



FAN

FAMILY ACCESS NETWORK UPDATE : AUTUMN 2017: VOLUME 98

FROM THE CEO

Welcome to the FAN Autumn newsletter. I am writing this the third week back from extended leave, I therefore draw your attention to the program updates within the newsletter for up to date information on Family Access Network, programs and activities. David MacKenzie has also prepared an article on behalf of the Board on the National Youth Commission.

The 12 month funding extension the National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness (NPAH) translates to \$117 million for 180 critically important services means that 80,000 Australians experiencing crisis related to homelessness and family violence will be supported. Originally a three-year agreement between the Commonwealth and State/ Territory governments, The NPAH has been 'renewed' annually for the last three years. Annual funding severely impacts on services' ability to operate efficiently and to forward plan. The practise of announcing renewals just months before expiration of the previous iteration of NPAH creates much uncertainty negatively impacts on those experiencing, or at risk of homelessness. FAN's partnership with Eastern Health in the delivery of the Homeless Youth Dual Diagnosis Initiative (HYDDI) is one of the funded programs within NPAH.

It is a rare community based not for profit organisation that does not engage in multiple activities to ensure financial capacity to deliver a broad range of client centred, flexible and responsive programs. FAN receives a

combination of federal, state and local government funding, as well as philanthropic grants, and support from service clubs and individual donors. In 2016 a band fundraiser was held, drawing on the musical talents of two members of the Board, the Chair David Burlew and Treasurer Brett Philipp and their respective bands, so we are repeating it on 20 May, at the Knox Club. We have also received a very generous donation of an original painting from Dagmar Cyrulla depicting a mother and child, which will be raffled with all proceeds going to FAN's programs. For more information about both events please read further in the newsletter.

I conclude by thanking the following for their assistance to FAN during the past three months:

Canterbury Councils of Churches who have made a donation from their Christmas Carols held at the Canterbury Gardens that will go towards our Childrens Program

The Lions Club of Box Hill who have provided funds for a scholarship award for one of our young people

Regards
Sue



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FROM THE BOARD**The NYC is Coming??**

What can the Australian community do when our political leaders seem incapable of working out the way forward. What should we do when issues affecting all young Australians are confounded by partisan discord with little in the way of constructive policy being proposed. The one issue that appears every day in the media and is the subject of concern amongst young people and families everywhere is the transition of young Australians from school/education to employment. Is our education system failing to prepare young people for life and work? Why do so many of our most disadvantaged young people leave school early? What prospects do young people have for sustainable livelihoods in the 21st Century global economy? What should Australia be doing to secure the future of its next generation? The most disadvantaged and vulnerable young people have the greatest difficulty in making successful transitions to sustainable livelihoods, however, the issues of transition have become the concern of much wider sections of the Australian community. Many young graduates struggle to gain employment in their field and the uncertainties of transition seem to be spreading.

In 2007-08, the first *National Youth Commission into Youth Homelessness* (NYC) was launched as a 'citizen's royal commission' to work up an agenda for action and positive solutions drawn from the input of the Australian community on the issue of youth homelessness. It was modelled on the landmark Burdekin Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission inquiry of 1989. Accompanying the Inquiry was the making of the feature documentary *The Oasis*. The launch of the 400-page NYC report in the first week of April was accompanied by a showing of *The Oasis* in prime time on ABC-TV followed by a panel discussion chaired by Tony Jones (the first Q&A). The first NYC hugely shaped the Federal Government White Paper on Homelessness, *The Road Home*, released in December 2008.

A decade later, the *National Youth Commission into Youth Employment and Transitions*, due to begin mid-2017, is a proven strategy for bringing together evidence and experience from people in the community, from young people themselves, from their families and schools and from those who are professionally dedicated to supporting our young people. Its power derives from the combination of a rigorous sophisticated national inquiry, with a broadcast documentary on the issues, together with constant social media and the resources for PR and community campaigning – the whole is greater than the sum of the parts.

