 2010, there were nearly 183,000 residential aged care places, an increase of almost 3% compared with 30 June 2009. Over 83,500 permanent residents (52%) had a recorded diagnosis of dementia at 30 June 2010. Other recorded health conditions included circulatory diseases (40,000 residents) and diseases of the musculoskeletal and connective tissue (27,500 residents). AIHW catalogue number (AGE66). Available from CanPrint for \$37 (1300 889 873). Click on the link to view the [media release](#) and [report](#).

A Multisite Study of the Clinical Diagnosis of Different Autism Spectrum Disorders

Catherine Lord; Eva Petkova; Vanessa Hus; Weijin Gan; Feihan Lu; Donna M. Martin; Opal Ousley; Lisa Guy; Raphael Bernier; Jennifer Gerdt; Molly Algermissen; Agnes Whitaker; James S. Sutcliffe; Zachary Warren; Ami Klin; Celine Saulnier; Ellen Hanson; Rachel Hundley; Judith Piggot; Eric Fombonne; Mandy Steiman; Judith Miles; Stephen M. Kanne; Robin P. Goin-Kochel; Sarika U. Peters; Edwin H. Cook; Stephen Guter; Jennifer Tjernagel; Lee Anne Green-Snyder; Somer Bishop; Amy Esler; Katherine Gotham; Rhiannon Luyster; Fiona Miller; Jennifer Olson; Jennifer Richler; Susan Risi. **Conclusions:** Clinical distinctions among categorical diagnostic subtypes of autism spectrum disorders were not reliable even across sites with well-documented fidelity using standardized diagnostic instruments. Results support the move from existing subgroupings of autism spectrum disorders to dimensional descriptions of core features of social affect and fixated, repetitive behaviors, together with characteristics such as language level and cognitive function.

Arch Gen Psychiatry. Published online November 7, 2011. doi:10.1001/archgenpsychiatry.2011.148 [ABSTRACT](#) | [FULL TEXT](#) | [PDF](#)

Disability, Ageing and Carers, Australia: Summary of Findings, 2009

This publication presents a summary of results from the Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers (SDAC) conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) throughout Australia, from April to December 2009. The primary objective of the survey was to collect information about three population groups:

- people with a disability
- older people (i.e. those aged 60 years and over)
- people who provide assistance to older people and people with disabilities.

The SDAC was also conducted in 2003 and this publication presents some comparisons with the 2003 survey. The 2009 SDAC was largely a repeat of the 2003 survey, with some additions to content in the areas of unmet demand for assistance, social inclusion, and labour force participation.

<http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/4430.0?OpenDocument>

Evidence That Autistic Traits Show the Same Etiology in the General Population and at the Quantitative Extremes (5%, 2.5%, and 1%)

Elise B. Robinson; Karestan C. Koenen; Marie C. McCormick; Kerim Munir; Victoria Hallett; Francesca Happé; Robert Plomin; Angelica Ronald. **Conclusion** This evidence of similar etiology across normal variation and the extremes has implications for molecular genetic models of autism spectrum disorders and for conceptualizing autism spectrum disorders as the quantitative extreme of a neurodevelopmental continuum.

Arch Gen Psychiatry. 2011; 68:1113-1121. [ABSTRACT](#) | [FULL TEXT](#) | [PDF](#)

The employment situation of people with disabilities: Towards improved statistical information

This guide highlights basic knowledge from the fields of labour and disability statistics which has to be combined for a comprehensive description of the employment situation of people with disabilities. It will be of great relevance to worldwide countries as they work to promote and monitor equal employment opportunities for disabled persons. It provides information on current standards and definitions in the fields of employment and disability, as well as descriptions of good practices related to the compilation of statistics on the employment situation of people with disabilities, so that better data on this topic can be produced. It is directed to countries wishing to gather or improve such statistics in order to meet policy needs and it is an attempt to bring together all relevant information in this field. Its main objective is to inform users on current state of national methodologies for the compilation of statistics on the employment situation of people with disabilities; standards and definitions for the measurement of different sub-groups of the economically active population; concepts and methods for the measurement of disability; and useful sources and survey questions on disability.

Pathways in aged care: do people follow recommendations?

Eligibility for key aged care programs is assessed by Aged Care Assessment Teams (ACATs). These teams also make recommendations on the preferred long-term setting for receiving care; that is, in the person's home or in a residential care facility. Analysis shows that there was considerable variation in care pathways within recommendation group. Rates of transition into permanent residential care varied with the use of community care and residential respite care. One-quarter of ACAT clients-including some recommended to live in residential care-did not use aged care services in the 2 years after their first assessment. AIHW catalogue number (AUS137). Available from CanPrint for \$10.00 (1300 889 873). Click on the link to view the [media release](#) and [report](#).

