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Gala Dinner & Auction

Thursday 11th March 2010
 7:00 – 11:30 pm
 Karralyka Centre
 Mines Road, Ringwood East

BOOK NOW

Ph: 1300 130 813

\$65 per person



See page 2
 for some of our
 auction items

The start of a new year always brings new ideas, goals and challenges.

The Christmas season has been very busy for EPC with client numbers high and all Teams experiencing very high demand. In the first six months of the 2009/2010 financial year our referrals are up nearly 10%. This has been due to an education program rolled out in 2009 for major referrers. Further work will be undertaken in this area in 2010 particularly with GP's and other referring agencies.

We are also working with our new strategic plan approved by the Committee of Management in November 2009. One of the identified issues in the strategic plan is the need to be resourceful and strategic with our public relations. In the past we have undertaken many public relations activities but we have not coordinated these activities or used them to deliver a coordinated message. This is our plan for 2010 – to develop our message and to be increasingly recognised in the east. Louise Hogan, the Manager Human Resources & Public Relations, is leading this endeavour and focusing our attention to make the best use of all activities. The Community Supporters Group will be vital in influencing and advancing our name.

Keeping the community engaged and informed of our existence and our work is a huge job and we compete with all other community groups out there trying to engage people. The development of the Supporters Group is vital to ensuring we have people keeping our name in the forefront.

One of the tasks that we have identified in public relations is the need to refresh our logo. The EPC Logo has been in operation since we commenced in 1997, however, many people do not know that it represents two hands and a face. We are now looking to refresh our branding and we are exploring new logos which we will announce in a future edition of this newsletter.

Gala Dinner

Please do not forget the Gala Dinner and Auction on March 11th. This will be our major fundraising activity for the year and should be a very enjoyable night at the Karralyka Centre. Auction items include paintings, digital cameras, vouchers, books, signed footy posters and other wonderful items that have been donated. We appreciate all donations and thank our donors for their generosity. In particular we thank all those businesses in the East whom we have contacted – they have generously donated many auction items. A full list of donors will be available at the Dinner and in the next newsletter. Without your support we could not enjoy such a successful function.

Premier's Community Volunteering Awards

In October 2009 EPC submitted an application for the Premier's Community Volunteering Awards. Although our Biography Service did not win, we were one of the five finalists. We were presented with a framed certificate in appreciation of the work our Volunteers are performing every day. Recently I spoke with the carer of a client who had recorded his biography and she told me how her husband looked forward every week to recounting his life story and how it opened many memories for the family. They deeply appreciated the work of the Biography Volunteer.

Introducing our Family Support Consultants

Our Family Support Consultants (FSC's) provide clinical leadership, case-load supervision and mentoring to Family Support Workers in each team. The role includes the provision of psycho-social support, spiritual and pastoral care to clients and their carers within an interdisciplinary team model.



L:R Cate Keely, Felicity Podger, Kobie Tatlow

Felicity Podger – Outer Team

Felicity has held the position of Family Support Consultant at the Outer Team since December 2004. She is a social worker with a Bachelor of Arts (Monash), Bachelor of Social Work and Master of Social Work (Melbourne).

Her work experience has included working with the Department of Human Services in the early 1980's; residential care (for children) and foster care. She managed a foster care agency in the southern suburbs for six years and then a fostering and adoption team in England for two and a half years.

Cate Keely – Inner Team

Cate is the Family Support Consultant at the Inner Team. After completing her training in social work in 1985 she worked in the UK for the next ten years. Since returning to Australia she has worked in the areas of acute and community health; including her roles as Co-ordinator of the Reproductive Loss Service at the Royal Women's Hospital and Co-ordinator of the newly established bereavement counselling service at Mercy Western Grief Services in Sunshine. Cate has worked with EPC since February 2005.

