

November 2005

Information for Women

爲婦女提供的資訊
Thông tin dành cho Phụ nữ
معلومات للسيدات
Πληροφορίες για γυναίκες
Informazioni per le Donne
Informationen für Frauen

November - COURSES FOR WOMEN

Langford Aboriginal Association Inc (LAA): 1-29 November - Healthy Living. Try out reflexology and massage. **When:** Tuesdays 7-9pm. **Cost:** \$2 per session. **2-30 November - Moorditj Koortiny (Solid Going).** Basic computer training for Indigenous / non-Indigenous women. **When:** Wednesdays 10am-12noon. **Cost:** Free. **Both courses: Where:** Lot 180, Corner Imber Place & Imber Turn (Langford Kinky building), Langford. **Contact:** Cassandra 9451 1424, la54218@bigpond.net.au

2-6 November - INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP

International Leadership Association (ILA): 7th Annual Conference - 'Emergent Models of Global Leadership'. Shobhana Chakrabarti, WA Women's Fellowship recipient, will present her Leadership Model, 'Sangam', and participate in 'Conversations with the Author'. Keynote Speakers include Ms Sheikha Lubna Al Qasimi, Minister of Economy and Planning, United Arab Emirates. **Where:** Amsterdam, Netherlands. **Cost:** Varied, check website. **Contact:** ILA, University of Maryland, USA / ila@ila-net.org Information: www.academy.umd.edu/ila/Conferences/

2 November - WOMEN'S DINNER

Zonta Perth Northern Suburbs: Do You Desire to Make a Difference? Welcomes new members; professional, vibrant women looking for community projects to work on; good wine, food and friendship. Zonta funds health, economic and education projects in developing countries and locally. **When:** 6:30pm. **Where:** Rendezvous Observation City. **Contact:** Anita 9387 7428.

3-4 November - HEALTH CONFERENCE

Office of Aboriginal Health / Health Promotion Directorate: Aboriginal Health Promotion Conference 2005: Taking Control - Our Health, Our Future. Presentations on health promotion in Aboriginal health are to be shared with Indigenous health workers and other health professionals. **Where:** Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle. **When:** 3-4 November. **Contact:** Allison 9222 4481 / allison.bellottie@health.wa.gov.au

5 & 10 November - WORKSHOP & SEMINAR

Business and Professional Women, Fremantle: Enneagram Workshop. Learn skills for your workplace and personal growth. **When:** 5 Nov. 10am-12noon. **Where:** 3 Harris St, Palmyra. **Cost:** \$20 includes light lunch. **Business Seminar: Skills Development** plus one on one training & mentoring. **When:** 10 Nov. 8.15am-12noon. **Where:** Fremantle Sailing Club, Marine Tce, Fremantle. **Cost:** Free (value \$330). **Contact:** Alexia: 9386 8989.

5 November - HEARTSWIM

Heart Foundation: HeartSwim. A fitness and fundraising challenge. Get together a group of up to five and take the plunge. Teams are encouraged to organise fun activities to raise funds for the fight against heart disease. Great incentive prizes for highest fundraiser and more. **When:** 3-6 pm. **Where:** HeartSwim pool venues. **Cost:** \$10. **Contact:** Nicole 9382 5925.

8 November - CONFLICT & DIVORCE

Centrecare: Children, Conflict and Divorce - What You Should Know. For parents to support their children through separation and divorce. Understand children's reactions, the impact of parental conflict, and practical steps before, during and after separation. Latest research, for both parents. **Cost:** Free. **When:** 6.30-8.30pm. **Where:** Centrecare, 12 Brewer Place, Mirrabooka. **Contact:** Centrecare 9440 0400.

2 & 9 November - WORKSHOP & FORUM

Joondalup and Districts Domestic Violence Group: 2 Nov-Community Art Banner Project. No experience / skills needed, all welcome! The banners will raise awareness about domestic violence and promote services. **When:** 2-4pm. **Where:** Women's Healthworks, Lotteries House, 70 Davidson Tce, Joondalup. **Cost:** Free! **9 Nov-Annual Training Forum.** Develop skills in working with people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. For government / non-government community services. Speakers and discussion. **When:** 9am-5pm. **Where:** Joondalup Civic Centre, Joondalup Council Buildings, cnr Boas Ave & Davidson Tce. **Cost:** \$15. **Contact/RSVP:** Jann jddvg@inet.net.au / 9300 1566.

