



illawarra *forum*

Annual Report 2011- 2012

Illawarra Forum Inc
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2012

Vision

To be the Voice, the Advocate and the Leader supporting the community services sector and our communities.

Mission

We support community organisations; promote expertise and innovation in community development; foster industry development and advocate for social justice

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About the Illawarra Forum

The Illawarra Forum is the peak body working for community services and organisations in the Illawarra and the Shoalhaven. It supports community organisations, promotes expertise and innovation in community development, fosters industry development and advocates for social justice. Its membership is made up of the organisations and individuals that provide community services and pursue social justice in this region. The Illawarra Forum is an independent organisation governed by a committee of management elected annually by the membership.

The Illawarra Forum was established through a public meeting of more than 60 community services workers in 1990. A committee was formed of people committed to the principles of social justice and a belief in the value of the non-government community services sector as both a provider of services and as a vital part of our communities.

Philosophy and aims

The most powerful guiding statements of the Illawarra Forum are its philosophy and aims. This is what drives the organisation and maintains its independence.

The organisation itself is more than the sum of its contracts with governments. As an organisation we are not bound to the changing language and trends of government policy. Our contracts have to fit with the Forum's philosophy and aims and not shape the Forum's purpose.

The Illawarra Forum is committed to social justice. It is a peak organisation representing, resourcing and supporting community services in the Wollongong, Shellharbour, Kiama and Shoalhaven local government areas. The Illawarra Forum can form partnerships and undertake projects involving local government areas outside this region when the issues and work involved coincide with the needs of the Illawarra region.

As a broad based regional peak organisation the Forum takes up issues across program areas that impact on the region's community services and disadvantaged communities. The Forum's roles include: promoting the well being of disadvantaged communities, resourcing and supporting community service organisations and their committees, advocacy, information provision, social justice strategies, building expertise in community services and representational roles.

The organisation advocates for a united Australia that respects this land, values Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage and provides justice and equality for all. It is especially concerned with the well being of disadvantaged and vulnerable individuals and groups, and to promote their well being through socially just policies and programs.

Our values are:

- Co-operation
- Community participation
- Social justice
- People's right to equality of opportunity
- Community development
- Community management
- Self determination of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities
- Development of innovative and alternative approaches and ideas.

In pursuing its aims, the Illawarra Forum Inc strives to create a co-operative work environment wherein the skills and knowledge of all staff, committee and members are equally respected and utilised to contribute to the joint outcomes of the organisation.

Our aims are:

1. To pursue social justice in the Illawarra region and develop programs / strategies for promoting equitable access to services and participation by disadvantaged groups
2. To strengthen the capacity of community service organisations to meet their goals
3. To encourage co-operation and co-ordination between community service organisations
4. To provide relevant information services to members
5. To conduct research, promote good practice models and develop innovative models of community management and community service
6. To advocate on behalf of the community services sector and their service users and represent members
7. To effectively administer and manage the Illawarra Forum to enhance its ability to meet its goals.

The pursuit of social justice is complex and ongoing. Our work involves supporting organisations to build their capacity to provide services that address disadvantage amongst their target populations. We undertake regional strategies, cross-agency planning and policy development in order to connect the local knowledge of ‘on the ground’ services with government policy and planning processes.

Strategic Framework

The Illawarra Forum’s strategic directions for the period 2010 – 2013 are:

- To advocate for communities who are disadvantaged and to maintain and strengthen the voice and the capacity of the sector and the communities it serves
- To influence public and social policy and advocate for positive social change
- To enact a governance model and operational systems consistent with our values thus enabling the organisation to achieve these strategic directions.