The dimensions of the complex problems of education and youth employment, along with the associated difficult issues of the transition to a sustainable livelihood, will be explored in a deeply solutions-focused way – what can we do – what needs to be done – what reforms to systems do we need to consider. Wicked problems and the deteriorating prospects for so many young Australians deserve much better than what is currently being offered. Concerns about these issues have been widely expressed by Australians across the political divide - prominent business leaders, educationists, youth workers and community organisations, local government elected representatives and staff and university academics.

Individuals and organisations are invited to come forward and support the forthcoming NYC and/or contribute testimony and ideas. Get involved!

Contact Keith Waters - Executive-Officer, NYC on 0408569888 or keith.waters@nycinquiry.org.au

Regards

Associate Professor David MacKenzie, FAN Board Member

FURTHER FROM THE BOARD

FAN puts the Fun Into Fundraising

You may remember that over the last couple of years FAN has been the beneficiary of two musical fundraisers. Well 2017 will see another night of high voltage rock with the return of 5 Shades of Grey and Max Zero performing at the Knox Club on May 20th, 2017.

Admission is \$20 per person and we would ask you to help us by getting as many people as you can to come and support FAN with this event.

5 Shades of Grey has a front man that you should all recognise. It's none other than Brett Philipp, Treasurer for FAN. Whilst Max Zero has David Burlew in their line-up.

But wait. . . there's more!

We have received a beautiful piece of art called the Strongest Bond 2. This pencil on archival paper depicts mother and child and is a fitting piece as it reflects the very foundation of our organisation. This work was donated by the artist; Dagmar Cyrulla. After hearing of the work than FAN has been delivering for more than three decades, she felt compelled to contribute.

We are both delighted and grateful for her donation. We will be putting this stunning example of fine art as the sole prize for an upcoming raffle.

Regards

David Burlew—Chair



MAX ZERO

HIGH QUALITY ROCK n ROLL

Fundraiser event for
Family Access Network (FAN)
at the Knox Club
on Saturday 20th May 2017

