

# SDOHA

## NEWS

22 January 2015

***Welcome to our first newsletter for the New Year – we hope you all had a restive holiday season and looking forward to a productive and healthy 2016.***

### **Items for Circulation from Members**

#### **SDOHA 2016 Meeting dates:**

Please pencil in the following tentative dates for 2016 SDOHA Member meetings:

18/19 March (TBC) – Parliament House Canberra

Thursday 9 June – Venue and topic to be advised.

Thursday 11 August - Venue and topic to be advised.

October – Anti – Poverty week oration

#### ***Evaluation of the “Preventing Aboriginal Maternal Smoking WA Portal” Project***

The Preventing Aboriginal Maternal Smoking WA online portal has been launched and we want YOU to be involved to help evaluate this exciting resource.

If you work with pregnant Aboriginal women, new mothers and their families in WA and/or work in a tobacco prevention role in WA we want YOUR input. Click [here](#) for further information

#### ***A toast to Marmot***

Sir Michael Marmot, 70, ranks among the Sydney Medical School’s most distinguished alumni. During an internship at RPA Peter Harvey, a chest physician, recommended he pursue a career in epidemiology because he ‘was asking too many awkward question’ ..... Click [here](#) for full article.

#### ***Grassroots to Government (MUP) – available 1 February***

On 1 February MUP will publish Grassroots to Government: Creating Joined-up Working in Australia by Gemma Carey.

Joined-up government has captured the imaginations of public administrators for many decades. It offers great promise for tackling the complex policy problems that concern governments of industrialised countries, yet there remains an absence of core methods and principles to make it work in practice.

Grassroots to Government is essential reading for anyone interested in designing, implementing and evaluating joined-up and whole-of-government initiatives, including: public service professionals, community sector practitioners, academics and students. Click [here](#) for further information.

#### ***7<sup>th</sup> National Health Reform Summit – 9 February, Canberra***

The Australian Health Care Reform Alliance (AHCRA) is holding the 7th National Health Reform Summit on 9 February 2016 at the Pavilion Hotel, Northbourne Avenue, Canberra.

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The Summit will focus on mental health and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health and will provide the opportunity for input from all participants to AHCRA's policy and advocacy work in 2016. Click [here](#) for further information.

### **Research Update – ICPS**

The Research Update aims to keep stakeholders informed about the projects we are undertaking. The December 2015 update provides information on the following current research projects:

- Managing Ethical Studies on Sensitive Issues (MESSI): Involving children in social research
  - kContact: Keeping contact between parents and children in care
  - Developing an understanding of how children understand and experience safety in institutions
  - Safe and Sounds: The safety of young people in residential care
  - Child Protection Practitioner Study
  - 'Growing our Spirit': Improving the evidence base for community-developed assessments of kinship carers of Aboriginal children
  - Evaluation of the Youth Hope Program
  - Building Capacity in Family Support Service: Provision of evaluative support services to FaC service providers
- Click [here](#) for full update.

### **Member events previously advertised:**

- [Addiction 2016 – Gold Coast - 18-20 May 2016](#)

### **News Items of Interest**

Media items of interest over the past week included:

#### **20 January 2016**

##### ***England's A&E crisis is fuelled by inequality (The Conversation)***

The poorest fifth of people in England not only have a lower life expectancy than the wealthiest fifth, they are also more likely to spend [more years in ill health](#) than the better-off fifth. Because their health is worse, the less well-off also make more use of NHS services – especially emergency services. This little acknowledged fact is fuelling the [A&E crisis](#) in England. Click [here](#) for full article.

#### **7 January 2016**

##### ***Why isn't learning about public health a larger part of becoming a doctor? (The Conversation)***

Chronic conditions, such as Type II diabetes and hypertension, account [for seven in 10 deaths](#) in the United States each year. And by some estimates, public health factors, such as the physical environment we live in, socioeconomic status and ability to access health services, determine 90% of our health. Biomedical sciences and actual medical care – the stuff doctors do – [determine the remaining 10%](#). Click [here](#) for full article.

#### **29 December 2015**

##### ***Health changes to see Tasmania lead by example (The Examiner)***

TASMANIA is uniquely positioned to create a streamlined health network encompassing all aspects of care, says the head of the state's primary health organisation. Primary Health Tasmania chief executive Phil Edmondson will lead the organisation through a process of significant change in 2016. Click [here](#) for full article.

#### **17 December 2015**

##### ***Mental Health and Work: Australia (OECD)***

This report on Australia is the ninth and last in a series of reports looking at how the broader education, health, social and labour market policy challenges identified in Sick on the Job? Myths and Realities

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about Mental Health and Work (OECD, 2012) are being tackled in a number of OECD countries. Click [here](#) for full report.

***Membership of SDOHA***

Membership pledges are for the 2015-16 financial year. For more information please contact Anne Brown on [accounts@phaa.net.au](mailto:accounts@phaa.net.au). Full membership is open to organisations that agree with the Alliance's purpose and principles; abide by the Alliance's terms of reference; and consistently and regularly attend Alliance meetings. Individuals can also be listed on the SDOHA website as supporters of the Alliance. Further information is available on the "Who We Are" page of the website at [www.socialdeterminants.org.au](http://www.socialdeterminants.org.au) .

***Invitation to contribute to the SDOHA Blog***

We are seeking Blog posts – to be published on the website - from member organisations, either commenting on key issues/current events or showcasing work that your organisation is undertaking in relation to the social determinants of health. Please forward Blog posts to Anne Brown, SDOHA Coordinator at [accounts@phaa.net.au](mailto:accounts@phaa.net.au) .