Support Needs and Service Models for Younger People with High Clinical Care Needs

Prepared by Australian Healthcare Associates for DPRWG July 2007. There are growing concerns around the number of younger people in residential aged care. These concerns relate to the appropriateness of such accommodation for younger people; the availability of more appropriate support models for younger people with high support needs, including those who may require medical or clinical support; and access for younger people with disabilities in residential aged care to other disability support... [View and download report »](#)

Characteristics of Disability Support Pension Recipients 2010

This report has been published annually since 2001 and provides the characteristics of the population of Disability Support Pension (DSP) recipients. DSP is designed to give people an adequate means of support if they are unable to work for at least 15 hours per week at or above the relevant minimum wage, independent of a program of support, due to a permanent physical, intellectual or psychiatric impairment. The information contained in this report has been sourced from Centrelink Administrative Data as at 25 June 2010 and previous editions of this report. [PDF format](#) or [DOC format](#)

World Bank –A new discussion paper on disability

World Bank's Human Development Network Social Protection (HDNSP) Disability and Development team has published a discussion paper entitled "Disability and Poverty in Developing Countries: A Snapshot from the World Health Survey". The study presents an overview of economic and poverty situation of working-age persons with disabilities and their households in 15 developing countries, using data collected by the World Health Organization from 2002 to 2004. The study finds that in the majority of countries examined, persons with disabilities have significantly lower educational attainment and employment rates compared to those without disabilities. More Information: <http://siteresources.worldbank.org/SOCIALPROTECTION/Resources/SP-Discussion-papers/Disability-DP/1109.pdf>.

GLOBAL DISABILITY & AGEING FEATURED COURSE

ONLINE EDUCATION GUIDE up dated

Online professional development is an easy way to access further education – especially valuable for shift workers – so we have researched some options and put them on our web site at http://www.globalcaresstaff.com/page/online_education.html

GLOBAL DISABILITY & AGEING EDUCATION RESOURCES GUIDE

Mental Health Training for Workers in Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Communities resource kit

The Community Services and Health Industry Skills Council (CS&H ISC) was funded by the Office for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health (OATSIH), Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing (DoHA), to develop a resource kit to improve the capacity of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander health workers to recognise and respond to client presentations of mental illness and drug and alcohol related issues. [Further information](#)

New sign-language videos to assist with understanding workplace rights

The Fair Work Ombudsman has launched a number of Online videos to assist deaf and hearing-impaired employees to understand their workplace rights.

The short videos – available at: www.youtube.com/fairworkgovau - are presented in Auslan (Australian sign language) and are also captioned and narrated in English.

Fair Work Ombudsman Nicholas Wilson says the videos present information about the National Employment Standards, Modern Awards and general tips about what workers should know when starting a new job.

"We are very serious about our job of building knowledge and creating fairer workplaces and are focused on making information on workplace rights easily accessible to all Australians," he said.

Early Childhood Intervention

A PowerPoint module, Early Childhood Intervention, has been developed to increase community awareness and understanding of early childhood intervention. It provides a clear and concise overview of early childhood intervention and its importance for young children with disabilities or delays and their families. The presentation should take about 20 minutes, but is intended to be adapted to particular audiences and include examples from the presenter's own experiences with early childhood intervention. It is intended for delivery to early childhood intervention workers, early childhood workers, allied health professionals, students, local community/charitable groups and service clubs. [Click here](#) to download an order form for this CD-ROM.

Workplace Language Literacy and Numeracy (WELL) Australian Core Skills Framework (ACSF) kit available now.

Now available for free download or purchase of a hard copy kit, the comprehensive and easy-to-use WELL resource kit is mapped up to Level 3 against the Australian Core Skills Framework. While contextualised to the community services and health industries, it is flexible enough to be used in other industries. [More](#)

Safe food: For direct care workers in a home or community setting

It is vitally important for the health of their clients that Home Care Workers in the Aged Care and Disability sectors know how to handle food safely. This 12 minute DVD clearly explains in plain English the steps to follow and the reasons why. The resource can be used as support material for the Community Services Training Packages for Certificate II and III level. Ideas That Work Email: info@ideasthatwork.com.au Web: <http://www.ideasthatwork.com.au> Cost Purchase price: \$87

[DVD: The Preventive Techniques II \(Spanish Subtitles\)](#)

