

June 2017 Newsletter Troubled Youth!

NCW Victoria has been involved for over a century in advocating for the wellbeing of women, children and families and actively promoting the status of and respect for women. A current concern is number of children placed in out of home State care and the numbers of young people engaged in anti-social behaviour. The NCW Victoria 'Troubled Youth Forum' on Wednesday 24 May 2017 at the Parliament of Victoria was able to throw light on where and when systemic failures have occurred in the lives of children now appearing in the Victorian justice system. It seems society is failing some children. What went wrong in the lives of these kids? Are children in the justice system because of their lack of tender, loving family support or safe state care? Many children in the Youth Justice System are impaired mentally. Do we know why? Do we know how many? Do we have processes for identifying young children at risk and creating suitable care and educational pathways for these children? Children are not born criminals after all.

The audience at the Forum responded strongly to the presentations by

Moderator David Thomson (Fellow Sir Zelman Cowan Centre - Victoria University) and Panel members: Peter Norden AO FANZSOC, Adjunct Professor, Global, Urban and Social Studies RMIT University; Lisa Ward, Deputy Chair of Sentencing Advisory Council; Kel Glare AO, Former Victorian Police Commissioner; Kylee Bates, CEO Ardoch Youth Foundation; Dr Manjula O'Connor MBBS, FRANZCP, DPM, M.MED.- Consultant Psychiatrist and Brendan Murray, Secondary School Principal. Thanks are due to the NCW Victoria Event Team: Malvina Malinek OAM, Jennie Russell OAM and Secretary Gauri Kapoor, to the Parliamentary Services Staff, our host David Southwick MP and his staff and to Minute Man Press North Melbourne.

We hope to have presentations from the Forum available soon on the NCWV website. See page 2.

Council meeting Thursday 1 June: Ross House, 12.15 – 2 pm. Focus on Resolutions for the NCWA Mid Term Conference. Thursday 1 June is also the bi-monthly Individual Members' meeting - 10.15 for 10.30am. Topic Travellers Aid Australia. This is a Trading Table month: Please bring and buy! Home cooking should be labelled with ingredients.

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Ph: 0447 351 234 Registered office: Royal Historical Society of Victoria, 239 A'Beckett St, Melbourne.

Patron in Chief: Her Excellency the Honorable Linda Dessau AM, Governor of Victoria
Patron: Ms Emma Page Campbell, Lady Mayoress, City of Melbourne. Our monthly Council meetings are held at noon on the first Thursday of the month Feb to Nov at, Ross House, 247 Flinders Lane, Melbourne VIC 3000

**Future Directions, Our Council Our Voice - Driving Cultural Change
NCWA Mid-Term Conference, 14 - 16 June 2017, Canberra ACT**

This is an opportunity for women of all ages to come together and hear from national experts on the topics of: women's economic empowerment; women's leadership; and women's safety. Venue - Rydges Capital Hill, 17 Canberra Avenue, Forrest, ACT 2603, See ncwvic.org.au/news-events.html
To book for the conference <https://www.trybooking.com/PWUR> For more information go to the NCWA website or contact Yvonne Robson, 0419 148 948, info@ncwa.org.au

Preventing young people from getting into trouble

Abstract of the presentation to the NCW Victoria Troubled Youth Forum on 24 May by Dr Manjula O'Connor, Psychiatrist, Executive Director Australasian Centre for Human Rights and Health.

Attachment Theory explains the significance of secure parental attachment in healthy development of a child (Bowlby 2005). Conversely lack of such attachment or child maltreatment has strong, long-lasting effects on brain, mental health, risk taking behaviours, social functioning and at least in part, influence the development of conduct disorders, anti-social behaviours and maintenance of Callous Unemotional (CU) traits in children. Responsive parenting (WHO 2006) is defined as the mother or care-giver understanding a baby's needs in distress, and then providing a swift, appropriate response. Responsive parenting in early childhood is shown to be associated with social competence, higher IQ, and fewer behavioural problems. Complex families that is, families facing multiple challenges for example parents with mental illness, depression, domestic violence, drug affected parents may struggle to provide best care for their children pre-disposing them to conduct disorders and anti-social behaviours. Their foster and biological families need prolonged support and relationship with services (Murdoch Children Research Institute Paper 2016). Immigrant families also face challenges – role reversal with children, generation gap, language gap, and cultural gap may undermine parental authority and pre-dispose youth to anti-social behaviours. Supporting all parents with positive parenting programs has been shown to reduce anti-social behaviours in young people. Additional support for immigrant parents may come from programs that help them understand their new host country's culture alongside English classes.