10 November - DINNER SEMINAR

Voice Interest & Education of Women (VIEW) Club: Alchemy and Essence. **Speaker:** Stella Barratt Pugh. The origins of perfume. **When:** 6.30pm. **Where:** Dianella Hotel, Dianella. **Cost:** \$20. **Contact:** Jacquie 9448 4591.

11 - 21 November - HEALTH SEMINARS

The Asthma Foundation of WA Inc: Do You Want to Know More About Asthma - Ask the Educator! For people with asthma, their family, carers or friends. Up-to-date information, skills and knowledge **Where/When:** **11 November** - Sir Charles Gardiner Hospital, G Block, 8th Floor Conference Room. 10am-12noon. 16 November - Bayswater Waves Leisure Centre, Cnr Broun Ave, Embleton. 6-8pm. **16 November** - Jess Thomas Child Health Centre, 29 March Street, Spearwood. 10am-12noon. **21 November** - Armadale Community Health Centre, 3056 Albany Highway, Armadale. 6.30-8.30pm. **Cost:** Free. Bookings essential. **RSVP/Contact:** Beth 9289 3643.

12 November - WORKSHOP

Adoption Research and Counselling Service: 'Minding' the Gap. An opportunity for those living with adoption to explore their own story and hear the experience of others. **When:** 9.30am-4.30pm. **Cost:** \$80 (\$40 for low income) includes lunch, morning and afternoon teas. **Where:** tba. **Contact:** ARCS 93704914 / arcs@adoptionwa.org.au

13 November - CONCERT & LUNCHEON

Polish Community Council of WA Inc: Poland's Independence Day & 25th Anniversary of the Polish Independent Trade Union "Solidarność" (Solidarity). An invitation to a concert to celebrate Poland's Independence Day 11 November and 25th Anniversary of the Polish Independent Trade Union "Solidarność". Followed by lunch at the Polish Centre, 33 Eighth Ave, Maylands. **When:** 11am. **Where:** Venville Centre, Eighth Ave, Maylands. **Cost:** Adults \$3 / under 16yrs free. **Contact:** 9271 2036.

19 November - ABORIGINAL CULTURAL CELEBRATION

Wardarnji Aboriginal Cultural Celebration Part of the Fremantle Festival, this one day event celebrates Aboriginal culture, with particular emphasis on highlighting the heritage of Fremantle through Noongar eyes. There will be various activities for children and adults including music, story telling, crafts, arts, games, food, information stalls and much more. **When:** 11am-5pm. **Where:** Fremantle Esplanade, Marine Parade, Fremantle. **Contact:** Sarina 9242 3733.

19 November - YOUTH CONCERT

The 2005 'Illuminating Rhythms FREE Youth Concert Part of the Fremantle Festival, this concert celebrates the talent and diversity of youth in Western Australia, with a line up including Scorpion and Switch, two young bands covering the genres of hip hop, easy listening and rock & roll. **When:** 5.30-7.30pm. **Where:** Fremantle Esplanade, Marine Parade, Fremantle. **Contact:** Sarina 9242 3733.

23 or 24 November - WOMEN'S EVENING

Hertme Occasions, Riverview Church: Companions, Choices & Christmas. Hundreds of women come together for an evening of atmosphere, life-coaching, and tips for your spirit, soul and body. Includes pre-event bubbly, juice, tea, coffee and muffin. **When:** 7.30-9.30pm. **Where:** Riverview Auditorium, 1 Thorogood St, Burswood. **Cost:** \$10. **Contact:** 9416 0080.