The Preventive Techniques, has been updated and upgraded. In addition to rewriting and refilming all the scenarios, we've added a workbook so you can now **use it as a refresher option**. Like its predecessor, *The Preventive Techniques II*, is a valuable tool for introducing or reviewing *Nonviolent Crisis Intervention*[®] nonverbal, verbal, and de-escalation techniques. Highlights of the DVD's enhancements include:

- **Updated scenarios**, which help maximize the viewer's focus on core training concepts.
- **Simulated classroom training environment** to align with and be more user-friendly for the Instructor.
- **Expanded content** covering all major content models, such as a review of the CPI *COPING Model*SM.
- **Dynamic script breaks** in which the care receiver and employees offer reflections and insights into their behavior or response.
- **Participant Workbook** with a post-test to give Certified Instructors a new refresher option.
- **Leader's Guide** to help ensure training transfer and facilitate your refresher of CPI's *Personal Safety Techniques*SM and *Nonviolent Physical Crisis Intervention*SM.

The Preventive Techniques II reminds viewers how *Nonviolent Crisis Intervention*[®] principles can be valuable tools for facing challenging behavior. With a focus on promoting *Care, Welfare, Safety, and Security*[®], the DVD can also be used as an overview for administrators or as a pretraining tool for new employees. 27 minutes. Includes 10 Participant Workbooks and Leader's Guide.

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Email: Employment@GlobalCareStaff.com **Free phone:** 1800 009 292

We are a leading casual staff agency offering a variety of shifts to care workers throughout Sydney and surrounding suburbs. Currently we are seeking experienced care workers to work with people who have a disability. Plenty of shifts available. Weekly pay. Choose your own days & shift availability. Must have previous experience in a similar role. Drivers License and First Aid Certificate required. Ability to communicate effectively with people who have a disability is essential. Must be able to work as part of a team. For more information call 1800 009 292 or forward your resume along with contact details of two referees to: Employment@GlobalCareStaff.com

Registered Nurses & Endorsed Enrolled Nurses specialised in aged care, disability and mental health (casual agency work)

Email: Employment@GlobalCareStaff.com **Free phone:** 1800 009 292

One of the market leaders in the public, private mental health, disability, and aged care fields. Global can offer you plenty of shifts in private and public aged care, disability, mental health services and dual diagnosis and disability special care areas. An agency founded and run by Registered Nurses, we can assist you in finding work in a variety of locations. Choose the hours and shifts to suit your lifestyle. Must be registered to practice in Australia. **Excellent pay rates. Weekly pays.** Why not forward your resume to Employment@GlobalCareStaff.com or phone to speak to one of our friendly consultants who can help you make that great career move. Free phone: 1800 009 292.

See Current Positions Vacant at <http://www.globalcarestaff.com/plugins/job.cgi>

GLOBAL DISABILITY & AGEING CONFERENCES GUIDE

See a more comprehensive listing of conferences at our web site

http://www.globalcaresstaff.com/page/conference_calendar.html

9 – 11 January 2012

2012 Brain Injury Summit. Beaver Creek, Co, USA. <http://www.braininjurysummit2012.org/>

21 January 2012

Brain Tumors: 2nd Annual Collaborative Care Conference. San Diego, USA. <http://cme.ucsd.edu/braintumors/>

26 – 28 January 2012

NZ Early Childhood Research Conference. Wellington, New Zealand.

<http://www.childforum.com/events/icalrepeat.detail/2012/01/26/43/93/13th-annual-nz-early-childhood-research-conference.html>

27 January 2012

BioAutism 2012. ANS satellite meeting. Queensland Brain Institute, The University of Queensland, St Lucia, Queensland, Australia. <http://qbi.uq.edu.au/BioAutism-2012>

27 – 29 January 2012

5th European Neurological Conference on Clinical Practices Neurovascular and Neurodegenerative Diseases.

Warsaw. <http://www.enccp.net>

2 – 5 February 2012

22nd Pacific Coast Brain Injury Conference. Vancouver, Victoria and Kamloops, British Columbia, Canada.

www.brainstreams.ca/conference

8 February 2012

International Asperger Day

8 - 10 February 2012

Having Your Say Conference. Deakin University, Waterfront Campus, Geelong, Australia. A conference for people with disability in Australia. VALID. <http://www.valid.org.au/conference/default.htm>

9 – 10 February 2012

14th National Conference: Dementias 2012. St Judes Church, Dulwich Road, London, UK.

http://www.mahealthcarevents.co.uk/cgi-bin/go.pl/conferences/detail.html?conference_uid=275

13 – 14 February 2012

NDS NSW Annual State Conference 2012. Hilton, Sydney. National Disability Services, NSW.

