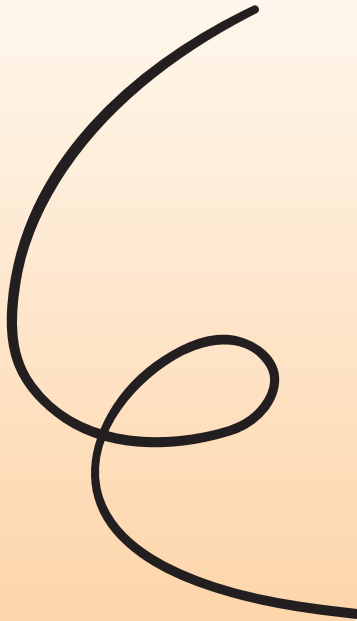


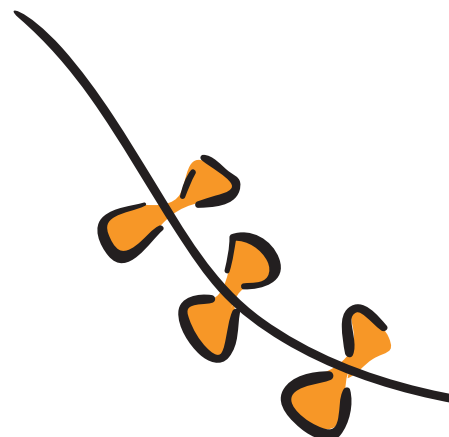
Community Sector Futures

ACTCOSS Conference

4 - 5 September 2008



**Kippax Uniting Community
Centre, corner of Luke Street
and Hardwick Crescent, Holt**





Conference Sponsors

ACTCOSS wishes to acknowledge the generous support of our sponsors in assisting us bring you this Conference. We wish to thank them for supporting the ACT community sector and helping to bring us together to discuss our future.

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Invitation to Attend

It is with great pleasure that I invite you to participate in the 2008 ACTCOSS conference "Community Sector Futures".

In the year 2008, more so than at any other time in the past decade, the ACT Community Sector faces a challenging environment. Community organisations are experiencing increasing demand without the resources to meet them, the effects of high staff turnover are taking their toll, and requests for service continue to climb. We must continue to work together to find innovative and creative solutions to combating disadvantage.

This year's conference will bring people together from diverse backgrounds to meet, share ideas and solutions and gain knowledge and skills. I hope that this conference will inspire participants and provide an environment that promotes resilience, new thinking, and hope for the future.

We encourage participants from both the government and non government sectors to come together during the conference, to talk, to listen and to share ideas and experiences. Participants will have a chance to listen to stimulating presentations focusing upon the future of the sector, share their experience, and work together to develop strategies for the development of our services. ACTCOSS and our members share a vision of an equitable Canberra that ensures everyone can reach their full potential. We aspire to creating a community that respects and values the diversity of its residents and eliminates injustice, inequity and social exclusion. To achieve this vision ACTCOSS seeks to be an effective influence on policies that promote the well being of all Canberrans and support the existence of a dynamic, collaborative and sustainable community sector.

I look forward to seeing you.

Rebecca Vassarotti
President
ACT Council of Social Service



Conference Themes

Community Sector Futures

The Community sector has always stretched limited resources to the limit. The conference will explore ways for the community sector to work better at using our resources, including through sharing services, building capacity, implementing social inclusion, holding on to our values, engaging consumers and promoting our organisations.

Indigenous Development

With the Apology and the Intervention both still fresh in peoples minds, the conference will examine and discuss the future of Indigenous development and how to better engage with Indigenous people in developing community organisations.

Housing and Homelessness

Every community sector worker knows that without secure, affordable and appropriate housing, social issues get worse and become harder to solve. The conference will explore the future directions in the provision of social and affordable housing, and how the sector might be involved in finding housing solutions.

Corrections

This year, the ACT Government will open Canberra's first prison. The Conference will hear from speakers about the effects of imprisonment on social well-being and explore the connections between community organisations and the prison.

Climate Change

With climate change at the forefront of the new Federal Government's agenda, it is useful to examine what the social impacts of climate change and mitigation policies will be, and explore methods of ensure that combating climate change can also produce socially beneficial outcomes.

