



# Wimmera Primary Care Partnership

## JOB VACANCY - CONNECTINGCARE.COM

**Executive Officer**  
15.2 hours per week

The Connectingcare.com system is a web based messaging and information system that support the primary care sector, predominantly via participating Primary Care Partnerships. There are currently 19 PCP's that subscribe to Connectingcare.com.

We are seeking a highly motivated and dynamic person to fill the role of Executive Officer in an ongoing part-time position. The role will support the Connectingcare.com User Group and Strategic Group. You will be responsible for project management, strategic recommendations, and increased participation. The role will also be required to manage budget and review the business model to ensure sustainability.

The successful applicant will have proven project management experience, knowledge of the current IT environment and understanding of the functions of Connectingcare, DHS Health SMART, and the PCP Service Coordination Strategy - as well as the broader eHealth directions recommended by NeHTA and others.

You will require excellent written and verbal communication skills. Previous experience in the provision of IT related training is required.

For a position description telephone Simon d'Orsogna on 0418 321 254 or email [simon@connectingcare.com](mailto:simon@connectingcare.com)

Applications for these positions are preferred to have a current Victorian Driver's licence. The position is subject to a satisfactory police check.

Expressions of interest for this position close 4pm Friday 15th February 2008.

## NHILL DROUGHT RESOURCE CENTRE

The Nhill Drought Resource Centre has opened it's doors again for the year... and would love any donations of good quality stuff - clothing, shoes, belts, bags etc.

Items can be delivered to the centre directly or if you would like more information please email [pmccracken@wwhs.net.au](mailto:pmccracken@wwhs.net.au)

### Meet Our Members

- Access For All Abilities 
- Community AXIS 
- Dunmunkle Health Services 
- Edenhope & District Memorial Hospital 
- Goolum Goolum Aboriginal Co-Operative 
- E.W.TIPPING FOUNDATION 
- Grampians Community Health Centre 
- Harrow Bush Nursing Centre 
- Hindmarsh Shire Council 
- Horsham Rural City Council 
- Horsham Regional Arts Association 
- Salvation Army Family Services 
- Karkana Support Services 
- Rural Northwest Health 
- Murtoa & District Neighbourhood House 
- University of Ballarat 
- WestVic Division of General Practice 
- West Wimmera Health Service 
- West Wimmera Shire Council 
- Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN 
- Wimmera Regional Sports Assembly 
- Wimmera Uniting Care 

-  Wimmera Health Care Group
-  YMCA, Horsham
-  Womens Health Grampians
-  Wimmera Hearing Society
-  Wimmera Volunteers
-  Hopetoun & District Neighbourhood House
-  Yarriambiack Shire Council

## VICTORIA LEGAL AID - WIMMERA

### Do you need legal help?

The legal advice that Victoria Legal Aid may help you with is:

- Criminal law.
- Family breakdown.
- Family violence.
- Civil law matters.

The Wimmera regional office provides to the community a range of free services. These are:

#### Advice services:

- Monday to Friday business hours by appointment.
- Outreach advice services at Ararat, Edenhope, Hopetoun, Nhill, St Arnaud and Stawell.
- Prison advice services at Ararat Prison each fortnight.

#### Duty lawyer services:

- Including advice and representation in summary and indictable criminal matters and Family violence matters, at Ararat, Edenhope, Hopetoun, Horsham, Nhill, St Arnaud and Stawell Magistrates' Courts.
- Children's Court, both the Family and Criminal divisions.
- Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal in residential tenancies and guardianship and administration matters.

#### Mental Health Review Board:

- Horsham and Ballarat for clients subject to community treatment orders or involuntary treatment in hospital.

#### Casework:

- For most criminal, family and civil law matters that are eligible for a grant of legal assistance (including public interest casework, such as a case that is testing an area of law covered by legal aid).

#### Community legal education:

- Including workshops and seminars by arrangement, for community workers, schools, client groups covering any relevant legal topics.

For more information visit Victoria Legal Aid: Horsham Office at 29 Darlot Street, or phone them on (03) 5381 6000 or 1800 177 638. They can also be contacted via email at [horsham@vla.vic.gov.au](mailto:horsham@vla.vic.gov.au)

The Victoria Legal Aid: Horsham Office also run Free advice clinics every Thursday from 10am to 12.30pm, to book an appointment please contact the office as outline above.

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## GARDENING IN THE 'BIG DRY'

With guest presenter, Carolyn Blackman - Gardening Presenter on ABC 774,  
Saturday mornings with Tonya Roberts

**Friday 7th March 2008**

Balmoral Golf Club - 10am to 1pm, followed by lunch.  
Cost \$15 per person.

RSVP by 25th February 2008 to Southern Grampians & Glenelg PCP,  
Erin White on (03) 5551 8471 or email [erin.white@wdhs.net](mailto:erin.white@wdhs.net)

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## FUNDS TO ASSIST IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

The Department of Health and Ageing has provided the Mental Health Council of Australia with funds to assist in the development of the capacity of NGO mental health organisations and other organisations delivering services relating to mental health.

