

take care out back there

Rural GLBT Health & Wellbeing Forum
September 2, 3 & 4

take care out back there

Welcome!

Welcome to the Take Care OutBack There Rural Health and Wellbeing Forum. This is the second rural gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (GLBT) forum, the first being hosted by ALSO in 2009. We hope that this and subsequent forums will build on each other and keep rural GLBT communities connected, informed and receiving improved services.

This forum is for all who care about improving the health and wellbeing of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (GLBT) people who live, work or play in rural, regional and remote communities.

Our aim is to provide a multifaceted program designed for community workers, health professionals, researchers and members of the rural GLBTQ community.

We know that there are lots of issues and challenges for rural GLBTQ people and we want to talk about these, but more importantly we want to find out about latest research, practical examples of what 'works' and what doesn't and what is best practice when working with GLBTQ people. We hope to provide ideas around networking and staying connected and we hope to have fun.

Thank you for registering for this forum. Thank you to the people who are delivering presentations and workshops and to those who are showcasing their goods and services on Saturday. A special thank you to Damien Stevens (GV Pride / Diversity, etc.) for support and input towards organising the forum. Thanks also to Gaz and Andy from Spring Migration for their support.

Please fill out the evaluation at the end of each day you attend. We really want this forum to continue in future years and for it to be a valuable and enjoyable event. Your feedback will help to ensure that.

We hope to see you at the dinner on Thursday evening at the Nicholas Hotel in Beechworth and at our Sexy Trivia event, Rainbow Rodeo, for lunch on Saturday. And of course, if you are staying for the fun and frivolity of Spring Migration, we will see you on the dance floor.

The Organising Committee

Take Care Outback There; Country Awareness Network Victoria (CAN), Centre for Excellence in Rural Sexual Health (CERSH), ALSO, Take Care Out There and WayOut, Rural Victorian Youth & Sexual Diversity Project

The Organising Partners

Take Care OutBack There

Take Care OutBack There is the rural arm of a three year, statewide program aimed at encouraging GLBTQ communities to embrace and maintain a safer sex culture. The overall goal is to enhance the environments in which our communities work, rest and play so that people have access to information and the ability and confidence to take care of themselves, their partners and their mates. Take Care OutBack There is a project of Country Awareness Network (CAN) in partnership with ALSO who leads the metro stream, Take Care Out There.

CAN Victoria

Country Awareness Network Victoria Inc. (CAN) is a community-based, not for profit, organisation based in Bendigo. CAN is Victoria's peak rural body for the provision of information, education, support, referrals and advocacy to Victorian rural/regional communities regarding HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis C, other Blood Borne Viruses (BBVs) and Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs).

CAN's mission is to foster appropriate, sensitive and accessible support, services, advocacy and resources in rural areas for people infected or affected by HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis C, other Blood Borne Viruses and Sexually Transmitted Infections.

Centre for Excellence in Rural Sexual - CERSH

The vision of the Centre for Excellence in Rural Sexual Health (CERSH) is that all rural Victorians have access to quality sexual health care, information and support that is tailored to their individual needs. The purpose of CERSH is to design, implement and evaluate programs that provide practical solutions to improve the prevention of sexually transmissible infections (STIs) in rural Victoria.

SSAYP(same sex attracted young people)/GLBTI may be at higher risk of STIs/HIV, and those living in rural and regional communities face issues such as lack of access to high quality, confidential, sexual health clinical services and health promotion initiatives.

Part of the core business of CERSH is to engage SSAY/GLBTI communities and to support agencies who work with these communities in regional Victoria. The aim of our partnerships and collaborations is to build capacity through evidence supported programs with a focus on STI prevention in regional and rural Victoria; enhance and support projects aimed at addressing the social determinants of health in SSAY/GLBTI living in rural communities; and to also raise general public awareness of some of the inequities experienced by SSAY/GLBTI living in regional and rural Victoria.

{ALSO}

The ALSO vision is the creation and celebration of a diverse, strong, safe and inclusive gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer (GLBTIQ) community that contributes to and is respected by broader communities.

In 2009, as part of our commitment to rural and regional people, ALSO hosted a rural forum designed to bring together members of our community outside the city. Workers and researchers working in the sector presented key information in identified areas of concern for the GLBTIQ community living in country Victoria. It was an opportunity for people to gather, network, share experiences and explore opportunities in a positive environment so that together we can further improve the lives of GLBTIQ people who live and work in rural areas.

ALSO and Country Awareness Network (CAN) work in close partnership on the 'Take Care' project, which is a statewide project aimed at developing a sexual health-promoting culture and network, in which CAN lead the rural stream.

Here at ALSO we are excited to be a part of this year's Rural Forum, which is being led by CAN who are brilliantly placed as a rural peak body to host and facilitate the upcoming conversations about GLBTIQ rural wellbeing.

Last year's forum was a great success and this year's is promising to be an even bigger one. ALSO is delighted to be part of it.

WayOut, Rural Victorian Youth & Sexual Diversity Project

The WayOut Project is a youth suicide prevention initiative that targets same sex attracted and gender questioning (SSAGQ) young people in rural Victoria. It commenced in 2002 and aims to raise awareness about the needs of SSAGQ young people and the nature and effects of the discrimination they face. It provides direct service to young people and families as well as professional development, resources and secondary consultations to other rural workers, schools and organisations supporting young people. The project has developed a new model for work in this field based on youth leadership, formation of gay-straight youth alliances and awareness raising through social marketing strategies.

WayOut also acts as convener for a partnership of nine other rural organisations supporting SSAGQ young people and OUTthere, Rural Victorian Youth Council for Sexual Diversity. The project is based at Cobaw Community Health Service in Kyneton and is managed as a partnership with Gay & Lesbian Health Victoria. It receives ongoing funding from the Department of Health and has received grants from a number of different philanthropic organisations as well as being supported through generous donations from individuals and adult GLBTI social organisations.