Contact Us

Please direct inquiries about the conference to the Conference Co-ordinator.

Conference Coordinator
PO Box 849
MAWSON ACT 2607

Tel: 02 6202 7200
Fax: 02 6281 4192

Email: narelle.kelly@actcoss.org.au

ACTCOSS Conference Program

Day One: Thursday 4 September 2008

8:00am **Registration and Welcome – Tea, Coffee and Light Breakfast**

9:00am **Plenary Session**

Welcome to Country

Opening Address

Jon Stanhope *MLA ACT Chief Minister*

Indigenous Perspectives on Sector Futures

Keynote Speaker: Jackie Huggins *University of Queensland, former Co-Chair of Reconciliation Australia*

11:00am **Morning Tea**

11:30am

Concurrent Sessions		
<p>1A. Supporting Indigenous Communities: Strategies for Future Service Delivery</p> <p>Jackie Huggins <i>University of Queensland</i></p> <p>Julie Tongs <i>Winnunga Nimmityjah Aboriginal Health Service</i></p> <p>Additional panellists TBA.</p> <p>This session will explore methods and concepts in working with Indigenous communities to improve service delivery outcomes and partner with Indigenous people to empower them to “close the gap” with non-Indigenous Australia.</p>	<p>1B. Finding Solutions to Community Sector Viability</p> <p>Llewellyn Reynders <i>ACTCOSS</i></p> <p>Susan Abbott <i>ACTCOSS</i></p> <p>This session will present the findings of the ACTCOSS Community Sector Viability Project: Finding Solutions. The project undertook research and consultations with community organisations in the ACT to provide some ideas and direction to improve organisation's viability.</p>	<p>1C. Tools for Building Sustainable Community Organisations</p> <p>Grant Whitehorn <i>Risk Management Innovations</i></p> <p>In this session, participants will be provided with an overview of business models and tools used for achieving organisational resilience, including change management, organisational capability, planning and business integration.</p>

1:00pm **Lunch**

1:30pm **Plenary Session**

Housing & Homelessness: Chronic, Critical or Curable?

Keynote Speaker: Adrian Pisarski *Chairperson, National Shelter*

Strengthening Capacity to Deliver Services to People with a Disability

Keynote Speaker: Maryanne Diamond *Vision Australia*

3:30pm **Afternoon Tea**

4:00pm

Concurrent Sessions		
<p>2A. Keeping True to our Mission in a Time of Change</p> <p>Marie Bennett <i>Lifeline Canberra</i></p> <p>This workshop will look at how organisations can be true to their core values, purpose and vision in a world where organisations are adopting new practices and adapting commercial models of funding and service delivery.</p>	<p>2B. Housing Futures</p> <p>Adrian Pisarski <i>National Shelter</i></p> <p>Simon Smith <i>Homelessness Australia</i></p> <p>Craig Brennan <i>Community Housing Canberra</i></p> <p>This session will examine some the new directions in housing and homelessness, in response to the housing boom and uncertain economic environment, and the increasing interest in these areas by both the Federal and ACT Governments.</p>	<p>2C. Perspectives on the Future of Consumer Engagement in Service Delivery</p> <p>Maryanne Diamond <i>Vision Australia</i></p> <p>Jane Williams <i>Mental Health Consumer Network</i></p> <p>Darlene Cox <i>Health Care Consumers Association</i></p>

