



# FRMP Quarterly Newsletter

November 2007

Number 9

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## Welcome!

Welcome to the ninth edition of the FRMP Quarterly Newsletter!

Since our last reporting period in August, FRMP has funded 74 family reconciliation interventions for young people. See breakdown of these interventions within our brokerage statistics below.

Hot Off The Press! For a copy of Melbourne Citymission's FRMP Info Kit "Working With Young People and Families", and the "Moving Towards Hope" DVD (a joint project between St Luke's and FRMP), refer to our updates in Community Capacity Building Initiatives listed within this Newsletter.

Hope you're all enjoying the latest Spring weather!

Kind regards, the FRMP Team!

## FRMP & YEETI 2008 and Beyond

As many of you will be aware the Family Reconciliation Mediation Program (FRMP) and the Youth Employment, Education Training Initiative (YEETI) have been awaiting the announcement of future funding.

We can now formally share with you FRMP has been refunded until June 2009. Melbourne Citymission will cease management of YEETI on the 31st December 2007.

We take this opportunity to say thank you for all the work that has shaped FRMP and YEETI thus far. We also thank the young people who have accessed and continue to access FRMP and YEETI, their stories certainly paint a picture of empowerment, inclusion and connectedness.

Again, thanks and we look forward to working with you for the remainder of 2007 and beyond.

## Professional Development

**A Morning With FRMP - Sale, Gippsland. Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> November 11am-130pm.**

FRMP is proud to be launching the first in a series of professional development forums for Gippsland Region homelessness workers and FRMP private practitioners. The intention of these events is to provide opportunities for sector enhancement of family inclusive practice, as well as bringing together the homelessness sector, family centred programs and counsellors/psychologists.

## FRMP Website Links

### *Link to FRMP website*

<http://www.frmp.org.au/>

### *Download FRMP Brokerage Guidelines*

[http://www.gatewayreconnect.org/database/uploads/Brokerage Guidelines 2006.doc](http://www.gatewayreconnect.org/database/uploads/Brokerage%20Guidelines%202006.doc)

### *Access FRMP Online Database of Counsellors*

[www.gatewayreconnect.org/database/uploads/WEBSITE%20P%20-%20Counsellors%20-%20Area.xls](http://www.gatewayreconnect.org/database/uploads/WEBSITE%20P%20-%20Counsellors%20-%20Area.xls)

### *Access FRMP Online Database of Mediators*

[www.gatewayreconnect.org/database/uploads/WEBSITE%20P%20-%20Mediators%20-%20Area.xls](http://www.gatewayreconnect.org/database/uploads/WEBSITE%20P%20-%20Mediators%20-%20Area.xls)

### *Download FRMP*

Guest Speakers: Julie Hayes (Blackwood Centre for Adolescent Development) "Working with Adolescents; don't be scared"; Bobbi Tatlow (Reconnect worker, Quantum Support Services) "Including Families; work with young people"; FRMP Private Practitioner (TBC) There will also be the opportunity to ask the panel questions following the presentations.

For a copy of the invitation visit the FRMP website [www.gatewayreconnect.org/database/uploads/FRMP%20PD%20Forum\\_InviteNov07.pdf](http://www.gatewayreconnect.org/database/uploads/FRMP%20PD%20Forum_InviteNov07.pdf)

**An Afternoon With FRMP - Trades Hall, Melbourne. Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> November 3-5pm.**

FRMP is proud to be launching the third in a series of professional development forums for Metropolitan Melbourne homelessness workers and FRMP private practitioners. Details regarding this event will be confirmed soon.

Look out for the invitation via email soon, or visit the FRMP website [www.frmp.org.au](http://www.frmp.org.au)

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## FRMP Publicity Material

**"Working With Young People and Families" - Melbourne Citymission's FRMP Info Kit**

The FRMP Info Kit was developed as a result of FRMP consultations with the SAAP field. Workers expressed a wish to have a resource that could assist them to promote family focused work to their clients. The kit is intended to act as a resource for workers as well as clients.

**"Moving Towards Hope" DVD - a joint project between St Luke's and the Family Reconciliation & Mediation Program**

This DVD highlights the struggles of youth homelessness, exploring a family-inclusive approach, and reveals stories of hope through the eyes of young people, parents and workers. The DVD includes interviews of young people, parents and workers on their respective journeys as they seek to explore the challenges, aspirations and learning's that arise from their personal experiences of youth homelessness.

