

mini MICAH

March 2007

Hello, and welcome to *mini MICAH*.

What's been happening

- Γ On Monday 19 February, CSSV hosted a briefing of ***Dropping off the Edge*** - a report on disadvantage in Australia - the first joint project of Catholic Social Services Australia and Jesuit Social Services. Fifty people came from both the Catholic and wider welfare sector to hear Professor Tony Vinson talk to the report.
- Γ The last ***Conversation in the Café*** was with Darren Andrews from Green Collect who talked with us about the environment and how we can all 'green' our workplace by employing sensible initiatives, such as turning off excess lighting, double-siding paper for printing, recycling etc... It was an informative morning with several people taking away some valuable insights and ideas.
- Γ On a sadder note for CSSV, our Executive Director, Patrick Gallagher has resigned. He leaves us to take up the position of Community Director at Corpus Christi Community. Whilst for us it's a huge loss, for Corpus Christi it's a huge gain - and he stays in the 'family'! Our thanks go to Patrick for all he's done for CSSV in his 2½ years with us and we wish him all the very best in his new role.
- Γ Jesuit Social Services two recent publications - *Not so Straight* (on same sex attracted students) and *Keeping them Connected* (students using illicit substances) are available from JSS - 9427 7388.

What's coming up

- Γ CSSV Annual General Meeting will be held this year on 21 March at 12.00noon preceded by Mass at 10.30am and followed by a yummy lunch at 1.00pm. Invitations will be sent to all members and friends. If you have not received an invitation please consider yourself invited - you are most welcome to attend. We would be grateful if you would advise us for catering purposes on 9287 5566.
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- Γ This is a spot which could be filled by news from any one of our agencies. So please, if you have anything you'd like to share with the wider network, I'd love to hear from you.

Who am I?

Each issue, we profile someone in the CSSV community. In this issue, we hear from Cheryl Sullivan from Regina Coeli Community.

Q: Cheryl, please tell us about where you work and your role.

I am the Director at Regina Coeli Community. Regina Coeli provides residential services and Outreach Support to women who have been homeless. What this job entails - really a bit of everything that is the joy of working in a small organisation.

Q: Tell us something interesting or funny that has happened at your work recently?

Every day can bring interesting or funny events - but none that I can identify right now!

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

I have a scarf tied in a Darrell Lea Chocolate Worker type bow (for those who know what that is) over my desk. The story - About 10 years ago on a rough day, I confided to another staff member that if I could be a Darrell Lea Worker that might be a better job. The next day at a staff meeting she came in and tied the scarf with a bow around my neck. It was come with me ever since - the symbol - when things get tough, WORKING HERE IS MY DECISION.

Q: What do you do to wind down or relax?

Walk, gym, water aerobics, spend time with friends, good dinners - in general enjoy life.

Q: Have you a particular role model?

My mum - she would always face whatever was in front of her and believed that life is for LIVING.

Q: Which footy team do you support and why?

Essendon - through and through. We lived in Fletcher Street Essendon when I was a child and I have wonderful memories of Saturday afternoons listening to the roar of the crowd at Windy Hill. Carn the Bombers!! (We won't get the wooden spoon this year).

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.

Catholic Social Services Victoria

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mini MICAH is a monthly update for members of Catholic Social Services Victoria.

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