5:00pm **Day 1 Close**

Day Two: Friday 5 September 2008

8:00am **Registration and Welcome – Tea, Coffee and Light Breakfast**

9:00am **Plenary Session**

The Impact of Prison, and the Case for Change in Correctional Facilities

Keynote Speaker: **Debbie Kilroy** *Sisters Inside*

The Impact of Climate Change on Australians at Risk of Social Exclusion

Keynote Speaker: **Janet Stanley** *Monash Sustainability Institute*

10:30am **Morning Tea**

11:00am **Plenary Session**

Creativity and Social Change: The People United will Never be Defeated

Keynote Speaker: **John Falzon** *CEO, St Vincent de Paul National Council*

Social Inclusion: Beyond Planning to Action

Keynote Speaker: **Lin Hatfield Dodds** *Chair, ACT Community Inclusion Board*

12:30pm **Lunch**

1:30pm

Concurrent Sessions		
<p>3A. Incarceration & Throughcare: The Impact on the Sector</p> <p>Debbie Kilroy <i>Sisters Inside</i></p> <p>Lynne Magor-Blatch <i>ADFACT and AMC Therapeutic Community</i></p> <p>Brian Dunn <i>Offender Services Manager, ACT Corrective Services</i></p> <p>The ACT is about to introduce its first prison, the Alexander Machonahie Centre. This session will examine the possibilities for working with the community sector to support prisoners and their families, and ways to ensure “throughcare” in the ACT prison system.</p>	<p>3B. Cutting Through: Building Community Sector Profile</p> <p>Parker & Partners</p> <p>This session will be presented by professional public relations specialists Parker and Partners, and will examine ways that community sector organisations can build their relationships with government and business and build awareness and profile in the community.</p>	<p>3C. A Snapshot of Community Development in the ACT & Region: What’s Emerging?</p> <p>Community Development Network of the ACT & Region</p> <p>This workshop facilitated by the Community Development Network of the ACT & Region will provide a briefing on its current community development mapping project and engage participants in an interactive session to explore the implications and potential of community development in the ACT and Region.</p>

3:00pm **Afternoon Tea**

3:20pm **Election Forum**

ACT Election 2008: Choosing Our Futures

Facilitator: **Lin Hatfield Dodds** *ACOSS President*

Participants:

Katie Gallagher *MLA Deputy Chief Minister*

Zed Seselja *MLA Leader of the Opposition*

Richard Mulcahy *MLA Independent*

Representative from the ACT Greens

Other Candidates TBA

This session will allow parties and candidates standing for the ACT Election to outline their vision for building social inclusion and the capacity of the ACT community sector. Candidates will take questions from the floor.

5:30pm **Close**



Keynote Speakers

Dr Jackie Huggins

University of Queensland



Jackie Huggins AM FAHA (BA Qld, BA Hons, DipEd Flinders, Doctor of the University honoris causa Qld) is of the Bidjara (Central Queensland) and Birri-Gubba Juru (North Queensland) peoples. Jackie holds many leadership

positions in organisations across the country. She is a Director of the Telstra Foundation; Adjunct Professor in the School of Social Work and Applied Human Sciences, University of Queensland; Member of the Indigenous Advisory Board of the Queensland Centre for Domestic and Family Violence Research, Central Queensland University; former Co-Chair of Reconciliation Australia; former Chair of the Queensland Domestic Violence Council (2001); former Commissioner for Queensland for the National Inquiry into the Separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children from their Families (1997); and former member of the ATSIC Review Panel (2003). She authored *Auntie Rita* (with Rita Huggins 1994) and *Sistergirl* (1999). In 2000 she received the Premier's Millennium Award for Excellence in Indigenous Affairs; in 2001 she was awarded an Australia Medal (AM) for her work with Indigenous people, particularly reconciliation, literacy, women's issues and social justice; and in 2007 Jackie was named University of Queensland Alumnus of the Year.

Debbie Kilroy

Sisters Inside Inc.



Deb Kilroy, OAM, BSocWk, National Human Rights Medal 2004, former prisoner, Psychotherapist, LLB candidate, Director of Sisters Inside, a community organisation that advocates for the human rights of

women in the Criminal Justice System. Debbie continues to be a strong activist, both nationally and internationally, on issues relating to the abolition of prisons.

Lin Hatfield Dodds

ACOSS President



Lin Hatfield Dodds is the National Director of UnitingCare Australia. She is also President of the Australian Council of Social Service, and chairs the ACT Community Inclusion Board. She serves on the Boards of

the Australia Institute and the Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture. She has given expert testimony to Federal Parliamentary inquiries into poverty and disadvantage, welfare reform, community service delivery, taxation and income support, refugee policy, mental health and other issues.

Lin's background includes working as a counselling psychologist and policy advisor. She has worked in government and community settings, including in drug rehabilitation and with young people at risk, with a particular interest in trauma and abuse. She has worked as a public policy advisor on health, health ethics, and community services within federal and state governments.

