

Mental Health Coalition of SA

Official Newsletter of the MHCSA

August 2011



Supporting family and friends of people with mental illness who have died by suicide

Research tells us that people bereaved by suicide may be at a higher risk of taking their own lives, so intervention at this stage is an important, but sometimes overlooked, suicide prevention strategy. SANE Australia has a new resource to help services better support family and friends of people with mental illness who die by suicide. Supporting people who are bereaved is essential because grief around suicide can be particularly traumatic and confusing.

SANE Australia's Executive Director, Barbara Hocking, says people who are bereaved often do not receive adequate support from the service. "Services themselves recognise this and have requested resources and training to help them improve their response, for families and friends, and for relevant staff," says Ms Hocking.

The SANE Mental Illness and Bereavement Kit provides the information needed to facilitate a short (1-½ hour) professional

development session where staff can learn and discuss these important issues. The Kit includes a DVD that tells the stories of four bereaved families, exploring how they coped and what they feel would have helped them more effectively. It also includes the SANE Bereavement Guidelines that outline best practice for services, with a suggested Action Plan for implementation.



The guidelines cover such topics as: what types of support can services offer; support for family and friends who are also clients; who should make contact; possible barriers to providing support and how to support staff during this time. The materials have been endorsed by the Royal Australian & New Zealand College of Psychiatrists. Their president, Maria Tomasic, says the guideline "provides a thoughtful overview of the issues that face friends and family

of those who have died by suicide".

The project content has been widely trialled with mental health, bereavement and helpline services around Australia. The kit is suitable to use with staff from government and non-government organisations that support people with mental illness, their friends and families.

"By encouraging services to offer appropriate and timely support, we aim to improve bereaved family and friends' ability to cope and in turn to help reduce their risk of suicide," says Ms Hocking.

The Kit costs \$48 and can be ordered at the SANE website. For further details, please contact Sarah Coker on 03 9682 5933, or sarah.coker@sane.org

The SANE Mental Illness and Bereavement project is funded by the Australian Government's Suicide Prevention Strategy

CONTENTS

Page 2 Executive Director's Sector Report and Budget News

Page 4 Mind Share

Page 5 Hakim's story and Mental Health Week

Page 6 Training and Workforce Development Update

Page 9 Robbie Williams Guest Column

Page 10 Big Circle and Cracking Up

Page 11 What's Been Making the News...



Executive Director - Geoff Harris - Sector Report

In other good news, we welcome two new staff members – Howard Salkow - Communications Manager and Amanda Cooke - Training Project Officer. Read all about them in this issue.

As always the MHCSA and its members have continued to have input into many processes and committees that are implementing the SA Mental Health Plan as described in Stepping Up.

Implementation of a Treasury decision to involve non-government organizations in delivery of the Community Recovery Centres' services in the metropolitan area is proceeding. The draft model for this should be out for broader consultation soon. The MHCSA is ably represented by Gillian Farnden in this process.

Community Visitor Scheme

The recruitment of the Principal Community Visitor and the commencement of the Community Visitor Scheme in SA is a significant milestone for mental health in SA. Until recently we have been the only state in Australia without such a scheme.

“We look forward to this scheme taking a strong role in improving services.”

The MHCSA has advocated for a Community Visitor Scheme for over seven years and looks forward to this Scheme taking a strong and proactive role in working with consumers, carers and staff at approved treatment centres to improve services.

“Community Visitors have the right to visit and inspect treatment centres and other incorporated or private hospitals.”

The review of disability services in SA has been completed and we are waiting for the report to be finalized. The MHCSA compiled a submission to this process which highlighted the need to improve access to a full range of services for people with complex needs.

Our consultations highlighted that sometimes one agency might decide that an individual meets their thresholds for allocation of services, however other agencies may have different processes and deem the individual does not qualify for these other services that are needed.

Not only is this a problem for the individual, who needs the service, it compromises the effectiveness of the investment by the service-providing agency. Given that the agency that allocates service is likely to have significant gate keeping barriers to access that service, MHCSA proposes that this could be a trigger for the other relevant agencies to also invest. Regardless of the mechanism, we are keen to see improved cross-agency cooperation to the benefit of person with complex needs who require a range of services and supports.

For further information:

<http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/public+content/sa+health+internet/about+us/community+visitor+scheme>

The last few months have been busy but with not a lot of news to report in the policy arena. There has been an extraordinary amount of work in our mental health promotion area, particularly around our project with the Media Resource Centre. Tracey Davis has been leading this on behalf of the MHCSA and whilst you will get a sense of how much work is being done through the information in this newsletter, there is a lot more under construction.

