

mini MICAH

December 2007

Hello, and welcome to *mini MICAH*.

What's been happening

- Γ Shekinah Homeless Services held their annual Community Ball on Friday 16th November at Collingwood Town Hall. A great night was had by all who attended.
- Γ Saturday was World AIDS Day and today is International Day of Disabled Persons..
- Γ Centacare Ballarat is celebrating 30 years of service provision to the communities of Western Victoria, Sunraysia and South West Victoria. Celebrations kicked off at the end of November in Mildura with over 250 people attending a street party with sausage sizzle, face painting, jumping castle, balloons, clowns and local indigenous dancers from the Barkindji People. Congratulations to David Beaver and all at Centacare Ballarat.
- Γ On Monday 12th November CSSV, in conjunction with Melbourne Catholic Commission for Justice Development and Peace and the Victorian Council of Churches, launched *Nuclear Power: cure or curse? A discussion paper*. Professor Joe Camilleri launched the discussion paper at the Thomas Carr Centre in East Melbourne.
- Γ A new book entitled *Love and Politics. The Revolutionary Frederic Ozanam* written by John Honner, is available from St Vincent de Paul Society.

What's coming up

- Γ Monday 10th December is Human Rights Day and Tuesday 18th December is International Migrants Day
- Γ On December 21st, St Mary's House of Welcome will hold its community Christmas Lunch for their regular visitors. Over 200 traditional roast lunches will be served, with a host of festive activities including the St Carthages Choir singing Christmas carols plus a visit from Santa!
- Γ St Mary's House of Welcome would like to congratulate their valued volunteer receptionist Norma Rainsford on receiving the Barb O'Shea Award for voluntary community service in the City of Yarra.
- Γ Mercy Care has a Christmas card fundraiser. A pack of ten cards will cost you \$15 with money going to help victims of domestic violence. For further information please email mercy@bigpond.com

Who am I?

Each issue, we profile someone in the CSSV community. In this issue, we hear from Julie-Anne Ryan rsm.

Q: Julie please tell us about where you work and what you do.

I am a Sister of Mercy and am the Coordinator at Mercy Care, crisis accommodation for woman and their accompanying children seeking a safe place from family violence. Mercy Care is a ministry of the Sisters of Mercy.

Q: Has something interesting or funny happened at your work recently?

On November 21st a group of us from Mercy Care attend Christmas at the Langham Hotel as invited guests. James Hird has nominated Mercy Care as his favourite Charity. Guests were encouraged to donate a gold coin for a piece of Christmas Cake - magnificent. It was a lovely evening and people were very interested to learn more about Mercy Care.

Q: Have you a piece of advice or words of encouragement that has helped you in life or work?

Not really. 'To your own self be true.' I normally try to give the very best I have to anything I do.

Q: How do you wind down or relax?

Read. Spend time with friends.

Q: Have you a particular role model?

I have a couple of Mercy Sister friends who are role models for me because they epitomise for me how I think Cathering McAuley the foundress of the Sisters of Mercy would have responded.

Send us your news – any information on what your agency is doing will be greatly appreciated.

mini MICAH thrives on news! Send your news, updates, and any items of interest to miniMICAH@css.org.au.

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