Take Care OutBack There Rural GLBT

Day One - Thursday 2nd September 2010

Time	Sessions
8.30 – 9am	Registrations (Pines Gallery)
9 – 10.30am	<p>Morning Plenary (East Wing) Opening - Welcome to Country</p> <p>Author David W. Double - Guest Speaker</p> <p>Reporting on the health and wellbeing of rural GLBT Victorians: Private Lives 2, the next iteration (Research fellow, Liam Leonard and Murray Couch)</p>
10.30 – 11am	<p>Morning tea (Pines Gallery)</p> <p>East Wing</p> <p>Accommodation & housing options for older gays: findings from the research to guide practice (Prof Barbra Horner) LGBT Seniors (Catherine Barrett)</p> <p>West Wing</p> <p>Unfortunately, due to a last minute cancellation – this session is yet to be confirmed. Please see registration desk for session details.</p>
12.30 – 1.15pm	Lunch (Pines Gallery)
1.15 – 2.45pm	<p>Uniting Network Australia (Damien Stevens)</p> <p>Rural young people and connecting through the internet (Sue Hackney & Kat Ettwell)</p> <p>IDAHO – Bridging the Divide, Successful Partnerships linking Rural, Regional and Metropolitan Victoria (Greg Adkins, Danae Gibson, Sergeant Scott Davis)</p> <p>Wahna yebena? (Where are the Blacks?) – Promoting engagement and inclusion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Victorians in GLBTIQ Health (Bryan Andy)</p>
2.45 – 3.15pm	Afternoon Tea (Pines Gallery)
3.15 – 4.45pm	<p>STIs 101 – The good, the bad & the ugly (Adam Wright)</p> <p>Protecting yourself and our communities (Trevor Slattery & Chadwick Spinazza)</p> <p>Trans in Victoria 2010 (Sally Goldner)</p> <p>We're Bi – Hallo? (Kathryn Wilson)</p>
4.45 – 5pm	Wrap up (East Wing)
From 7pm	<p>Forum Dinner @ the Nicholas Hotel (Dinner served @7.30pm)</p> <p>Entertainment – musical comedy duo, Legs Akimbo (Kylie Brickhill and Kate Clarke)</p>

Health & Wellbeing Forum Program

Day Two – Friday 3rd September 2010

Sessions	
Time	
8.30 – 9am	Registrations (Pines Gallery)
9 – 10.30am	<p>Morning Plenary</p> <p>Alternative reporting mechanisms for homophobic crime (Sergeant Scott Davies & Greg Adkins)</p> <p>No longer an optional extra: A/crediting GLBT inclusive mainstream service delivery (Liam Leonard & Catherine Barrett)</p>
10.30 – 11am	Morning tea (Pines Gallery)
	<p>East Wing</p> <p>“Who is in your family? – Practical tools and sensible solutions to addressing family diversity and gender stereotyping in the early childhood sector. (Felicity Marlowe & Ellis Hughes)</p>
	<p>Pines Central</p> <p>Living queer and different in the bush (Kath Duncan)</p> <p>Money Matters for people in financial hardship (Lynda Horne)</p>
	<p>West Wing</p> <p>Primary Care Workers with sexual minorities (Dr. Kimberley Ivory)</p>
12.30 – 1.15pm	Lunch (Pines Gallery)
1.15 – 2.45pm	<p>Can the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities offer anything to GLBTIQ advocacy? (Kenton Miller)</p> <p>“Making Rainbow Families” - A guide to the new Victorian Laws” Launch & workshop (Felicity Marlowe & Ellis Hughes)</p> <p>Sex & Sensibility - The importance of Adventurism in Sexual Health (Di Toulson & Alex Schoeffel)</p> <p>Overview of the epidemiology of STIs and HIV in Victoria (Jane Tomnay)</p> <p>Sexual Health research for MSM (Dr. David Lee, MSHC)</p>
2.45 – 3.15pm	Afternoon Tea (Pines Gallery)
3.15 – 4.45pm	<p>WOW - findings of the ‘Women on Women’ study (Kath Fethers)</p> <p>Putting Health in Context – Staying Negative campaign (Ian Werbeloff)</p> <p>Mind the Gap - STI/BBV Prevention in rural and regional Victoria (David Mejia-Canales)</p> <p>Awareness, principles and skills training in effective collaborative alliances and funding from philanthropic, community, business and government organisations (Ian Gould & Christa Mornot)</p> <p>Grant Seeking Made Easy! (Amy McDonald)</p> <p>Continuation from MSHC research - focus on rural (including ‘TESTme’)</p> <p>PLWHA Victoria speaker from positive speakers bureau</p>
4.45 – 5pm	Wrap up (East Wing)

Day Three – Saturday 4th September 2010

Sessions	
Registrations (Pines Gallery)	
Yoga to relax and unwind - Pines Central (Amy McDonald)	
8- 9am	Forum Breakfast (Pines East)
8.30 – 9.30am	Where to from here? Community café (Pines West) How do rural social support groups, services and festivals make and maintain connections locally and more broadly. Where are the gaps and how is the best way to start bridging them?
9.30 – 12pm	Rainbow Rodeo hosted by Vanessa Wagner (Pines East) Sexy trivia event including lunch. This is an opportunity to put your sexual knowledge to the test while having fun and winning some great prizes. Join us over lunch to wrap up the forum in true country style!
12.30 – 2.30pm	Community Showcase Expo (Pines Central)



SPRING MIGRATION 2010

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Day 1

Thursday, 2 September - East Wing Opening Plenary: 9am - 10.30am

Guest Speaker David W. Double, author:

David W. Double is a former lawyer who practised in country Victoria before changing industries to becoming a tour guide and radio writer and presenter on Melbourne GLBTIQ radio station JOY94.9fm. His writing credits include various school assignments, magazine articles, vitriolic letters to past clients and subsequent explanations to the Law Institute.