Training progress has been substantial with a major reform of our approach to this starting in July. Whilst we have struggled to get consistent support from funders for this work, by the time you read this, we will have trained over 400 people in eight days of psychosocial rehabilitation and supported over 200 people to meet the requirements for a Certificate IV in mental health.

Our reason for providing training is to offer a quality product specifically designed for workers in non-government mental health services providers.

Our approach has been evaluated independently and found to deliver transference of training into workplace practice.

The feedback from participants has been overwhelmingly positive. It is a credit to Christine Inkster and our fantastic band of trainers who all have recent industry experience.

Suicide Prevention

Suicide prevention is unfortunately a topical issue. The MHCSA participated in the public forum at Strathalbyn and has been active in advocating a community-based approach to this issue. Health SA is developing a suicide prevention strategy and the MHCSA will be participating in the consultation process.

Key elements of our view are that community education, information sharing, training and capacity building are important features of a suicide prevention strategy along with a well-coordinated and timely 'crisis response' available should a suicide occur in a community (or if a community believes it has occurred).



SA Budget – operational austerity for health

The State budget released on 9 June was an austerity budget with the overall 3.9% (\$174.2m) increase in the operating budget for SA Health, bringing

the total spent to \$4.63b. Capital expenditure announced in the budget was \$497.8m. The capital announcements in the SA budget continue the commitment to improving SA's mental health system infrastructure.

As we noted in our media release of 9 June, the \$21m investment in the forensic mental health infrastructure has been long overdue and is particularly welcome.

For the Minister's briefing on the Health budget see:

<http://www.health.sa.gov.au/Default.aspx?tabid=791>

Senate Inquiry on Mental Health Announced

The Community Affairs References Committee of the Senate has agreed to conduct an inquiry and report into the funding and administration of mental health services in Australia. This is an opportunity to put forward your views particularly about recent and proposed policy directions and funding decisions of the Commonwealth, particularly those relating to the recent Budget announcements on mental health.

Submissions are due 29 July and the Committee is due to report 20 September.

For further information:

http://www.aph.gov.au/SEnate/committee/clac_ctte/comm_fund_men_hlth/info.htm

Evaluation of the Targeted Community Care (Mental Health) Program

Minister Macklin recently released this evaluation report.

In summary the evaluation shows that clients who have accessed services under these initiatives are achieving significant outcomes in line with the objectives of the program and client personal plans.

The programs evaluated include the Personal Helpers and Mentors Program, the Mental Health Community Based Services and the Mental Health Respite Initiative.

The full report is a good read and demonstrates that these programs represent solid additions to our mental health system.

To access the report:

www.fahcsia.gov.au/sa/mentalhealth/progserv/targeted_community_care/



Mental Health Week 2011



The MHCSA is working on an exciting projects with the Media Resource Centre, which will launch in October as part of Mental Health Week.

Welcome to 'Mindshare'

A site with the creative use of electronic media will build a Mental Health community on-line.

'Mind Share' is a project that aims to be a conduct and display for a variety of artistic mediums. Through the generation of digital stories and by creating a communications portal to display a range of information on broad topics relevant to mental health, mental illness and well-being.

Communication about mental health via storytelling has been proven to reduce stigma. By having an on-line source rich with materials and information we will be able to clearly promote a better image of those living with a mental health problem.

It will be an interactive site with a blogging section for regular and guest bloggers and will also have space for people to leave comments on blogs.

This site aims to broaden society's view on mental health.

In May of this year, 20 individuals from a variety of NGOs including Life Without Barriers, Neami, MIFSA, Centacare, Uniting Care Wesley Port Adelaide and Adelaide, SA Writers' Centre, MHCSA and Mind worked with selected consumers with an interest in filmmaking.



This month we are learning how to create digital stories with two groups, an NGO train the trainer group who are skilling up to continue to guide consumers through the process of making more content and with a group of consumers assisting them to create their own digital stories.

The Media Resource Centre has said that the quality of our work is exceeding what is normally developed in their workshops.

We have all been surprised by the richness and content of our stories and feel they

have touched on a variety of subjects which will prove to be a powerful medium of communication when the site launches in October. The website will host the digital story content generated through the project along with a range of art, poetry, music, prose, blogging, short documentaries, other digital stories submitted to us, service information, information for the media and much more.

"The quality of our work is exceeding what is normally developed in their workshops."

