

GSNV UPDATE

March 2004

GSNV NEWS

Staff Changes

Lindy Hodgkin will be joining us in the GSNV office 3 days a week while Eilís takes on a 6 month project with CarersLink. Eilís will be in the office one day a week and will continue to focus on our non-metropolitan conferences and the GSNV 5th birthday celebration. Jo and Lindy will share the daily business of the GSNV, and we welcome Lindy's knowledge and enthusiasm to the team!

Gippsland Conference

The GSNV invites you to 'Genetics, You & Your Family', our first non-metro conference that aims to encourage education, information, support and advocacy for people affected by genetic conditions in the Gippsland region. Join us at LaTrobe Convention Centre, Traralgon on Friday 23rd of April to explore Advances in Genetics and Medicine, Workshops, Your Say and discussion of Genetics and Assisted Reproduction. Look out for more information soon or contact Eilís or Jo in the GSNV office on (03) 8341-6315 or email info@gsnv.org.au

UPCOMING EVENTS

Motor Neurone Awareness Week

Will take place nationwide from March 28th to April 3rd. Contact 1800 777 175 for further information.

Smith Magenis Syndrome Group

The Victorian Smith Magenis Syndrome Group will meet on Saturday March 13th for a picnic lunch in Healesville. New families are welcome to attend, and for more information contact Katrina Simpson on 0407 676 424 or (03) 52614 820.

GROUPS' EVENTS

New Group

Albinism 'Friends & Family' Support Group began in 2003 and is run by individuals, families and interested professionals. The Queensland group have found there is a definite need in the Australian community for a service that offers specific information about albinism as well as providing an avenue for individuals to get together and discuss common challenges and experiences. Contact Helene Johanson at Albinism 'Friends & Family' Support Group, P.O. Box 6357, St Lucia, QLD 4067 for more information.

2004 Health Forum

The Coeliac Society of Victoria is running a Health Forum on Saturday April 3 at the Mary Aikenhead Conference Centre at St Vincent's Public Hospital. The forum, which features a trade display, will operate from 10.30am until 3.30pm and guest speakers include Gastroenterologists Dr Bob Anderson and Dr Ian Willet, and Physiotherapist Libby Oldfield. Contact Toni Davies on 9808 7563 or email tdavies_csv@hotmail.net.au

PLAY

CleftPALS Charity Ball

Hosted by Tim Smith and Brigette Duclos from Triple M's "The Cage", the CleftPALS Charity Ball promises to be a great night out. To be held at the Power House on Thursday 25th of March, entertainers include Swing Patrol, Johnny Come Lately and Dean & Carruthers. An auction for great prizes will raise money towards funding for research into the cause and impact of Cleft conditions. The cost is \$95 per person and tickets are sold separately or in tables of 10. Call Tracey on 0408 882 038 or email tracey.law@bigpond.com

Social Connections

The Eltham Living and Learning Centre in the Shire of Nilumbik is offering various activities including Art for Self Expression, Music and Movement and the Basics of Golf for young adults with a disability and their parents/carers. The program will run weekly from February 25 - July 14 2004 on Wednesday evenings. For further enquiries, please contact Angela Lampard, Disability Project Officer on 9433 3356 or Megan Andrews, Administration Officer on 9433 3210 to RSVP.

GETTING AROUND

New Roadside Assistance Service

Since January 2004, the Royal Automobile Club of Victoria (R.A.C.V.) has provided S.M.S. roadside assistance service to its members who are deaf, hearing impaired or speech impaired. Members can send an S.M.S. message to R.A.C.V.'s Assistance Centre when they require emergency roadside assistance. Contact the RACV Assistance Centre on 03 9790 2825 (T.T.Y. line) or 9790 2410 or check out www.racv.com.au for more information.

WATCH

No Limits

No Limits is a weekly half hour magazine style television show which looks at all aspects of living life to the fullest with a disability. The show screens on Channel 31 community television every Monday night at 7.30pm. New episodes for 2004 begin on Monday 22nd March and stories include Aquability, the subsidised Taxi scheme, Hays Paddock, Arts Access and much more. Starting Monday 26th March No Limits will also be seen in Perth. No Limits is hosted by a rotating panel of 3 hosts all of whom have a disability of some kind and bring their unique perspective to the show.

