

SDOHA

NEWS

23 October 2015

SDOHA Anti-Poverty Week Oration and Launch of “Sick with Worry...” Report

This year’s annual SDOHA Anti-Poverty Week Oration was held at the ACT Legislative Assembly on Wednesday 14 October. The Oration was delivered by Dr John Falzon, Chief Executive Officer of the St Vincent de Paul Society National Council of Australia, highlighting the relationship between poverty and ill-health. The St Vincent de Paul Society report “Sick with worry...” - *Stories from the frontline of inequality, 2015* was launched in conjunction with the Oration.

The event was a great success - attended by around 80 people and attracting widespread media coverage. Click on these links to view the [report](#) and related event media [alert](#). Some of the media coverage is captured in the media summary provided below. Click [here](#) for a transcript of Dr Falzon’s Oration.

The Oration and launch was followed by the SDOHA Annual General Meeting. Michael Moore will be continuing as SDOHA Chair and the other elected members of the Management Committee are Martin Laverty, Donna Murray, Bret Hart, Carrie Fowlie, Gordon Gregory, Gillian Mangan, Paul Grogan and Lyn Morgain.

Items for Circulation from Members

Workshop – Why do health initiatives succeed or fail in attracting political priority? – 18 November, ANU

Why do some health initiatives attract significant political priority (attention and resources) whereas others receive very little, or none at all? This workshop will engage with theory as well as empirical research to answer this question. Click [here](#) for more information.

Australian Community Sector Policy & Research Forum 2015, 23-24 November, Sydney

Join ACOSS and the Centre for Social Impact at this important event designed for community leaders, policy experts, practitioners, government, business representatives, academics and researchers to engage in in-depth discussion, analysis and debate across key areas of social and economic research and policy in Australia. Click [here](#) for more information.

Member events previously advertised:

- [National Primary Health Care Conference: 2 – 4 November 2015 \(Canberra\)](#)
- [2nd National Complex Needs Conference: 17-18 November 2015 \(Canberra\)](#)
- [2015 Canberra Conference on Earth System Governance – ANU, 14-16 December](#)

News Items of Interest

Media items of interest over the past week included:

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22 October 2015

New WHO report reveals ways to reduce health risks from short-lived climate pollutants (Medical News)

A new WHO report highlights the urgent need to reduce emissions of black carbon, ozone and methane - as well as carbon dioxide - which all contribute to climate change. Black carbon, ozone and methane - frequently described as short-lived climate pollutants (SLCPs) - not only produce a strong global warming effect, they contribute significantly to the more than 7 million premature deaths annually linked to air pollution. Click [here](#) for full article.

21 October 2015

Historic 10 First Nations Candidates elected as MPS in 2015 Federal Election (or-politics.com)

The federal election Monday was historic for Canada's First Nations, which saw 10 indigenous candidates elected to the House of Commons and saw higher voter turnout in largely aboriginal ridings. Some of the notable wins included Liberal candidates Robert-Falcon Ouellette, who beat out long-time NDP MP Pat Martin inner-city riding of Winnipeg Centre, and Jody Wilson-Raybould, a regional chief of the Assembly of First Nations, who took the riding of Vancouver-Granville. Click [here](#) for full article.

19 October 2015

Pat Anderson wins a 100 Women of Influence award (NITV)

Lifelong Indigenous health advocate Pat Anderson AO has won the Public Policy category of the 100 Women of Influence Awards. Alywarre woman Pat Anderson said she acknowledged the work of many women upon receiving an *Australian Financial Review* and Westpac 100 Women of Influence Award mid-October for her work in public policy. Click [here](#) for full article.

Matrix Medical Network to Present at AHIP's 2015 National Conferences on Medicare and Medicaid (Yahoo!7 Finance)

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz., Oct. 19, 2015 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Matrix Medical Network® (Matrix), the leading provider of in-home assessments and care management, will present a special information session about how health plans can impact high-utilizing members through chronic care management at America's Health Insurance Plans (AHIP) National Conferences on Medicare and Medicaid on Oct. 21, 2015 in Washington, D.C. Click [here](#) for full article.