National Council of Women of Victoria acknowledges that it meets on the land of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation and pays its respects to the Elders past and present.

In 2013 NCW Victoria committed to 'Working Together'.

During Reconciliation Week 2017, we reflect on two significant anniversaries in Australia's reconciliation journey – 50 years since the 1967 referendum, and 25 years since the historic Mabo decision. We are invited to be a part of the next big steps in the reconciliation journey.

From the Executive

Resignation of the President

At its 18 May meeting, the Executive considered the letter received from President Janene Blanchfield Brown on 14 May, submitting her resignation from that position to take effect immediately, due to unforeseen circumstances. The Executive accepted the resignation with regret, and recorded its thanks for her effort and work undertaken on behalf of NCW Victoria, also for NCW Australia, during her time as President and wishing her well for the future. It was resolved that Vice President Elisabeth Newman would be the Acting President until the 1 June Council meeting, at which time a decision would be taken as to an Interim President to hold office until the Annual General Meeting.

Governance

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday 6 September 12 for 12.15 start at Ross House Flinders Lane. A review is in progress of the member register to check that addresses and contact information is up to date prior to sending notices in June for renewal of membership. Membership runs from 1 July to June 30. Anyone planning to stand for election for 2017-18 must be a paid-up individual member or a delegate of an affiliated organization that has paid its 2017-18 subscription.

Membership fees

At the May Executive meeting, it was agreed that for the financial year for 2017-18 the fees should be: Organisation with 2 delegates \$160; Individual members \$80 full rate, \$60 concessional rate. Small organisations may request a lower rate and have one only delegate. If a new membership is received after March 31 in a given year, the fee covers the following year.

Invitations from Members and Friends

Her Place Women's Museum, opening of Colac Exhibition (Tuesday May 23)

Australian Local Government Women's Association Bursary event & AGM (Wednesday 31 May)

Ukrainian Women's Association - Victorian State Council (Saturday 3 June)

NACWA Glen Eira Dragon Boat event (Sunday 4 June)

NCJWA(V) Mina Fink Annual Lecture (Tuesday 20 June. 7:30 PM - 9:30 pm) Register on line.

Business & Professional Women Melbourne (Thursday 8 June, 6-8 pm) Women in Politics Forum members \$40, Non-members \$45, Students \$40 with Clare O'Neill MHR, Steph Ryan MP, Cr Rebecca Paterson (Mayor Monash City) and Dr Andrea Carson Academic Director, University of Melbourne Pathways to Politics Program.www.trybooking/ODDO

Standing Committees/Advisers (May Hu JP Coordinator)

The 4 May Forum/Roundtable on the Australian Law Reform Commission Recommendations in relation to Power of Attorney and Guardianship matters was very successful. Advisers are reminded to submit material for the Annual report by the end of June. Next Advisers meeting will be in August.

YoungNCWVic (Sarah Morgan, Youth Adviser)

Young NCWVic was represented in the Mother's Day Classic Sunday May 14. Gauri Kapoor and Sarah Morgan will travel to Canberra for the Young Council of Women Workshop and the Parliamentary Breakfast Launch 14-15 June as part of the NCWA Mid Term Conference.

Young NCWVic is open to women 18 - 30. Membership without fee to nominees from member organisations and to students aged 16 -18 who attend Young NCWVic/ 'MVMV' events.

My Vote My Voice 2017 (Pam Hammond, Convneur)

This year's event will be held at the Parliament of Victoria on Friday 1 September from 9 am – 12 noon. National Council of Women Victoria conduct this event annually. The theme this year is 'Women in Local Democracy – Towards Gender Equality'.

2017 marks the 20th anniversary of the Local Government Women's Charter which contains the three principles: gender equity, diversity and active citizenship. Students from across Victoria will come together to make three-minute speeches on these principles as they relate to decision making in the community and the workplace, to the invited audience of students, community members and a panel of eminent women.

Although places are limited, up to six students from participating schools may register, with no more than three to speak, and accompanying staff or parents to attend. We have arranged the half day program with on-arrival refreshments and photographs from 9 am, then students and guests will move to the Legislative Council Chamber for a program of speeches, student presentations and panel comments that will conclude at 12 noon.