25 November - INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

25 November - 10 December - 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST GENDER VIOLENCE

Amnesty International WA / UNIFEM / Women's Council for Domestic & Family Violence Services (WA): Calendar. Symbolically linking the connections between women, violence and human rights. For an up-to-date schedule of events visit: www.amnesty.org.au/16days

17 November - SUNDOWNER & SEMINAR

Domestic Violence Advocacy Support Central (DVAS) / Edith Cowan University (ECU): Presentation of the findings of the ECU evaluation of DVAS Central by Dr Moira O'Connor and Dr Colleen Fisher. This presentation will focus on the benefits for clients of the co-located, multi-agency model. Presentation followed by Sundowner. **When:** 4-6pm. **Contact:** Chelsea 9226 2370 / chelseadvascentral@swiftdsl.com.au

21 November - CELEBRATION

DVACS @ Nardine Wimmin's Refuge: Morning Tea DVACS are celebrating their change of name (previously Outreach Support Service) and invite agency workers to hear more about this great service. Guest speakers, further information regarding service provision, and an opportunity to network. **When:** 10am-12pm. **Where:** Nardine Wimmin's Refuge. **Contact:** Gillian or Tori 9470 3628

25 November - 10 December - 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM

25 November is the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women and is the beginning of 16 Days of Activism, during which many events will take place highlighting the injustice of Violence Against Women, and concludes on 10 December, International Human Rights Day.

25 November - WHITE RIBBON DAY

A worldwide event organised by the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM). The wearing of a white ribbon is a symbol of men's opposition to men's violence against women. Wearing a white ribbon is a personal pledge that you do not condone violence against women and support community action to stop violence against women.

25 November - LAUNCH

Amnesty International / The Body Shop / Women's Council for Domestic & Family Violence Services (WA): White Ribbon Day Launch. Encouraging men to speak out in opposition to violence against women, and includes prominent males, Peter Bell from Fremantle Dockers, and male guest speakers, Damien Hart from the Department of Justice and David Cain from Communicare Breathing Space, as well as the distribution of white ribbons, brochures, pamphlets and handprint banner stamping. **When:** Main event-12-2pm. Handing out ribbons all morning. **Where:** Perth Cultural Centre. **Contact:** Amnesty International WA 9381 3200 / waaia@amnesty.org.au

25 November - PLEDGE

Australian Services Union (ASU): White Ribbon Day. All office workers will pledge their support on this day to raise awareness on the issue of violence against women. **Where:** ASU Office, 102 East Parade, East Perth.

25 November - WHITE RIBBON DAY COMPETITION

South West Refuge Inc: Corporate Golf / Luncheon. Corporate golf teams in Ambrose Golf Competition. Sponsorship of holes (contact Robin) to raise community awareness on the issue of domestic violence. '10th' hole at Capel Vale Winery. Celebrity sportspeople will be speaking out about domestic violence at the Corporate Lunch. **When/Where:** Golf Comp 8.30am-12.30pm at Capel Golf Club. **When/Where:** Corporate Lunch 1-3pm at Capel Vale Winery. **Cost:** \$55 includes competition, lunch and bus. **Contact:** Robin 9791 2894 after 28 September.

25 November - WHITE RIBBON SALE

Domestic Violence Legal Unit, Legal Aid WA: Sale of White Ribbons - Stop Violence Against Women. Proceeds donated to the Women's Council for Domestic and Family Violence Services (WA): White ribbons available for donation all day. **Where:** Legal Aid WA, 55 St Georges Terrace, Perth. **Contact:** Nawdy 9261 6320.

26 November - Pat Giles Centre: PICNIC

Family Day Picnic! Peaceful family picnic for Centre clients and supporters. **Where:** Pat Giles Centre.

27 November - BREAKFAST FORUM

Amnesty International WA, Mt Lawley Group: Men's Perspective of Gender Violence. **Guest Speaker:** David Cain, Communicare Breathing Space. The construction of masculinity, why men turn to violence, and how to engage men effectively in campaigns to stop violence against women. **When:** 27 November, 9-11.45am. **Where:** Maylands Sport & Recreation Centre, 50 Clarkson Rd, Maylands, on the river. **Contact:** Amnesty International Office WA - 9381 3200 or waaia@amnesty.org.au for more details.