Who we work with

The non-government community services industry in the Illawarra and Shoalhaven consists of approximately 300 organisations. They provide a broad range of crucial services in this region, including:

- Home and community care – community care services provided in the homes of frail older people and people living with disabilities
- Services supporting people living with disabilities
- Social housing and homelessness services
- Community development and community capacity building programs
- Mental health (non-clinical) supports
- Services for individuals and families with alcohol and other drug issues
- Sexual health services
- Services for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and incest
- Child protection services and statutory supervision
- Services that work with young people connected to the juvenile justice system
- Services for children and families who live with multiple layers of social and financial disadvantage
- Out of home care for young people who can no longer live with their families
- Youth work programs

Family services

Financial counselling

Community legal centre services

Organisational size varies from the very small community service agencies with budgets under \$50,000 annual turnover to the large agencies with more than \$10 m annual turnover. The majority however are small to medium organisations with annual budgets well under \$1m.

As a regional peak organisation, the Illawarra Forum's region consists of the local government areas of Shoalhaven, Kiama, Shellharbour and Wollongong. We work with all organisations wishing to participate in any of our projects or services, regardless of whether or not they are financial members of the Illawarra Forum.

Some of our funded projects cover a larger geographic area, with both the Tenant Participation Resource Service and the Minimum Data Set Support project (concluded 31 January 2012) covering the larger Southern region of NSW, down to Eden and across to Harden and Young.

As well as our roles in resourcing services and promoting cooperation, we work with a large range of other organisations, government agencies and service providers from outside the non-government sector.

Advocacy, social policy and representation

Aims

- To facilitate and co-ordinate collaboration and partnerships in planning, service delivery and development at a regional or State level
- To advocate on social justice and related policy issues on behalf of the sector to address disadvantage within communities
- To identify and promote emerging community services initiatives with regional or State significance to address disadvantage within communities
- To lead or facilitate industry change and the development of community services infrastructure

Equal Pay Case

On 1 February 2012, after a long campaign by the Australian Services Union (ASU), the Equal Remuneration Order (ERO) was handed down by the Fair Work Ombudsman. The ruling recognised that social and community services workers in the not for profit sector are underpaid in comparison to their government colleagues, and that the low wages in the sector are discriminatory. The basis of the discrimination was gender, since the majority of the workforce in the community services sector is female. The Order stated that pay increases would be based on the Queensland pay structure, and that increases would be implemented over eight years.

The Illawarra Forum joined the Campaign for Equal Pay together with community organisations in the Illawarra and Shoalhaven, the peak organisations NCOSS (Council of Social Service New South Wales) and ACOSS (Australian Council of Social Service), and the Australian Services Union.

Following the handing down of the ERO, the Illawarra Forum played a key role in informing the sector about the implications of the decision, as well as the processes to be followed in the reclassification of workers to the new Social, Community, Home Care and Disability Services Industry Award (SCHADS) award. The Illawarra Forum also advocated strongly for increased funding by both NSW and Federal governments to enable services to honour wage increases.

NSW 2021

The Illawarra Forum participated in the consultation process for the NSW 2021 – the new ten year strategic NSW government plan which will operate as the state government’s business plan.

The Illawarra Forum promoted and attended community consultation sessions in both the Illawarra and Shoalhaven. Not only did we contribute to the discussion at these sessions, we also prepared and tabled papers at both sessions. These papers represented the needs of our sector and of the disadvantaged communities we serve.

Submissions and Responses

The Illawarra Forum continues to represent the needs of our sector, and of our community by participating in policy development. To this end we have researched and developed responses, submissions, or position papers on a variety of policy issues including:

- NSW Transport Master Plan
- Australian Charities and Not for profits Commission Implementation Design
- NSW Legislative Inquiry into Inter-regional Public Transport
- NSW Ageing Strategy
- NSW Legislative Inquiry into Outsourcing Community Service Delivery

The Illawarra Forum continues to represent the sector on an extensive range of peak community organisations, key stakeholder groups, and regional bodies including:

- Membership of NCOSS (Council of Social Service of New South Wales)
- Representing the region as a member of the NCOSS Regional Forum
- Membership of the NCOSS Sector Development group
- Representing the region on the Forum of Non-Government Agencies (FONGA)
- Participation in the Illawarra Area Managers Group