Two bands:
**5 Shades of Grey
& Max Zero**

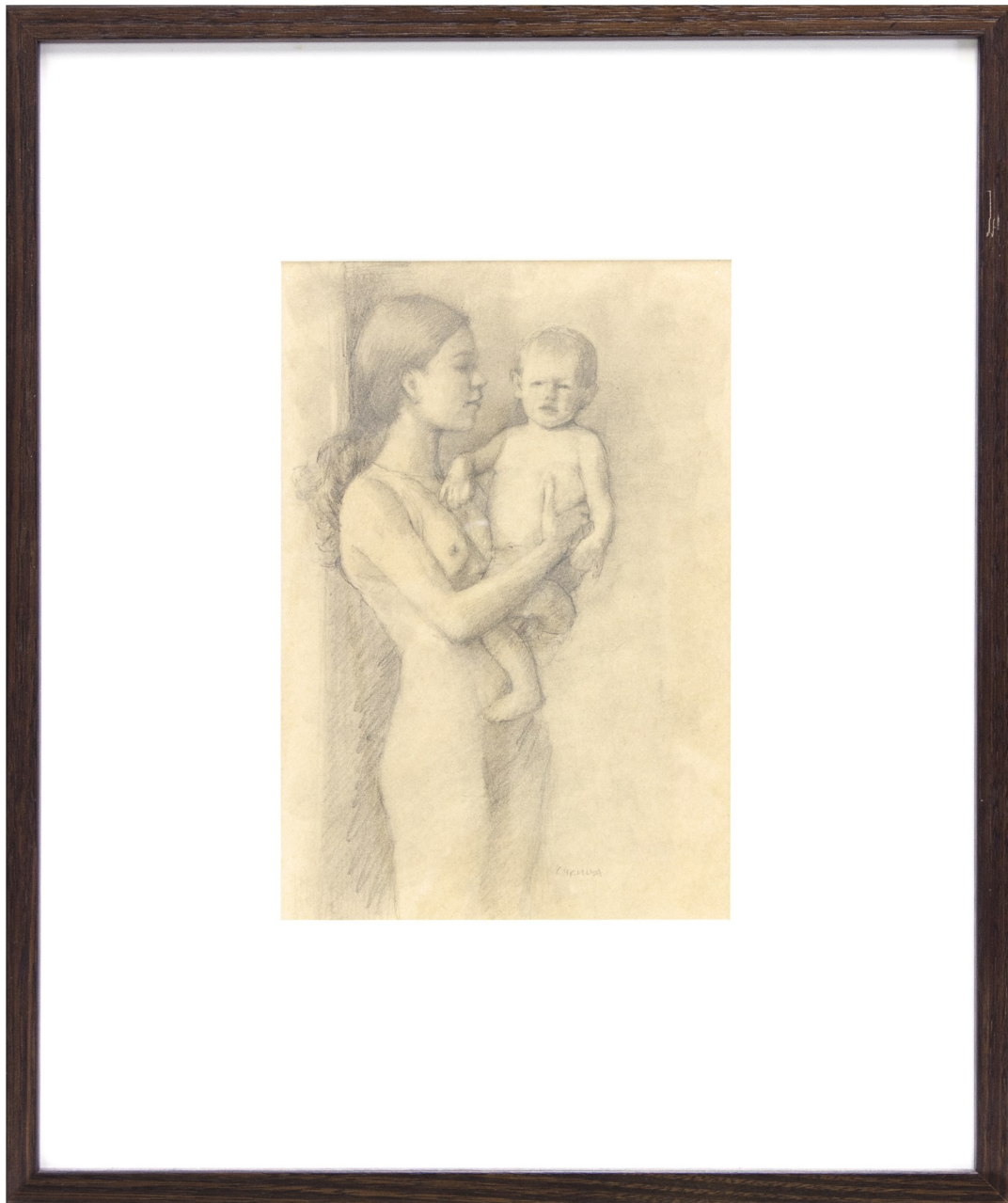
\$20 entry

Doors open from 7 pm

Dinner is available till 9 pm and drinks at club prices.

<http://knoxclub.com.au/>
www.fan.org.au

Knox Club: 480 Boronia Road, Wantirna South



'The Strongest Bond 2'—Donated by Dagmar Cyrulla

Life Skills Program

BBQ in the Park

Life Skills Program will be hosting a Client/Staff BBQ in celebration of National Youth Week on April the 12th from 1.30pm at Surry Park. We invite all clients to come and celebrate with us and enjoy a delicious free BBQ and drinks, feel free to bring some bird seeds to feed the ducks! Please RSVP to Beck on 9890 2673 or alternatively via email rgranata@fan.org.au by 31st March 2017.

Young Mums Group (YMG)

Hello All, we would like to wish all our little ones starting kinder and primary school in 2017 a happy and adventurous year ahead. We sure are sad to see you go but so proud of all your achievements. This means that we have many openings at Young Mums Group, so if you or anybody you know are interested please call us on 9890 2673.

Eastern Diversity Group (EDG)

EDG reopened on Feb 2nd 2017 and it was great to see all those familiar faces again. We have lots planned for the year ahead and accept referrals all year long, so if you know of anybody that might be interested please feel free to call us on 9890 2673.





Welcome and congratulations to Sasha for becoming a FAN Volunteer and Lead Tenant, we can't wait to work with you during the coming months and I am sure you will excel within this role.

A special thanks to all our Volunteers that are with us in 2017

You never know who might be interested in giving back to their community so it's worth spreading the word; we would like to bring to your attention the current Volunteer Vacancies;

CHILD PLAY SUPERVISORS

Child Play Supervisors engage in a range of child friendly, age appropriate activities with children while their parents attend appointments, meet with Support Workers or participate in workshops attached to various FAN Programs.

VOLUNTEER MENTORS

The aim of the Volunteer Mentor is to act as a neutral and consistent role model and provide friendship and support (on a one to one basis) to a young person between the ages of 15-25 years. Mentors and young people meet on a weekly basis – at a time and place that is mutually agreed - and engage in a range of low cost activities that build positive adult relationships and community connection.

LEAD TENANT

FAN is currently seeking to engage a Lead Tenant aged 21 or over to assist us to support three young people in a shared living house. This is a voluntary live-in position that involves a 12 month commitment in exchange for rent free accommodation. You will have your own bedroom and bathroom.

The Lead Tenant is required, in liaison with the agency, to ensure that house rules are maintained. The Lead Tenant is not a professional support role but rather a positive role model living in a shared property. The Lead Tenant would pay for their own food and cleaning products, utility bills are approx. \$27.00 per week.