1 December - CALD & INDIGENOUS WOMEN'S EXPERIENCE OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN FORUM

Amnesty International WA's Women's, Indigenous & African Groups: 'Untold Stories'. Women from Rwanda, The Democratic Republic of Congo, the Middle East and Indigenous Australian women, will speak about their personal stories of violence in the home, war and post-war. Part of Amnesty International's global priority campaign 'Stop Violence Against Women'. **When:** 1:30-4:30pm. **Where:** Curtin University City Campus, Cnr Pier & Murray St, Perth. **RSVP:** For catering and limited seats. **Contact:** Amnesty International WA 9381 3200 / waaia@amnesty.org.au

6 December - BREAKFAST

Women's Council for Domestic and Family Violence Services (WA) / Family and Domestic Violence Unit: Breakfast Seminar. **Guest Speaker:** Ellen Pence, Trainer, Domestic and Family Violence, Duluth, Minnesota USA. Instrumental in the development of the Domestic Abuse Intervention Program (DAIP) and the 'Power and Control Wheel', Duluth Model. Further details via Winfo Alerts. **Contact:** WCDFVS 9420 7264 / info@womenscouncil.com.au

7 December - PICNIC

Starick Services Inc: Picnic in the Park. To commemorate the victims of family and domestic violence. White Ribbons will be tied around trees. **When:** 11am-1pm. **Where:** Pioneer Park, Gosnells.

9 December - LUNCHEON PRESENTATION

Wyn Carr Women's Refuge: Nurturing Resilience - Wisdom from the Coal Face. Presentation of the initial findings of the worker resilience study, and luncheon. **When:** 12noon-2pm. **Where:** City West Lotteries House, 2 Delhi Street, West Perth. **Contact:** Lorraine 9430 5756.

10 December - HUMAN RIGHTS DAY EVENT

Amnesty International / Kulcha / Melville City Council: Celebration of Indigenous Human Rights Activists. This 'family fun day' event at Heathcote will include live music performances, information stalls, games for children, and a celebration of Indigenous Human Rights Activists. **When:** 3-6pm. **Where:** Heathcote. **Contact:** Amnesty International Office WA 9381 3200 or waaia@amnesty.org.au

contact details

26 November - AFTERNOON TEA

Papillon Support Group for Women: Christmas Breakup. **When:** 2pm. **Where:** Portofino's Restaurant, Hillarys. **Cost:** \$10 includes afternoon tea. **Contact:** Pat 9349 0841 / Christine 9296 1517.

27-30 November - CONGRESS

The 4th International Congress on Women, Work and Health (WWH-2005): Women and Development. **Where:** New Delhi, India. An opportunity for open, critical discussion of women's health, working and living conditions. For researchers, experts, practitioners, government, trade unions and volunteers. **Contact:** Congress Secretariat swl_10@rediffmail.com / Fx 91 11 2301 5307.

30 November - APPLICATIONS CLOSE

United Nations: Australian Youth Representative. Applications now open for 2006. The Youth Representative will be an accredited member of the 2006 Australian Delegation to the United Nations. UNYA facilitates the selection. Please promote this to your networks. **Applications:** www.unya.asn.au **Contact:** Ravi, National President UNYA president@unya.asn.au / 0411 277 764.

Please fax, mail or email your event details in 30 words or less by the 10th of the month prior to your event (non-government organisations only). For further information or a copy of WINFO telephone (08) 9264 1900, country freecall STD 1800 199 174, TTY available on these numbers, fax (08) 9264 1925, email wpo@dcd.wa.gov.au or view WINFO on-line at www.community.wa.gov.au/women. Postal address: 1st Floor, 141 St Georges Tce, PERTH WA 6000. This document is available on request in alternative formats such as large type, audio tape, computer disk and Braille.

The Office for Women's Policy, Department for Community Development, in no way endorses or recommends any events, agencies or services listed in this monthly calendar. For further information contact the event organisers directly.

THE OFFICE FOR WOMEN'S POLICY - ABOUT US

The Office for Women's Policy (OWP):

- gives advice to the Government on issues, programs and services which impact on women;
- supports women's groups and community organisations by providing funding, forums and information; and
- provides the Women's Information Service (WIS): a free, confidential telephone information and referral service.

Contact WIS Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm on 9264 1900. If an interpreter is required telephone the Translating and Interpreting Service on 13 14 50. For women who are deaf or have a hearing impairment call the National Relay Service on 13 36 77.

GREEK

ΤΟ ΓΡΑΦΕΙΟ ΠΟΛΙΤΙΚΗΣ ΓΥΝΑΙΚΩΝ (OFFICE FOR WOMEN'S POLICY) ΣΧΕΤΙΚΑ ΜΕ ΤΟ ΕΡΓΟ ΜΑΣ.