<http://www.nds.org.au/events/1317882370>

15 – 17 February 2012

22nd Pacific Coast Brain Injury Conference. Vancouver, BC, Canada. <http://www.brainstreams.ca/conference>

15 – 17 February 2012

2nd International Conference on Assistive Technologies. Innsbruck, Austria. International Association of Science and Technology for Development (IASTED) <http://www.iasted.org/conferences/home-766.html>

16 – 18 February 2012

Asperger Services Australia National Conference. Bardon Conference Centre, 390 Simpson Rd, Bardon., Queensland, Australia. ASA.

http://www.asperger.asn.au/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=104%3Aasa-2nd-national-conference&catid=55%3A2nd-national-conference&Itemid=1

17 February 2012

From Outlaws Towards Inclusion Conference. UNSW, Anzac Parade, Kensington, Sydney, NSW. NSW Council for Intellectual Disability, Intellectual Disability Rights Service, & Criminal Justice Research Network, University of New South Wales. <http://www.nswcid.org.au/standard-english/se-pages/criminal-justice.html>

21 – 23 February 2012

2nd Conference on Multiple Perspectives on Inclusion, Transition and Disability. Beijing, China.

<http://www.reachincorporated.com/>

22 – 25 February 2012

Learning Disabilities Association 49th Annual International Conference. Chicago, USA.

<http://www.ldanatl.org/conference/index.asp>

23 – 24 February 2012

The 2012 Voices Vic Mental health Conference. Storey Hall, RMIT University, 342 Swanston Street, Melbourne.

<http://www.voicesvic.org.au/>

23 – 24 February 2012

3rd Annual National Dementia Congress. Rendezvous Hotel Melbourne.

<http://www.iir.com.au/conferences/government/national-dementia-congress>

23 – 24 February 2012

Confronting Self-harm Forum: From Understanding to Responding. Aerial UTS Function Centre, Sydney.

<http://www.themhs.org/summer-forum/2012-summer-forum->

24 February 2012

Delirium, Dementia and Challenging Behaviour Nursing. College of Nursing, Burwood, NSW. Click [here](#) for the CPD Handbook. Click [here](#) for a CPD application form. Click [here](#) for CPD course fees.

25 – 28 February 2012

ATIA 2012 Conference. Orlando, Florida, USA. Assistive Technology Industry Association (ATIA).

www.atia.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=4019

25 – 29 February 2012

2nd International Congress on Gerontology and Geriatric Medicine 2012. Delhi, India. All India Institute of Medical Sciences. University College of Medical Sciences. www.icggm2012.org

26 – 28 February 2012

Tri-State 2012 - Aged care: The new frontier. Albury Entertainment Centre, NSW.

http://www.accv.com.au/Panel_Menu_Pages/Conferences_Events/Tri-State_Conference_2012.aspx

27 – 29 February 2012

World Association for Infant Mental Health Conference. Te Papa, Wellington, New Zealand.

http://www.imhaanz.org.nz/IMHAANZ_conference_2012

27 February – 3 March 2012

27th Annual International Technology and Persons with Disabilities Conference. Manchester Grand Hyatt Hotel, San Diego, CA, USA. <http://www.csun.edu/cod/conference/index.php>

March 2012

National Epilepsy Awareness month

1 – 2 March 2012

3rd Annual NDS-DPV Strength To Strength Conference 2012.

The Sebel, 65 Queens Road, Albert Park, Melbourne. National Disability Services, Disability Professionals Victoria.

<http://www.strengthtostrengthconference.com/>

4 – 8 March 2012

XIII Pan American Congress of Neurology. La Paz, Bolivia. <http://www.kenes-group.com/Events/xiii-pan-american-congress-of-neurology>

6 – 7 March 2012

28th International Seating Symposium. Vancouver Canada. <http://www.interprofessional.ubc.ca/iss/>

8 – 10 March 2012

AADDM 2012 Australian Association of Developmental Disability Medicine. Scientia Centre, University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia. www.aaddm2012.com

10 – 11 March 2012

2nd Asia Pacific Prader-Willi Syndrome Conference: Building Bridges. Citigate Central Sydney Hotel, Sydney.

www.pws.org.au/confcontact.html

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To list your conferences on our **Global Conference Calendar**

http://www.globalcarestaff.com/page/conference_calendar.html

– email details to GlobalGazetteDisability@gmail.com

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