

Welcome to the first issue of the Ministerial Council for Suicide Prevention E-Newsletter. This newsletter seeks to increase knowledge of current activities and research in suicide prevention.

WEBSITE UPDATE

The Ministerial Council for Suicide Prevention is currently updating its web site. The update will be available in April. The MCSP web site now has a new address www.mcsp.org.au . Please note the old address www.ichr.uwa.edu.au/sp/ is still active.

NEW RESOURCES

The Australian Suicide Prevention Information and Resource Exchange (ASPiRE) is the latest strategy out of the MCSP. ASPiRE provides and disseminates sound, up-to-date suicide prevention information and resources. Over 1500 items are available, online where possible, or via interlibrary loans.

LATEST ARTICLES AVAILABLE

The new suicide prevention web log or "blog" is now available. This link provides access to the latest publications relating to suicide.
<http://suicideprevention.blogspot.com/>

SUICIDE STATISTICS FOR 2000

The Ministerial Council for Suicide Prevention developed and maintains the Western Australian Coroners database. Western Australia data is available from the following fact sheet Suicide in Western Australia 1986-2000 (see attached document). For the full document contact MCSP at mcsp@ichr.uwa.edu.au or 9489 7724. Note the full document contains data only up to 1997. Australian data for 2001 has been released by the ABS (see attached document)

WESTERN AUSTRALIA PROJECTS**Kulunga Research Network**

Kulunga is a collaborative maternal and child health research, information and training network project involving the Institute for Child Health Research in Perth and member services of the Western Australian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation.

The primary philosophy of the Network is to act as an advocate for Indigenous children and families in Western Australia by aiming to ensure that community based and culturally relevant research benefits them by influencing government and other key agencies policy and planning and by ensuring Aboriginal people are involved in all areas of research and implementation of outcomes.

For further information on this project contact Kate Butler on 9489 7761 or at kateb@ichr.uwa.edu.au. Click here for the current Kulunga Research Network newsletter.

NATIONAL PROJECTS – WHAT’S NEW

The national **CommunityLIFE** project that aims to build community capacity for suicide prevention is based on the LIFE Framework, the national framework for suicide prevention activities in Australia. The project has a mainstream and an Indigenous specific component.

For more information visit the CommunityLIFE website at www.community-life.org.au.

If you have a new project that you would like to have listed in the next newsletter, please email project information to katem@ichr.uwa.edu.au.

SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING

Two-day Gatekeeper Workshop

The Gatekeeper Workshop provided by the WA Ministerial Council for Suicide Prevention is nationally acclaimed as an effective tool in the strategy to reduce youth suicide. The two-day Gatekeeper Workshop provides participants with a range of skills and knowledge that improve their ability and confidence to work with suicidal young people

Perth

6 and 7 May 2003

4 and 5 November 2003

1-day Refresher Workshops

This training reviews the major topics covered by the Gatekeeper Workshop, with a particular emphasis on risk assessment, and time is given for participants to reflect on how they have used their Gatekeeper skills.

Perth

2 April 2003

1 October 2003

1 day Advanced Skills Workshops

This one-day workshop targets professionals, who have completed the Youth Suicide Prevention Gatekeeper Workshop and/or who work extensively with people at risk of self-harm or suicide.

Perth

2 July 2003

3 September 2003

For more information about the types of workshops offered by MCSP visit the MCSP website at <http://www.ichr.uwa.edu.au/sp/gatekeepertraining.html> or contact Anja Brok on 9489 7719 / email anjab@ichr.uwa.edu.au or Bronwyn Williams on 9426 7118 / email bronwyn.Williams@eddept.wa.edu.au. Bookings: nikki.kerr@eddept.wa.edu.au or online at <http://www.text.com.au/cisevents/>.

CONFERENCES

Western Australia

LEAP 03 WA Health Promotion Conference

03 April 2003 to 04 April 2003

Perth, Australia

Showcasing significant achievements in health promotion leadership, excellence, advocacy and partnerships throughout WA.

For further information visit http://www.healthpromotion.org.au/state_WA.htm.

Australian Psychological Society Conference

'Development through Diversity'

October 2-5, 2003

Sheraton Hotel, Perth

(October 1, Workshops at the Novotel)

http://www.psychsociety.com.au/events/conferences/9.1_7.asp

Australia

2003 SPA Conference *"Finding Meaning to Sustain Life... the place of spirituality in suicide prevention"*

Youth Suicide Prevention Conference

Friday 13th – Sunday 15th June 2003.

Brisbane, Australia

For further information visit http://www.suicidepreventionaust.org/new_conference.htm.