Membership of the University of Wollongong
Community Reference Group

Representation on the Regional Development
Australia Illawarra Board

Representation by a member of the Illawarra
Forum Board in the Southern Suburbs
Integrated Case Management Committee

Membership of the regional board for the
Business and Community Partnerships project
auspiced by the Smith Family

The Illawarra Forum has also met with key regional
leaders and NSW government members and
ministers to inform them about the sector and to
advocate for the needs of service providers and
communities in the Illawarra and Shoalhaven.

Hon Greg Pearce MLC, Minister for the Illawarra
with representatives from the community services
sector

Hon Mike Baird MP, NSW Treasurer

Hon Pru Goward MP, Minister for Family and
Community Services, and Minister for Women

Hon Kevin Humphries MP, Minister for Mental
Health, and Minister for Healthy Lifestyles

Hon Greg Smith MP, Attorney General, and Minister
for Justice

Hon Andrew Constance MP, Minister for Ageing and
Minister for Disability Services

Hon Victor Dominello MP, Minister for Citizenship
and Communities, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs

Counsellor Kellie Marsh, Mayor of Shellharbour City

Community Management Support

Aims

- To support and enhance community
management processes in the region
- To undertake organisational and practitioner
development including training
- To lead or facilitate industry change and the
development of community services
infrastructure

Most of the 300 not-for-profit organisations in the
Illawarra and Shoalhaven are small to medium
organisations work with a turnover of less than
\$1m. Generally they are incorporated associations
governed by volunteer community-based
management committees.

The Illawarra Forum provides support for
community management structures within the
sector. This year, we provided assistance to a wide
range of services with support in such areas as:

- Organisational planning
- Management support
- Project development
- Cross-agency planning

The Illawarra Forum's partnership with the TAFE Illawarra Institute delivered the Certificate IV Disability Services, Certificate III HACC funded by the Department of Ageing Disability & Home Care. This course helped upgrade the skills and qualifications of existing community care workers. The training recognised previous competencies and consisted of flexible workshops.

We continue to work for the establishment of the Centre for Community Services Industry Development, an initiative of the Illawarra Forum Inc and the Community Services Section of TAFE NSW Illawarra Institute. This proposed Centre acknowledges that the community services industry is a major contributor to the region. Investment in industry development would particularly benefit small or medium size community service organisations. Such initiatives would provide expertise in human resources and organisational change as well as enabling viable career opportunities and career paths.

Shoalhaven Managers' Taskforce

The Shoalhaven Managers' Taskforce grew out of the Community Builders Fixed Term 'Lead & Manage' Project. Membership of the Taskforce is open to individuals and organisations from the Shoalhaven region who have managerial or strategic responsibilities in their work with community services and are in a senior decision-making role. Membership is primarily for non-government organisations, but government agencies are welcome.

The Shoalhaven Managers' Taskforce has been established to:

- Support, improve & sustain the community services sector in the Shoalhaven by addressing managerial and strategic issues in a collaborative manner
- Uphold principles of social justice
- Improve the coordinated collaborative approach to service provision, and work collaboratively on joint projects
- Provide a united voice for lobbying and to effect change at policy level
- Engage with regional issues to influence strategic planning
- Communicate regional information
- Research, discuss and consider new trends and initiatives and their impact on service delivery

Utilize members' skills to provide support, knowledge and advice

Provide an opportunity to reflect on issues and ideas

Identify and implement opportunities for professional development and training

The Taskforce meets at least quarterly. Secretariat are provided by the Illawarra Forum Inc.