LEARN

Community Campaign and Advocacy

Are you trying to change something that you think is unjust? Do you want to develop greater links within the activist network to share ideas, skills and experience? ChangeXchange is offering a practical and interactive one day workshop for people wishing to further develop their campaign and advocacy skills, know how to work with the media, understand their legal rights and develop progressive networks. The workshop will be held on Wednesday 24th March from 9pm-5pm, for more information contact Mandy Bathgate on 0402 322 301 or email mandy@melsamba.com

Deaf Deaf World

Is a workshop that provides the opportunity to experience a little of what the world is like for a Deaf person. Deaf Deaf World is organised by the Victorian Council of Deaf People Inc. for professionals to gain insight into the lives of Deaf people. A training day for interested professionals will be held at the Victorian Services for Deaf Children on St Kilda Road at the end of every month on Fridays at 9.30am. For details contact Melanie Wells by fax on (03) 9510 4449 or by email admin@vcod.com.au

MONEY

Accountant

Sally Goldner is an accountant with 19 years experience who is passionate about the not-for-profit sector. She is currently looking for a day a week to volunteer her accounting services. If your group could do with her skills contact Sally on 0407 946 242 or email wbjg@bigpond.com

GRANTS

The following grants are advertised through www.ourcommunity.com.au, call us on 8341 6315 if you would like to know of others that are available. Some grants require Gift Deductibility Recipient (DGR) charitable status. If you don't have DGR status, try applying through an organisation that does have DGR status-they can auspice your project. Local Governments and peak bodies are most likely to auspice you. Good luck!

The Jack Brockhoff Foundation DGR

Community Services & Development grant to financially assist a wide range of charitable organisations, particularly the smaller and lesser-known groups which do not have access to widespread publicity and professional fundraising.

Min funding per grant \$5,000 Total Pool: \$3,500,000

Closing date: 30 March 2004 by mail

Contact Details: Mr Kem Mayberry The Jack Brockhoff Foundation

Email: Brockhoff@ozemail.com.au

Phone: (03) 9842 0667

Small Grants for Rural Communities Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR) DGR

Rural & Regional Development Grant to make small grants more accessible to communities in rural Australia.

Max funding per grant: \$5,000 Total Pool: \$250,000

Closes: 31 March 2004 by Mail, Email, Fax

As this a collaborative fund there are some funds which are restricted either to Deductible Gift Recipients (DGRs) or to within Victoria, though the greater portion of unrestricted funds are available for general charitable purposes. Organisations should also have an ABN.

Email: n.elliott@frrr.org.au

Freecall: 1800 170 020

Phone: (03) 5443 7300

Website: <http://www.frrr.org.au/>

Neville Smith Foundation

General Community Grant to disburse smaller grants to projects that may miss out or are unable to access other Foundations because of strict criteria which small groups sometimes find difficult to meet.

Closing date: 16 March 2004 by mail

Email: info@frnsfoundation.com

Phone: (03) 9682 0655

Website: <http://www.frnsfoundation.com/>

Alfred Felton Bequest - ANZ Charitable Trust

Health & Wellbeing Grant for community organizations to provide funds for charitable purposes in Victoria, with a primary focus on women and children and their physical and emotional health, particularly those in rural areas and urban areas of disadvantage.

Funding : Various amounts

Closing date: 1 April 2004 by mail or email

Email: charitabletrusts@anz.com

Freecall: 1800 808 910

Website: <http://www.anz.com.au/australia/charitabletrusts/Guidelines.asp>

Local Government Grants Scheme-Secure a Local Community Grant

Contact your local city council and ask about Local Community Grants. Both Metropolitan and Rural City councils A great resource, offering grants that are focused around smaller community groups-so don't forget to apply.

REMINDER

Next Committee Meeting

Monday 15th March at 6pm

Conference Room B

10th Floor RCH, Flemington Rd Parkville

All members and interested parties are very welcome to attend our meetings!

For more information on anything you've read here, please contact Jo, Lindy or

Eilís in the GSNV office on (03) 8341-6315 or email info@gsnv.org.au