His recent book, *In Another Life* is the Storey of William Daley, a young, gay lawyer who starts out his career in an old-fashioned legal firm in Borac - a small, struggling town in Victoria. Despite an inauspicious start working under a cantankerous senior partner, Colin Budd, William gradually establishes himself, before becoming entangled in a web of sexual abuse and corruption involving the local mayor, who is his largest client, and the local police. William deals with the matter with distinction, before becoming the target of similar allegations himself. *In Another Life* is a story of sex, sexuality, coming out, the abuse of power, social problems facing country towns, and trying to make it in life. *In Another Life* is based on many of his life's experience.

Reporting on the health and wellbeing of rural GLBT Victorians: Private Lives 2, the next iteration

Conducted in 2005, *Private Lives* was the first ever national survey of the health and wellbeing of GLBTI Australians. In 2010/11 GLHV, in partnership with the Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society and Beyond Blue, will conduct *Private Lives II*. This presentation offers a comparative analysis of the health and wellbeing of rural and metropolitan Victorians using the data from the original *Private Lives* survey to better elucidate the ways in which geographic location affects GLBT people's lives and to ensure that the issues facing rural GLBT people are addressed in the design of *Private Lives II*.

Presenters: William Leonard & Murray Couch

William Leonard has developed and taught courses on sexuality and gender at RMIT and Monash Universities and worked as the Executive Officer to the Victorian Ministerial Advisory Committee on Gay and Lesbian Health. He has overseen the development of state and national GLBTI health and wellbeing research, policy and programs and is currently a research fellow at Gay and Lesbian Health Victoria (GLHV) and the Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society, La Trobe University.

Murray is a Senior Research Fellow at the Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society. Murray, a sociologist, has research and policy, gay and transgender health, and social inequalities in health. He is the lead investigator on *Private Lives 11*, the second national survey of the health and wellbeing of GLBT Australians due to commence at the end of 2010.

Day 1

Thursday, 2 September - East Wing 11am - 12.30pm

Accommodation and housing options for older gays: findings from the research to guide practice

A pilot study conducted by the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex (GLBTI) Retirement Association Inc. (GRAI) during 2006-07 surveyed 144 GLBTI people regarding retirement/aged care services in the Perth community. This confirmed several worrying statistics regarding the unmet needs and fears of discrimination among older and ageing GLBTI people accessing supported accommodation, retirement living and aged care services in Western Australia (GRAI 2007). This presentation will report on findings from a further 12-month research study conducted jointly by GRAI and Curtin Health Innovation Research Institute and supported by Lotterywest Social Research Grant, to determine best practice guidelines for the supported care (retirement village to aged care) industry in terms of accommodating GLBTI clients.

This research revealed that the GLBTI population as a whole remains relatively invisible in this sector and does not reflect a presumed commitment to viewing individuals as 'whole people'. The data, which will be outlined in the presentation, suggest that there is little understanding of what is meant by an 'inclusive environment' and ignorance around non-heterosexual older people's needs and wants. Further, the proposed guidelines that are the outcome of this study will be presented and their application discussed. With additional funding, we propose to implement and evaluate these guidelines as part of a further study.

Presenter: Professor Barbara Horner PhD

Professor Barbara Horner (PhD) is the Clinical Director at Curtin Health Innovation Research Institute; Director, Centre for Research on Ageing and member of the GRAI-Curtin Social Research Project Control Group. Professor Horner is a co-author of the research paper, *Accommodation and housing options for older gays: findings from the research to guide practice*.

LGBT Seniors

Val's Cafe is a joint project of the Gay and Lesbian Health Victoria and the ALSO Foundation. The Cafe provides regular support for aged care service providers who are promoting the rights of older GLBTI people receiving aged care services.

Presenter: Dr. Catherine Barrett

Dr Catherine Barrett: is a Research Fellow and Community Liaison Officer at the Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society and Gay and Lesbian Health Victoria. She has over 25 years of aged care experience as a clinician, consultant, educator and researcher. Recently Catherine worked as a project coordinator on Well Proud: guidelines for GLBTI inclusive practice in health and human services and on the Rainbow Tick project which developed standards to accredit GLBTI inclusive practice. Catherine is one of the facilitators of Val's Café - a space for resourcing people providing services to older GLBTI people. Since opening a year ago the café has attracted over 80 members. In September this year the café begins a series of workshops to coach health and human services through the process of creating GLBTI inclusive services.

Day 1

Thursday, 2 September - West Wing

11am - 12.30pm

Unfortunately, due to a last minute cancellation - this session is yet to be confirmed. Please see registration desk for session details.

Day 1

Thursday, 2 September - East Wing

1.15pm - 2.45pm

Uniting Network Australia

Uniting Network Australia is the national network for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered people, their families, friends and supporters within the Uniting Church in Australia. We proudly participate in helping the Church wrestle with issues of faith, sexuality and membership and work for greater inclusivity within the Church.

Daring Gathering 2010 a recent event (11 - 14 June 2010), in Melbourne (Centre for Ministry). Everyone was welcome! WHAT IS...WHO IS...DARING? The Daring Gathering is a once-every-two-years gathering of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered people, their families, friends and supporters within the Uniting Church in Australia, who gather together from across the nation to reflect on their journey to date and envision their future.

The first gathering was held in Adelaide in 1994, with the theme "Daring to speak - daring to listen". The gathering is open to people of all faiths or no faith who are interested in supporting this journey. This year, the theme was 'Daring to Join'. A 'Sacred Union Ceremony' was held on Saturday 12 June.