Illawarra / South East Tenant Participation Resource Service (TPRS)

Aims

- To support the development of tenant or community based groups across a full range of social housing tenants with particular emphasis on areas of the region not effectively represented
- To promote the involvement of a diverse range of tenants in tenant participation activities
- To support and enhance local networks to identify and resolve systemic client issues
- To work in partnership with social housing providers and other agencies to develop tenant consultation and participation structures appropriate to the local area or region
- To provide information, referral and advocacy for social housing tenants

This year saw significant changes to the Illawarra/South Eastern Tenant Participation Resource Service (TPRS) program. The long term TPRS worker retired at the end of 2011. Changes to the boundaries resulted in Boorowa, Harden and Young being removed from the South Eastern region.

TPRS continued to resource and support existing tenant groups throughout the NSW Housing Areas of the Illawarra, Shoalhaven and South East New South Wales. The TPRS worker regularly visited tenant groups in Queanbeyan, Nowra, Batemans Bay, and the Illawarra with a total of 45 tenant group meetings attended during 2012. A number of new tenant groups have been established, including two from Community Housing complexes.

Four Tenant Forums were also held with TPRS co-facilitating these events providing an opportunity for Housing NSW tenant representatives to meet with HNSW Executive. Four issues of the South East Tenant Times were published for distribution to HNSW tenants. Tenants from the Illawarra and South East also attended the NSW Tenant Forum consultations in Sydney.

The worker attended eight Local Homelessness Forums in the South East including: Far South Coast, Southern Slopes and Tablelands and Queanbeyan-Cooma. She actively participated in a working group to build partnerships with the private sector; real estate agents, developers etc., to increase housing opportunities for low income people.

The annual Tenants Talking Conference was held in May at Batemans Bay. Topics included:

- Sharing of information between tenant groups
- Fire safety in the home
- Scam Awareness
- Mental Health awareness
- Dispute resolution

Consultations and working groups were conducted with the tenants to ensure optimum delivery of services. The Conference was attended by Housing NSW and Community Housing tenants across both regions. Tenants were also invited to attend the Central Southern Sydney TPRS Centenary Conference in Sydney in June.

The TPRS worker has also participated in many partnerships within the Illawarra and South Eastern Regions including: Stir it Up Wollongong, Healthy Communities Initiative, 2528 Child Friendly by Design, Illawarra Aboriginal Community Based Working Group Housing Cluster meetings.

Events attended by the TPRS worker included NAIDOC week celebrations, Homelessness week events, Going home, Staying home consultations, Shelter NSW conferences.

The TPRS worker has undergone training in FRIENDS – building resilience in children; Core concepts in working with people from a refugee background; Law Access; and Tenancy Law. These will all assist the worker to deliver appropriate services to clients.

Other activities conducted during 2012 included: Electricity and Water Ombudsman information sessions for both community workers and tenants in Goulburn, Wollongong and Nowra; ‘Rent it Keep it’ course in Bega; First aid training course in Batemans Bay; and liaison with Bega Women’s Centre to deliver Hidden Carer Projects. There were numerous garden workshops throughout the Illawarra and Queanbeyan area, installation of water tank in Shoalhaven, and pamper days in the Bega Valley for Hidden Carers.

The TPRS has continued to forge ongoing partnerships with local Community Housing providers at the Seniors Day and Aboriginal Housing event with Wollongong Community Housing, Koori Awareness Housing Day, Argyle Community Housing at Mittagong. Ongoing discussions continue with all four community housing providers to ensure that Community Housing tenants are able to access TPRS services and be involved with all TPRS activities.

TPRS continues to provide, support, information advocacy and referral to Housing NSW and Community Housing tenants both over the phone via the 1300 service or in person through tenant group meetings, forums, conference etc.

Housing NSW has extended TPRS funding until 30 June 2013. The TPRS worker continues to liaise with other TPRS agencies throughout NSW to plan strategies for continued funding.