Contact Pam Hammond via info@ncwvic.org.au if you know of a school or students who would like to take part. For further details, information about previous events etc see [Youngncwvic - Home | Facebook](#), YoungNCWVic Blog worpress.com

Please consider a donation to support the work of YoungNCWVic, the annual My Vote My Voice program, and NCW Victoria's Civics and Citizenship Awards.
Account name: National Council of Women of Victoria Inc.
Bank: Westpac 263 Victoria Street Abbotsford 3067 BSB:033031
Account Number: 263920
Reference: Please provide your last name and initial and word – CACA2017

NCWV Geelong Branch Quarterly Report (Janice Latham, President)

Days for Girls - In February we welcomed Diane Looker - Geelong & Surf Coast organizer, speaker and advocate for Days for Girls. Girls of all ages across the world are in desperate need of sustainable personal hygiene kits. The kits provide the opportunity for education, better health and dignity, creating positive changes to their lives. The kits last up to 3 years. Mothers of the girls now request that they be taught how to make the kits for themselves and the girls. Geelong Branch having had three months' notice of the need for materials and briefs to make the kits, were able to present Diane with her 'shopping list' of materials, generously donated by members and affiliates.

Kids Plus Foundation - Based in Geelong, Kids Plus Foundation was founded in 2003 by parents of children with special needs, therapists and concerned community members. Access was needed to quality and regular goal focused therapy for children with neurodevelopmental disabilities. Kids Plus has particular expertise in supporting young people with cerebral palsy, the most common physical disability in childhood. The Kids Plus program sets measurable goals and outcomes specific to each child - young adult (2 -25 years). All clinicians have post graduate qualifications in paediatric therapy. They are widely recognized as experts in their field. Services provided include specialist physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech pathology, hydrotherapy, music therapy and family support services. Kids Plus relies on the generosity of our local community. It is not Government

funded. It is a registered service provider for National Disability Service Agency. Through a combination of NDIA payments and community fundraising, Kids Plus is able to provide therapy at no direct cost to families.

Bethany Community Support - Children in Kinship care: Across Victoria between 5000 & 6000 children are in Kinship care. The first call for care comes via the court. Care needed will be either - residential - 10%, foster car kinship care. Kinship care will represent near 80% of care. Between 2010 - 2015 there has been a 50% increase in need. At present 60 families are receiving care through Bethany. The first consideration given is the viability of keeping the family together through the program best suited to them. This may see the family accommodated away from their home for a short stay. Kinship care is given by grandparents in most cases. Many times by the Grandmother alone. Restraining orders put in place by the courts on the parent/parents, addictive parents, jailed parents compound the enormous emotional and psychological problems the carer must face.

Many of the families have disability issues. The disability maybe work ethic related where up to 3 generations have lived on government benefits, never been in the workforce and an impoverished lifestyle has always been accepted. Looking after the disabled child within the family is beyond many without the help of counselling for all the family. The child's survival has often depended on them adapting to their environment. In most cases the parent is not uncaring but has had bad experiences. They are often products of problems passed from one generation to another. While it is difficult for a child to change, it is possible with good support education and counselling. Change comes through compassionate healing relationships, patience, high expectations and inclusion when a child begins to see themselves as valuable, lovable and worthwhile. The dedication of the staff at Bethany, a partially government funded community support organization, working in Geelong, Colac and Ballarat was inspirational.

A trading table has been conducted at two of our meetings this year. These funds allow us to make donations to the community in a modest way when a concern needs immediate attention. For example, when Anam Cara, our palliative care house, urgently needed funds for pantry supplies it was attended to within the hour.

The Great Walk—Parliament Reception 26 May 2017 (June Anderson President, Australian Asian Business Women's Association) The Great Walk started on 6th May was the first highlight in the series of events commemorating the 160th anniversary of the arrival of Chinese gold seekers walking overland from Robe South Australia, after the introduction of the 'poll tax'. A reception was held in the Queen's Hall, during which representatives from the Victorian parliament paid their respects to our Chinese ancestors while apologizing for the wrong-doing by the government 160 years ago. This discriminatory policy has been described by the Premier Daniel Andrews as 'a terrible injustice of the past'. "To every Chinese in Victoria, to every person hurt by that terrible policy decision, on behalf of Victorian government, on behalf of Victorian parliament, I express our deepest sorrow and I say to you that we are profoundly sorry." The Leader of Opposition Matthew Guy and the Minister for Multicultural Affairs Robin Scott also made their sincere apologies to the Australian Chinese. Similar apologies have been made in New Zealand, Canada, and the United States in the past 15 years. CCCAV will also hold the 'Beyond the New Gold Mountain' Conference, the "From Robe to Chinese Fortunes" exhibition, and a gala dinner.