The call is now out for individuals interested in submitting the following for inclusion on the site in 2011/12:

- Short stories
- Poetry
- Images of artwork or photography
- Original music
- Information about mental health services
- People becoming bloggers on the site

The above materials may be submitted to Tracey Davis at the Mental Health Coalition of SA.

The Mind Share web site will be launched in October at the Mercury Cinemas.

The address for the site will be: www.mindshare.org.au

Mental Health Week 9-15 Oct



Hakim Oerton Digital Story telling workshop @ Mindshare

Hakim Oerton and Tracey Davis, a working team in the Mind share project at the MHCSA offices.

Mindshare as both a name and a concept for a website for those of us with mental health problems, our near and dear ones, and our carers is great. But I had no idea how far these people at the MHCSA go to practice what they preach.

I am learning how to make a digital story so that it can go onto the Mindshare website. This allows me to tell my story, supported by pictures with sounds and music. The people from the Media Resource Centre are supervising but each participant, a mental health consumer like me, is having

one-on-one support from someone who has gone through the process of making their own digital story. Tracey from the MHCSA is my main support person and there is input from professional editors, film-makers and sound experts.

“This has been a positive experience; full of learning, sharing, trust, empathy and empowerment. Yeah team!”

This whole process is so supportive that I have been able to go so much further in telling my story without

hitting the brick wall of overwhelming emotion. Having help to focus on the task as we work towards a common goal is empowering.

If you have any queries please contact Tracey on: **8212 8873 or 0406 980 962** Potential bloggers, musicians, writers should download an application form below or contact Tracey Davis at the MHCSA for a word version of the application form.

This project has been funded by Arts SA and developed by the Media Resource Centre in conjunction with Freerange Future.

www.mhcsa.org.au



Mental Health Week is again upon us for 2011

This year's line up will include the Margaret Tobin Awards on Monday 10 October, the Stress Less Walk down Rundle Mall on Thursday 13 October, an expo at Colonnades Ramsay Square, stall days at Arndale, Elizabeth, TTP and Marion shopping centres.

The Rural Grants will be announced next week with \$22,000 provided for rural promotional activities during during MHW 2011.

Cracking Up will hold a performance at the Nexus Cabaret on Sunday 9 October with Kehau Jackson as MC and the JMG band performing for us with special musical guests.

The Big Circle will be holding an exhibition trail in 2011 with 36 locations and two leading exhibitions openings. One at the Adelaide Town Hall (15 October 2011) for established artists and one at the Bakehouse Theatre (10 October 2011) for emerging artists.

Our poetry competition is on again, it closes on September 9, so get your entries in soon!

The winners will be announced at the SA Writers' Centre along with the launch of 'Mindfields' at 6pm on Thursday 13 October. The Mindfields book is a collection of winning poetry from the competition 2008 to 2011

The poster for Mental Health Week and resources will be available in August for order.

Magnets, Posters and bags will be free (there may be quantity restrictions) to organisations holding Mental Health Week events.

T-shirts will be available for order with the **Open Your Mind Logo** in sapphire blue, a mint green or black.

Training & Workforce Development Update by Christine Inkster



Community Managed Mental Health Sector (CMMMHS) Workforce Development and Training Advisory Group

Certificate IV Mental Health (CHC40508)

We are delighted to announce that we will be commencing another round of Certificate IV Mental Health (CHC40508) in August.

This is a new phase for our program as we are commencing a partnership with the Mental Health Coordinating Council of NSW (MHCC) who, like us, are the peak body for Community Management Mental Health in their state.

The Certificate IV in Mental Health, offered by the Mental Health Coalition of SA, will help build upon your on-the-job experience and to gain a national qualification in mental health.

Underpinned by the philosophy of Recovery Orientated Practice, this course aims to build understanding and practical skills in working with people with mental health problems. Participants receive up to date information about the latest approaches and gain increased confidence as a mental health worker.

The Certificate IV in Mental Health has been endorsed as a voluntary entry-level qualification by the community mental health sector.

Training has experienced a hectic period since January with the completion of another two rounds of Certificate IV Mental Health (CHC40508). We are currently delivering a program to Anglicare which has been tailored and specifically designed to meet their needs.

“We have had more than 200 students complete the program.”

This has been a fantastic initiative where 25 workers from different sites within Anglicare have been able to come together and have the training delivered in a flexible manner which has increased the capacity for attendance.