Το Γραφείο Πολιτικής Γυναικών (OWP):

- Δίνει συμβουλές στην Κυβέρνηση σε ζητήματα, προγράμματα και υπηρεσίες που έχουν επιπτώσεις για τις γυναίκες.
- υποστηρίζει γυναικείες ομάδες και κοινωνικές οργανώσεις παρέχοντας χρηματοδοτήσεις, φόρουμ (συνέδρια) και πληροφορίες και
- παρέχει Υπηρεσία Πληροφοριών για τις Γυναίκες (WIS): μια δωρεάν υπηρεσία παραπομπής και εμπιστευτικών πληροφοριών μέσω τηλεφώνου.

Επικοινωνήστε με την WIS από Δευτέρα σε Παρασκευή, 9π.μ. - 5π.μ. στο 9264 1900.

Αν χρειάζεστε διερμηνεία τηλεφωνήστε την Υπηρεσία Μετάφρασης και Διερμηνείας στο 13 14 50. Για γυναίκες που είναι κούφες ή έχουν εξασθενημένη ακοή καλέστε την Εθνική Υπηρεσία Αναμετάδοσης (National Relay Service) στο 13 36 77.

...is a monthly calendar of events by, for and about women. It is produced by the Women's Information Service (WIS) and is free to any group or individual.

November 2005

WIS

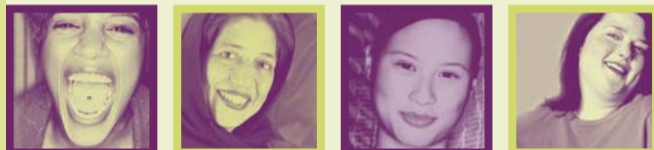
The Women's Information Service (WIS) is a free, confidential telephone referral service for all women in Western Australia, provided by the Office for Women's Policy.

Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm

(08) 9264 1900

or Country freecall STD 1800 199 174

TTY available on these numbers. If an interpreter is required telephone the Translating and Interpreting Service on 13 14 50 or the National Relay Service on 13 36 77.



THEME: OUR INSPIRATIONAL COMMUNITY WOMEN

Celebrating Outback Women The first Derby Women's Expo organised by Derby Womenshare was held on 20-21 August 2005. Womenshare began with a group of women coming together to share stories and ideas, who saw change in their communities and responded with imagination. They received a grant from the Office for Women's Policy which led to further sources of funding, sponsorship, public awareness and community contribution. The Expo featured: a video launch of 'Celebrating Women Living in the Outback', highlighting inspiring outback women; a bush meeting of Indigenous communities; and local markets. Other activities in the Expo included: an early morning bike-ride; sunrise yoga; motivational presentations by Maria Osman, Executive Director of Office for Women's Policy; and Karli Linnaker, Young Woman Living in the Kimberley; workshops; mini-markets display; and launch of the Derby Womenshare book. A special acknowledgement goes to Michelle Chafin from Savannaw Training Group, Mandy Gadson, coordinator of Wearable Art and dancing displays, Cath Rolston from West Kimberley TAFE, Sue Ferguson Hill from Derby Health, Bernadette Cuninan from Women's Health, Susan King from 'Humble Mud', Kay Few from the Shire of Derby, and many more local women who gave their time to help organise the first Derby Women's Expo.

Learning the Language Langford Aboriginal Association Inc (LAA) delivers programs by Aboriginal people for Aboriginal people. The delivery of life-long learning in the form of Adult Community Education programs is the primary focus of LAA at present, such as Noongar language, bootscouting, computer training, resume writing, art and crafts, as well as quilting. A financial literacy program for Aboriginal women will start shortly and provide women with the skill of 'learning the language of money'. More information can be obtained from Cassandra on 9451 1424 or email la54218@bigpond.net.au.

Aboriginal Grandparent Family Support Program The program assists Aboriginal grandmothers and their families in effecting change and solutions to family issues and caring for children. Aimed at improved access to information, advocacy, referral and support services. Activities include respite camps, pampering / self care, an Aboriginal playgroup, workshops for parents, and coffee morning craft groups. Professional networking is also offered as Indigenous workers can be isolated from peers. For more information please contact Chris, Averil, or Mercy on 9227 9032.

