

APRIL 2009 ISSUE

# DHAC Newsletter

Health Consumers' Council WA Inc, Unit 13/14 Wellington Fair, 4 Lord Street,  
Perth WA 6000, [www.hconc.org.com.au](http://www.hconc.org.com.au) , 08 9221 3422

## Inside This Issue

- Newsletter re-designs
- Patient for Patient Safety Conference
- Public Forum – Nurse Practitioners
- Rural Article
- Seeking Input from DHACs

## Welcome

Welcome to the April Issue of the District Health Advisory Councils (DHAC) e-newsletter.

### Newsletter Re-Design

At The Health Consumers' Council we are currently looking to redesign the e-newsletter, we would like it to be more representative of the different DHACs and the regions you operate in. If you could send us any photos of your region, photos of projects you are currently working on or anything you think represents your DHAC would be fantastic.

The DHAC which sends us the best photo, judged by Michele Kosky, Cheryl Rugdee and Danielle Scott will be featured in our DHAC e-newsletter.

### Health Matters

The next issue of Health Matters is a rural version full of articles and information relevant to people living in rural areas, the newsletter will be ready soon so keep your eyes out.

---

HCC seeks to enable consumers to have their say in the way that health services, policies and programs are developed.

Join Today!!

---

---

If you have any items of interest that you would like to share with other DHACs, please send them through to [Danielle.scott@hconc.org.au](mailto:Danielle.scott@hconc.org.au)

Also, please circulate this newsletter to other members of your DHAC.



The Health Consumers' Council

TELEPHONE: (08) 9221-3422  
FREE CALL: 1800 620 780



## Four Wheel Driving in WA

The Federal Government, in partnership with the Western Australian State Government, has agreed to fund a new patient transport service to provide greater access to health and social services for indigenous people living on the Ngaanyatjarra Lands, in Western Australia. The Federal Government will be providing funding to purchase two patient transport vehicles while the WA Government has agreed to cover the operational costs of the service. The off-road vehicles will provide regular transport for indigenous people **HCRRA Newsletter** March 2009 from 11 remote communities to three core clinics in Warburton, Warakurna and Blackstone. Federal Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs Minister Jenny Macklin said that:

**‘Up to 1,800 indigenous people living within the shires of Ngaanyatjarraku, East Pilbara and Laverton will benefit from increased access to major social and health services, including hospitals, pharmaceuticals and general medical supplies. In addition, the vehicles will be used to transport clinic supplies from the two regional centres, giving the Ngaanyatjarra Health Service a more reliable means of supply, particularly during periods of adverse weather and road closures.’**

In addition, WA Health Minister Dr Kim Hames (You will remember him. He’s the one who showed some initiative recently by significantly increasing the PATS accommodation subsidy and committed to reduce the red tape associated with the scheme) said:

**‘... the transport service will provide up to seven jobs for Ngaanyatjarra community members who will be trained to passenger transport driver certificated standard and hold dangerous and hazardous goods handling-certificates.’**



### Seeking Input from DHACs

Dear DHACs, we are seeking an update of what is going on in your area so we can see if there is a trend of a problem occurring across the State. Can you send us the top three issues relating to health care faced by consumers in your region to include in next months update?



### Health Consumers' Council Membership

The Health Consumers' Council would like to encourage you to become a member. There are many benefits to becoming a member, besides the fact that it is totally free!

As a member of the Health Consumers' Council you will:

- Be kept up to date about health issues
- Be able to have your say on health policy and on the way that health services are delivered
- Receive free *Health Matters* magazines
- Be able to go on our distribution list so you can find out about all the events other consumers and the Health Consumers' Council are involved in

If you would like to become a member, please call Jess Braithwaite on (08) 9221 3422 or Free Call 1800 620 780 and we will send out the appropriate forms.

The Health Consumers Council also has a website: [www.hconc.org.au](http://www.hconc.org.au) Visit the website today to find up to date health issues, relevant links and lots of interesting information.



The Health Consumers' Council



TELEPHONE: (08) 9221-3422  
FREE CALL: 1800 620 780

**Our mission**  
*To promote quality  
health services in  
Western Australia.*