It is remarkable to recognise that since we introduced the pathway to Certificate IV Mental Health back in 2009, we have had more than 200 students complete the program overall. This is an outstanding achievement which would not have been possible without the excellent efforts of our trainers, assessors and administrative support.

The CMMHS Workforce Development and Training Group, which was established earlier this year, has put together a draft Workforce Development Strategy for the Community Managed Mental Health Sector in South Australia.

In consultation with the sector, feedback on the draft has been received with the final draft expected to be released in August.

For any enquiries, please contact Christine Inkster, Training and Workforce Development Manager:

Email christinei@mhcsa.org.au or Phone 8218 8873

Workshops

The MHCSA was pleased to host the highly innovative Arana Pearson 'Working with Voices' workshop in late July.



Arana Pearson

The well attended "Working With Voices" workshop equipped participants with a tool kit for working with voice-hearers.

Certificate IV Mental Health Cont...

Course Topics Include:

- Foundations of mental health
- Foundations of alcohol and other drugs
- Legal and ethical issues including OHS
- Assessing and responding to suicide
- Working with Aboriginal people
- Working with culturally diverse clients and coworkers

Electives Topics Include:

- Mental health/alcohol and other drugs
- Responding to critical incidents
- Working with Families, consumers and carers

You will be able to complete this program via face-to-face training, recognition of skills and assessment only options.

Delivery Dates:

Foundations of Mental Health (Part 1): 16 and 17 August
Foundations of Mental Health (Part 2): 13 and 14 September

Access and Respond to Suicide: 18 and 19 October
Mental Health Law and Ethics: 7 November

Working With Culturally Diverse Clients and Coworkers: 28 November

Working with Aboriginal People: 29 November

(dates for 2012 will be released soon)

The first round of dates will be held in Metropolitan Adelaide, however, we are taking expressions of interest for all areas within South Australia so please contact Christine Inkster, Training and Workforce Development Manager via:

Email christinei@mhcsa.org.au or Phone 8218 8873

Some Thoughts...

“With different training providers offering the Certificate IV in Mental Health, why would we choose your program over others that are out there?”

Our Certificate IV Mental Health program trainers are experienced mental health professionals with nationally recognised qualifications who deliver the program which has been specifically designed for individuals who are currently working in the community managed mental health sector.

The content has a demonstrated focus on recovery which consolidates well with our sector's culture.

Through our training, policy advocacy work and our stigma reduction work, the MHCSA has strong relationships and a solid reputation with all of the major employers in the industry as well as the smaller organisations both within South Australia and nationally.

This enables us to be at the forefront of activities within the sector which can be shared with our students.

Participants have the opportunity to engage with workers across the sector to share knowledge and experience with representation from various organisations including NEAMI, Centacare, MIND, Uniting Care Wesley Adelaide, Uniting Care Wesley Port Adelaide, MIFSA, Life Without Barriers, Anglicare, Baptist Care, Grow, Mission Australia and MMAG (and more) who have accessed our training across the state.

While it is easy for us to think our training is number one, we took it a step further to evaluate the effectiveness of our program. We engaged Flinders University and their evaluation demonstrated that workers, who had completed the qualification through the MHCSA's program, were transferring their new skills and knowledge into the workplace.

There was a noticeable increase in their level of professionalism, motivation and most importantly their confidence.

Overall the positive impact was not just identified at an individual level, but at an organisational level as well. The final word comes from one manager interviewed who said:

“The growth I've seen in him would be worth every cent put into it.”



put your dad in the picture... be part of the COPMI Artwork Project!

Put your artwork up on the COPMI website in time for Father's Day (4th September) and show Dad why he's important to you...

If you're aged between 2 and 24, you can participate in the COPMI Artwork Project.

Dads play an important role in families. And, making artwork can be a great way to show your dad (or grandfather) he's appreciated this Father's Day.

Anyone can join in—and it can be fun to make art with other people—so if you know anyone who might be interested, let them know!

It's easy to do

Step 1

Create your artwork (A4 size: 297mm x 210mm) —if you make something bigger or 3-D, send in a photo of it.

Step 2

Finish the sentence 'My dad (or grandfather) is important to me because...'

(Write it down or ask an adult to help you then send your sentence in with your artwork).

Step 3

Post or email your submission (include a signed consent form if you're under 18) to:

post COPMI, Ground floor, 77 King William Rd
North Adelaide SA 5006, or

email copmi@aicafmha.net.au.

Submissions must be received by 5.00pm on Thursday 1st September.