15 October 2015

Health Track: Diabetes and what we can do about it (Illawarra Mercury)

Ladies and gentlemen, here are the results. Thirroul 3.8 per cent, Kiama 4.8 per cent, North Wollongong 5.2 per cent, Shellharbour 5.6 per cent, Bellambi 6.4 per cent, Avondale 6.9 per cent, Barrack Heights 7.9 per cent, Berkeley 7.9 per cent. Port Kembla 8.2 per cent, Cringila 9.4 per cent, NSW 5.1 per cent, Australia 4.9 per cent. Click [here](#) for full article.

Vinnie's launches "Sick with Worry" report (CathNews)

The report was launched by Vinnies CEO Dr John Falzon in conjunction with the Social Determinants of Health Alliance Anti-Poverty Week Oration in Canberra yesterday. The report comprises more than 20 stories from people located around Australia who are assisted by the St Vincent de Paul Society. Click [here](#) for full article.

Vinnie's releases report for Anti-Poverty week (Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne & other sources)

The St Vincent de Paul Society National Council has marked Anti-Poverty Week 2015 with the launch of the 'Sick with worry...' report containing stories from the front-line of inequality and 14 recommendations for urgent action by the Federal Government to enable people to achieve their dreams of a life without poverty. Click [here](#) for full article.

Sick with worry report: People's desire to participate shines through (medianet)

The St Vincent de Paul Society has marked Anti-Poverty Week 2015 with the launch of the 'Sick with worry...' report containing stories from the front-line of inequality and 14 recommendations for urgent action by the Federal Government to help enable people to achieve their dreams of a life without poverty. Click [here](#) for full article.

14 October 2015

St Vincent de Paul urges more action to tackle poverty in Australia (ABC)

A report by St Vincent de Paul calling on the Federal Government to do more to tackle poverty has highlighted the day-to-day struggles faced by many Australians. Based on feedback from more than 70 St Vincent de Paul clients, the report titled "Sick with Worry" outlined what it described as "stories from the frontline of inequality". Click [here](#) for full article.

Human face of Australian poverty: St Vincent de Paul highlights stories of struggle (Sydney Morning Herald)

Gemma was working at a popular fast-food restaurant when she slipped and hurt herself on some wet stairs that had not been properly marked. She already had a bad back and as time went on, her injury and pain sometimes left her unable to get out of bed. When she couldn't work, she also developed depression and anxiety.

Because the incident wasn't reported at the time, and she couldn't claim compensation, Gemma went onto the Newstart unemployment payment. She saw a "huge drop" in her finances, particularly as she tried to keep up with her medical needs. Click [here](#) for full article.

13 October 2015

Addressing the drivers of poverty (Brisbane Times)

We'll all gain by eliminating poverty and it's up to everyone to do their bit to help, writes Bill Bush. We and future generations have much to gain by the elimination of poverty. Relieving the disadvantage of our neighbour has as much to do with self-interest as doing the right thing. Experiencing poverty in prosperous Canberra is particularly bitter because it places you so much on the outer and we all bear the high health and social costs of the resulting exclusion. Click [here](#) for full article.

Health services lag behind population growth (Starweekly)

Health services are lagging behind Melton's rapid growth, driving down the overall health of the population, a report has found. A population health snapshot by Melbourne Primary Care Network (MPCN) reveals Melton's poor health record – the prevalence of diabetes, premature deaths, high smoking rates, psychological distress, obesity and disability was much higher than the state average. Click [here](#) for full article.

Membership of SDOHA – Renewal period open

Membership pledges are being sought for the 2015-16 financial year. For more information please contact Anne Brown on accounts@phaa.net.au. Full membership is open to organisations that agree with the Alliance's purpose and principles; abide by the Alliance's terms of reference; and consistently and regularly attend Alliance meetings. Individuals can also be listed on the SDOHA website as supporters of the Alliance. Further information is available on the "Who We Are" page of the website at www.socialdeterminants.org.au.

Invitation to contribute to the SDOHA Blog

We are seeking Blog posts – to be published on the website - from member organisations, either commenting on key issues/current events or showcasing work that your organisation is undertaking in relation to the social determinants of health. Please forward Blog posts to Anne Brown, SDOHA Coordinator at accounts@phaa.net.au.

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