FRMP Community Development workers are happy to attend a staff meeting to screen the DVD and discuss ways the Info Kit could be used. If this interests, or if you haven't received a copy of either the Info Kit or DVD please contact Yasmin Thomas on (03) 8625 4478 or [ythomas@mcm.org.au](mailto:ythomas@mcm.org.au)

## Development of FRMP Resources

FRMP will be developing new and existing resources for the sector and young people regarding the program and the interventions available to young people and their families.

If you and / or your agency would like to be involved in the development of these resources, please contact Yasmin Thomas on (03) 8625 4478.

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## FRMP Website

For up-to-date information about brokerage, private practitioners, resources and sector news and events visit the FRMP website. A reminder that the FRMP website has an added feature for workers to give feedback about the program. Feedback can be given under the tab "Contact Us".

**Brokerage Application Form for Individuals**  
[www.gatewayreconnect.org/database/uploads/2006%20Brokerage%20Application%20Form%20-%20Individual.doc](http://www.gatewayreconnect.org/database/uploads/2006%20Brokerage%20Application%20Form%20-%20Individual.doc)

**Download FRMP Brokerage Application Form for Groupwork**  
[www.gatewayreconnect.org/database/uploads/2006%20Brokerage%20Application%20Form%20-%20Groups.doc](http://www.gatewayreconnect.org/database/uploads/2006%20Brokerage%20Application%20Form%20-%20Groups.doc)

**Download FRMP Request Form for Additional Sessions**  
<http://www.gatewayreconnect.org/database/uploads/Rane%20-%20Request%20for%20additional%20sessions%20with%20counsellor.doc>

**Download FRMP Invoicing Guidelines and Requirements**  
[www.gatewayreconnect.org/database/uploads/Invoicing%20Requirements.doc](http://www.gatewayreconnect.org/database/uploads/Invoicing%20Requirements.doc)

**Download FRMP Interim Update**

## Youth Employment Education & Training Initiative (YEETI)



A few updates from the YEETI program...

### Invoices & Receipts:

Please submit invoices from all Rounds asap. Receipts should already have been submitted, if not please forward photocopies of the original receipts marked with the YEETI reference number as soon as possible.

### Feedback:

Thanks to all workers who have submitted feedback forms. A update of feedback from recent applications will be available soon via the yeeti newsletter and website.

### Youth Homelessness Tool:

YEETI is continuing to facilitate a working group around the Youth Homelessness Tool. The Youth Homelessness Tool is an advocacy tool aimed at supporting young people to tell their circumstances accurately when being assessed at Centrelink, particularly when they are required to do a Job Capacity Assessment.

The working group consists of representatives from the Youth Homelessness Sector, Employment Education and Training Sector and Centrelink.

The next step that the working group will look at is the possibility of a trial period in several areas across the state. The working group is currently considering the number of trials to be conducted, and are interested in knowing whether your agency would like to take part in the trial.

If you would like further information regarding this, please contact [sslattery@mcm.org.au](mailto:sslattery@mcm.org.au) or 9680 8233 or visit [www.yeeti.org.au](http://www.yeeti.org.au)

## Brokerage Report

### Brokerage statistics for period August to October 2007:

Applications accepted	August - 29 Sept - 19 Oct - 26 Total - 74
Service accessing funds	SAAP service - 51 Youth refuge / crisis - 9 Other - 12 THM - 2
Regional breakdown of services accessing funds	Western Metro - 22 Northern Metro - 18 Southern Metro - 11 Loddon Mallee - 11

**Report for Individuals**  
[www.gatewayreconnect.org/database/uploads/Interim%20update%20report%20\(FRMP\).doc](http://www.gatewayreconnect.org/database/uploads/Interim%20update%20report%20(FRMP).doc)

**Download FRMP Final Feedback Form for Individuals**  
[www.gatewayreconnect.org/database/uploads/Brokerage%20Final%20Feedback.doc](http://www.gatewayreconnect.org/database/uploads/Brokerage%20Final%20Feedback.doc)

**Download FRMP Feedback Form for Groupwork (young person)**  
[www.gatewayreconnect.org/database/uploads/Groupwork%20Participant%20Feedback.doc](http://www.gatewayreconnect.org/database/uploads/Groupwork%20Participant%20Feedback.doc)

