



Event reports

ASSID Victoria Strategic Planning Day

Recent work by the Victoria region committee has resulted in a strategic plan being developed to guide the committee's work for the next three years. The plan aligns with our mission and the ASSID Board Strategic Plan, and will be available through the Victoria page of www.assid.org.au shortly.

43rd Australasian Society for the Study of Intellectual Disability Conference - Melbourne 2008

The 2008 Australasian Board conference will be held at Melbourne University on 24, 25 & 26 of November 2008. For Victorians working in the field of Intellectual and Developmental Disability, this is a special opportunity to attend one of the *Australasian* Board conferences without the airfares and accommodation costs!



Principles, Policies and Practices: The Search for Evidence

What is the evidence that you are using to support your beliefs and practices? A narrow "scientific" definition of evidence may be inadequate in human services delivery, yet approaches that are unvalidated or are based on ideology alone are also not good enough. The conference will be embracing the various types of knowledge that are available to us; service user and carer knowledge, practitioner knowledge, and knowledge that is generated by policy and research communities. As evidence and knowledge can come from many sources such as, personal experience, observation, interviews, and research (in the traditional sense) the conference will feature contributions from a variety of stakeholders in the intellectual and developmental disability field.

A number of international and local guests will explore this theme. Professor James Mulick (USA) will discuss *Fad, Fashion and Science in Professional Practice*. Bruce Tonge (AUS) will talk about a Longitudinal study of behaviour and emotional problems in ID and Laraine Masters Glidden (USA) will discuss *Families and Disability: Evidence for Positive Outcomes*.

Check out the conference website through www.assid.org.au for more details.



disability SUPPORT worker
CONFERENCE

2008 Disability Support Worker Conference

The tradition of having a conference specifically for direct support professionals continues this year. Once again, the conference will concentrate on bringing the latest in research and practice methods, as well as networking, industry awareness and recognition opportunities will be provided.

Working Well: On Paper and in Practice

This year's conference will look at how we can make the paperwork side of being a direct support professional as meaningful as possible (especially for the client!) while keeping it from taking over. We do have to do some paperwork, so how can we keep it minimal, and meaningful.

As always, the conference will also focus on the practical side of direct support work, and present practical approaches and techniques to get the most benefit for both the professional, and the people they support.

The conference will be held on **27 & 28 November 2008, at Melbourne University**. The information and registration brochure will be available soon. For information about sponsoring the conference, see www.assid.org.au.

For your Interest

Recent publications from the locals:

Bigby, C. (2008). Beset by obstacles: A review of Australian policy development to support aging in place for people with intellectual disability. *Journal of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities*, 33 (1), 1-11.

*Forster, S., * & *Iacono, T.* (2007). Perceptions of communication before and after a speech pathology intervention for an adult with intellectual disability. *Journal of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities*, 32 (4), 302-314.

Jess, G. , *Torr, J.* , Cooper, S.-A., Lennox, N., Edwards, N., *Galea, J.* , & O'Brien, G. (2008). Specialist versus generic models of psychiatry training and service provision for people with intellectual disabilities. *Journal of Applied Research in Intellectual Disabilities*, 21 (2), 183–193.

Next Meeting

Date: Tuesday 1 April

Time: 6.30pm – 8:00pm

All members are encouraged to attend.

Contact Us

For newsletter contributions or comments, to be removed from this list, or to receive this newsletter electronically if you don't already, contact Daniel Pennefather at: daniel.pennefather@dhs.vic.gov.au.