Kobie Tatlow – Central Team

Kobie is a registered psychologist specialising in Family Therapy. She joined the EPC team in 2008 as the Family Support Consultant for the Central Team. Previously employed as Manager of Support Services at Huntington's Victoria, supporting clients and families affected by Huntington's Disease, Kobie has also worked in a counselling clinic for a number of years as well as with the Salvation Army supporting high risk, vulnerable clients with multiple diagnoses. Kobie also spent two years travelling and working overseas, mainly in London for a large supported housing project.

Gala Dinner & Auction

Thursday 11 March 2010

Don't forget to book your tickets for our Gala Dinner & Auction. Includes three course meal, wine, beer, soft drink and light entertainment. Only \$65 per person.

Our Auction items include:

- One weeks accommodation at Kingscliff
Luxury three bedroom townhouse with ocean views from the decking. 15 minutes from Coolangatta - Valued at \$600
- Tokar Estate Winery, Coldstream
\$200 voucher for dinner and/or wine purchases
- Vintage Car Tour for a day with driver and hamper lunch
- Day Spa Vouchers
- Framed & signed Hawthorn Football Club Jumper
- Framed & signed Essendon Football Club Poster

... and lots more!

Bunnings Sausage Sizzles

EPC Volunteers and staff have run two successful sausage sizzles at local Bunnings stores.

Over \$2000 was raised due to their sterling efforts. This money will assist us in providing additional therapeutic services to our clients.

We would like to thank the management and staff at Bunnings Nunawading and Croydon for hosting us in December and January.



L:R- EPC Nurse Sue Temby, CEO Jeanette Moody with EPC volunteers Pam McIntosh, Alan Baker and Margaret Young at Bunnings Croydon

Biography facts and figures

2009 was a busy year, having published 69 biographies from 103 referrals.

Since June 2006 we've achieved 214 publications from 409 referrals. The average time taken to complete a biography has grown to ten weeks, with volunteers increasing average hours spent to 35. The average age of our client's remains 73 and our waiting list is hovering around seven.

In December, active biographers numbered 27, transcribers two and editing buddies four.

Congratulations!

Our biography team was one of five finalists for the Premier's Community Volunteering Innovation Award.

Volunteers Carole Branch and Susan Powell joined Thirza McPhee and Jenny Kearney in representing the biography finalists at the Premier's Volunteer Awards Ceremony on 5th December.



L:R Thirza McPhee, Carole Branch, Premier Brumby, Susan Powell, Jenny Kearney

It was a great privilege to accept from Premier Brumby and Minister Batchelor, their warm congratulations and a framed certificate on behalf of all our volunteers, which will hang proudly at our head office. We also enjoyed morning tea and lunch in the company of over 300 wonderful volunteers from metropolitan and country Victoria. An added bonus was to be featured in one of the television news programs that night.

Volunteer Profile Sue Mylius

I started my volunteer training in March 1998 with Outer East Palliative Care. Soon after, Outer East Palliative Care became part of Eastern Palliative Care.

My first client experience of volunteering taught me a lot, particularly about expectations! It was an uncomfortable lesson, but the beginning of a great journey for me. It is a privilege that people are so trusting that they invite me into their lives at a vulnerable time in their lives.

I have been able to also attend two palliative care conferences; Adelaide in 2003 and Albury in 2004. They were wonderful experiences, I came away with so much new information, I also enjoyed getting to know the staff in my team that attended; and meeting many other people.

The first six clients I had, I sewed a fabric panel that symbolised to me my experience with the clients. It was very therapeutic for me at the time. I sewed these pieces on to two banners and they now hang in the volunteer coordinators' office.

In 2006 I was in the first batch of EPC volunteers for the inaugural training of the Biography Service. We had clunky and bulky recorders and transcribing equipment to use then. I love the digital technology we have now. I like having different aspects to my volunteering. I can alternate biography with home-based volunteering. Although the biographies I have completed have been over a shorter period, (six weeks or so), than what I spend with a home-based client, the transcribing and editing time at home does take up a lot of time.