**Download FRMP Feedback Form for Groupwork (worker)**  
[www.gatewayreconnect.org/database/uploads/Groupwork%20Worker%20Feedback.doc](http://www.gatewayreconnect.org/database/uploads/Groupwork%20Worker%20Feedback.doc)

## Other Useful Links

	Eastern Metro - 6 Gippsland - 3 Barwon - 2 Hume - 1 Grampians - 1
Interventions funded	Reconciliation - 76 Discretionary funds - 5 Mediation - 5 Group work - 5
Gender of young person	Female - 47 Male - 27
Age of young person	14-16 years - 25 17-19 years - 21 20-22 years - 18 23-25 years - 10
Cultural Identity of young person	Australian - 55 Aboriginal - 4 Other - 15
Time out of Home	Currently at Home - 12 1 to 12 weeks - 17 3 to 6 months - 13 6 to 12 months - 9 12 to 18 months - 8 18 to 24 months - 2 Over 2 years - 12

## Community Capacity Building Initiatives

A core component of the FRMP program is community capacity building. Our intention is to promote the use of family focused practice as a central feature to all intake, assessment and casework practice within the Homelessness Service System (HSS). In the last 3 months a number of partnerships continue to take shape:

### FRMP Information Kit

This resource has been developed for workers to assist in the process of talking with young people about their family. Under the umbrella of family reconciliation, there is a range of options for addressing the family issues arising from young people becoming homeless. This kit aims to define and discuss family inclusive practice and provide examples of best practice so workers have an array of therapeutic intervention options to assist young people who may be in a variety of circumstances.

This resource will be provided to all youth homelessness services across Victoria. For more information please contact Yasmin on (03) 8625 4478

### DVD "Moving towards Hope"

This DVD, a joint Project between St Lukes and Melbourne Citymission's FRMP Program highlights the struggles of youth homelessness, explores a family-

**Victorian SAAP  
Reconciliation  
Workers**

<http://www.gatewayreconnect.org/frmp/resources/pdf/SAAP%20Reconciliation%20Services.pdf>

**Victorian Family  
Mediation  
Services**

**Victorian Office  
of Housing**  
<http://www.housing.vic.gov.au/>

**Victorian  
Reconnect  
Services**

<http://www.gatewayreconnect.org>

**Victorian Regional  
Homelessness  
Networks**

<http://net.saap.infoxchange.net.au/>

**Victorian Office  
of Housing**

<http://www.housing.vic.gov.au/>

**Contact Us**

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inclusive approach, and reveals stories of hope through the eyes of young people, parents and workers. This DVD will be shared across SAAP services around Victoria in the coming weeks. The FRMP team would be happy to attend a staff meeting or visit your agency to screen the DVD! Please contact Yasmin on (03) 8625 4478.

**Private Practitioners**

An online directory of private practitioners (psychologists and counsellors screened by FRMP) has been developed and is available for workers to view via the FRMP website. This list will continue to grow as the program develops. If workers have any psychologists and counsellors they would like to refer to this list, please contact the FRMP Team. The directory can be accessed via <http://www.gatewayreconnect.org/database/uploads/WEBSITE%20PP%20-%20Counsellors%20-%20Area.xls>

**Eastern Metropolitan Region Family Reconciliation Peer Support Group**

This Group continues to meet on a quarterly basis to discuss issues relating to working within a youth centered family focused approach. The group is an important forum for workers to share information about regional trends and concerns, as well as innovations and best practice.

Next meeting is on Thursday 15th November, 9:30 - 11:00am at Wesley Homelessness Services, 291A Maroondah Hwy, Ringwood. For more information please contact Amy on (03) 8625 4477.

**Group Work Developments**

FRMP Brokerage Funds can be accessed by SAAP & THM services to resource Groupwork programs. Please refer to FRMP Brokerage Guidelines, and FRMP Groupwork Application Form via link [www.gatewayreconnect.org/frmp/ApplicationKit.asp](http://www.gatewayreconnect.org/frmp/ApplicationKit.asp) The FRMP Community Development Team will be available to assist workers and services in facilitating the development of appropriate groupwork programs. Please contact Amy on (03) 8625 4477 for more information.

**Family Group Conferencing Network**

This group meets quarterly to discuss issues and emerging themes related to Family Group Conferencing. If you are interested in this intervention and would like to participate in this network contact Yasmin on 8625 4478.