Community Care Projects

Aims

- To strengthen the capacity of the Home and Community Care (HACC) service infrastructure to deliver quality services which respond to client needs, including special needs groups
- To strengthen interagency and community relationships and understanding of the Home and Community Care Program
- To promote better practice in the development of a strong cohesive community care system
- To provide information about the Home and Community Care objectives and guidelines to HACC funded agencies and related community care services

The Home and Community Care (HACC) Development Officer project, now in its third year of funding, has focused on change management processes and increasing the capacity of HACC services in the Illawarra Local Planning Area to better meet the needs of their service users. The impending changes to funding arrangements of the HACC Program prioritised last year by Council of Australian Governments (COAG) as part of the Health and Hospitals Reform, meant that HACC services were required to prepare for the changes due to commence on 1 July 2012.

Much of the work of the HACC Development Officer (DO) has been around cultural shifts in service delivery and the HACC Reforms. This involved attending consultations, sector briefings, key stakeholder meetings and peak meetings such as HACC Development Officers Network and the HACC Issues Forum. This ensured that the sector could remain up-to-date via reports provided at HACC Forum meetings, the Community Care Forum and service type meetings. Information dissemination has been a critical factor in ensuring that all HACC providers have been able to keep up-to-date with relevant information.

During this time of change, one of the key roles of the HACC DO has been to consult with HACC providers to ascertain their readiness for change, their gaps in knowledge and the information requirements in order to best prepare for HACC Reform and new policy directions. This information has been fed back through relevant channels in order that decision makers are able to adjust approaches if pertinent or to gauge sector readiness for reform. The HACC DO provided feedback to ADHC and Department of Health and Ageing (DoHA) one on one and via peak representation – the HACC Issues Forum, Aged and Community Services Association (ACS) and NSW HACC DO Network.

The Community Care Common Standards (CCCS) were introduced in March 2012 with an expectation that HACC services would commence working within these Standards and would undergo Quality Reviews over the next three years measured against the CCCS. The HACC Development Officer attended briefing sessions held by Aged and Community Services (ACS) and Ageing Disability and Home Care (ADHC) to ensure a serviceable knowledge was gained of the key differences between the new CCCS and the previous HACC Standards. Two specific sessions were held for HACC services providers in which the HACC DO assisted in promoting and with facilitation assistance on the day, including an Aboriginal specific session.

A key role for the HACC DO is to ensure that feedback regarding processes such as the Quality Review process is provided to the government departments responsible. Feedback was sought from HACC Providers in the Illawarra region regarding the process and this feedback both positive and negative has been provided to ACS, the HACC Development Officer Network and to ADHC and DoHA.

The HACC DO has attended a number of Consultations and briefing sessions throughout the year:

Caring for Older Australians

Conversation on Ageing with the Minister Butler, the Federal Minister for Mental Health and Ageing

NSW Ageing Strategy Consultations, to provide input into the NSW Ageing Strategy

Enhanced Care Manager 2 Briefing – on the new reporting and financial management Portal for ADHC

Parliamentary Inquiry Into Early Diagnosis in Dementia – as part of a delegation for the HACC Issues Forum

Facilitating planning days for forums and networks is a critical role for the HACC DO, as information collected is utilised to inform Government planning processes and provide evidence of gaps in service, under met need and identifying areas for sector development.

Two network planning days were facilitated by the HACC DO: the Community Care Forum and the Shoalhaven HACC Forum. The information collected from these two days was prioritised and then used to develop briefing papers and utilised to represent the needs of the service users to local Members of Parliament. The information was also made available to services to utilise in their own planning or in the development of submissions, tenders or grant applications to ensure that growth in the region was focused on identified need.

Planning days for HACC providers was also undertaken to assist in capacity building through a strategic and business planning framework, three Illawarra providers requested assistance with planning: Kiama Meals On Wheels; Northern Illawarra Meals On Wheels and the Macedonian Welfare Association.