Presenter: Damien Stevens

Having grown up in Melbourne, Damien 'Equality' Stevens has now lived & worked in Greater Shepparton for the past 8 years. Representing many of rural North-East Victoria's GLBTIQA interests, Damien enjoys an active role in HIS community. As the "Diversity Project Officer" at UnitingCare - Cutting Edge, Damien supports SSATYP young people (15 - 25yrs) and provides a vital link between many community services in the area around SSATYP health & wellbeing issues. Co-facilitating a rural chapter of PFLAG Victoria in sunny Shepparton, and presiding over Greater Shepparton's social group, Goulburn Valley Pride Inc., Damien strives to 'make a difference' in the lives of all people he comes in contact with. Damien also represents Victoria's interests on the executive committee of Uniting Network Australia, the national network for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered people, their families, friends and supporters within the Uniting Church in Australia. In his spare(!) time, Damien and his partner Chris attend festivals, rallies & support worthy causes & charities, both within and outside of the GLBTIQ community (as well as the occasional evening or weekend at home & with family).

WayOut Rural Young people and connecting through the internet

The session commences with a brief overview of the work of the WayOut project. It then concentrates on our experiences and learnings in utilising the internet as a medium for engaging socially and geographically isolated young people.

In 2008, the project undertook a redevelopment of its website to include more interactive features, including setting up a virtual drop in centre. However, during this developmental process the young people involved in the project highlighted the opportunities already utilised by others in social networking sites. They recommended that the project would be better off using these sites as well as incorporating similar facilities for chat & posting in the WayOut site. Wayout has subsequently set up Facebook and Twitter accounts with links on main website. There have been at least three significant outcomes from doing this: the ability to connect with a substantially larger number of young people (and supportive adults); offering young people more options to connect to the WayOut project, people involved in it, the work they do and their news/ interests etc; and offering young people more control over who they connect with (socially) and also the way they access information.

Presenters: Sue Hackney & Kat Ettwell

Sue Hackney has been working as Coordinator of the Way Out, Rural Victorian Youth & Sexual Diversity Project, since it commenced in 2002. The project focuses on raising awareness about the needs of same sex attracted and gender questioning young people and the nature and effects of discrimination in rural and regional communities. The work ranges from broad community development initiatives to work with organisations, schools, groups and individuals. Prior to this role, Sue has worked for approximately 20 years in universities, government and community organizations in the areas of equal opportunity/ human rights training, advocacy, policy development and complaint handling. She has a Bachelor of Social Work and has undertaken further studies in fields such as mediation and narrative therapy and is currently doing a Masters in Public Health.

Kat Ettwell is a Project Officer for the WayOut Rural Victorian Youth Council for Sexual Diversity. Kat's responsibilities include the ongoing maintenance and development of the WayOut website as well as using existing social networking and social media sites to promote the work of the WayOut Project and other information for Same Sex Attracted and Gender Diverse young people.

Day 1

Thursday, 2 September - West Wing 1.15pm - 2.45pm

International Day Against Homophobia – Bridging the Divide, Successful Partnerships linking Rural, Regional and Metropolitan Victoria

The International Day Against Homophobia (IDAHO), held annually on 17 May, has provided a unique way for the GLBT community across Victoria to come together regardless of geographic location, level of gay community connectedness or availability of local and immediately accessible supportive organisations, to collect and develop broad networks that address homophobia and transphobia.

This roundtable discussion between the AVP, Victoria Police and JOY94.9 draws together the successes from 2009 and 2010's statewide IDAHO initiatives and blends these with discussion from people who played a part in rural IDAHO activities attending the Forum and canvasses ways to further extend lasting partnerships between the GLBT and broader communities into the 2011 IDAHO activities and beyond.

Presenters: Greg Adkins, Sgt. Scott Davis & Danae Gibson

Greg Adkins is Executive Director of the Anti-Violence Project of Victoria Inc. Greg supports his voluntary work in this position through consultancy work in capacity building and social inclusion development of marginalised communities and counselling with victims of crime. In 2009 he worked internationally in Malaysia, Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia and China as well as within Australia with a range of state and national organisations. A former Ironman triathlete, Greg is a director of Family Planning Victoria and where he chairs FPV's audit, finance and quality committee. Greg also co-hosts and co-produces Detours, one of JOY94.9's longest running radio programs which focuses on travel and tourism.

Sergeant Scott Davis has been with Victoria Police for 23 years. Beginning his career as a Constable at the ethnically diverse community that surrounded Springvale Police Station Scott transferred through a range of police stations in metropolitan and regional areas of the south east of Victoria. In 1997 Scott commenced work in the Police/ Schools Involvement Program complimenting primary and secondary school curricula in areas such as personal safety, drug education, road safety and the role of police in society. In 2003 Scott took up a secondment to the position of Gay and Lesbian Liaison Officer in Melbourne and in 2006 was promoted to the rank of Sergeant when he was selected for the position of Manager, Victoria Police Gay and Lesbian Advisory Unit. Scott recently won the Most Significant Straight Supporter award at the 2010 ALSO Awards.

Danae Gibson has enjoyed community radio broadcasting since 1991, and loves the medium and the diversity of passionate people that drive it. Even whilst working with the ABC and as a GLBTI community newspaper journo, Danae maintained her involvement in Perth's RTRFM 92.1. Since 1992 she has been at various times, a presenter, member of the RTRFM Board of Directors and trainer. In 2007 she began to train young broadcasters at Central TAFE, helping to build the department from scratch to the point where she could jump the Nullabor and take on the role of GM at JOY94.9, Australia's only GLBTI radio station. When Danae is not focussed on the 'task at hand' you can find her at a cinema, sporting venue or in front of a large TV watching the game. With the radio on.

wahnal yenbena? (Where are the blacks?) Promoting engagement and inclusion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Victorians in GLBTIQ health

OutBlack is Indigenous Australia's longest running GLBTIQ & Sistergirls Support Group, having grown steadily over 13 years. Despite the growth, outside of the support of the Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (VACCHO), OutBlack still struggles to gain support and strategic positioning within Victoria's GLBTI health sector. This paper will aim to provide a background on OutBlack and the aims of its members and promote ways in which non-Indigenous (aka 'mainstream') gay & lesbian health organisations can assist in 'closing the gap' and promoting their service delivery among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations.

