

SDOHA

NEWS

5 June 2015

Items for Circulation from Members

2015 SDOHA Public Forum and Member Meeting dates

Please note the previously advertised AGM in August will now coincide with the Anti-Poverty Week Address.

- October 2015 – Anti Poverty Week Address (Public Forum) – date and venue TBA

Emerging Health Policy Research Conference – abstract submission now open

The Menzies Centre for Health Policy is delighted to invite you to submit an abstract for the 10th annual Emerging Health Policy Research Conference to be held at the University of Sydney on Tuesday 21 July 2015. The Emerging Health Policy Research Conference showcases the work in progress of current masters, doctoral and early career research workers, as well as those new to the field of health policy research. Abstract submission closes on Friday 5 June 2015. Click [here](#) for further information.

2nd National Complex Needs Conference – abstract submission & registration site now open

The Public Health Association of Australia (PHAA) - in conjunction with the National Complex Needs Alliance (NCNA) - invites you to participate in the second Australian conference to showcase successful programs/approaches in addressing complex needs - with the broader purpose of identifying what works and how. The Second National Complex Needs Conference is being held in Canberra on 17-18 November 2015. The abstract submission and conference registration site is now live. Abstract submission closes on Friday 12 June 2015. Click [here](#) for link. **Please also circulate this info throughout your networks.**

Membership of SDOHA

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.

News Items of Interest

Media items of interest over the past week included:

3 June 2015

National Ice Taskforce stakeholders seek comprehensive action (Crikey Blogs)

UnitingCare ReGen CEO Laurence Alvis participated in the recent Prevention and Treatment roundtable sessions of the National Ice Taskforce hearings in Sydney. With Taskforce public consultations having now closed, the following provides a summary of his notes on the key issues raised by roundtable participants. Overall, the roundtable participants stressed the need for comprehensive, long-term and evidence-based interventions that addressed the broad issues affecting people who use ice, including in areas such as housing, employment and mental health. These recommendations contrast with the findings from the Senate Estimates Committee hearing this week of a further \$8 million cut to drug and alcohol programs Click [here](#) for full article.

2 June 2015

Climate change: a great threat to health, but not as generally conceived (Crikey Blogs)

Climate change was called this century's greatest threat to health in the longest paper ever published in The Lancet; and this paper is frequently cited by people advocating for increased action in this area. This sentiment has been echoed in the recent Doctors for the Environment Australia report, [No time for Games: Children's Health and Climate Change](#), in which Professor Fiona Stanley states that "the impacts of inadequate action for their children verge on the apocalyptic and are too scary to contemplate." Click [here](#) for full article.

Unpacking wind farm impacts (Queensland Country Life)

FEARS over adverse health impacts caused by wind farms are being heavily scrutinised during a parliamentary inquiry into the controversial renewable energy source. Click [here](#) for full article.

Time or money? Why you need both to be healthy (ABC Health & Wellbeing)

Time poor? Of course you are. Who isn't, these days? We're all desperately trying to cram two-days' worth of activity into one, and it seems like everything has to have happened yesterday. Deadlines scream at you while yet another crumpled note from your child's school gently nudges you to volunteer your time for something. Your dog gives you THAT look then stands pointedly next to its long-neglected leash. You know you should catch that spin class and cook a healthy meal afterwards, but by the time your workday ends all you can manage is to grab some take-away and slump guiltily in front of Game of Thrones. Click [here](#) for full article.

25 May 2015

Why Aboriginal people need autonomy over their food supply (the Conversationist and other publications)

Access to affordable and nutritious food is an ongoing problem in remote Indigenous communities. These areas have an artificially inflated cost of living due to cycles of mining boom and bust, and suffer from a general unavailability of fresh fruit and vegetables and other high-quality foods. As well as the high cost of living, limited educational outcomes and work opportunities coupled with insufficient social services, including public transport, create chronic economic insecurity for Indigenous residents. Food is often the first thing to go when there is not enough money to pay the bills. Click [here](#) for full article.

24 May 2015

Medical cannabis on clinicians' conference agenda (The Cairns Post)

THE benefits of medical cannabis will be highlighted at a doctors' conference that starts in the Far North this weekend.

Leading national and international specialist physicians are convening in Cairns tomorrow through to Wednesday to discuss and debate key topics at the forefront of the health agenda. Click [here](#) for full article.

23 May 2015

Australasian Health week in review: May 23 (Pulse+IT)

Pulse+IT's weekly round-up of Australian and New Zealand health and eHealth articles from third-party sources. Click [here](#) for access.

22 May 2015

W.Africa urged to prepare for possible future outbreak of Ebola

GENEVA - The World Health Organization's regional director for Africa is urging West Africa nations to prepare now for the likelihood of a future outbreak of the deadly Ebola virus. Click [here](#) for full article.

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