There are two opportunities:

- One-off grants of up to \$40, 000 for organisations working in: drug and alcohol rehabilitation, counseling, telephone help lines, family support services, men's services, asylum seeker support, eating disorders, suicide prevention and addiction. Grant application forms and info available at [www.mhca.org.au](http://www.mhca.org.au) from 1st February 2008.
- 14 free, full day workshops. Providers of mental health services can also attend the workshops around the country designed for building smarter and stronger not-for-profit organisation and also better projects. Workshops can be booked by contacting Rachelle Irving at [rachelle.irving@mhca.org.au](mailto:rachelle.irving@mhca.org.au) or phone (02) 6285 0812.

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## NHILL DUCK AND JAZZ FESTIVAL - FEB 15-17

As part of the celebrations there will be free music in the CBD on Friday night—with musicians playing in the beautifully restored Band Rotunda.

West Wimmera Health Service's Café - Oliver's will be open for the Friday evening - a la carte menu and BYO licence - in full view and ear shot of the celebrations across the street.

If you have a lazy weekend planned....not too many commitments, and looking for somewhere 'different' to go, then swing along to Nhill for dinner....or coffee and cake till late.

Better still, bring friends....you will all be made to feel most welcome.

For a full program please email [pmccracken@wwhs.net.au](mailto:pmccracken@wwhs.net.au)

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## GRAMPIANS HACC TRAINING

Interventions for frail clients; evidence, assessment and practical strategies to improve mobility.

Ballarat District Nursing & Healthcare  
 Wednesday February 13th from 2.45pm to 4.30pm  
 No charge - light refreshments on arrival

Presented by Janet Cobden, a physiotherapist with a passion for improving the mobility of older people through research, teaching and clinical practice. Janet has post-grad qualifications in Gerontology and Health Sciences, and currently works at Bendigo Health in the Transition Care and Post Acute Care Programs.

Janet's presentation at the 2007 Community Care Worker conference is repeated here for coordinators, nursing, assessment and allied health staff. The presentation includes:

- Current research findings on the effectiveness of interventions.
- Assessment for frailty and disability.
- Triggers for improving mobility.
- Practical applications and case studies.

For more information or to register please contact Karen Walsh on (03) 5334 1500 or email [hacked@bdnh.com.au](mailto:hacked@bdnh.com.au)

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## SHORT COURSE FOR CEO'S AND SENIOR MANAGERS PROMOTING MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

In recognition of the growing burden of mental illnesses and the need to look for new ways of promoting mental health in communities, a new initiative has been designed by VicHealth and Deakin University and is funded by Department of Human Services as part of their Drought Strategy.

The Short Course for Chief Executive Officers and Senior Managers in Promoting Mental Health and Wellbeing is a four hour professional course. It has been specifically developed for CEO's and Senior Managers from a range of sectors including health, education, sport, arts, justice, health, housing, community and local government. Given the ever-evolving policy environment surrounding health and the role of different sectors in this, it is critical that Senior Managers and CEO's have a clear understanding of the contribution their organisation and community can and do make to this agenda.

### Attendee's will:

- Be introduced to some of the factors which influence mental health and wellbeing in communities.
- Learn more about the policy context for mental health promotion across different sectors in Victoria.
- Receive a series of good practice case studies which illustrate the issues integral to mental health and wellbeing work in the communities.
- Identify the reorientation of services necessary to address the range of factors that impact on the mental health of communities.
- Address organisational characteristics that support effective mental health promotion practice.
- Identify and explore key elements of organisational change that will facilitate mental health promotion.
- Plan for advocacy that will be needed to ensure that their organisations and their communities are in a position to be able to take advantage of the evolving policy context around promoting mental health.

Date: Monday 17th March 2008  
 Time: 9am to 1.30pm (registration at 8.45am)  
 Venue: Conference Room—Ballarat Learning Exchange  
 36 Camp Street, Ballarat

To register for the course please contact Cassie Nicholls at VicHealth on (03) 9667 1317 or email [cnicholls@vichealth.vic.gov.au](mailto:cnicholls@vichealth.vic.gov.au)

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## MORE GRAMPIANS HACC TRAINING

Identifying and planning assistance for home-based adults who are nutritionally at risk.

Thursday 13th March from 9.30am to 4pm  
 Grains Innovation Centre, Natimuk Road Horsham  
 No charge. Full catering provided.

Presented by Fiona McLean - Senior Dietician, Ballarat Health Services. The training is based on the resource manual produced by the HACC program which includes:

- Nutritional risk screening and monitoring.
- Nutrition and health issues including wound healing, oral health.
- Assessment of food and nutrition issues.
- Dietary principles and problems.
- How dieticians can assist.