Women in the Noughties The City of Melville developed this open forum for young women aged 13-19 years, to share ideas, pressures and concerns about modern day living and their options for the future. The program used drama, music, art and craft, as well as massage, aromatherapy and belly dancing, and aimed to increase self-esteem, confidence and life-long skills in a safe environment. This forum was also a great developmental opportunity and a fabulous way to meet new friends. Currently being evaluated, it is anticipated that it will be conducted again in 2006. For more information contact Carly, Program Development Officer - Youth, on 9364 0662 or email ckroccek@melville.wa.gov.au

Community Events WA Council of Social Services Inc (WACOSS) has been involved in organising, with other non-government organisations, events for this years Anti-Poverty Week 16-22 October 2005. Events included: a community forum on poverty, an Ecumenical Service and a lunchtime forum about human rights & poverty. The main aim of Anti Poverty Week is to strengthen public understanding of the causes and consequences of poverty and hardship and encourage research, discussion and action to address these problems. Women are particularly vulnerable to living in poverty as they are more likely to be employed casually or part-time and are also more likely to head sole parent families. For more information please contact WACOSS on 9420 7222 or 1300 658 816 or visit www.wacoss.org.au

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Welcome to the November edition of Winfo which focuses on inspirational women within the community. The Office for Women's Policy (OWP) proudly works alongside ordinary and extraordinary women on a daily basis in both the non-government, government and business sectors, and recognises the vital contribution women make to society. As well as women taking on formal leadership positions, it is equally important that women's participation in informal, community leadership roles is acknowledged and valued. Women play a critical role in communities as change agents, championing the cause for access and equity.

OWP supports women's groups through a number of community engagement processes, particularly the Western Australian Women's Grants program, providing one-off grants for projects that advance the lives of women in Western Australia (WA). Projects are generally considered that can improve women's information, skills, relationships, knowledge and leadership capacity or help establish a new women's group or organisation. Projects that provide positive perceptions of women in the community are also welcome. Throughout the grant application process I am constantly inspired by the brilliant initiatives and sustainable projects women's groups develop to support the community. These projects often contribute to community capacity building by supporting and enhancing the strengths of the community and the individuals within them. The rich diversity of the women's groups involved in the grant programs are also important to note, including women from culturally and linguistically diverse communities, Indigenous women, lesbian women, young women, senior women, women with disabilities and women from rural, remote and regional areas.

Some of the grant projects which OWP have been pleased to support and involve the work of dedicated women include:

- **Healing Our Women** - The Emotional and Social Wellbeing Centre brought women from four Aboriginal communities, Tjuntjuntjarra, Coonana, Oak Valley and Yalata together, with support workers, to begin the healing process after trauma of loss through suicide. This event enabled the women to grieve and gain new strengths by meeting for traditional 'Women's Business'. Women participating in this initiative will now be able to pass their learning and new strengths on to other women.
- **Funding for women with disabilities** - In partnership with OWP, ACROD WA are administering pilot projects for women with disabilities. The object of the grants is to support disability service providers to develop or enhance their responsiveness to women with disabilities; and to support the development of policy around the provision of quality services to women with disabilities. Evaluation of these projects will be an important step in OWP's ongoing work in partnership with women with disabilities.
- **Ishar's Mirrabooka Carers' Conference** - Clients accessing Ishar Carer Support Programs are from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities, of which, 95% of the carers are women. This conference aimed to encourage CALD carers to come together and learn new ways of caring for their family members. The conference provided a supportive environment for the women to have a dialogue with service providers and to develop innovative ways of caring by combining both traditional and western models.

In other news, at the Commonwealth, States, Territories and New Zealand Ministers' Conference on the Status of Women (MINCO), held in Sydney in September, OWP was awarded a research grant to implement a national project on overseas qualification pathways for migrant women in the aged care industry. The research

will involve two states and will also run a pilot in WA. OWP will be project managing this research with the Department of Education and Training, Department of Health, industry partners, unions and other stakeholders. The outcomes of the research will contribute to the removal of inappropriate barriers to the employment of overseas trained nurses in the aged care industry, an area where there is significant skill shortages.

OWP has also recently provided input into the Department of Consumer and Employment Protection's (DOCEP) submission on the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission's discussion paper 'Striking the Balance: Women, Men, Work and Family'. This paper provides a comprehensive discussion of the challenges and barriers facing both women and men trying to balance their work and family lives. A summary of DOCEP's submission will soon be available on the Office for Women's Policy's website.