National Council of Women Australia Mid-term Conference 2017 Resolutions

Part of the 1 June Council meeting will be devoted to discussion of the Resolutions as circulated by NCWA on 5 May. At this stage, we do not have full information about mover and seconder, whether Constituent Councils or NCWA Advisers/Coordinators.

Res 1 - Climate Change – NCWA urges the Federal Government to give priority to strategies to combat global warming while ensuring energy security, given the implications for Australia’s environment and such unique ecosystems as the Great Barrier Reef.

Res 2 – Accommodation Options for Mental Health Clients -That all member Councils of NCWA request with great urgency the issue of accommodation for mental health clients together with case management and transition planning with a view to providing a range of accommodation options, including supervised accommodation, to facilitate the wellness of such clients.

Res 3 – Heart Disease Making the Invisible Visible - National Council of Women of Australia, having supported the 2016 Australia Women’s Health Charter (see amendment below), including the call for more research on gender differences in the diagnosis and treatment of heart disease, *congratulates the National Heart Foundation and the Jean Hailes Foundation for their work in drawing attention to the different symptoms of heart attack and stroke in women, and the fact that undiagnosed heart disease is the single biggest killer of Australian women *recommends that heart healthcare has a greater focus on the different symptoms of heart attack and stroke in women and that NCWA support the promotion of this information among women and medical practitioners. Note - Since the submission of the resolution, as NCWA is not shown as endorsing the Charter on the website of the Australian Women’s Health Network, Dr Wendy Abigail has suggested an amendment - “noting that the 2016 Australian Women’s Charter calls” for more research on gender differences in the diagnosis and treatment of Non-communicable disease and chronic conditions including heart disease,

Res 4 - Call for House of Representatives Inquiry into Residential Aged Care – That NCWA calls on the Federal Government to conduct a House of Representatives Committee of Inquiry in to Residential Age Care, the inquiry to be wide ranging and include all aspects of residential aged care including in particular Quality of care, including the removal of the low care-high care ion permanent residential care from 1 July 2014, Accreditation including unannounced spot checks of residential aged care facilities and the effectiveness of accreditation standards in promoting of good care and preventing poor care; Staffing and skill mix requirements in residential aged care; and Complaints handling and information of residential aged care facilities.

Res 5 -Superannuation NO GENDER PAY GAP – That NCWA urge the Federal Government to take concerted action as outlined in the Senate Inquiry report ‘A husband is not a retirement plan’ Achieving Economic Security for Women in Retirement 29 April 2016. That actions to address the gender pay gap and provided incentives for employers to have ‘no gender pay gap ‘ policies and assist women to maintain superannuation contributions during times of timeout from the workforce. That the outcome of no woman being disadvantaged at the time of retirement be achieved.

Res 6 –“CATCH UP ADULTS’ IMMUNISE AUSTRALIA – NCWA calls on the Federal Government to introduce a “Catch Up Australia” promotional vaccination program, to be part of immunise Australia Program to encourage adults over 20 to become immunised.

Res 7 Housing Affordability – NCWA urges all National Councils to write to their State and Territory governments about providing increased mandatory incentives for affordable housing to alleviate housing stress and homelessness.

Res 8 Cost of Rent – Contributing to Increased Poverty – That NCWA, noting the number of women, including single women with families who, in order to maintain a roof over their heads, are paying a rent significantly above a third of their weekly income; which forces them to live in poverty on all their other basic needs like food, clothing, medical and dental needs – requests the Federal Government to introduce ADEQUATE RENTAL ASSISTANCE to assist those who are in recognised need to keep them from becoming homeless and to equate more reasonably with the average wage earned by the majority of women, recognising that this is lower than the average wage earned by men.

Res 9 Gender Equity in Sport – That NCWA calls on federally funded sporting organisations to provide gender equality for travel, accommodation and remuneration for male and female sporting teams.

Res 10 Rural and Remote Health Recommendations – That NCWA hereby endorses the recommendations from the 14th Biennial National Rural Health held in Cairns on 26-29 April 2017 and supports their implementation and funding.

Res 11 STOP – Bullying and sexual harassment in Australian workplaces – NCWA calls on employer, employee organisations and professional associations of Australia to work together to address the cultural issues round bullying and sexual harassment in Australian workplaces.