Presenter: bryan Andy (Yorta Yorta)

bryan Andy currently works for Parks Vic as a program coordinator for a team of Rangers that manage the Barmah and Lower Goulburn National Park. He is the current Convenor of OutBlack – Melbourne's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander GLBTIQ & Sistergirls group and a member of the Victorian Indigenous Youth Advisory Council Indigenous Reference Group. bryan presents 'Black & Pink', a weekly show dedicated to Indigenous music and affairs on Australia's only full-time gay and lesbian radio station Joy 94.9. He was one of the first Aboriginal persons to address the Victorian Parliament (2001) and has worked in areas as diverse as arts advocacy, theatre, land rights, native title, cultural heritage and travel writing.

Day 1

Thursday, 2 September - East Wing

3.15pm - 4.45pm

STI's 101 - The good, the bad & the ugly & Protecting Yourself and Our Community

The city and the bush- being sexual while staying healthy can be a challenge where ever you are. This workshop jointly presented by staff from ACON & CAN Victoria will provide information to dispel the myths and bring you up to speed on what you need to know to take care of your sexual health. We'll explore what kinds of STIs are out there, the "how-tos" of safe sexual practise and just what is so important about getting tested.

Beyond just the basics, this workshop will also provide a forum to ask questions and discuss a range of issues for those of us living in the city and the bush including: Confidentiality, Living in area with few services & Travelling.

Presenters: Trevor Slattery, Chadwick Spinazza & Adam Wright

Trevor Slattery has worked for ACON since 2006 in youth specific and general GLBT health promotion and community development roles. Currently working as the Education and Community Development Officer for the southern region of NSW, he is based in the Illawarra office and works primarily around improving the health and wellbeing of MSM, the GLBT and related communities through a variety of projects and promotional activities.

Chadwick Spinazza has recently started with ACON in the role of community health promotion officer and assists our work through focusing on addressing the needs of regional GLBT youth. He is currently developing a resource to assist with running sexuality awareness raising and anti-homophobia workshops in high schools.

Adam Wright is the Executive Officer of CAN Victoria and a community educator. His other roles have included: Board of Directors - Hepatitis C Victoria; Member of Victoria's Sexual Health & Viral Hepatitis Forum & HIV Task Force; Committee of Management - Loddon Campaspe CASA; Chair - Bendigo Loddon PCP Sexual Health Task Group and Member of Webcam / Sexual Health Telemedicine Project Steering Committee (Melbourne Sexual Health Centre / Alfred).

Day 1

Thursday, 2 September - West Wing
3.15pm - 4.45pm

Trans in Victoria 2010

This session gives an overview of trans and sex and gender diversity, discussing terminology, laws (current and desired) and the state of play of current services and issues in 2010.

Presenter: Sally Goldner

Sally has been out of the gender closet for over 13 years and an active participant in Melbourne's queer community for the last 12. This includes ongoing involvement with TransGender Victoria, 3 CR's Out of the Pan, VGLRL, Zoe Belle Gender Centre and previous involvement with JOY94.9, BENT TV, Melbourne Marching Girls, the ALSO Foundation and Seahorse Club of Victoria. Outside of the community, she has is an accountant specialising in the not-for-profit sector.

We're bi - hallo?

The presentation gives an overview of truths and stereotypes about bisexuality, Australian health research and the groups and services currently available. It looks at Bi invisibility and Biphobia from both straight and gay populace. It includes stereotypes and myths about bisexuality along with health issues affecting bi folk and bi parenting.

Presenter: Kathryn Wilson

Kathryn has many roles with Crisis Support Services. These include telephone counsellor, manager and content advisor. CSS manages a number of 24-hour crisis support lines and the professional suicide prevention resource www.livingisforeveryone.com.au Kathryn is also a PhD Candidate in the School of Psychology ACU National. Kathryn grew up with a parent who identified as homosexual and thus felt that she straddled the hetero- and homosexual communities, whilst not really being sure of where she fitted in personally.

Day 2

Friday, 3 September - East Wing
Opening Plenary: 9am - 10.30am

Alternative reporting mechanisms for homophobic crime

The 2008 report *Coming Forward: The underreporting of heterosexual violence and same sex partner abuse in Victoria* by Gay and Lesbian Health Victoria suggested that only 30% of heterosexual violence is reported to police. The report made the recommendation that alternative mechanisms for reporting, other than direct to police, be examined. This session will present information on the pros and cons of the mechanisms used around the world to increase the reporting of homophobic violence, contrast this with learnings from the work undertaken by the GLLOs and the AVP in Victoria, and seek the views of the audience on what mechanisms may best suit rural GLBT people.

Presenters: Greg Adkins & Sgt. Scott Davis

Greg Adkins is Executive Director of the Anti-Violence Project of Victoria Inc. Greg supports his voluntary work in this position through consultancy work in capacity building and social inclusion development of marginalised communities and counselling with victims of crime. In 2009 he worked internationally in Malaysia, Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia and China, as well as within Australia, with a range of state and national organisations. A former Ironman triathlete, Greg is a director of Family Planning Victoria and where he chairs FPV's audit, finance and quality committee. Greg also co-hosts and co-produces *Detours*, one of JOY94.9's longest running radio programs which focuses on travel and tourism.