During the year the HACC DO participated in many activities to raise awareness of the HACC program to the general public and to foster relationships with key mainstream, Aboriginal and Multicultural organisations. Some of these have included: Seniors Week Activities, Aboriginal Pathways –Yarn Up and NAIDOC events, Keys to Culture – cultural briefings, Older Carers Network Consultation and organisational Annual General Meetings.

Individual organisations have been assisted with policy development, planning, information provision, advice and support throughout the year.

A highlight of the year has been the election of the Illawarra HACC DO as the Chair of NSW HACC DO Network, which involves representing the NSW Network to the broader community, government departments and peak body representatives. This position is generally highly respected throughout the industry and is a coup for a regional area to secure such a position. The benefits to the Illawarra region in terms of being at the apex of decision making, having relationships with key senior Departmental Officers (ADHC and DoHA) and representation on committees and working parties are immense.

The Squalor Mapping Project came to its conclusion with the finalisation of the project funding and culminated in the delivery of the final report to ADHC. The report outlines the process undertaken throughout the project, discusses findings and presents recommendations for both funding bodies and the sector. After the model was presented at the National Squalor and Hoarding Conference in March by the HACC DO and Squalor Project Officer, the modification of the Respite Co-ordination model of prioritising cases of respite need, into a Co-ordination Model for prioritising cases of squalor in a collaborative environment has gained state wide and national interest. Information and support has been provided to a number of networks interested in establishing co-ordination groups in many regions throughout NSW, ACT, Victoria and WA.

The HACC DO continues to support the Adequate Living Conditions and Good Living Conditions Co-ordination groups in the Illawarra region and will continue to advocate for the recommendations contained in the report to be implemented.

The Dementia Mapping Project also came to its conclusion with the final report being delivered to ADHC. The report outlined a way forward for dementia services and support in the Illawarra Region. The structure of the report reflected the NSW Dementia Framework and discussed findings and recommendations in the eight areas of Dementia Awareness; Assessment, Diagnosis and On-going Management; Information, Counselling and Carer Education; Behavioural and Psychological Symptoms of Dementia; Community Care; Hospital Care; Residential Care; and Palliative Care. In all eight areas there were identified best practice, gaps in services or support and possible solutions for either funders or the sector.

One of the key issues raised was the difficulty in finding and gaining access to services. A consistent message was received about confusing service pathways, therefore the project worked in partnership with the Centre for Health Initiatives, University of Wollongong on the development of an online resource for service providers, carers, service users or the general public. 'Illawarra Dementia Online' will be available for public launch later in 2012.

The Self Reliance and Independence Project sought to better equip HACC services with the knowledge and skills to work in a wellness or enabling approach to service delivery and to ultimately reduce the dependency of service users on HACC services by assisting them to become more self-reliant. The project worked on a four phase approach: phase 1 focused on the starting point for the HACC sector, setting the scene; phase 2 provided the services with the next steps in preparing to move to an enabling approach; phase 3 implemented the ADHC developed awareness raising training and phase 4 saw the delivery of training specific to HACC services 'How to Implement an Enabling Approach' which assisted individuals from HACC services to identify potential areas for piloting enabling approaches and to begin a plan for implementation.

The MDS Project, whilst under review, continued to support HACC and Disability services in areas relating to Minimum Data Set (MDS) reporting. The MDS Support Worker assisted services with individual training for staff in the HADS program (data reporting system), group training, addressing issues of on-going concern or software issues and improving the quality of the data collected and reported. Following the review this project came to its conclusion as a non-government auspice with the project being re-deployed to sit within ADHC. The MDS project still supports HACC and Disability providers however the MDS Project Officer now undertakes this role as an ADHC Officer.

Information Service

Aims

- To disseminate information and provide assistance on policy, operational and management issues for community groups and organisations
- To conduct and contribute to research, policy development and evaluation

As the peak organisation for community services and organisations in the Illawarra and Shoalhaven, the Illawarra Forum keeps the sector in touch with the trends in community initiatives, social policy, and government programs. A focus on social justice underpins this work.