Show Dad what you've made

All artwork submissions will be published on the COPMI website in time for Father's Day and throughout the month of September—take your dad or grandfather to copmi.net.au and show him what you've made!

Under 18 year-olds

If you're a parent or guardian of someone who's under 18, you'll need to sign a consent form allowing their artwork to be published. Call COPMI to receive a consent form by mail or get one at www.copmi.net.au/fathersday.

The Father's Information Project

COPMI is currently developing a dedicated area on its website to provide information for fathers and help strengthen their children's resilience. Read more about the father's information project at copmi.net.au.

COPMI national initiative

Ground floor, 77 King William Road

North Adelaide SA 5006

Phone (08) 8367 0888

Fax (08) 8367 0999

Email copmi@aicafmha.net.au

www.copmi.net.au

The COPMI (Children of Parents with a Mental Illness) national initiative is being undertaken by AICAFMHA (Australian Infant Child Adolescent and Family Mental Health Association Ltd) with funding provided by the Australian government.

The COPMI Artwork Project is part of the COPMI Fathers' Information Project currently in development to provide information for fathers and help strengthen their children's resilience.

COPMI Ground Floor 77 King William Rd North Adelaide SA 5006

Phone: (+61 8) 8367 0888 Fax: (+61 8) 8367 0999 Email: copmi@aicafmha.net.au w www.copmi.net.au

Staff Appointments

We are pleased to welcome **Howard Salkow** and **Amanda Cooke** to our team. Howard joins the Coalition in the newly created role of Communications Manager, while Amanda has assumed the position of Training Project Officer.



A seasoned Corporate Communications and Media practitioner, Howard has held senior positions in the private and public sectors in Australia, North America, the UK and South Africa. He joins us from the Department for Families and Communities where he served as a Media Adviser.



Amanda brings a wealth of training experience, much of it gained with Australia Post where she worked since completing Year 12 in 1990. She worked in many varied and challenging roles at Australia Post which included training in the franchise sector and fraud investigations.

Guest Column:

Robbi Williams, CEO Julia Farr Group



Individualised Funding – Good for mental health?

Typically, government funding for mental health is spent directly on service providers, who are then expected to provide an agreed range of services for people seeking assistance. The drawback of this approach is that the individual person's choices are limited to the services the service provider is contracted to provide.

By contrast, Individualised Funding – which has many different names – basically refers to a public funding arrangement where the person chooses how their funding allocation is spent. There are encouraging reports about its use, but success is not automatic, and certain things need to happen to make sure it is truly good for mental health.

Importantly, the person needs to be involved as a genuine partner.

This includes the person having a plan that is genuinely personalised and meaningful, and with a focus on recovery and an ordinary valued life.

In other words, the plan needs to be centred on the person, not on the service. It also includes help with imagining what might be possible, and how this might be realized. If done well, Individualised Funding can assist people's authorship and control of

their own lives, and people's satisfaction with this has been reported in evaluations.

Individualised Funding can also result in supports that are tailored to the person's particular circumstances.

Intuitively, this must be good. Individualised Funding also assist mental health support agencies to evolve their contribution through designing flexible, creative arrangements.

If we are to support people to move onto the front foot in their lives, to move away from a life defined by illness and crisis, then Individualised Funding is not merely good for mental health, I believe it is essential.

* * *

Robbi has over 25 years international experience working across a range of social issues including disability, mental health, families, ageing, primary and specialist health services. Robbi is CEO of the Julia Farr group, a trio of non-government organisations working to improve the life chances for people living with disability and their families, through research, policy development, housing services and grant-giving. Robbi is a regular columnist for national disability magazine *Link*.

Robbi Williams is the guest speaker at our general meeting on 31 August at the Goodwood Centre starting 3:30 PM

The Big Circle Exhibition Trail for Mental Health Week 2011



Once again, The Big Circle Arts Collective is holding the annual Mental Health Week Exhibition Trail for 2011. Lasting throughout the month of October, with exhibitions overlapping Mental Health Week (9 -15 October), the exhibition trail celebrates emerging and established artists from a wide variety of backgrounds. The Big Circle Arts Collective is for artists who have had a lived experience of mental illness, disability or are disadvantaged in some way or form. Just like physical health, good mental health is a concept valid to us all. Whether you are currently suffering from a mental illness, or just use art as a way to keep your mind healthy – this exhibition is for you!

Artists may enter as “emerging” or “established” artists, for the main exhibition venues of the Adelaide Town Hall and the Bakehouse theatre. The Art Work pieces for these venues are selected by our curator.