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No longer an optional extra: Accrediting GLBT-inclusive mainstream service delivery

While assessment of culturally sensitive service delivery and professional practice typically include competencies relating to race, gender, age, ability and location, consideration of GLBT people remains an optional extra. This paper looks at the push over the last ten years to have GLBT-sensitive practice included as a core competency in the assessment and accreditation of health and human services. In particular, the paper looks at the relationship between voluntary and mandatory processes of service accreditation and some of the challenges of providing GLBT sensitive services to GLBT people living in rural and remote Victoria.

Presenters: William Leonard & Dr. Catherine Barrett

William Leonard has developed and taught courses on sexuality and gender at RMIT and Monash Universities and worked as the Executive Officer to the Victorian Ministerial Advisory Committee on Gay and Lesbian Health.

He has overseen the development of state and national GLBTI health and wellbeing research, policy and programs and is currently a research fellow at Gay and Lesbian Health Victoria (GLHV) and the Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society, La Trobe University.

Dr Catherine Barrett is a Research Fellow and Community Liaison Officer at the Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society and Gay and Lesbian Health Victoria. She has over 25 years of aged care experience as a clinician, consultant, educator and researcher. Recently Catherine worked as a project coordinator on Well Proud: guidelines for GLBTI inclusive practice in health and human services and on the Rainbow Tick project which developed standards to accredit GLBTI inclusive practice. Catherine is one of the facilitators of Val's Café - a space for resourcing people providing services to older GLBTI people. Since opening a year ago the café has attracted over 80 members. In September this year the café begins a series of workshops to coach health and human services through the process of creating GLBTI inclusive services.

Day 2

Friday, 3 September - East Wing

11 am - 12.30pm

Who is in your family? Practical tools and sensible solutions to addressing family diversity and gender stereotyping in the early childhood sector.

The workshop showcases the Rainbow Families Council Who is in your family? Resource Kit aimed at encouraging the early childcare sector (Maternal and Child Health Nurses, childcare services and kindergartens) to start discussions about the diversity of families accessing their services. The workshop will highlight the issue that many children living in rainbow families often experience covert homophobia and are exposed to heterocentric notions of family and gender roles that do not reflect the reality of their own lives or families. In addition the provision of services for rainbow families has not kept up with positive changes in neither the recent state and federal law reforms nor the increased social recognition of rainbow families.

Presenter: Felicity Marlowe & Eilis Hughes – Co-Convenor Rainbow Families Council

Felicity is the Education & Advocacy Working Group Coordinator of the Rainbow Families Council. Felicity was a founding member of the Rainbow Families Council established in 2006 and coordinated the successful "Love Makes A Family" campaign in 2008. A qualified teacher, Felicity has worked in community development for many years.

Eilis Hughes' academic background is in genetic counselling, where she completed a research Masters degree into the narrative styles of people with intersex conditions. She has since worked in a range of disability and community development positions, currently coordinating a statewide community building program for DHS Disability Services. In her volunteer career she has been involved in the leadership of a range of community organisations, including Gay & Lesbian Switchboard and Melbourne Marching Girls. Eilis has been one of the co-convenors of Rainbow Families Council for the past two years and recently spoke on behalf of RFC at the Equal Love rally in Melbourne.

Day 2

Friday, 3 September - Pines Central
11am - 12.30pm

Living Queer and Different in the Bush

This presentation will look at realities of rural living for GLBT disabled people. It will engage with the creative possibilities for rural GLBT disabled people; and the intersecting sectors of rural GLBT life: communications, systemic changes and rural access. By way of creative example, Kath will reference Northern NSW where queer organisations/creative outlets/disability organisations have been especially successful at creating community, getting funding and developing sustainable ongoing events and activities. She will also look at considerations for rural service providers in attracting the energies and enthusiasms of marginalised community groups, using by example her own work and networks in rural and regional Northern NSW, Sydney, Melbourne and regional Victoria, as well as internationally.

Presenter: Kath Duncan

Kath Duncan is a multimedia producer, researcher and artist with 30 years experience in broadcasting, producing, presenting and teaching. Kath is a PhD in progress, holds advanced degrees in media production and creative writing, is building a body of work in paint and mixed media and writes for text, radio and her own pleasure. Duncan describes herself as an "Out Proud Loud Freak Goddess" engaged in a lifelong learning project to leave a legacy of resistant images, texts, sounds and presentations.

Money matters for people experiencing financial hardship

This presentation will discuss ways that a free financial counsellor may be able to assist someone in financial hardship on a Centrelink benefit. The presentation will include where and what assistance is available; how to get out of debt, and if that debt really needs to be paid; paying bills; your rights with utility companies; and discounts and concessions that are available for those living in rural areas.

Presenter: Linda Horn

Linda is a Financial Counsellor and Social Worker and works for the David Williams Fund at Victoria AIDS Council. Linda is an advocate for people who are in financial hardship.

Day 2

Friday, 3 September - West Wing
11am - 12.30pm

Primary Care Workers with Sexual Minorities

This presentation is largely based around the Well Proud Guidelines and cultural competency in working with all clients from sexual minorities, including transgender and intersex, to make the health practice/service more accessible. It touches on some of the major health issues facing this client group.

Presenter: Dr Kimberley Ivory

Dr Kimberley Ivory is Senior Medical Officer at Family Planning Victoria. She runs the workforce development component of Mind the Gap, a three year HIV primary prevention project targeting young same sex attracted people and their communities in rural Victoria. She is interested in the role practitioners play in health literacy and health outcomes, especially with regard to diverse populations in rural communities.

Day 2

Friday, 3 September - East Wing
1.15pm - 2.45pm

Can the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities offer anything to GLBTIQ advocacy?

The Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities is a unique law that protects 20 civil and political rights for all Victorians. It aims to ensure that state and local governments and their agencies consider human rights when making laws, developing policies and delivering services.