Ideally suited to someone who is interested in, or actively studying, in the Human Services Field. This position offers ongoing training and support. The purpose of the position is to act as a role model for young people to help them to live and share in independent accommodation.

If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a Volunteer at Family Access

Network please call Beck on 9890 2673 or alternatively you can email rgranata@fan.org.au

The Homelessness Support Services (HSS) team have been enjoying welcoming and getting to know a gamut of new young people over the past few months. In saying that, the team is (sadly) saying goodbye to a number of young people who have (happily) accepted positions at Universities – even interstate! Congratulations to them and all the best for their studies!

The HSS team were recently lucky enough to be granted much needed funding from the

Sydney Myer Fund. This funding will be important in assisting young people to move into their long-term housing options, particularly those that are unable to be assisted by the Private Rental Brokerage Program and Housing Establishment Fund funding.

The Same Sex Attracted, Transgender and Intersex (SSATI) properties are currently full, so the waiting list is well and truly back up and running.

Creating Connections Private Rental Brokerage Program

With the Creating Connections Private Rental Brokerage Program (PRBP) coming up to its 10th year it is important to reflect on the incredible achievements of this program and its significance in the homelessness service system and the young people which it assists. From 2007 the PRBP has supported a total of **649 young people** and **130 children** almost doubling its funded targets. The ranges of services offered to young people through the PRBP include skills based education around the private rental market and flexible brokerage packages. These supports have proved crucial in assisting young people with accessing and maintaining housing in the private rental market and ending the cycle of youth homelessness. Our statistics show that approximately **80%** of young people who are supported by the PRBP and access private rental housing continue to maintain their rental property one year after being supported by

the PRBP and not re-entering the homelessness service system. With the high number of young people the program supports and its success in assisting these young people in breaking their experience of homelessness the private rental program plays a crucial and significant role in the homelessness service sector. My hope is that the PRBP continues to exist well into the future and continues to positively impact young people.

If anyone has any enquires in regards to the Creating Connections Private Rental Brokerage Program and the workshops please contact Oriana on 9890 2673.



Childrens Program

Are you a young parent and interested in doing a VCAL program? Enrolments have commenced for the Young Mums VCAL program which is being run in partnership with the Gateway LLEN and Box Hill TAFE. Foundation, Intermediate & Senior VCAL levels are being offered. It can be completed 100% online or as a combination of online and class time. Specifically relevant to young parents, iVCAL can be fully individualised to each student and can be tailored to multiple learning options e.g. one learning outcome, one unit, full program etc. If you are interested or want more information contact either Michelle or Beck on 9890 2673



National Youth Week 31 March—9 April

National Volunteer Week 8-14 May

IDAHOT DAY 17 May

IDAHOT DAY

“International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia”
17th May

‘For the past two years I have passed out information about IDAHOT day to the local community in Box Hill to spread the word about homophobia, Transphobia and biphobia.

IDAHOT is something that I can be proud of who I am, and it is a day were homophobia, transphobia and biphobia can come to an end. I would love you see your posts on social media accounts, with the hashtag #IDAHOT’

- Justin Bonney EDG



National Youth Week is an annual, week-long celebration of young people (aged 12–25) throughout Australia.



To celebrate National Youth Week we are holding a BBQ for our young people on Wednesday 12 April. Please see page 6 for details.



Easter is quickly approaching. On behalf of FAN and staff we wish you all a very happy and safe Easter

