

Serving Communities with Courage and Compassion

26 – 28 February 2020
Melbourne

www.css.org.au | #ServingCommunities

CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

Session 1: Thursday 27 February 2020, 1:30pm – 3:00pm

1.1 Towards Treaties

Andrew Gardiner
John Lochowiak
John Warhurst (Chair)

Australia is the only first world nation with a colonial history that does not recognize its First People in its constitution. There are active movements across Australia to introduce treaties to our society. This workshop will explore the role of treaty in recasting relationships between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Australians and will explore the background and current moves towards treaties in South Australia and in Victoria. Aboriginal speakers will share about the significance of treaty and in a participative forum, enter into dialogue around using the treaty process too advance relations between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Australians.

1.2 Respectful, Impactful Formation for Mission

Linda di Sipio
Sarah-Jane Grove
Lisa McDonald
Gabrielle McMullen (Chair)

This workshop will respond to the mission imperative to offer engaging, inspiring, meaningful formation experiences for a large and diverse staff group. The workshop itself will provide a hands-on formation experience, the elements of which will then be unpacked in order to understand the preparation and intention. Participants will share stories, learn from each other and walk away with an increased understanding of how material can be adapted to diverse groups.

1.3 The Centrality and Challenge of Child Safety

Maria Harries
Robyn Miller
Camilla Rowland (Chair)

This workshop will reflect on recent learnings about building a community that is safe for children, in the community at large, and within Church institutions. Participants will be exposed to current knowledge on building child safe environments and will be able to share their own experience. The forum will benefit from the experience and wisdom of all participants.

1.4 Restorative Justice: Signs of Hope

Deanna Davis (Chair)
Genevieve Higgins
Clint Wardle

Restorative justice is a way in which we can rebuild lives and build safer communities. This workshop will model restorative justice practices and highlight first-hand experiences, with a view to sharing of insights from workshop participants.

Serving Communities with Courage and Compassion

1.5 Developing Housing or Creating a Community?

Jack de Groot
Netty Horton (Chair)
Tony Nicholson
Sally-Anne Petrie

Catholic social services provide a range of innovative housing programs to assist those without housing. This workshop will highlight some of those initiatives.

1.6 Domestic Violence: Awareness, Prevention and Progress

Janene Evans
Lisa Foliaki
Sr Cabrini Makasiale
Hamish Mephram
Felicity Rorke (Chair)
Michael Tonks

This workshop will present an overview of the impact of the Victorian family violence reforms – both the positive and negative aspects. It will also present a couple of service delivery programs from our Catholic social services colleagues in New Zealand, which are effectively responding to certain family violence issues. There will be an opportunity for participants to consider some live case scenarios in order to consider the complexities and diversity of possible responses.

Session 2: Thursday 27 February 2020, 3:30pm – 5:00pm

2.1 Our Culture is our Sanctuary: Trauma-informed Practice from an Aboriginal Perspective

Jenny Glare (Chair)
Esmail Manahan

This workshop aims to give participants an understanding of the importance of culturally sensitive trauma informed practice and how existing models of practice can be adapted to ensure they include a commitment to Aboriginal cultural perspectives.

2.2 Governance for Mission

Katherine Juric
Gabrielle McMullen (Chair)
John Warhurst

Drawing on governance experience, this workshop will demonstrate the scope and significance of governance and will engage and challenge Catholic leaders and prospective leaders. Principles of good governance will be discussed as well as some of the risks and dangers in practice. Particular emphasis will be placed on addressing governance in the complex Catholic setting, which includes a variety of disparate entities and where lines of responsibility can be complicated.

Serving Communities with Courage and Compassion

2.3 The Mission Alive in Regional and Rural Communities

Meagan Giddy
Michael King (Chair)
Rhonda Lawson-Street
Maryanne Stivactas

This workshop will provide insights into how particular regional and rural communities are addressing drought-related issues through social services. Program case studies will be presented, and participants will be able to identify the various roles that can be adopted in order to effectively respond and contribute to drought-affected areas.

2.4 Eco-Justice: The Cry of the Earth and the Cry of the Poor are One

Andrew Hamilton SJ
Bernard Holland (Chair)
Bronwyn Lay

This workshop will explore how we can strategically prepare for climate change and ecological harms which are already impacting in a variety of ways on the most marginalized in our society. There is much work being done by different organisations and advocates in this area, so it is important to come together and explore the different variants of ecological justice and begin to define a common vision going forward for the Catholic social services sector.

2.5 Parishes as an Integral Part of Social Services

Alana Crouch
Denis Fitzgerald (Chair)
Cathy Hammond
Mark Phillips

There is a richness of depth and diversity in the role parishes can play as providers of services to the community, and on mutual support between parishes and social service agencies. The speakers will present on a number of vibrant examples of current practice, with input invited from workshop participants of their experience and wisdom.

2.6 Advancing Dignity and Equality within the Framework of the NDIS

Helen Burt
Tony Hollamby (Chair)
Anne Kirwan

Disability services in Australia are undergoing tumultuous change with major implications for people with disability, service providers and members of the community. This workshop will draw on the lived experienced and perspective of participants and service providers. It will explore how we can work together to ensure the dignity and wellbeing of people with disability can be kept to the fore.

If you have any enquiries about the workshops, please contact Lucia Brick:

Email lucia.brick@css.org.au or call (03) 9287 5570.

www.css.org.au/Serving-Communities