What opportunities does the Charter create for those who are seeking to advocate for change in relation to discrimination and other issues for GLBTIQ people? How can advocates effectively use the language of human rights to effectively create that change? How are other advocates already using the Charter in realising rights here in Victoria every day?

Presenter: Kenton Penley Miller

Kenton Penley Miller is a gay man who happens to be a cartoonist. He worked in the HIV/AIDS and challenging homophobia field for around 15 years, before moving on to other public health and social justice roles.

He's delivered condoms to brothels, taught people to shoot up safely, volunteered in gay activism, devised and ran a same-sex relationship course for five years - and did oral sex nationally, among other social marketing campaigns. He currently teaches people about their rights and responsibilities under the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities and continues to illustrate books and manuals in his spare time.

Making Rainbow Families – A guide to the new Victorian Laws

In 2008 the Victorian Parliament passed the Assisted Reproductive Treatment Act (2008) which created new legislation aimed at helping same sex couples and single people to create families. With funding from the Victorian Department of Justice, Rainbow Families Council has produced an information booklet aimed at explaining the new laws to the prospective parenting and parenting LGBTI community. The workshop will introduce the new laws and explain the intersection between the new Federal reforms as well.

Presenters: Eilis Hughes – Co-Convenor Rainbow Families Council & Felicity Marlowe

Eilis Hughes' academic background is in genetic counselling, where she completed a research Masters degree into the narrative styles of people with intersex conditions. She has since worked in a range of disability and community development positions, currently coordinating a statewide community building program for DHS Disability Services. In her volunteer career she has been involved in the leadership of a range of community organisations, including Gay & Lesbian Switchboard and Melbourne Marching Girls. Eilis has been one of the co-convenors of Rainbow Families Council for the past two years and recently spoke on behalf of RFC at the Equal Love rally in Melbourne.

Felicity is the Education & Advocacy Working Group Coordinator of the Rainbow Families Council. Felicity was a founding member of the Rainbow Families Council established in 2006 and coordinated the successful "Love Makes A Family" campaign in 2008. A qualified teacher, Felicity has worked in community development for many years and currently enjoys hanging out at home full-time with her three young children.

Day 2

Friday, 3 September - Pines Central 1.15pm - 2.45pm

Sex and Sensibility – The importance of adventurism in sexual health

The Kink and Leather Communities play an important role in breaking down shame and promoting the responsible practice of adventurous sex. Many people enjoy liberated sex lives and need to feel comfortable communicating their health issues without fear of judgement. As the GLBTIQ community fights for acceptance it is quite often a temptation to avoid the sex part of sexuality. By promoting health and self-esteem as a part of an adventurous sex life, we enable all individuals to freely seek information and resources responsibly. You don't have to be a Leather Master or Dominatrix to be sexually adventurous or to need to seek advice about these practices. But the Leather and Kink Communities ensure that the GLBTIQ community is never severed from what distinguishes it and that prudishness never gets in the way of sexual health.

Presenters: Alex Schoeffel & Di Toulson

Alex Schoeffel is the Director of Melbourne Leather Pride Festival, the Mr Leather Australia New Zealand Contest and Leatherpride.com.au, Alex is also the Marketing & Development Manager of the ALSO Foundation and works as part of several different grass roots community groups.

Di Toulson is the Director of Fetish Expo, Oz Kink Fest, and the proprietor of the Saints & Sinners Ball. Di is the General Manager of the Women's Circus and also the Publisher of Kink-E magazine, a national magazine devoted to the Fetish Community.

Day 2

Friday, 3 September - West Wing 1.15pm - 2.45pm

Overview of the epidemiology of STI's and HIV in Victoria

This presentation will provide a brief overview of the important STIs and HIV epidemiology in Victoria and Australia for GLBT communities.

Presenter: Jane Tomnay

Associate Professor Jane Tomnay is the Director of the Centre for Excellence in Rural Sexual Health at the University of Melbourne. She is a Registered Nurse and has postgraduate qualifications of Grad Dip (Adv. Psych.), MHSc and Ph D. Her interests include rural and general sexual health, HIV/AIDS, and public health law.

Sexual Health Research for MSM

This presentation will include an overview of the Melbourne Sexual Health Centre and the reasoning behind the public health control of STIs and how it relates to the National STI strategy 2010-2014. It will also look at initiatives pertaining to MSM, Syphilis prevention and screening, TestMe, Partner notification initiative, HPV Study in young gay men and more.

Presenter: Dr. David Lee

David is a Nurse Practitioner in Sexual Health at the Melbourne Sexual Health Centre and an Honorary Post Doctoral Fellow in Sexual Health with the School of Population Health, the University of Melbourne. David started off his sexual health career in Sydney and has worked widely in public sexual health including a stint as a contact tracer in South Eastern Sydney, as well as on Outreach to sex-on-premises-venues in Melbourne. Aside from his clinical commitments at the centre, David also lectures and tutors in the MPH program and the undergraduate MBBS program at the university. His research interest is in the public health control of sexually transmissible infections and he was recently involved in rapid syphilis testing of MSM at Midsumma and Chill Out.

Day 2

Friday, 3 September - East Wing

3.15pm - 4.45pm

Awareness, principles and skills training in effective collaborative alliances and funding from philanthropic, community, business and government organisations.

Community-based social, activist and human rights organisations can improve their effectiveness by collaborating with, co investing their effort with, and gaining funding support from philanthropic, community, business and government organisations.

For same sex attracted, gender questioning and antidiscrimination issues in rural communities, and younger activist groups in particular, this can be difficult. This workshop will assist forum participants develop an improved awareness of groups they may collaborate with or gain funding support from, how to apply for funding support, and matters to think about when meeting or making presentations to these organisations.