Other venues will have art work matched to them by the Big Circle staff. If you would like to speak to a big circle staff member, please contact the MHCSA. We are happy to talk to you about any questions you have. Please visit our website, call or email us for a registration form. Entries close 19 August 2011.

This project is proudly supported by the Richard Llewellyn Arts and Disability Trust.

Would you like to be a Standup Comedian? Come join Cracking Up!

Cracking Up was a group created as part of Mental Health Week 2011 thanks to funding by Arts SA. People with experiences of mental health issues were taught standup comedy which lead to some of our participants performing during Mental Health Week at the Mercury Cinemas.

The group has since performed at the Adelaide Fringe in a successful season as “Cracking Up” and will feature in a mini documentary to be launched on line during Mental Health Week 2011.

Classes for our Mental Health Week performance start on the 1 August 2011 at 6pm at the Box Factory.

Attendees will have the opportunities to experience Stand Up Comedy with tuition by local comedians and trainers such as Jo Coventry, Stephen Sheehan, Sebastian Carboncini, Mark Trenwith and Kehau Jackson.

To Register your interest in taking part in the course please contact Tracey Davis at the MHCSA via :

tracey.davis@mhcsa.org.au or
08 8212 8873.

This year the Cracking Up Comedians are working towards a final performance at the Nexus Cabaret on 9 October during Mental Health Week.



**To be added to our mailing list or
to contact the MHCSA:**

P: (08) 8212 8873 F: (08) 8212 8874
E: administration@mhcsa.org.au
1/408 King William Street Adelaide SA 5000
www.mhcsa.org.au

What's been making the News...



ELEVEN major drug companies have threatened to stop bringing new medicines to Australia and halt clinical trials over the Gillard government's decision to let cabinet choose which drugs get subsidised on the pharmaceutical benefits scheme.

ANTI-POKIES campaigner Nick Xenophon says he is prepared to face pro-poker machine rallies if he is allowed to bring a woman whose daughter committed suicide because of a gambling addiction.

ASTALEMATE between the SA State Government and charity groups is expected to be resolved when welfare groups sign up to a deal they say will drive more people into poverty. The Government threatened to cut the charities off completely unless they signed up to a funding offer to take over the delivery of anti-poverty services which were due to start at the beginning of July.

SUICIDE rates among people with mental illness in England and Wales have fallen over the last decade, latest figures show.

THE NSW Mental Health Minister says he is working to recruit and fill huge staff vacancies in the mental health sector. Kevin Humphries has been touring NSW as part of the development of a state Mental Health Commission.

A'GROSS inadequacy' in the state's health system has failed the families of three women who killed family members because of mental incompetence, experts say.

PEOPLE who have healthier diets are less likely to become anxious and depressed, Deakin University researchers have found. "Those people eating more junk and processed foods were more likely to be anxious," said Dr Felice Jacka, of Deakin's Barwon Psychiatric Research Unit.

JOB-RELATED stress and depression costs the Australian economy an estimated \$730 million annually, a study has found.

AN AMA survey shows that 85 per cent of GPs believe fewer patients will receive vital mental health care as a result of Medicare patient rebate cuts in the 2011-12 Federal Budget.



Mindframe for the Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Sector

Mental Illness and the Media

A presentation provided under the *Mindframe* National Media Initiative in partnership with the Mental Health Coalition of SA.

You can play a vital role in helping the media in your area to report mental illness and suicide in a responsible and accurate manner. This presentation is designed for people involved in mental health and suicide prevention who work with the media or would like to work with their local media in the future.

When: Wednesday 17 August 2011
Venue: MHCSA, 408 King William Street
Time: 1:15 pm – 2:00 pm

The presentation will cover:

- The evidence related to media reporting of suicide and mental illness;
- What you need to know when working with the media about mental illness and suicide;
- An opportunity to ask questions and contribute to the discussion.

The *Mindframe* National Media Initiative is a comprehensive strategy supporting the accurate, appropriate and responsible reporting of suicide and mental illness by the Australian media and it is funded by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing.

For further information about *Mindframe for the Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Sector* please visit www.mindframe-media.info and click on “Resources for the mental health and suicide prevention sector”.

Please RSVP by 12 August and contact:

Name: Fiona Gilmore
Phone: 8212 8873
Email: fiona.gilmore@mhcsa.org.au

Hunter Institute of Mental Health

James Fletcher Campus
72 Watt Street | PO Box 833
Newcastle NSW 2300
Tel 02 4924 6900
Fax 02 4924 6901