The Hon Minister Sheila McHale has recently extended the term of the Indigenous Women's Congress (IWC) for another year. The Office for Women's Policy would like to thank all the IWC members for their commitment and dedication during their time with IWC, especially during the recent development of the 'Indigenous Women's Report Card 2005 (Supplement to the Women's Report Card 2004)'.

Maria Osman
Executive Director

GENDER ANALYSIS

Gender equality will be achieved through an active approach to policy, legislation and planning, and with full community collaboration. The Office for Women's Policy has recently launched 'Gender Analysis: Making Policies, Programs and Services Gender-Aware'. This guide to gender analysis not only raises awareness of the gender equality issue but also offers clear and accessible information for applying gender analysis to policy, program and service design. To obtain a copy of the booklet contact the Women's Information Service on 1800 199 174 or 9264 1900.

VOLUNTEERS @ WIS

Volunteers@WIS is a new partnership program by OWP to enhance the delivery of vital information services to women in WA through WIS. Volunteers@WIS called for women who could support and champion the needs of women in WA and who were willing to be trained in providing referrals and information in areas such as relationships, domestic and family violence, health, parenting and legal issues. The training program will finish in late November and will have covered topics such as managing conflict, cross cultural communication, community agencies, and dealing with stress and health. For more information about becoming a volunteer, contact the Women's Information Service on 1800 199 174 or 9264 1900.

ON THE MOVE

The Office for Women's Policy are moving on 12 December 2005. The new address will be Level 7, Dumas House, 2 Havelock Street, WEST PERTH WA 6005. The new telephone numbers will be: Reception - 6217 8200 / Women's Information Service - 6217 8230 or Freecall 1800 199 174 (remains the same) / Fax - 9481 0411.

IT'S NOT TOO EARLY TO START PLANNING

International Women's Day (IWD) is held every year on 8 MARCH. It has been announced that women living in rural, remote and regional areas will be the Office for Women's Policy's theme for IWD in 2006. Look out for more information, including IWD resources, in the December 2005 Winfo.

Because I Care In WA, the majority of carers are women. Carers WA is a community based, not-for-profit organisation providing support and services to family carers. There are approximately 250,000 family carers in WA, equating to one in every five households. Services provided by Carer WA include information, resources, workshops, counselling, advocacy, representation, and social support. Carers WA recently published a collection of carer stories, poems, and art, titled 'Because I Care' - inspirational and uplifting stories, a fabulous gift - only \$10. If you would like a copy please call 1800 242 636. **Carer Awareness** Call for a FREE Carer Support Kit or other information. Contact Commonwealth Carer Resource Centre on 1800 242 636. **Young Carers Program** In WA there are over 39,000 young carers. This Program provides support for young carers aged 8 years to 26 years old. In August young carers sailed on the Duyfken. Carers WA are fundraising for a voyage on the Leeuwin in April 2006. For more information please call 9444 5922.

White Ribbon Day 25 November Men wear white ribbons on 25 November because they believe violence towards women is simply unacceptable. Visit www.whiteribbonday.org.au or download a form at www.whiteribbonday.org.au/order and fax to (03) 9894 4656. Events are being planned around the nation. For details / registration visit www.whiteribbonday.org.au/events. If you would like to organise your own White Ribbon Day event, contact Louisa at admin@unifem.org.au For White Ribbons visit www.whiteribbonday.org.au/ribbons or telephone Carolyn on (03) 9894 4616, or email ribbons@whiteribbonday.org.au For Sponsorship / Events / Enquiries: UNIFEM Australia on (02) 9247 8418, or email admin@unifem.org.au

The Spiritual Principle of Equality WA Baha'i Office of Equality's vision is to assist the Australian community to implement the spiritual principle of the equality of men and women. They provide support when requested, share information, disseminate good practices, assist with training, develop material, and undertake projects in partnership with like-minded organisations. The monthly 'Just Knowing' seminars were a recent initiative, sponsored by the Office for Women's Policy and the Australian Baha'i community. The seminars attracted hundreds of women from different walks of life and in a friendly, inspirational environment imparted valuable information regarding services in the community. Currently the Baha'i Office is working on two separate projects focused on women's health, and parenting and relationship issues among men. For further information contact Sahba on 0402 918 783 or equality@wa.bahai.org.au

