

# Disability Support Worker Conference 2009

## Abstract Submission Guidelines

### *Call for Papers Information*

### *Closing date AUGUST 7<sup>th</sup>, 2009!!*

Papers, Facilitated Discussion Groups and Workshops are invited from Support Workers, Researchers, Academics, people with a disability and those interested in, or involved with the professional development of Disability Support Workers. The program aims to explore ideas and experiences from the grass roots level where personal stories are shared and discussed. Direct Support Workers and people with a disability interested in presenting but wishing to brush up on their presenting skills are welcome to attend a series of free workshops prior to the conference. Support will be provided during the conference. Please indicate your interest on the Call for Papers form.

### **Conference Theme**

The program committee are interested in abstracts related, but not limited to, the theme of the conference. The DSW09 conference seeks to be a catalyst for change within the disability sector. This year's theme "*More than just a carer: a career that makes a difference*", acknowledges the expertise among DSW's in the field, with the aim of increasing it across the board. DSW's work day-to-day with one of the most disenfranchised and marginalised groups of society, and it seems just and relevant, now more than ever, to work towards creating better lives for people with a disability, and at the same time for disability support workers. The disability support worker has great and diverse skills and attitudes and the timing seems perfect to move the disability support worker into the next generation – a professionalised workforce.

### **Types of Presentations**

#### ***Workshops/Facilitated Discussion Groups***

These 90 minute presentations often have a connection to our overall theme and cover current research, service provision and professional issues within disability support work. The workshops can be interactive or activity-based and aim to provide delegates with the opportunity to learn new skills explore ideas and gain feedback on practice issues.

#### ***Short Presentations***

Short presentations (30 mins) are invited on issues of critical importance to disability support workers and people with disabilities. Consisting of a 20 minute presentation with 10 minute Q&A, these papers provide an opportunity to discuss issues or share information in a public forum.

### **Call for Papers Timeline**

Call for papers will be accepted until **7<sup>th</sup> August 2009**. All submissions are encouraged and will be reviewed by the conference advisory committee. It is at the discretion of the organising committee if a paper will be accepted for presentation. Successful contributors will be notified after the final selection process with confirmation of dates, times and rooms.

**August 7th**  
**Late August**

#### **Call for Papers Close**

Conference Program Committee review abstracts received by this date for inclusion in the final conference timetable.

**Early September**  
**October**

Notification letters sent for all submissions reviewed to date.

Program Timetable developed and notification of room allocation and further conference information sent out to presenters.

**November 18-19, 2009**

Disability Support Worker Conference –University of Melbourne.

#### ***Presenter Payment***

*The conference is organised by ASSID (Victoria), a non profit organisation. In the aim of providing delegates with the best possible program and with the view to keeping registration fees to a minimum, ASSID (Vic) is not in a position to offer payment for presenters other than keynote speakers or those specifically invited to present at the conference by, or on behalf of, the Convenor.*

#### ***Presenter Registration***

*Presenters planning on attending the remainder of the conference before or after their presentations will be required to register for the conference. Registration Forms can be downloaded from the website [www.assid.org.au](http://www.assid.org.au) or can be found in the conference brochure.*

# DSW Conference 2009 Abstract Details Form

**Title of Presentation:**

**Name of Presenter/s:**

**Organisation Represented:**

**Contact Address:**

**Phone:**

**Fax:**

**Email:**

\*I give permission for my name & email address to appear in the conference program. YES NO

## Type of Presentation

- 90 minute Facilitated discussion group or Workshop
- 30 minute presentation/paper
- I/We would be interested in attending a series of workshops that improve presenting skills.  
*Details to be provided at a later date.*

**Do you have an attendance limit?** \_\_\_\_\_

*\*We will endeavour to accommodate audience limits but note that a pre registration option is **NOT** available. For sessions with limits, delegates will be required to queue at door. Numbers will be managed by the chairperson.*

## Set Up Requirements

Indicate any specific space set up requirements? \_\_\_\_\_

- DVD/VCR Player and Monitor
  - Overhead projector
  - PowerPoint Data Projector and Laptop
  - Specific Computer Program?
  - Butchers paper (easels not available)
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Slide projector
- You may supply your own equipment if you wish at your own risk.*

## Submission of Abstracts

The abstract is a brief summary of the presentation; it should consist of no more than **250 words**.

To submit an abstract for the Conference you need to fill in this form and attach an abstract (and a brief biography if you wish), then email the contact details and abstract to the office. It is preferred that all abstracts/ bios are sent in WORD as an email attachment to [dswconference@rmit.edu.au](mailto:dswconference@rmit.edu.au) or mail to **DSW Conference, Division of Disability Studies, RMIT University, PO Box 71, Bundoora, VICTORIA 3083 or Faxed to +61 3 9925 7303**. A 'Call for Papers' word doc is available on the conference link at [www.assid.org.au](http://www.assid.org.au).

## Accepted Presenters to submit a 'Takeaway Menu'.

Upon acceptance of the abstract we will also require a 'Takeaway Menu' for our delegates. You are welcome to include this menu with your abstract now if you wish.

Delegate feedback has informed us that it is important to encourage workplace adoption of ideas and practices discussed during the conference. In September, we will require all successful presenters to provide a one page (A4) summary of their presentation./workshop/paper that give a practical overview of the topic. The 'takeaway menu' you provide should include some of the following:

- A practical guide to how support workers can put your topic into practice from their very next shift; (compulsory)
- A plain language summary of your topic;
- Further reading on the topic;
- Web resources or related sites of interest; and or contact details for further information.