Her contribution to the community was recognised by an International Women's Day Award in 2002, and in 2003 she was awarded a Churchill Fellowship to study anti-poverty strategies and issues associated with the delivery of welfare services in North America and Europe.

Lin is the current ACT Australian of the Year.



John Falzon

*Chief Executive Officer,
St. Vincent de Paul Society*



Dr John Falzon, a sociologist working in the area of social justice and social change, is Chief Executive Officer of the St Vincent de Paul Society National Council. He has written and spoken widely

on the structural causes of marginalisation and inequality in Australia and has long been involved in advocacy campaigns for a fairer and more inclusive Australia, especially in regard to welfare legislation, housing justice, homelessness and poverty.

John has worked in academia, in research and advocacy with civil society organisations, and in community development in large public housing estates. He was recently a participant in the 2020 Summit and, in May this year, was appointed by the Prime Minister to the Australian Social Inclusion Board.

Adrian Pisarski

National Shelter



Adrian Pisarski joined Queensland Shelter as their Executive Officer in 2002. After a tilt at the Arts and media, he found a niche as a youth worker in a homeless shelter in Hobart in 1980.

Since then he has held

leadership roles with the Youth Accommodation Association of NSW, the National Youth Coalition for Housing, the former Youth Peak AYPAC and Shelter NSW. He is the current Chairperson of National Shelter and a board member of ACOSS. He is a key member of the National Affordable Housing Summit Group and was a founding director of the Live 'n' Learn Foundation, bringing "Foyer" housing from Europe to Australia. Adrian possesses a vigorous sense of social justice and

is deeply committed to the provision of social and affordable housing.

Maryanne Diamond

Vision Australia



Maryanne is blind and has been all of her life. She has 4 children one who is vision impaired. She was employed in the information technology industry for many years before moving into the community sector. She

spent four years as the Executive officer of Blind Citizens Australia, three years as the inaugural CEO of the Australian Federation of Disability Organizations and in May 2007 commenced as manager of International Development with Vision Australia. Maryanne is the First Vice President of the World Blind Union and will be a candidate for the position of President in August 2008. Maryanne has held a range of positions on: community, local, state, national and international boards and committees over many years. Currently she is: aboard member of ACOSS, the Australian Pacific Islands Disability Support and a core group member of the Australian Disability Development Consortium.

Janet Stanley

Monash Sustainability Institute



Janet Stanley is Chief Research Officer, Monash Sustainability Institute, Monash University. Janet facilitates research to promote social sustainability in the areas of climate change, water, energy, biodiversity and

transport. Janet's particular research interests are in relation to transport, equity in response to climate change, children, social inclusion, social capital and evaluation.

ACTCOSS Conference 2008 Registration Form

TWO DAY RATES, 4 - 5 SEPTEMBER

Please indicate number of people	Early Bird Rate (Before 29 August 2008)	Regular Rate (After 29 August 2008)
_____ Member	\$165	\$180
_____ Non-member	\$210	\$230
_____ Corporate/Government	\$250	\$280
_____ Pensioner/Student	\$60	\$70

ONE DAY RATES

_____ Member	\$100	\$120
_____ Non-member	\$135	\$160
_____ Corporate/Government	\$185	\$215
_____ Pensioner/Student	\$35	\$40

DIVERSITY BALL, FRIDAY 5 SEPTEMBER

	Price per Person	
_____ Member/Pensioner/Student	\$65	All prices are inclusive of GST
_____ Non-member	\$80	
_____ Corporate/Government	\$80	

Your Name: _____

Organisation: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Name to appear on name badge: _____

Specific requirements (disability, dietary or otherwise): _____

Payment Options: Please indicate your preferred method of payment.

- Cheque** (please make cheque out to ACTCOSS and enclose with your registration form)
- Invoice** (ACTCOSS will invoice to the address supplied with this registration form)
- Direct Debit** (ACTCOSS will contact number supplied with this registration form to arrange details)

Please return your registration form to ACTCOSS via fax on 02 6281 4192, email to lisa@actcross.org.au or post to PO Box 849, Mawson ACT 2607.