

Volume 6 Issue 5

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### Inside This Edition

#### Corporate

DEMENTIA: November CaLD course

DEMENTIA: Apathy in Dementia workshop

DEMENTIA: Free accredited training - new

WA Seniors Awards finalists announced

Making volunteers' Christmas memorable

Advocare: Advocating seniors' rights

#### Training and Development

DEMENTIA: Manjimup's client story

DEMENTIA: Are your staff prepared?

New DVD: How to tackle 'hoarders'

New course: Staff recruitment help

Free DVD: Working Effectively in HACC

New staff: Welcome to Mia Lewis

#### Sector Development

 [Download PDF](#)

## Dementia: meeting the number challenge

Welcome to our October newsletter that focusses on 'dementia.'

Did you know that by 2050 it is predicted that over 1,000,000 Australians will be living with a form of dementia, as compared to 245,000 in 2009? Are your staff ready? (*Access Economics: Keeping Dementia in Mind*, Alzheimer's Australia, 2009).

In this edition we provide plenty of dementia training options and helpful information. For example, you may not know that CommunityWest offers not one, but seven dementia training courses. Thank you also to Bridgetown and Manjimup HACC staff for your wellness success story contributions that are sure to inspire.

Feel free to email your stories to: [feedback@communitywest.com.au](mailto:feedback@communitywest.com.au) and remember to find us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter for regular sector news updates. We look forward to sharing more in December.



### Corporate

#### DEMENTIA: November CaLD course

If you work with any people with dementia from a CALD background, think about attending this one day metropolitan workshop on Wednesday 9 November 2011. This session is specifically designed to assist residential and community care workers who are providing care for people with dementia from CaLD backgrounds.

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[Back To Top](#)



#### DEMENTIA: Apathy in Dementia - clinician workshop

Aimed at senior clinicians working in Residential Aged Care Facilities and Community Programs, a free workshop will be held on 11 November exploring issues and strategies around working with client apathy.

[Read More](#)

[Back To Top](#)

#### DEMENTIA: Free accredited training - new Cert IV unit

If you are an aged care worker, you have an opportunity to access free nationally accredited training in caring for people living with dementia. Find out more about Dementia Care Essentials - a Commonwealth funded initiative.

[Read More](#)

[Back To Top](#)



DEMENTIA: Need to know more

DEMENTIA: Help for clients, carers...

Bridgetown shares a client story

Popular resource: Client story booklet

New staff: Welcome to Susan Johnson

## Quality

November CCCS information session

Addressing Independence: EO 3.5

Quality Report card for 2008-11 round

Staff movement in Quality

## WA Seniors Awards finalists announced

Do you know someone who's been nominated? During WA Seniors Week (6-13 November) the winner of the 2011 Burswood WA Seniors Awards will be announced. The winners will be chosen from a field of 16 outstanding WA seniors who have made a significant contribution to their local communities and to Western Australia's social, economic and cultural life.

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[Back To Top](#)

## Making volunteers' Christmas memorable

Volunteers play an invaluable role across many organisations – including HACC agencies. With Christmas just around the corner here's a great tip on how to recognise the amazing effort made by these special people during the year - without putting too much extra strain on that Christmas 'to-do list.' Why? Because they're worth it.



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[Back To Top](#)

## Advocare: Advocating seniors' rights

Did you know your client has the right to an independent advocate? Advocare is funded by HACC to provide a free, professional advocacy service to older people who are receiving aged care services in Western Australia.

[Read More](#)

[Back To Top](#)

## Training

## DEMENTIA: Manjimup's client story & strategies

Enthusiastic staff at the Shire of Manjimup's HACC program have made a raft of positive changes after taking part in CommunityWest's 'Positive Dementia Care' training.' Manager, Liz Lockyear, was keen to forward on their positive outcomes and ideas generated by staff that are making a real difference to their clients. Some are really simple strategies that can be easily put in place.



