



Welcome to the first issue of the Health & Socialcare Interprofessional Network (HSIN) 'Vic News' for 2009 and what an amazing first half of the year we have had! With the focus of HSIN goals towards building local Interprofessional Learning (IPL) capacity in February 2009 we partnered with a number of other Australian and New Zealand Universities to support a visit by two experts from the Centre for Advancement in Interprofessional Education (CAIPE) in the United Kingdom (UK). The experts - Helena Low and Dawn Foreman - facilitated two Interprofessional workshops one in Bendigo, the other in Moe with Helena also facilitating an invitation only workshop at Monash University, Melbourne. Feedback from all the workshops was very positive and as a result of these workshops HSIN has been able to forge stronger links with groups in areas of Victoria not previously visited. In addition Mollie Burley was a guest at the Auckland University of Technology IPL workshop and was present at the very exciting opening of the 'New Zealand National Centre for Interprofessional Education and Collaborative Practice' (NZ NCIPECP). This Interprofessional Clinic is a wonderful example of how different health disciplines can collaborate together to provide a fully integrated health care experience.

Between mid-May to the end of June HSIN meetings have taken place in Traralgon, Mildura, Wangaratta, Camperdown, Shepparton, Belmont and Bairnsdale. The task of establishing Voluntary Interprofessional Facilitators (VIPLF) was made easy with the enthusiasm of members prepared to champion IPL in their areas. There are currently several VIPLF's in four of the five regions across Victoria. The VIPLF is the link to building capacity in your local area through facilitating access to the shared IPL resources from the Monash University Department of Rural & Indigenous Health & HSIN website with the health and socialcare professionals working in and around your area. The website is available to all HSIN participants, and their colleagues, and contains a list of resources that are freely accessible. New resources are added each month so you can log on at the 'Informal HSIN' meeting in your area, or at your leisure to see what is available. The website is <http://www.med.monash.edu.au/srh/mudrih/hsin> then click on Interprofessional Learning and HSIN.

HSINetwork activities February - June 2009.

IPL Workshops with CAIPE (UK) experts: 18, 19 & 20 February 2009.

Helena Low facilitated an IPL workshop in Melbourne for 28 invited guests which included both Department of Human Services and Monash staff members. Helena provided an overview of the development of IPL in the UK and then related these developments to the Australian situation. The focus of the workshop was to encourage those present to take up the challenge of funding IPL both at a Government and Monash level, as financial and governance support is critical to ongoing success. Participant evaluations were very positive and ultimately resulted in HSIN receiving some funding from DHSV (with thanks to the Better Skills, Best Care program) to implement our goals for 2009.

Some Melbourne IPL Workshop participants:



The Bendigo and Moe workshops were open to any who wished to be included with a total of 33 participants attending. The workshops were identical in content but were modified according to the questions and needs of participants, with both Helena and Dawn facilitating. Participants came from rural and metropolitan health care agencies and included acute, community, aged care, practice management, universities and private practice with many travelling in excess of 100Kms to attend. Once again participant feedback was very positive with many asking when we would be running more workshops in the future. We will provide more details about other IPL workshops in our next Issue (September 2009).

Some Bendigo IPL Workshop participants:



Outcomes to date from the IPL visit by Helena & Dawn:

- Knowledge from IPL workshops integrated into HSIN activities
- Access to IPL resources from the UK that can be found on the MUDRIH/HSIN website (above).
- Across rural Victoria (and in Monash) people have been encouraged to work towards participating in the All Together Better Health 5, IPL conference in Sydney from 6-9 April, 2010.
- An Australian / New Zealand network has been formed for people working in specific IPL roles. The purpose is to put people working in the same area in contact with each other for support and sharing of ideas and resources.

To date HSIN meetings have been conducted in Barwon South-West, Gippsland, Hume and Loddon-Mallee with Grampians planned in July/August. The topics for the year were selected based on feedback from participants and on the issues currently of concern in Victoria. The formal HSIN program for 2009 is as follows:

- May/Jun Student Placements – Interprofessional Learning and the Future.
- Jul/Aug Chronic Disease Management and the Interprofessional Team.
- Sep/Oct Palliative Care and the benefits of Interprofessional Collaboration.
- Nov/Dec Schizophrenia and the need for Interprofessional Collaboration.

