



Channel 9 Telethon supports UnitingCare Wesley in 2010

UnitingCare Wesley is pleased to announce that it has been selected by Channel 9 Telethon to be supported in 2010.

This sponsorship will give UCW valuable television airtime to raise public awareness of our community work and seek public support for our organisation.

We will also soon be able to offer you the 'Take 9 Movie Card'. This card is amazing value! At only \$15, it gives you 2 movie tickets, 1 complimentary bag of Fruchocs plus entry to a further 9 movies for only \$9 a ticket. The card is valid at Wallis Cinemas for 12 months and will shortly be on sale through the Fundraising Department (phone 8202 5112). UCW will receive \$10 per card sold! (Why not think about a movie card as a great gift?). ■

Rural & Remote Services received two Aged Care Awards in October.

Two certificates were presented as part of the inaugural Port Augusta City Council Aged Care Awards to recognise the efforts of groups and individuals in the aged care field. Carers nominated UCW Adelaide for their Activity Group and other respite services.

The awards aim to raise the profile of people working in aged care and promote aged care as a career option. ■

Carers at Murray Mudge

Following a successful partnership between UCW Adelaide and UCW Port Adelaide providing traineeship opportunities for Indigenous people as Carers, Julie Colman, Director of Nursing and Manager at Murray Mudge Aged Care took on two Indigenous trainee Carers for work experience. CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE

Fostering Understanding



UnitingCare Wesley Adelaide CEO Sue Park, and Manager of Nunkuwarrin Yunti, Polly Sumner, signed a Memorandum of Understanding in December with the aim of increasing access for the Aboriginal community to a broader range of health care and community support services.

Both organisations have developed a strong working relationship to address the social injustices experienced by Aboriginal people through the past

policies, laws and practices in Australia, many of which have resulted in poor health outcomes for Aboriginal people.

The Memorandum will involve working together to improve access to the following services:

- Family Relationships and Family Therapy
- Counselling (Sexual Abuse / Family Violence/Financial)
- Gambling support
- Men's support groups
- Parenting and Youth programs
- Mental Health advocacy and support
- Homelessness programs

It was agreed to hold regular partnership meetings to discuss and share new ways of working that will benefit clients. Training opportunities for staff will be shared and there will be clear referral pathways between both organisations. ■

Women helping women

"Having a mentor....has helped me greatly when I fall back into self doubt she helps me get through this just by talking to her. It's great to have someone that listens....." Jane (July 2009)

The Family Violence Peer Mentoring Program began in September 2007, with the aim of linking women who have experienced domestic violence with other women who are newly identifying domestic violence in their relationship. The project aims to reduce isolation for these women and increase self-esteem and support.

The program was funded by UnitingCare Wesley Adelaide's new initiative grants for 2 years.



Merridy, Debbie, Tania, Meleta, Kaye and Sonja.



Sue Fuzzard, CEO Sue Park, and Lise Pitman present copy of DVD.

A series of DVD's was launched in December which explores mentoring and support, describes women's experience and understanding of Domestic Violence, and assists in staff training.

The mentors hope to have a role in providing more opportunity for training of staff/community awareness, and in informing men's workers and practice.

Clients can be linked to a mentor if they also attend UCW for counselling. The women's group DVD and promotional DVD is available for sale to organisations for \$15 each. To access any of the above services please contact Suzanne Fuzzard on 82025190.

FORSYTH FOUNDATION GRANTS

The annual Forsyth Foundation Grants were awarded in November at a ceremony at UnitingCare Wesley Adelaide by Rev. Peter McDonald.

Amongst the successful organisations were Good Beginnings Australia (pictured right are Melissa Sayer and Jessie Rees) which runs a community development program for children and parents in four schools across the Elizabeth area. Their project "The Gathering Place" for Indigenous families was awarded \$10,000.

The RSPCA's Anthea Uren (pictured) accepted a grant for the Yalata Dog Desexing Program project. The project will also provide veterinary care to community dogs and treat canine diseases that can be transferred to humans.



Other successful applicants included:

- the Elliston Massacre Aboriginal Reconciliation Project for the creation of an Aboriginal Reconciliation & Cultural Development Centre. This will feature a collection of early historical painted and photographic images and other cultural resources to facilitate a cultural reconnection of people to culture and country.
- Sparkling Diamonds Inc. whose project "Thunder to Blue Skies", is aimed at female African refugees, and will consist of a fully supervised homework club, a cooking club and netball.
- The Gay and Lesbian Community Services of SA Inc received a grant to improve and increase public awareness of available services. ■



Kuitpo Open Day

The staff and residents at Kuitpo Community (Residential Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitation) held their Annual Open Day in November. The weather was superb and staff and clients made sure the grounds and buildings looked picture perfect. (pictured)

The day was very well attended and guests enjoyed displays, live entertainment, food and refreshments, information about the various programs available and many friendly faces. Current and former residents were on hand to show people around the facility and talk about the programs in the beautiful country setting of Meadows.

NOTE: On an extremely hot day in January, declared as 'catastrophic' by the CFS, the residents and staff of Kuitpo were evacuated to the safety of Murray Mudge where this service continued until the fire danger passed. ■

Christmas Hamper & Toy Launch

The annual Christmas Hamper & Toy Appeal was launched by Minister for Community Services, Hon Jennifer Rankine in November.

This year's theme was "Everybody deserves a special Christmas" and as the Minister said in her speech "Christmas is the most significant family and community celebration in Australia".

Kym Just of the AMP Foundation presented UCW Adelaide's Corporate General Manager, Leigh Hall, with a cheque for \$10,000 in December. (pictured below).



Chair, CEO and Tracey at launch

The Christmas Hamper Appeal has raised \$58,897, plus in-kind support. This year proved a little harder to meet targets, however, we were able to provide 958 children three toys each (a total of 2,800 toys) and 1,500 food hampers.

Thank you to all our generous donors. ■

Australia Day Award Nominee

Rosemary McKenzie-Ferguson works as a cleaner at UCW Adelaide and was nominated for an Australia Day Award.

With a background in social work and as an injured worker, (prior to joining what was then Adelaide Central Mission and when support was limited), Rosemary is passionate about advocating on behalf of other injured workers around Australia and helping them understand their rights and responsibilities. She also co-ordinates with rehabilitation providers to find ways to return injured workers to the workforce. ■

Carers at Murray Mudge

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Julie has confirmed that the trainees (Tamara and Rebecca) finished their work experience in November and completed a 2 week work trial and are now both on the roster. After 15 months, they will be eligible to become permanent staff. ■

Throw in the towel!

Byron Place Community Centre is running short of towels again. Could anyone who has second hand towels (or new ones) that they don't need, please donate them to Byron Place. You can leave them at Byron Place Community Centre (61-67 Byron Place, Adelaide) or at the main desk at UCW in Pitt Street. **Thankyou.**

If you want your name added to or removed from the 'UnitingCare Wesley Adelaide Update' mailing list, contact Sue Francis, telephone 8202 5177, or email sue.francis@ucwesleyadelaide.org.au

For more information about stories or to provide feedback, contact Mark Henley, telephone 8202 5135, email mark.henley@ucwesleyadelaide.org.au or mail to 10 Pitt St, Adelaide.

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