Thankyou to our supporters

Thank you all on behalf of all FAN's young people and accompanying children

| | |
|---|---|
| Anglican Parish of Box Hill | Allan Rogerson |
| Austbrokers Countrywide (Staff) | Alan Nield |
| Canterbury Council of Churches | Brett Philipp and Band (5 Shades of Grey) |
| City of Whitehorse | Carmel, Georgia and Christina Theodoris |
| Department of Health and Human Services | Caroline Symington |
| Eastlink Flowers | Colin Bellis |
| Federal DHHS (Centrelink) | Dagmar Cyrulla |
| Gandel Philanthropy | David Burlew and Band (Max Zero) |
| Harcourts Foundation | David MacKenzie |
| Kevcom | Debby Blakey |
| Kogo | Grace West-Thompson |
| Lions Club of Box Hill | Genevieve Allan |
| Melbourne Women's Fund | Jasmine Nilon |
| Orcadia foundation - Caroline and Derek Young | Jen Briscoe |
| PostNet Hawthorn | Jose Abalo |
| RACV Foundation | Kelly Rafferty |
| Ringwood Magistrates Court | Luke Kowald |
| Salvocare Eastern | Margaret Ogilvie |
| Share the Dignity | Natalie Falzon |
| St Dominic's Parish, East Camberwell | Paul Linossier |
| St Kilda Mums | Rachel Porter |
| St Peter's Mothers Union, Box Hill | Richard Drennan in Memory of Leo Clareborough |
| Sydney Myer Fund | Ronda Jacobs |
| Telstra Kids Fund | Rose West-Thompson |
| The Allanah and Madeline Foundation | S Fong |
| The Jack Brockoff Foundation Ltd | |
| The Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation | |
| The Whitelion Foundation | |
| Westpac Foundation | |
| Youth ConneXions—Whitehorse City Council | |

Contact Us

Visit us: 1030 Whitehorse Rd, Box Hill

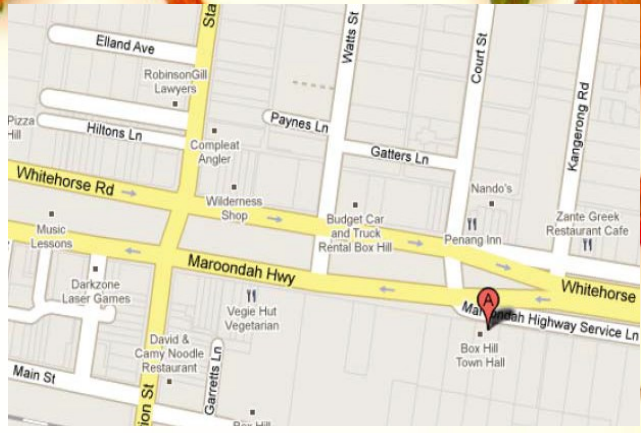
Mail: PO BOX 141, Box Hill, VIC 3128

P: (03) 9890 2673

F: (03) 9890 9919

E: fan@fan.org.au

W: www.fan.org.au



Useful Contact Numbers

| Housing Assistance | | |
|--|----------|---------------|
| Eastern Region Opening Doors | | 1800 825 955 |
| Melbourne City Mission Youth Support | | 9614 3688 |
| Crisis Counselling | | |
| Lifeline – 24hrs | | 13 11 14 |
| Suicide Helpline- 24hrs | | 1300 651 251 |
| Kids Help Line – 24hrs | | 1800 551 800 |
| Mens Line | | 1300 789 978 |
| Parentline | | 13 22 89 |
| Sexual Assault | | |
| Eastern CASA | | 9895 3281 |
| Sexual Assault Crisis Line | | 1800 806 292 |
| Health | | |
| Family Planning Victoria | | 9257 0100 |
| Maternal & Child Health line | | 13 22 29 |
| Nurse On Call – 24hrs | | 1300 60 60 24 |
| Domestic Violence | | |
| Safe Steps Family Violence Response Centre | | 1800 015 188 |
| Eastern Domestic Violence Service (EDVOS) | | 9259 4200 |
| Child Abuse | | |
| Child Protection Crisis Line | | 13 12 78 |
| Child Abuse Prevention Services | | 1800 688 009 |
| Legal Aid | | |
| Eastern Community Legal Centre | Box Hill | 9285 4822 |
| | Boronia | 9762 6235 |
| Alcohol & Drugs | | |
| Direct Line 24hrs | | 1800 888 236 |
| Youth Substance Abuse Services – 24hrs | | 1800 458 685 |
| Eastern Drug & Alcohol Services | | 1300 650 705 |
| Sexuality & Gender Identity | | |
| Gay and Lesbian Switchboard | | 9663 2939 |
| Transgender Victoria | | 9517 6613 |



Community Award
FINALIST 2014