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[Back To Top](#)

## DEMENTIA: Are your staff prepared for dementia?

The rate of HACC clients living with dementia is on the increase and with it comes the need for HACC staff to have an understanding of dementia and how to support people with this disease appropriately. CommunityWest offer seven dementia courses for staff working within community care settings.

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[Back To Top](#)

## New DVD: How to tackle 'hoarders'

Have you ever walked into a client's home and found a mountain of old newspapers, magazines, or other miscellaneous household items that pose a potential hazard? A new initiative from the HACC Program in Victoria has produced a learning resource to help HACC staff deal with the 'hoarder.'

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[Back To Top](#)

## New course: Staff recruitment help at hand

Need assistance with recruitment processes for selecting new staff for your organisation? CommunityWest has recently introduced a brand new course specifically tailored towards helping HACC managers and coordinators who have had limited experience with recruiting staff, or little or no formal training.



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[Back To Top](#)

## Free DVD: Working Effectively in HACC

Don't miss out on your free copy of the 'Working Effectively in HACC' DVD. Over 60 requests were received after our last newsletter mention. We also welcome your feedback if you have already received a copy.

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[Back To Top](#)

## New staff: Welcome to Mia Lewis



As CommunityWest continues to expand into the realm of e-Learning, the Training and Workforce Development department welcomes Mia Lewis to the new role of e-Learning Consultant.

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[Back To Top](#)

## Sector Development

## DEMENTIA: Need to know more?

Alzheimer's Australia is the National Peak body providing support and advocacy for the 257,000 Australians living with dementia. Amongst many other resources it provides information and fact sheets to support the Home and Community Care sector to provide support for and work with dementia clients and their carers.

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[Back To Top](#)

## DEMENTIA: Help for clients, carers & communities

You would be aware that Alzheimer's Australia WA provides services to people suffering from Alzheimer's disease. But did you know that they also offer specialised services to people with dementia, their families and carers, health and aged care professionals and the general community? These range from 24 hour helplines through to 'Brain Fitness Programs.'



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[Back To Top](#)

## Bridgetown shares a client story

A Project Manager from Silver Chain in Bridgetown sent through this story about one of their 80 year old clients who, with the help of her family and service providers, has been able to achieve greater independence and a sense of wellbeing by applying the Wellness Approach to her situation.

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[Back To Top](#)

## Popular resource: Sharing Client Stories

You may have seen or heard about our new publication, 'WA HACC Program Wellness Approach at Work: Sharing Client Stories.' Requests for this booklet have come in from far and wide including interested stakeholders from New Zealand, the United Kingdom, Queensland, New South Wales, South Australia and Victoria – not to mention across WA.

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[Back To Top](#)

## New staff: Welcome to Susan Johnson



Susan Johnson has joined the Sector Development department after three decades as a Manager in the local government community services sector. Having worked with the Cities of Gosnells, Subiaco and Rockingham she brings to the team a comprehensive knowledge of community service business management, service delivery and staff development and support.

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[Back To Top](#)

## Quality

## November CCCS information session

Managers and Coordinators needing help to understand the new Community Care Common Standards (CCCS) that now apply to HACC service providers can take advantage of a CCCS Information session in November.

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[Back To Top](#)

## Addressing Independence: Expected Outcome 3.5

As a service provider are you actively supporting, fostering and encouraging independence? The Community Care Common Standards (CCCS) has a new outcome 'Independence.' This means that Quality Reviewers will be looking at how the service provider meets Expected Outcome 3.5. Find out how 'Independence' is reviewed.



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[Back To Top](#)

## Quality Report card for 2008-11 round

CommunityWest's final report on the 2008-2011 Quality Reporting round for the triennium has been completed, providing an overall picture of results, trends and the recommendations made for future actions. If your organisation was part of the 2008-11 round you can follow this [Quality link](#) to see how you fared.

[Back To Top](#)

## Staff movements in Quality

There have been a number of staff changes in the Quality department since our last newsletter with two staff members farewelled and two new members welcomed to the team. Joining us as new Quality Partners are Kathy Kavanagh and Karen Stubbington.

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[Back To Top](#)



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