As for taking breaks between clients, I take however long I need at the time. Two years ago I took the year off so that I could study, and to be able to survive the renovation of our house. I have a 21 year old daughter and a 17 year old son (who was starting primary school when I started my training) and I work part-time.

Until recently I also worked in a community rehabilitation centre in the physiotherapy and occupational therapy area and I have found that has been very beneficial knowledge to have in some of my volunteering situations.

I enjoy people, gardening, love variety, and creative outlets like sewing and mosaic. I have a good sense of humour, which has been helpful. I believe flexibility and adaptability are important to be able to enjoy our work.

For information about volunteering at EPC, phone 1300 130 813



VOLUNTEER AWARDS

Congratulations and special thanks go to our volunteers who recently received Service Awards:

Ten year service award: Alan Baker

Five year service awards: Jayne Rogers, Mandy Gabb, Rose Bettiol, Anne Magee, Pam McIntosh, Lyn Read, Kathleen Jackson, Kevin Francis, Jean Buttner, Tony Young

Monash Community Raffle

Would you like to help us raise funds by selling raffle tickets?

Telephone Sally on 1300 130 813 for your tickets

The winner of the **FIRST PRIZE** will have a choice between two cars – either a Toyota Corolla Ascent Hatch Automatic with air conditioning and on-road costs valued \$26,727 OR a Toyota Corolla Ascent Sedan Automatic with air conditioning and on-road costs valued \$26,082

SECOND PRIZE: NEC 48cm LCD flat screen colour TV, retail value \$659

THIRD PRIZE: EB Games Voucher – retail value \$100

FOURTH PRIZE: EB Games Voucher – retail value \$70

FIFTH PRIZE: EB Games Voucher – retail value \$70

Tickets \$2.00 each

Raffle to be drawn on Wednesday 2nd June
(Tickets become available for sale in March 2010)

MEPCA Offers Scholarship at Monash University

Before winding up, EPC's founding partner, Melbourne *Eastern Palliative Care (MEPCA)*, created the *Eastern Palliative Care Essay Prize* and the *Eastern Palliative Care Undergraduate Scholarship* for students at Monash University.

The scholarships have been introduced to promote the importance of palliative care in the community and as a field of study.

The prize will be administered and managed by Monash University's Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences.

One essay prize valued at \$1,000 will be awarded annually for five years.

The Undergraduate Scholarship valued at \$5,500 will be awarded annually for five years. The first scholarship will be awarded in 2011 (and potentially 2010, if practical).

In Memory of

We are extremely grateful for the generous donations received from family and friends in memory of loved ones. Over the last three months we have received donations in memory of those listed below:

Barbara Girvan	Dena Slade
Diana Jones	Dorothy Doig
Douglas Kay	Geoff Laslett
Geoffrey Morrow	Hugh Ryan
Irene Sgourakis	Isabelle Hughes
Joan McPhee	John Brodie
John Hicks	John Martin
John Stevenson	Laurie Burt
Ken Le Lievre	Betty Le Lievre
Loris Blake	Mavis Gerdtz
Patricia Jeffs	Peter Reynolds
Ronald Street	Ross Gunstone
Russell Freeman	Sabatino Diiorio
Sue Liversidge	Tony D'Urbano
Victoria Fritze	Wes Watts

Entertainment Books available soon!



To order your 2010 - 2011
Entertainment Book,
please telephone
Sally on
1300 130 813



Events Calendar

Gala Dinner & Auction

Thursday 11th March 2010 7pm
Karralyka Centre, Mines Road, Ringwood East

Day Seminar:

Establishing a Client Biography Service

Wednesday 5th May 2010 9:30am – 4:00pm
Venue: Eastern Palliative Care, Nunawading

Newsletter Production

EPC is a quarterly newsletter being distributed in March, June, September & December. If you would like to submit material or if you do not wish to receive the newsletter please phone Julie on 1300 130 813 to register your request.