WA Association of Polish Women Inc. The women's aims are to unite Polish women in WA, represent the Polish community in cultural and social events, and support members and initiatives by the Polish community. Currently there are about 100 members. There are three services provided by the Association: **1. Care Services:** Includes Community Visitors Scheme to visit people in nursing homes, Emergency Relief Funding to help people in crisis, and 'Rainbow - Community Aged Care Packages' (CACAP) for clients from East European communities. **2. Special Social Support:** Such as social activities for Christmas, Easter and Mother's Day functions; social support by volunteers; Harmony Week Easter exhibition; Published in English 'Polish Easter Customs and Traditions' \$4 per copy; and a monthly radio program on radio 6EBA FM. **3. Welfare and Charity Work:** Fundraising; crisis support; information; donations ie. Red Cross, orphanages in Poland and Africa, Polish schools, dance and theatre groups, and the 2005 Tsunami appeal. The Association of Polish Women has also published a volume of poems, 'Songs of the Birds of Passage'. For further information contact 9271 2036.

WINFO THEMES

The Women's Information Service (WIS) provides an information and referral service to all women in Western Australia from diverse cultural and religious communities, as well as women of different ages, abilities and sexual orientation. This publication provides information on events, courses and community initiatives of interest to women. If you would like to see a focus on an issue during the coming months, please let us know. WIS: (08) 9264 1900 / Freecall 1800 199 174 / Fax (08) 9264 1925 / Email wpo@dcd.wa.gov.au

'Law & Our Lives' Project Language, cultural barriers, and a lack of understanding of legal issues leads to many problems for Somali women. In response, the Somali Women's Association developed the Law and Our Lives Project, providing Somali women with an understanding of some aspects of the law, and their rights and responsibilities. The women developed knowledge of family law, their rights as a health consumer, and a better understanding of tenancy law. The women were also provided with legal organisations' contact numbers and written information. Other projects that the Somali Women's Association have recently organised for their community women include providing information on women's health issues, covering osteoporosis, menopause, diabetes, asthma, healthy diets and pap-smears. The women have also completed a First Aid Course with the Red Cross, learnt to swim and discovered water-aerobics. Future plans for their programs include women's fitness, general First Aid, Family Day Care training to increase their employment skills, and sewing lessons. For further information please contact Nima on 9444 1183.

Multicultural Parents Group In June 2005 Penelope, a family resource worker from the Department for Community Development, Joondalup, established a Multicultural Parent Group in Butler, a new suburb with a high population of families with young children. The Multicultural Parent Group was established to help families in this area get to know each other and feel like part of the community. The families will be able to support each other and build a safe community. The group consists of 12 mothers and their children, and meet weekly. It functions as a playgroup and invites guest speakers for the adults. For further information contact Penelope on 9301 3648.

Harmony of Sisterhood The Women's Sub-Committee (WSC) of Ethnic Communities Council of WA (ECCWA) recently initiated two projects. One is the Women for Women: Harmony of Sisterhood - Mentorship Program, and the other, a Family and Domestic Violence Forum. Racism and discrimination against CaLD women has a devastating effect, causing insecurity and social isolation. It erodes efforts to appreciate cultural diversity and living in harmony. The WSC received a Living in Harmony grant to engage women from mainstream society as mentors to CaLD women for better networking, participation and employment for ethnic women and to reduce prejudice. **Preserving Families and Cultures** The WSC took a different approach by engaging CaLD men in a Family and Domestic Violence Forum. Educating women is not always enough to bring about change, men need to be included. The forum ran in October 2005 and the men appreciated the initiative. The final report will be available shortly. For more information please contact the WSC at ECCWA on 9227 5322.

The West African Women's Group in Western Australia Founded by a group of West African mothers in Perth, they advocate for the economic and social well being of members and their families, as well as supporting integration in Australian society. They also promote the women's image and cultural heritage. Through a Women's Grant from the Office for Women's Policy, 22 West African women attended Health Education Workshops covering: handling stress and trauma, parenting, conflict resolution, self esteem and other issues. For more information please contact Shobhana on 9345 5335 or Ruth on 9470-6043 / wawg_wa_2001@yahoo.com