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**Other Sector News**

**News**

**ARIA for the Choir of Hard Knocks**

Melbourne-based Choir of Hard Knocks was this week **awarded** an ARIA. The choir's debut self-titled album took the prize for Best Soundtrack, Cast or Show. Well done Choir of Hard Knocks!

**Training**

**Refugee Youth & Families Training - "Juggling Expectations"**

8<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> November

The Centre for Multicultural Youth Issues (CMYI) is conducting a Refugee Youth and Families Training session called Juggling Expectations in November. The training is for workers supporting newly arrived refugee young people in the family context. It will focus on issues around family dynamics and conflict and how this relates to culturally and linguistically diverse (CLD) young people. CLD

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Region

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youth work frameworks and service delivery strategies will be explored. The session will focus on ways to engage young people, their families and broader cultural communities.

For further details contact Rosemarie Iera, CMYI Training Coordinator on (03) 9340 3700

#### Child Abuse Seminars

Australian Childhood Foundation is running three seminars in Melbourne:

1. 16<sup>th</sup> November - "Vicarious Trauma: Understanding & Responding to experiences of professionals working in the field of child abuse and family violence. One-day seminar. Venue: Rydges Carlton Melbourne, 701 Swanston Street Carlton
2. 22<sup>nd</sup> November - "Treating complex trauma: Understanding the neurobiology of abuse and developing an orientation for effective practice in the protection, education, placement and support of children". Two-day seminar. Venue: Rydges Carlton Melbourne, 701 Swanston Street Carlton
3. 6<sup>th</sup> December - "Frontiers of trauma treatment with children and young people: Examining the roles of attention, memory, arousal modulation and the therapeutic relationship. A seminar by Dr Bessel van der Kolk (USA). One-day seminar. Venue: Rydges Carlton Melbourne, 701 Swanston Street Carlton.

You can register for these seminars on [www.childhood.org.au](http://www.childhood.org.au). If you have any queries please call (03) 9874 3922 or email [training@childhood.org.au](mailto:training@childhood.org.au).

Source: Australian Childhood Foundation

#### Understanding Cultural Learning Styles of Aboriginal People and How This Impacts on Counseling, Therapy and Teaching Strategies

The training will cover the following areas and more:

- 1 Cultural Competency in service delivery— how is this defined and measured—a profile for participants (incl in workshop)
  - 2 Cultural Differences in learning styles of Aboriginal people - what do we know, what evidence do we have of these differences?
  - 3 Child rearing practices—what to do when cultural differences create risk or are perceived as deficits in learning/functioning
  - 4 How do these differences impact across learning styles, skills development teaching, strategies, counseling and therapeutic interventions
  - 5 How do we see differences as strengths?
  - 6 Using strengths as a framework for engagement of Aboriginal people in counseling, teaching strategies, assessment and interventions
  - 7 The role of acculturative stress in cultural learning styles of Aboriginal people
  - 8 The use of cultural strengths to develop behavioral management plans etc
- Introduction to models of assessment and therapeutic intervention

\$1,150 (GST inclusive Early bird (If payment is received at the same time as registration) \$1,200 (GST inclusive Full fee (If payment is not received at the same time as registration)

Contact Name: Indigenous Psychological Services

Contact Phone: 08 9362 2036

Contact Email: [ips@ips.iinet.net.au](mailto:ips@ips.iinet.net.au)

Website: <http://www.indigenoupsychservices.com.au>

#### Useful Links & Resources

Melbourne Gateway Reconnect Parenting Newsletter - October 2007

[http://www.gatewayreconnect.org/database/uploads/Reconnect\\_parenting\\_newsletter.pdf](http://www.gatewayreconnect.org/database/uploads/Reconnect_parenting_newsletter.pdf)

Grants of up to \$2000 are available to young people supported by their local council or not for profit community organization during National Youth Week 5<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> April 2008. Visit [www.grants.dpcd.vic.gov.au](http://www.grants.dpcd.vic.gov.au) for more information, grant guidelines, and application forms. Applications close 16<sup>th</sup> November 2007.

