



Sunshine Coast Loop

FEBRUARY 2008

Ola

The Sunshine Coast Professional Support Network came together for 2 days of Orientation in September 2006.

Over the course of these 2 days the network members discussed how they were going to effectively work together to meet the needs of the region.

Firstly they developed a vision.....

Our vision is to "create a **UNITED** and **SELF-VALUED** childcare sector

in our region!"

To achieve this we will:-

- Develop effective communication strategies through collaboration with all service types in the region with the aim of meeting their professional support needs.
- Provide professional support opportunities that
- Rekindle the passion within the childcare industry.
- Be open and accountable to all.



Sunshine Coast Professional Support Network—Orientation Days

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **Ola —hello**
- **Who's who in the zoo—the PSN for the Sunshine Coast**
- **What's happening in 2008?**
- **What is PSCQ?**
- **Word on the street...**

NEED TO CONTACT PSCQ?

Phone 1800 112 585
 Web
www.pscq.org.au
 Email
pscq@workforce.org.au

Your Sunshine Coast Project Officer is



Tara Lee Franks

Who's who in the zoo...

The Sunshine Coast Professional Support Network has had their first year of meetings to identify and prioritise the professional support needs of the child care professionals in the Sunshine Coast region.

Each network consists of members across a range of child care service types, management types and geographical sites in each region.

The Sunshine Coast PSN Members and the Inclusion Support Agency Staff in the back row from left to right are Michelle Reber (Outside School Hours Care), Kerryn

Moroney (ISA), Karen Lawley (Long Day Care), Julie Mc Cosker (Family Day Care,

In Home Care), Penny Hare (Outside School Hours Care), Jacqui Porteous (Long Day Care & Occasional Care), Maureen Brand (ISA), Margaret Clarke (ISA), Lindsay Foster (ISA), Roz Vos, Toni Bensley (Outside School Hours Care), Jo Thatchell (previous member), Helen

Hansard (Long Day Care), Kerry Cook (Family Day Care), Maria Sutton (previous member), Kim Davies (C & K consultant) and Tara Franks Project Officer Sunshine Coast & South West

Darlings Down Region.

South West Darlings Down Region.

We will be using a range of means to get information to your service so please watch for the PSCQ logo.



Sunshine Coast Professional Support Network Members & Inclusion Support Agency working in partnership

What is PSCQ?

What is PSCQ?

It is the Professional Support Coordinator Queensland—a National program funded by the Australian Government to manage and monitor the delivery of professional development and support to eligible child care services.

PSCQ's Project AIM

Is to continue to develop and improve the consistency and quality of child care services by providing professional support and enhancing the skills development of child care staff, management and volunteers throughout QLD.

How can PSCQ help me?

Free services:

- 1800 line
- Specialist Equipment Pool
- Bi-cultural Support & Pool
- Website
- Regional Project Officer
- Professional Support Network

Membership services (\$75 annum per service/ \$30 per individual:

- Resources & Advice
- Remote Area Advisor
- Circles for Change
- Statewide professional support activities

Pay as you go services:

- Workshops
- Other organized activities and event

Thank you to those who have been supporting the activities and events through 2007. Recently the PSN held a planning forum for 2008, there was much conversation, collaboration and constructive comments.

We have collated these comments to plan some exciting professional support opportunities for 2008.

Some of these included:

1. Looking after yourself through special demands
2. Cultural Diversity/Inclusion
3. Dealing with families
4. Programming & Planning: creating a service environment
5. Innovative Delivery Options
6. Team Building/ work
7. Communication
8. Networking [special needs]
9. Language – Makaton, PECS, sign & age appropriateness
10. Industry – big picture issues
11. Resources
12. Child Protection
13. Legal Aspects of Child Care
14. Family Involvement



We've been busy planning for 2008

DATE	EVENT
Thursday 27th March	# Networking & Nibbles (1st part of 4) *Use of KEY WORD SIGN (MAKATON) and... Other visual support systems to assist language and speech development"
Wednesday 23rd April	# Networking & Nibbles (2nd part of 4) *Use of KEY WORD SIGN (MAKATON) and... Other visual support systems to assist language and speech development"
Saturday 17th May	Programming & Planning - Beverly Rintala
Wednesday 14th May	I Guiding Behaviour Peer Support Group – Margie Carter, Caroline Fewster
May 17th	Programming & Planning
Tuesday 27th May	# Networking & Nibbles (3rd part of 4) *Use of KEY WORD SIGN (MAKATON) and... Other visual support systems to assist language and speech development"
Saturday 31st May	Working with Challenging Behaviours in Children's Services – Margie Carter
Sunday 1st June	Working with Challenging Behaviours in Children's Services – Margie Carter
Monday 23rd June	# Networking & Nibbles (4th part of 4) *Use of KEY WORD SIGN (MAKATON) and... Other visual support systems to assist language and speech development"
Wednesday 25th June	J Guiding Behaviour Peer Support Group – Margie Carter, Caroline Fewster
Wednesday 16th July	I Guiding Behaviour Peer Support Group – Margie Carter, Caroline Fewster
Friday 25th July & Saturday 26th July	2 day Human Resource Workshop – Bernadette Rutyna
Tuesday 5th August	Business Planning - Frances Sneddon
Wednesday 6th August	J Guiding Behaviour Peer Support Group – Margie Carter, Caroline Fewster
September	Gourmet & Gabble
October	ECA Conference – Melbourne Celebrate Inspire Acknowledge – South West darling Downs Region – Charleville
November	Gourmet & Gabble
Tuesday 4th December	Sunshine Coast Planning Forum

We are always open for new ideas for future events to provide ideas contact Tara Franks your PSCQ Project Officer on 1800 112 585 or email pscq@workforce.org.au

Word on the street...

Supporting child care services to embrace high quality child care and inclusion for all children.

ISA Sunshine Coast aims to promote and maintain high quality care and inclusion for all children in eligible child care services, by increasing the skill level of carers and service staff in line with nationally consistent principles.

We aim to do this through:

- providing all eligible child care services with access to a range
- of practical supports and assistance in line with nationally
- consistent guidelines;
- providing all eligible child care services with inclusion support
- that is responsive to their needs and those of children from the
- identified priority groups;
- ensuring that quality inclusion support is delivered flexibly so that it is responsive to local needs, accessible to all eligible services, culturally appropriate

and cost effective.

Our Inclusion Support Facilitators (ISF's) work directly with child care services to build their capacity to include children with additional needs, by:

- providing or sourcing information and support for the development of effective inclusion strategies in response to child care service needs,
- assisting services to link up with child care professionals, community groups and organisations who can provide support for inclusion,
- encouraging and supporting reflective practice, which involves looking at past and current practices to ensure that services continues to achieve positive outcomes for children in their care.

If you would like more information or require our support, please do not hesitate to contact us on 5478 9200, or email: isasc@optusnet.com.au.



Sunshine Coast Inclusion Support Agency and the Sunshine Coast Family Day Care Scheme at the PSCQ Information Session in Caloundra 2006



The PSCQ is a project of Health & Community Services Workforce Council Inc. The Australian Government, through the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaCSIA), funds the Professional Support Coordinator initiative as part of the Inclusion and Professional Support Program.