Res 12 Third Action Plan (2016 -2019) of the National Action Plan to Reduce Violence Against Women and their Children (2010-2022) – NCWA endorses the Third Action Plan (2016 -2019) of the National Action Plan to Reduce Violence Against Women and their Children (2010-2022) and supports its full implementation and funding.

Res 13 Herpes Zoster(Shingles) Vaccination for Older Australians – NCWA promotes the inclusion of free access to Herpes Zoster (Shingles) vaccination for all Australians (with the exception of those where it is medically contraindicated) by the Commonwealth Department of Health National Immunisation Program and adopt the Position Statement Herpes Zoster(Shingles) Vaccination for Older Australians.

Res 14 SUPPORT FOR A MODERN SLAVERY ACT – NCWA supports the adoption of a Modern Slavery Act: similar to that operating in the UK, at the earliest opportunity, by the Australian Parliament.

Our motto - The Golden Rule

The Preamble to the original ICW Constitution said “We, women of all Nations, in the conviction that the good of humanity will be best advanced by greater unity of thought, sympathy and purpose, and that an organised movement will serve to promote the highest good of the family and of the Nation, do hereby band ourselves together in a federation of women of all races, nations and creeds, to further the application of the Golden Rule to society, custom and law: Do unto others as you would that they should do unto you”.

Our mission statement - National Council of Women of Victoria, NCWV, is a non-party-political, non-sectarian, not-for-profit, umbrella organisation with broadly humanitarian and educational objectives. It seeks to raise the awareness of women as to their rights and responsibilities as citizens and encourages their participation in all aspects of community life.

PROGRAM FOR 2017

National Council of Women Victoria

January

19th (Thursday)- Annual Australia Day Women's Ceremony, Pioneer Women's Garden Kings Domain, 10.15 for 10.30am start – end 11.30 am

February

2nd (Thursday) NCWV Council meeting Melbourne Town Hall, 12 noon for 12.15 start end 2pm

16th (Thursday) – Executive meeting, 12-2 pm

March

2nd (Thursday) - 12 noon for 12.15 start NCWV Council meeting –

30th (Thursday) - Executive meeting, 12-2 pm

April

6th (Thursday) - 10.15-11.30 Individual Members Meeting, 12 noon for 12.15 start NCWV Council meeting, including Trading table.

27th (Thursday) Executive meeting, 12 noon - 2 am

May

4th (Thursday) 9.30- 11.30 Standing Committee Roundtable (Law Week), followed by 12 noon for 12.15 start NCWV Council meeting with Dr Shirin David

18th (Thursday) Executive meeting, 12-2 pm Ross House

24th (Wednesday) Youth Forum, Parliament of Victoria. 5.30 for 6 pm finish 8 pm.

June

1st (Thursday) 10.15-11.30 Individual Members Meeting, 12 noon for 12.15 start NCWV Council meeting, including Trading Table.

8th (Thursday) Executive meeting, 12- 2 pm, Ross House

14 -16th NCWA Mid-Term Conference, Rydges Canberra

19th (Monday) Annual Luncheon NCWV Geelong Branch

July

6th (Thursday) 12 noon for 12.15 start, NCWV Council meeting

20th (Thursday) Executive meeting, 10 am

August

4th (Thursday) 10.15-11.30 Individual Members Meeting, 12 noon for 12.15 start NCWV Council meeting, including Trading Table

15th (Thursday) Executive meeting,

September

1st (Friday) 10 am start – 12 noon finish My Vote My Voice Event Parliament of Victoria.

6th (Thursday) 10.15–NCWV AGM, Ross House 12 noon for 12.15 start Women Health Week

21st (Thursday) Executive meeting, 10 am

October

5th (Thursday) 10.15-11.30 Individual Members followed by, 12 noon for 12.15 start, NCWV Council meeting Individual Members Group Excursion - date and time TBC.

19th (Thursday) Executive meeting TBC

November

2nd (Thursday) 10.30 am Morning Tea. 12 noon for 12.15 start NCWV Council meeting,

16th (Thursday) Executive meeting,

30th (Thursday) 12 noon for 12.15 start NCWV Christmas Lunch TBC

December

TBC 15th (Thursday) Executive meeting, 10 am

NOTE: Council meetings are on the first Thursday of each month Feb-November at Ross House, 247 Flinders Lane beginning at 12.15pm sharp and finish no later than 2.15pm Bi-monthly Individual Members Group meetings also at Ross House begin at 10.15am for 10.30 on this day there is also a Trading Table – please bring items for sale.