



NTCOSS is a not for profit, member based, peak body for the social and community services sector in the Northern Territory. We're an advocate for social justice on behalf of people and communities in the NT, who may be affected by poverty and disadvantage.

The NTCOSS eBulletin is delivered to your inbox every Thursday afternoon. We welcome submissions and encourage you to forward to interested contacts and friends.

Don't forget to check out the NTCOSS website and follow us on Facebook and Twitter.



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This NAIDOC week celebrates the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. This year's theme gives particular attention to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and the instrumental role they have played in our history, our communities and our families – Because of her, we can!

NTCOSS attended the Cudgarees and Canapes event which celebrated the participation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women in law. This event shared the stories of two Indigenous women in law, a local Darwin woman Natasha O'Connell and a Native Hawaiian Jocelyn Leialoha Doane. These women spoke of how their skills in the legal system have enabled them to protect and strengthen their cultures and improve the lives of their Indigenous peoples. They also spoke of the importance of mentors, and particularly the female mentors who have been a guiding support in helping them get to where they are today. The Bilata Legal Pathways program provides Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women an opportunity to enter the legal field.

NTCOSS visited the new Palmerston Regional Hospital and got a briefing on what services it will offer. The hospital is due to open in August this year, as a sister hospital to the Royal Darwin Hospital. It will provide emergency services, rehabilitation services, day surgery, a general medical ward, maternity services, geriatric evaluation, and management and outpatient clinics.

This week NTCOSS also attended the My Health Record Briefing. Every Australian will get a My Health Record soon unless they choose not to opt-out. A three month opt-out period will be held from 16 July to 15 October 2018. Doctors, pharmacists and authorised healthcare providers will be able to access a person's My Health Record to assist in their treatment of patients and issues such as prescriptions of medicines and advance care planning. Benefits of My Health Record include reduced hospital admissions, reduced duplication of tests, better-coordinated care and better informed treatment decisions. The expansion of the My Health Record

system is one of the biggest changes to the Australian health system since the introduction of Medicare. To find out more about My Health Record, visit the website at www.myhealthrecord.gov.au

The Department of Chief Minister (DCM) is developing a social outcomes framework to articulate how the NT Government and its partners, including the non-government sector, will measure the progress of social and human services towards making a lasting and positive difference to Territorians' lives. The framework will allow Government to focus efforts on key outcomes and measure progress towards those outcomes. DCM has engaged KPMG to develop a scoping document to outline the process for developing the social outcomes framework. Individual interviews and focus groups are currently being conducted and NTCOSS was involved in the Darwin consultations last week.

Last week, NTCOSS also hosted an information session for members with the Alcohol Review Implementation Team. This provided an excellent opportunity to hear about the progress that the Government has made re-introducing the Banned Drinkers Register and the legislation currently before Parliament to introduce a floor price.

It is time to start thinking about who you are going to nominate for the NT Human Rights Awards. In the lead up to the awards, you are invited to attend a series of lunch time talks about human rights in action and hear from previous award winners. These talks are in Darwin but planning is underway for Alice Springs to also host talks. Click [here](#) for more information about the NT Human Rights Awards lunchtime talks.

Wendy Morton
NTCOSS Executive Director

National & Territory-wide

PUBLICATION: Because of Her We Can

The Centre of Excellence for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Statistics and Community Engagement has released a publication to commemorate NAIDOC week, and celebrate the theme "Because of her, we can!"

It is available on the website via the link below.

[cat no 4739.0 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women Celebrated, 2018](#)

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ICAC: Information Flyer

An informational flyer has been released regarding the ICAC passed by Parliament in 2017. Click [here](#) to view the flyer.

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REVIEW: Building Safer Workplaces: NT WorkSafe Review Discussion Paper Released

An independent review of the Territory regulator, NT Worksafe is being undertake and as part of this, the independent reviewer has drafted a discussion paper to seek public feedback and input.

The discussion paper can be accessed via <https://justice.nt.gov.au/attorney-general-and-justice/law/open-law-reform-consultation> Submissions close on 31 August 2018.

To submit or for more information contact andrew.george@nt.gov.au.

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REMINDER: Charities and Not for Profit Commission Annual Information Statement Now Overdue

Thousands of charities have failed to submit their 2017 Annual Information Statement. Submitting the Annual Information Statement is a requirement of maintaining registration with the ACNC, and charities that fail to report risk financial penalties and ultimately, the loss of charity status. The ACNC have are a range of free resources, including a step-by-step guide and checklist, available on the ACNC website. Find them [here](#).

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RESEARCH: New Research Looks to Improve Disability Employment Rate

A new study led by a researcher with lived experience of disability will investigate the workplace experiences of people who develop a physical disability mid-career.

Click [here](#) to read the article.

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REPORT: More Than One-Third of Australians Experiencing Food Insecurity

More than one-third of Australians are experiencing some form of food insecurity, a number significantly higher than previously reported, new research shows.

Click [here](#) to read the report.

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WEBINAR: Diagnosing Children with Mental Health Difficulties

This webinar will critically examine the diagnostic categories and practices used in Australian health and welfare settings. It will argue that it is vital that diagnoses be contextual to the child's past and present environment and recognise the various biological, psychological and social factors that may be involved.

Click [here](#) to register for the webinar.

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UPDATE: Aboriginal Contracting Framework: First Phase of Consultation Complete

The project team, including consultants GHD, have traveled across the Territory to hear the best and brightest ideas to inform the Aboriginal Contracting Framework.

A high-level summary of the feedback received so far, the themes which emerged and the next steps are outlined here in the [‘What we heard’ document](#).