The Information Service consists of the website www.illawarraforum.org.au, social media – facebook and twitter and an online newsletter.

In this year subscriptions to the weekly online newsletter increased its distribution to 240 readers.

Publications

Issues Paper - Unemployment stats

This paper looks at the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) definition of unemployment and explores other data to estimate how many people in the Illawarra and Shoalhaven would fit the everyday definition of ‘unemployed’.

Issues Paper - Newstart April 2012

In the Illawarra and Shoalhaven almost 6,000 people are dependent on Newstart and similar payment (April 2012). This issues paper supported the ACOSS (Australian Council of Social Service) Newstart campaign.

Issues Paper - Shoalhaven March 2012

The Illawarra Forum and the Shoalhaven Manager’s Taskforce identified key issues and challenges for the Shoalhaven. These include transport; community funding; homelessness and lack of affordable housing; education and training; volunteering; health and mental health; Home and Community Care (HACC); unemployment and underemployment.

Issues Paper - Homelessness in the Illawarra and Shoalhaven

The last available Census data shows that the Illawarra region has a significant number of homeless people.

Regional Issues Paper February 2012

This Illawarra Forum Issues Paper February 2012 looks at funding uncertainty; homelessness; unemployment; transport; domestic violence services; mental health; and Home and Community Care.

These publications can be found at www.illawarraforum.org.au

Administration

Aim

- To administer and manage the organisation in a manner which enhances its capacity to meet its goals effectively

Administration entails the employment and management of staff according to the IFI Policies and Procedures Manual and includes payroll and associated responsibilities as well as the recruitment and induction of new staff.

The financial management of the Illawarra Forum includes: preparation of regular financial reports, budgets and BAS; payments, invoices, receipts and banking; insurance; and maintenance of office systems.

The organisation of the Annual General Meeting, workshops and conferences is also part of administration.

Other tasks include the administration of membership subscriptions as well as responding to enquiries from members and the general public.

The Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Officer has tabled a report at each committee meeting during the year. There are no outstanding OHS issues and no outstanding workers compensation issues.

Funding

In the financial year 2011 - 2012 the Illawarra Forum received funding from these New South Wales government departments.

NSW Family & Community Services Community Builders Renewable	163,714
Housing NSW	152,180
Illawarra South East Tenant Participation Resource Service (TPRS)	
Housing NSW	24,078
(TPRS) Short Term Projects	
NSW Ageing, Disability and Home Care	146,861
Home and Community Care (HACC) Development Officer	
NSW Ageing, Disability and Home Care	93,068
Home and Community Care (HACC) Training, development (C/f)	
NSW Ageing, Disability and Home Care	70,000
Home and Community Care (HACC) Minimum Data Set project	
NSW Ageing, Disability and Home Care	86,902
Home and Community Care (HACC) Short Term Projects (C/f)	
NSW Ageing, Disability and Home Care	52,068
Home and Community Care (HACC) Aboriginal Access Development	
NSW Ageing, Disability and Home Care	52,068
Home and Community Care (HACC) Multicultural Access Project	
NSW Ageing, Disability and Home Care	150,000
Statewide HACC Development Officer	
	990,939
Total	

The Illawarra Forum receives its core funding from Community Services, NSW Family & Community Services under the Community Builders program in the Community Sector Development strand. This funded supports our work of resourcing and supporting our sector.

The NSW Ageing, Disability and Home Care Home and Community Care (HACC) Minimum Data Set project ceased at the end of January 2012, with a new position for Minimum Data Set support being created in the Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care.

The NSW Tenant Participation Resource Service (TPRS) is still under review by Housing NSW. The Illawarra South East Tenant Participation Resource Service (TPRS) is currently funded until 30 June 2013.

We are very pleased to have received funding from NSW Ageing, Disability and Home Care Home and Community Care for the new Aboriginal Access Development, Multicultural Access, and Training and Development projects to commence in the latter part of 2012. We have also received funding to support the Statewide HACC Development project.