In the month where there is no formal HSIN meeting scheduled VIPLF's are encouraged to bring people together informally and to access the MUDRIH/HSIN website to explore resources available for that month, or to look at previous resources, at their leisure. Our aim is to keep building these resources each month so that by the end of 2009 we have a broad range of IPL tools, materials and literature that HSIN participants and their colleagues can access.

Introducing the Voluntary Interprofessional Facilitators (VIPLF):

The VIPLF role has been developed this year specifically for the purpose of building local IPL capacity. The role involves working in co-operation with the HSIN convener to identify appropriate venues, local speakers and to facilitate local formal and informal meetings and in some places we have two or three people willing to share the role. With five formal meetings, and five informal meetings, every month partnering with local champions is essential if we are to efficiently and effectively use the funding resources we have been allocated. We are focused on using the funding to purchase access to a broad range of resources and make them available on the website.

I am extremely grateful to those health professionals who have accepted the Voluntary IPL Facilitator role and wish to acknowledge those that have already agreed to function in this capacity. The VIPLF's, who had accepted this role by the end of June, are:

Barwon South-West:

- Belmont Gael Stewart (Belmont CHS) & Sherryn Evans (Deakin University)
- Camperdown Kate Schlicht (GGT UDRH), Patricia Nesbitt & Lorraine Mielnik (Deakin University)

Gippsland:

- Traralgon Sue Medson (LCHS) & Kerry Morgan (MUDRIH)
- Bairnsdale Denise McInness (CGHS) & Marnie Connolly (BRCS)

Hume:

- Shepparton Carole Maddison & Gayle Sammut (Goulburn Valley Health)
- Wangaratta Sue Wilson (Northeast Health)

Loddon-Mallee:

- Mildura Lyn Faulks (Latrobe University)

These VIPLF's will be invited to attend one of the invitational IPL workshops scheduled for August and September as a thank you for taking on the role and more specifically to build their personal IPL capacity so that they can share this learning with other local colleagues.

IPL developments:

The Australasian Interprofessional Practice and Education Network (AIPPEN) website was officially launched in April 2009. AIPPEN was first proposed in 2006 by a group of Australian and New Zealand educators and clinicians who met at the international "All Together Better Health Conference 3" in London. Since then various meetings and teleconferences across the Pacific have resulted in the development of the AIPPEN network. The network was formally launched at the 'Interdisciplinary Learning from Interprofessional Practice' conference hosted by the University of South Australia in November 2006. The website (see below) allows individuals and groups the opportunity to share information, networks and experiences in the area of interprofessional education, interprofessional learning and interprofessional practice in healthcare across Australia and New Zealand.

News from our New Zealand colleagues:

After 10 years, the National Centre for Interprofessional Education and Collaborative Practice (NCIPECP) was opened in Auckland, New Zealand on 26/27 February 2009. This very impressive building incorporates a Physiotherapy clinic, Podiatry clinic and a Dental clinic. A range of research and education programs related to the current programs and to IPL specifically, with 30-40 personnel, not all from health disciplines, are underway. AUT received Government support and formed a collaboration with Auckland University (Medicine) facilitating interaction with medical students in a number of programs with nursing and allied health. In addition AUT has a School of Dance and a School of Health & Fitness with a strong potential for both these schools to be included in the NCIPECP in the future.

Contributions to and from practice:

In this section of Vic News we would invite you to share your success stories, hear about the challenges you have faced or Interprofessional literature that you have found to be of value in your practice. Please forward them to Mollie Burley at: mollie.burley@med.monash.edu.au.

Recommended articles, reports or resources:

1. L-TIPP: 'The way forward' report – see MUDRIH website (link on page 1) for a .PDF copy
2. IPL Competencies: Example from: Leicester & DeMontfort Universities, UK – see MUDRIH website (link on page 1) for a .PDF copy
3. Parsell, G. & Bligh, J. (1999) The development of a questionnaire to assess the readiness of health care students for Interprofessional Learning (RIPLS), **Medical Education**, 33: 95-100.