The “Have Your Say” website is updated regularly as the consultation process progresses. The website hosts updates about the consultation process and provides opportunities for submissions and feedback to be shared. To get involved or provide feedback, visit www.acf.nt.gov.au or contact acf@nt.gov.au.

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CONSULTATION: Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Strategy Consultation

The Department of Health is currently leading the development of a Northern Territory (NT) Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Strategy and you are invited to participate in the consultation to inform its development.

Visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/9GKT7W7> to provide your input by 20 July 2018.

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FORUMS: Nhulunbuy Partnership Forums

NTCOSS invites you to attend the Territory Families CEO/NGO partnership forum in Nhulunbuy. We have held the forums in Alice Springs and Darwin and the feedback has been that people have found them to be informative and useful for those who attended. We will hopefully confirm a date for Katherine soon.

Forum dates are as follows, please RSVP to admin@ntcoss.org.au

Nhulunbuy 11am – 1pm, 29 August 2018 (venue to be confirmed)

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WORKSHOP: Couple Connect

Relationships Australia is holding a 2 hour workshop for couples to up-skill their communication and connection. Learn and fine tune the skills to build on trust, deepen intimacy and strengthen friendship.

Bookings are essential. Phone 8923 4999 or email rantreception@ra-nt.org.au

When: Tuesdays 6.00-8.00pm July 31 and August 7

Location: Relationships Australia NT Darwin office 5 Shepherd St, Darwin CBD.

Cost: \$50 per person \$80 per couple.

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WORKSHOP: Not For Profit's Guide to Best Practice Sponsorship

Volunteering NT has partnered with Abbey Clemence from Infinity Sponsorship to present a workshop on the “Not For Profit’s Guide to best practice Sponsorship” This workshop will cover how your organisation or event CAN be successful with sponsors.

Date: Wednesday 29th August 2018

Time: 9.30am – 3.30pm

Venue: TBC – Darwin location

Cost: \$30.00

To register please click [here](#)

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TRAINING: Free Domestic Violence Training Darwin and Katherine

DV-Alert is a 2 day training opportunity for people working in front-line community services sector, education, health and allied health professionals that enables workers to Recognise, Respond and Refer potential clients that may be going through Domestic and Family Violence. This includes students studying in the field of social welfare, law, medicine and other fields that may involve contact with the Aboriginal community. The workshop is fully catered and is provided by nationally accredited trainers. **The training is free of charge** funded by Department of Social services.

Darwin 16 and 17 Jul

Venue - The Quest Berrimah Rd

Register [here](#).

Darwin 19 and 20 Jul

Venue - The Quest Berrimah Rd

Register [here](#).

Katherine 23 and 24 Jul

Venue - Knotts Crossing

Register [here](#).

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INFORMATION SESSION: Want more information about becoming a foster or kinship Carer?

Interested in knowing more about Foster & Kinship care? Come along to an information session which covers the following topics:

What's involved in being a foster Carer, Steps to come a Carer, Roles and responsibilities of a foster Carer and assistance available for foster Carers and members. If you are unable to attend this session but want more information, please contact us via the information below.

Date: Tuesday 7th August

Time: 5pm -6pm

Location: Foster & Kinship Carers Association NT, Lyons Community Centre, 25 Damabila Drive, Lyons, Darwin

RSVP: [Book online here](#) or email info@fkca.org.au, call 1300 030 928

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Central Australia

FORUMS: Tennant Creek Partnership Forum

NTCOSS invites you to attend the Territory Families CEO/NGO partnership forum in Tennant Creek. We have held the forums in Alice Springs and Darwin and the feedback has been that people have found them to be informative and useful for those who attended. We will hopefully confirm a date for Katherine soon.

Forum dates are as follows, please RSVP to admin@ntcoss.org.au

Tennant Creek 11am – 1pm, 25 July 2018 (venue to be confirmed)

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CALENDAR: July 2018 School Holiday Calendar

The Office of Youth Affairs (OYA) in Territory Families has published the July 2018 School Holiday Calendar for Central Australia. Visit the OYA [website](#) for more information.

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SCHOLARSHIP: Aboriginal Leader from Central Australia

The AICD have one complete scholarship for a senior manager, executive or director of Australian Aboriginal descent from Central Australia to undertake our five-day flagship [Company Directors Course](#). The scholarship covers attendance and

materials for our course in Alice Springs, from Monday 1 October 2018 – 5 October 2018. To complete your application [click here](#).

Applications close 16 July, 2018. For further information please do not hesitate to contact Terri-Ann Maney TManey@aicd.com.au

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DESERT HARMONY FESTIVAL: TC Connect

Are you interested in helping with or hosting workshops for local kids? Would you like to support the children of Tennant Creek and be involved with some fun activities, ranging from making video diaries and bunting to painting and a colour run?

TC Connect is a space for the kids and families of Tennant Creek to come together in a spirit of fun and belonging. Together, we will explore how we can connect as a community to make TC a wonderful place in which all kids can learn.

Contact Mardi Haselton on 0438 862 199 or mardi.haselton@nt.gov.au to register your interest.

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SURVEY: Tennant Creek Alleyways

Barkly Regional Council has received a number of complaints from residents regarding the pedestrian alleyways between houses in Tennant Creek. They have set up a quick survey asking the public for feedback.

Please click on <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Alleyways> to complete the survey. If you have any queries call 8962 0027.

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Submit an item to eBulletin

To contribute notices to our weekly eBulletin, please email your information in the body of an email or as a Word document to admin@ntcoss.org.au

Please be brief (no more than 5 lines) and include all appropriate dates, times, links and

contact details. PDF flyers can be included.

Submissions are due by 12.00pm Wednesday for next day (Thursday) distribution.

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