#### Blueprint for responding to homelessness

The Victorian peak body for homelessness services has released [an Australian Blueprint to Reduce and Eliminate Homelessness](#). The Council for Homeless Person's report calls for investment in and review of the national homelessness support system and government systems that "fail to prevent homelessness". Source: AFHO

#### Odyssey House Victoria's Counting the Kids Brokerage Fund

This federally funded brokerage fund is available in Victoria to create opportunities and provide material resources to children whose lives are impacted by parental drug or alcohol problems. Grants of up to \$4000 per child are available for products and services that will enhance children's wellbeing by addressing specific needs in their lives. Whatever they may need, be it music lessons, dental work, counselling, sports equipment or some extra tutoring, the Counting the Kids Brokerage Fund is here to help. Applications are open throughout the year and assessed on a two monthly basis. Contact 9420 7626 or visit [www.odyssey.org.au/brokerage](http://www.odyssey.org.au/brokerage) for more information.

Would you like to receive information about national homelessness advocacy, policy and research issues? The Australian Federation of Homelessness Organizations (AFHO) publishes a national weekly bulletin. To subscribe visit their website [www.afho.org.au](http://www.afho.org.au)

### Forums & Conferences 2007

**Honoring the Child, Honoring Equity 7 - Transforming Connections: Local and Global Possibilities**, Melbourne, Vic, 15-17 November 2007

#### ACOSS Conference

22-23 November. For more visit [www.acoss.org.au](http://www.acoss.org.au)

**Refugee Health Forum**, 29th November 915am – 415pm, Noel Ramsey Theatre, Box Hill Hospital, Nelson Road, Box Hill. Speakers will talk about settlement services for newly arrived refugees, the impact of culture on health and health services, the health condition of newly arrived communities, and future directions in the delivery of health services. Places are limited so please register as soon as possible by calling Eastern Health Community Relations on 9895 3243 or Email [carmel.marsden@easternhealth.org.au](mailto:carmel.marsden@easternhealth.org.au).

#### Children In Trauma, Trauma In Children Workshop

This two-day workshop will appeal to case workers, case managers, residential care workers, therapists, foster parents, medical professionals, teachers and others who are involved in assisting children to recover from trauma. It is especially relevant to those working in child protection, out-of-home care, Indigenous services, mental health private therapy, sexual assault, drug and alcohol, and family violence services. Background reading material can be found at [www.childtrauma.org](http://www.childtrauma.org)

**Date:** Tuesday 4 December & Wednesday 5 December 2007  
**Time:** 9.30am to 4pm (registration from 8.30am)

**Venue:** The Centre Ivanhoe, 275 Upper Heidelberg Road, Ivanhoe (Melways Refe:  
Map 31 F7)

For further information please contact Amanda Kevin-Tidis  
(akevintidis@berrystreet.org.au; 03 9429 9266) at Berry Street, Victoria  
Source: Berry Street

**'Disadvantage and diversity': Australia's Welfare 2007 conference,**  
6 December 2007. For more visit [www.aihw.gov.au](http://www.aihw.gov.au)

**"Towards a healthy community: Advancing social wellbeing in our  
community"** February 21 & 22 2008, Warrnambool, South West Victoria  
Towards a healthy community is a 2-day conference being held to celebrate the  
role and contributions of non-government, not-for-profit organisations in South  
West Victoria in helping to create a healthy community. Conference speakers  
will focus upon such issues around alcohol & drug addiction, family violence,  
mental health and disability as well as issues such as barriers to accessing  
services, the benefits of collaboration between providers in all sectors.

**"Parents, Families and Carers: Our Place in the Human Services, Our Agenda  
for Change"**  
Sydney, NSW, 17-18 March 2008. For more info visit [www.civilsociety.org.au](http://www.civilsociety.org.au)

**5th National Homelessness Conference**  
Homelessness Australia will host our fifth National Conference in Adelaide 22-23  
May, 2008. For information visit [www.afho.org.au](http://www.afho.org.au)

**"Ethical Responsiveness: The third national conference for the Australian  
College for Child and Family Protection Practitioners",** 23 to 25 May 2008,  
Adelaide

**Australian Institute of Family Studies Conference 2008**  
THE 10th AIFS Conference - a major conference with international keynote  
speakers, aimed at researchers, academics, policy makers, governments, and  
community organisations - will be held from 16-18 July 2008 in Melbourne.  
Further details and a call for papers will be announced on aifs-alert and on the  
AIFS website.

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## Future Newsletters

If you would like to contribute articles or other relevant information to this  
newsletter please contact Yasmin on 8625 4478 or email  
[yasmint@mcm.org.au](mailto:yasmint@mcm.org.au) The next edition will be published early February 2008  
and thereafter on a quarterly basis.