Copies of the Illawarra Forum's 2011- 2012 Audited Financial Statements are available, telephone 02 4256 4333.

Membership

Membership of the Illawarra Forum is open to non-profit community-based social or welfare organisations that are based in, or work within the Illawarra and Shoalhaven. Government organisation may have associate (non-voting) membership. Interested individuals can also become members. All members of the Forum are required to comply with the Forum's philosophy and aims. The Forum gains direction for its activities principally from its members and committees.

The Forum's members are from the Local Government Areas of Wollongong, Shellharbour, Kiama and Shoalhaven. Community organisations which are members include community and neighbourhood centres, family and children's services, youth services, women's services, CALD services, disability services and smaller numbers of health, food, housing, employment and other services.

Membership of the Illawarra Forum brings many benefits including:

Member spotlight on the new Illawarra Forum website

Weekly e-newsletter with latest sector issues, news, and events

Advocacy & representation

Contribute to regional responses to key government inquiries, discussion papers, and policy dialogue

Access to the Illawarra Forum's extensive sector knowledge, advice and consultation

Voting rights at general meetings, including the Annual General Meeting at which the Board and Executive positions are decided (full members only)

Free advertising of Positions Vacant on www.illawarraforum.org.au

Access to member-only activities and events

Discounted registration fees for training opportunities and annual conference

Access to the Illawarra Forum specialist consultant register (only members are eligible to be included on the register)

Use of Illawarra Forum training/meeting room and facilities at member rates

Staff Members

Executive Officer, Nicky Sloan from 31st October 2011

Administration Officer, Michelle Ryan (PT)

Advocacy Project Worker (PT), Sharon Callaghan to 1 December 2011

Information Worker (PT), Helen McGuire

I.T. Support (PT), Peter Samsa to 30 June 2012

Illawarra/South East Tenant Participation Resource Worker (TPRS), Jill Coleman to 31 December 2011

Illawarra/South East Tenant Participation Resource Worker (TPRS) Donna Brotherson

Community Gardens Project Worker (TPRS) (PT), Alison Flint to 30 June 2012

HACC Development Office, Simone Stuart

HACC MDS Support Worker, Katherine Thompson to 31 January 2012

HACC Short Term Projects, Adrienne Talbot-Thomson to 31 March 2012, Chris Stretton to 30 September 2011, Danae Rush to 30 September 2011

Board Members

Danna Nelse, The Rail Neighbourhood Assoc
Daphne Olsen, CareWays

Deborah Burns, Baptist Community Service
Eleonore Johansson, Southern Youth & Family Services

Jake Pearson, Interchange Illawarra

Joanne Pollard, Individual member

June Williams, Family Services Illawarra

Loekie Klevjer, Wollongong Women's Housing

Marlene Calleja, Warilla Neighbourhood Centre

Martin Millgate, Individual member

Sandra Luschwitz, Unanderra Community Centre

Sharon Millett, Nowra Women and Children's Refuge

Sharon Parker, North Kiama Neighbourhood Centre

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Acronyms

ACS Aged and Community Services
ADHC NSW Ageing, Disability and Home Care
ACOSS Australian Council of Social Service
ASU Australian Services Union
CALD Culturally and Linguistically Diverse
COAG Council of Australian Governments
CCCS Community Care Common Standards
DoHA Department of Health and Ageing
ERO Equal Remuneration Order
HACC NSW Home and Community Care
HACC DO NSW Home and Community Care
Development Officer
HNSW Housing NSW
MDS Minimum Data Set NSW Home and
Community Care
NAIDOC National Aborigines and Islanders Day
Observance Committee
NCOSS NSW Council of Social Services
NGO Non Government Organisation
OHS Occupational Health and Safety
SCHADS Social, Community, Home Care and
Disability Services Industry Award
TPRS Tenant Participation Resource Service