



FRSA Senior Executives Forum: 'Proven, Probable, Possible: Shaping the Future of Family Services'

Program

Tuesday 23 March

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| 8.00 – 9.00 | Registration |
| 9.00 – 9.15 | Welcome to Country , Agnes Shea of Ngunnawal People Welcome to Forum , Anne Hollonds, FRSA Chairperson Introduction , Judi Geggie, Director, Family Action Centre & FRSA Board Member |
| 9.15 – 10.30 | Shaping the Future: Nonprofit Leadership Bob Wyatt , Executive Director, Muttart Foundation, Alberta, Canada Myles McGregor-Lowndes OAM , Director, The Australian Centre of Philanthropy and Nonprofit Studies (CPNS), Queensland University of Technology, Australia This session will explore the role of nonprofits, individually and collectively in shaping public policy and government programs. Bob Wyatt brings a Canadian perspective while Myles McGregor-Lowndes understands the history of the non-profit sector in Australia and the future possibilities arising from current reform and policy agendas. |
| 10.30 – 11.00 | Morning Tea |
| 11.00 – 12.30 | Contribution of the Nonprofit Sector and Directions for Reform Robert Fitzgerald AM , Commissioner, Productivity Commission Commissioner Fitzgerald will provide an overview of the Productivity Commission's <i>Review of the Contribution of the Nonprofit Sector</i> and recommendations for directions in nonprofit regulation, government contracting and sector development. There will be opportunity for interactive discussion on the findings and recommendations as well as consideration for future impacts on family services. |
| 12.30 – 1.30 | Lunch |
| 1.30 – 2.15 | Possible and Probable: The Potential Impact of Tax and Transfer Reviews Dr Richard Denniss , Executive Director, The Australia Institute Richard will talk about the likely outcomes of the Henry Tax Review and the Federal Government's response to it. He will focus on the impact of tax reform on the sector itself as well as the capacity of the government to fund the services that are increasingly provided by the NGO sector. |
| 2.15 – 2.35 | Developments in the Family Support Program and Family Law System Robyn Fleming , Branch Manager, Families Group, Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs Cathy Rainsford , A/g Assistant Secretary, Family Law Branch, Attorney-General's Department This session will provide delegates with an overview of developments in the Family Support Program and the Family Law System, including directions in contracting arrangements, service integration, performance management, data collection and quality standards. |
| 3.00 – 3.30 | Afternoon Tea |
| 3.30 – 4.45 | Developments in the Family Support Program and Family Law System continued |
| 4.45 – 5.00 | Summary and Identifying Priorities Session |
| 5.00 | Close |
| 6.30 for 7.00 pm start | Forum Dinner Launch of FRSA's Reconciliation Action Plan Tom Calma , former Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner |



Wednesday 24 March

8.30 – 8.35

Welcome

Convener: Judi Geggie, Director, Family Action Centre & FRSA Board Member

8.35 – 10.00

Workforce Development

- **Jennie Hannan**, Chair of the Joint Sector-Government Working Group on Workforce Development & FRSA Vice Chairperson
- **Lawrie Moloney**, Senior Research Fellow, Australia Institute of Family Studies
- **Linda White**, Assistant National Secretary, Australian Services Union

Workforce issues are consistently identified by FRSA member organisations as their top priority. Staff shortages, high turnover, wage constraints and access to training being some of the most common issues raised. This session will explore the work done to map the family relationship services sector and possible directions in workforce development. Linda White will speak to the SACS Award pay equity case and Lawrie Moloney will speak about providing support for practitioners.

10.00 – 10.30

Morning Tea

10.30 – 12.00

Evaluation of the Family Law Reforms: Lessons for Future Service Delivery

Professor Alan Hayes & Lawrie Moloney, Director and Senior Research Fellow, Australian Institute of Family Studies

Representatives from AIFS will present on the key findings and recommendations from the *Evaluation of the Family Law Reforms* a project commissioned in 2006 which has involved over 28,000 people including 10,000 separated parents. Implications for family law and service delivery will be explored in discussion with delegates.

12.00 – 12.30

Perspectives on safety, risk assessment and sharing information

Professor Richard Chisholm AM, University of Sydney

Richard will briefly outline the main themes arising out of his Family Courts Violence Review and explore some of implications of increased connections between the courts and service providers.

12.30 -1.15

Lunch

1.15 – 1.45

Research and Practice

- **Alan Hayes**, Director, Australian Institute of Family Studies
- **Elly Robinson**, Manager, Australian Family Relationships Clearinghouse
- **Dr Andrew Bickerdike**, General Manager Operations, Relationships Australia VIC
- **Samantha Page**, Executive Director, Family Relationship Services Australia

This session will involve a discussion between panelists on the interface between research and practice in family services including the role of AIFS in setting the research agenda, the role of the Clearinghouse in dissemination and translation, the role of FRSA and member organisations.

1.45 – 3.30

FRSA Update & Consultation on Sector Priorities

4.00

Close - Afternoon tea will be available for those who can stay