Presenters: Christa Momot & Ian Gould

Christa commenced as Executive Officer at Reichstein Foundation in 2001. Christa's work involves managing the funding program, working with community groups to develop projects, networking and collaborating with other foundations and affinity groups and promoting social change philanthropy. Christa has formal qualifications in mediation, community development and workplace training. She led Reichstein's input into the formation of GALFA, Gay and Lesbian Foundation of Australia.

Christa has an extensive background working in the community sector in both paid and volunteer roles, including Coordinator of Brimbank Community Centre (now Community West) for 15 years and Executive Officer of Statewide Women's Community Housing Service. Both agencies worked with disadvantaged members of the community, in particular, women in prison. She also worked as a crisis care worker for the Western Region Centre against Sexual Assault and the Women's Domestic Violence Crisis Service for a number of years. Christa taught campaigning and social action electives at the Social Science Community Development course at Kangan TAFE and Victoria University. Christa has also advocated on behalf of four women who were charged with murdering their violent partners and was the founder of the Release Heather Osland Campaign.

Ian is a part-time volunteer with the Reichstein Foundation. At work, Ian is senior research manager with CSIRO's Food and Human Nutrition Sciences. Following an interest in farming gained from school holiday visits to cousin's sheep and cattle properties in NSW, Ian studied agricultural science at Dookie Agricultural College and joined the Department of Agriculture as researcher at the Tatura Horticultural Research Institute. Later he studied agricultural engineering at University of Melbourne, worked as a research engineer, then manager of the Department's Agricultural Engineering Centre at Werribee. He was part of the research and management team that established the Food Research Institute, formed a joint venture with CSIRO, and later joined CSIRO. He has a strong belief in benefits from interdisciplinary research teams and taking a national approach to research.

Outside work Ian has been an active volunteer in Melbourne's GLBTIQ community, including as a Board member of Victorian Aids Council, Committee member of Gay and Lesbian Rights Lobby, member of the working group forming GALFA and occasional organiser of walks for the Nomads gay bushwalking club. He is currently a member of GLBTI Ministerial Advisory Committee on health and wellbeing, volunteer with Reichstein Foundation and passionate about building a better future.

Grant Seeking Made Easy!

In this workshop you'll learn the tips and tricks of masterful grant writing. Making things easy, talking the talk and finding hidden money are all part of the workshop. And, at the end of the workshop you'll receive a complimentary assessment of your own application before you send it off.

Presenter: Amy McDonald

Amy McDonald has run a writing and editing consultancy for six years. During that time she has facilitated grant seeker training for all sorts of community groups. She writes tenders and applications for the government and not-for-profit sector and gets a real kick out of showing newbies how to be masterful...quick!

Day 2

**Friday, 3 September - Pines Central
3.15pm - 4.45pm**

Women on Women's Health Study

The WOW study aimed to see how commonly Bacterial Vaginosis (BV) occurs in women with female sexual partners and how it may be related to sexual activity. Several studies have demonstrated that women who have female sexual partners are at higher risk of BV than other women but it is not clear why this is so. This presentation will discuss results of a study into BV amongst women who have had a female sexual partner.

Presenter: Kath Fethers

Kath is a sexual health physician with a Masters in Medicine. Her Masters thesis is STI's and STI risk behaviours in women who have sex with women. Kath has worked in HIV and sexual health medicine since graduating from university. Her special work interests are BV, WSW sexual health and Indigenous sexual health.

Putting Health in Context

Often when health issues are considered they are viewed without considering the broader lived experience of individuals. However, health issues and behaviour need to be examined in a social context. This is illustrated effectively through Staying Negative, a narrative-based campaign that aims to engage people with first-person stories from gay men from all walks of life and ethnic backgrounds. In this campaign men talk about their lives and what things have acted as barriers to maintaining sexual health. Things such as binge drinking, drug use and mental health are just some of the issues that have come up as barriers to safe sex practices.

All of these are significant social health issues that affect not only the GLBT communities, but the broader community as well. If we are going to target sexual health we also need to view it through the psychological and social context of the ways gay men live. Social problems don't exist in isolation, they interact and often reinforce each other. This presentation demonstrates that health issues need to be examined in context using Staying Negative as a case study. It explores the methods used in the campaign, the issues raised and the lessons learned.

Presenter: Ilan Werbeloff (VAC/GMHC)

Ilan Werbeloff has been working to support the GLBT community for the last five years in various ways. After coming out at 18 years old he enrolled in the Young and Gay course at the VAC/GMHC and went on to take on various volunteer commitments. He received a Special Services Award in 2008 from the VAC/GMHC for his contribution to the organisation. He currently works in the Health Promotion Program at VAC/GMHC co-ordinating the Staying Negative Campaign.

Mind the Gap! STI/BBV Prevention in rural and regional Victoria

MIND the Gap is a three-tier community engagement, social action and capacity building program focusing on primary prevention of HIV and sexually transmitted infections (STI) among young gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex (GLBTQI) people aged 25 years and under and their social networks in rural and regional Victoria, funded by the Department of Health for three years (2009 – 2011)

The three tiers are

1. Sexual Health and Diversity Enterprise (SHADE)
2. Mind the Gap social networking site
3. Q & A - Emerging Young Leaders Program

Presenter: David Mejia- Canales

David is the Project Officer for Mind The Gap which is a rural and regional community engagement program focusing on the prevention of HIV,STIs and BBV's in young GLBTIQ people and their social networks. It is funded by the Department of Health and partnered with VACCHO, Centre for Adolescent Health, YEAH, the Burnet Institute and Twenty10 enterprises.

Day 2

**Friday, 3 September - West Wing
3.15pm - 4.45pm**

Continuation from MSHC research - focus on rural (including 'TESTme')

PLWHA Victoria speaker from positive speakers bureau

take care there

**out
back**

www.takecare.org.au



Centre for
Excellence in
Rural Sexual
Health (CERSH)