Websites of Interest:

Australia: AIPPEN: <http://www.aippen.net>
UK: Combined Universities: <http://www.cuilu.group.shef.ac.uk/>
Canada: HSPNet: <http://www.hspscanada.net/>

Conference:

The 'All Together Better Health 5' conference will be held in Sydney from 6-9 April in 2010. This is an International Interprofessional Conference hosted by Australasian Interprofessional Practice & Education Network (AIPPEN). The conference is now open for abstracts with the closing date 6 November 2009. For more information visit: <http://www.atbh5.com.au/>

Preliminary advice:

Gippsland regional 'Speed dating with MUDRIH': introduction to post graduate studies & short courses:

The MUDRIH Post Graduate team will visit a number of Gippsland agencies from August to December 2009 with short, snappy presentations showing the suite of Post Graduate offerings available between 2009-2010. Of particular interest to HSIN participants will be the 'IPL Taster', a half-day workshop introducing Interprofessional Collaborative Practice.

**HSIN meetings planned for August/September:
'Chronic Disease Management & the Interprofessional Team'.**

REGION	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER
GIPPSLAND	Date: To be confirmed Venue: Traralgon	Date: To be confirmed Venue: Bairnsdale
LODDON-MALLEE	Date: 18 th August 2009 (6:30-9pm) Venue: Mildura Private Hospital	Date: 26 th August 2009 (6:30-9pm) Venue: Bendigo Community Health Service, Eaglehawk
GRAMPIANS	Date: 24 th August 2009 (6:30-9pm) Venue: Ballarat Division of General Practice. ** Session is to be recorded.	Date: 24 th August 2009 (6:30-9pm) Venue: Horsham or
HUME	Date: 25 th August 2009 (1-2pm) Venue: Northeast Health Wangaratta	Date: 26 th August 2009 (4:30-7pm) Venue: Goulburn Valley Health
BARWON	Date: To be confirmed Venue: Warrnambool/Camperdown	Date: 3 September 2009 (6:30-9pm) Venue: Belmont Community Health Service

Share this newsletter with a colleague:

We are asking **all health and social care professionals** to become **Interprofessional Champions** by sharing the HSINetwork information with their colleagues and by attending the network meetings when they are in their region/sub-region. So, please **forward 'HSIN Vic News'** to a rural/non-metropolitan professional who works in a health or social care field and ask them to forward it on to all their colleagues.

2009 Goals & Objectives for HSIN:

The objectives of the Health & Socialcare Interprofessional Network are to:

1. build local capacity for and facilitate interprofessional education and practice
2. provide a forum for networking, discussion, education and research into and about interprofessional education and practice or interprofessional learning
3. foster new, and enhance existing, Interprofessional collaborations, shared experience and undergraduate interprofessional clinical placement opportunities
4. foster the development of the 'Voluntary IPL Facilitator' role in 10 rural Victorian towns
5. provide a vehicle for promoting the benefits of becoming an interprofessional learning champion, group or organisation.

HSIN meetings objectives:

1. To build local capacity and hear about developments in implementing interprofessional education and practice in the international and local region.
2. Through local IPL hubs, share information about interprofessional learning activities and developments in the area.
3. To discuss interprofessional learning issues, from a postgraduate perspective.
4. To understand a range of health and social care perspectives.
5. To identify sub-regional interprofessional education opportunities.
6. To enhance/develop interprofessional research opportunities.

A Final Word.....

The remainder of the year will provide opportunities for you to expand your local networks; to access the latest information about Interprofessional activities in Australia and to access IPL resources that you can use in your practice. HSIN encourages you to share the stories of your IPL experiences at local HSIN meetings and also at the All Together Better Health 5 conference – closing date 6 November 2009.

HSIN has been formed to facilitate and support you in learning more about, and integrating, Interprofessional Learning into your practice. We invite your contributions from practice and your feedback about HSIN meetings and your **suggestions** for local speakers for your respective region/sub-region via email to mollie.burley@med.monash.edu.au or Mobile: 0400 061 648, or via post to:

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