Suitable for coordinators, assessment workers, allied health and district nurses from all HACC services, including food services. Experienced staff will benefit as well as newer staff.

For more information or to register please contact Karen Walsh on (03) 5334 1500 or email [hacked@bdnh.com.au](mailto:hacked@bdnh.com.au)

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## LIFE BEGINS AT MENOPAUSE?

Join women across Australia in a free online community webcast on:  
Wednesday 5th March 2008 at 7.30pm AEDT

Hear the latest about menopause symptoms, herbal, hormone and lifestyle options, emotional health and libido issues from leading Australian experts. Opportunity to ask questions.

### Speakers:

Dr Elizabeth Farrell - gynecologist  
Dr Mandy Deeks - psychologist  
Ms Sandra Villella—Naturopath

Registration essential: go to [www.jeanhailes.org.au](http://www.jeanhailes.org.au) now to secure your place in this national community webcast.

For further information please contact the Jean Hailes Foundation for Women's Health  
tollfree on 1800 151 441

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## ENGAGING CALD COMMUNITIES THROUGH ARTS AND CULTURE

### Workshop and Showcase

Facilitated by Dr Megan Evans

#### About the Workshop

This workshop will assist participants to look at synergies between health promotion and culturally diverse communities and how to utilise arts and cultural expression to engage culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

At the end of this workshop participants will be able to:

- Identify the connections between art and well-being.
- Understand how to develop art projects with CALD communities.
- Explore examples of community cultural development practice within a health context.

#### About the Show Case Sessions

This session will show case three good practice models around engaging CALD communities through arts and culture, from the following organisations:

- Multicultural Health and Support Services.
- Multicultural Arts Victoria.
- North Richmond Community Health Centre.

Date: Wednesday 20th February 2008  
Times: Workshop 9.15am to 1.30pm (lunch included, Showcase 2.00pm to 4.00pm)  
Venue: Centre for Culture Ethnicity and Health, 81–85 Barry Street Carlton  
Cost: Workshop: \$120, Showcase \$20

Bookings or enquiries to [enquiries@ceh.org.au](mailto:enquiries@ceh.org.au) or phone (03) 9427 8766

Other workshops and showcases (for more information contact CEH as outlined above):

- Strengthening Language Services in Health and Community Organisations.
  - Working with CALD Communities on Issues Relating to BBV and STI
  - Engaging CALD Communities in Physical Activity
  - Culturally Inclusive Health Assessment
  - Planning and Delivering Culturally Appropriate Services for People with Disabilities
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## PRIMARY HEALTH WEEKLY BULLETIN - 31st JANUARY 2008

The latest edition of the Primary Health Weekly Bulletin is now available at:  
[www.dhs.vic.gov.au/rrhacs/ph\\_bulletin/bulletin310108.htm](http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/rrhacs/ph_bulletin/bulletin310108.htm)

In this edition:

- 4th Australasian Redesigning Health Care Summit.
- 2008 Loddon Mallee Allied Health Conference.
- Research to Practice Forum - Community Food Action

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### PERSONAL ALERT VICTORIA TRAINING - DHS

A training session highlighting the recent changes due to be implemented in April 2008 will be held on Wednesday 12th March, 2008 at Grains Innovation Park, Natimuk Road Horsham from 10am to 1.30pm.

Training will cover the background of the changes, revised eligibility criteria, the role of the assessor in assessment and prioritization, new assessment records, service linkages and service coordination.

RSVP and inquiries to Helen Dickson at [Helen.Dickson@dhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:Helen.Dickson@dhs.vic.gov.au)

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### COUNTRY ACTION GRANT SCHEME

Funding is available to increase the capacity of community sport and recreation organisations in rural and regional Victoria.

Grants of up to \$5,000 are available to improve operational effectiveness, improve skills of club members and increase community participation. Further information and application forms are available at [www.grants.dvc.vic.gov.au](http://www.grants.dvc.vic.gov.au) Applications close 11th April 2008.

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#### FEEDBACK ON THE NEWSLETTER

This newsletter is intended to inform partners and community of a range of events and activities and news which may be relevant. In order to make this newsletter relevant and informative, it is important for the WPCP to receive your input and feedback. For example, have you found the newsletter useful? Do you have any suggestions for future editions? Please email, telephone or fax comments/suggestions or if you wish to unsubscribe to WPCP Admin.

Email: [pcpadmin@gchc.org.au](mailto:pcpadmin@gchc.org.au)

Telephone: (03) 5362 1222 Facsimile : (03) 5382 4687

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#### Wimmera PCP Diary Dates

##### February

1st	10am	Shared Interest	
13th	12.45pm	Chronic Disease Reference Group	
14th	TBA	PCP Executive Meeting	12.30pm HP Network Meeting

For further important dates please visit our website at  
[www.wimmerapcp.org.au](http://www.wimmerapcp.org.au)

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#### Wimmera Primary Care Partnership Office

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