

# The Australian Institute of Welfare and Community Workers

The association for community service professionals



1 December 2010

Dear Member,

In April 2010, the National Executive Committee approved the creation of new positions in the National Office to support the change, growth and prosperity of our professional association. The new roles are the first signs of a commitment to changing the association for the better.

We are at the beginning of an exciting time, a chance for us to engage with you, ensure we respond to your needs, build the reputation of the association and offer more benefits for our members.

## Progressive directions

Members of the National Executive Committee and the National Office joined in Melbourne for a week of strategy development to identify key areas for improvement of the association. In the coming months, we'll be implementing the changes: writing new policies and eligibility guidelines, improving the number and quality of services, and growing the size, identity and reputation of our association.

We've already begun the process by introducing a sophisticated database to manage administrative processes and launching a new website ([www.aiwcw.org.au](http://www.aiwcw.org.au)).

## More staff

We have added new staff to respond to member needs and renew the association. Staff in customer service, administration, marketing and management are already making changes. To accommodate a larger staff, our National Office is at Level 5, 105 Queen Street, Melbourne.

PO Box 42  
FLINDERS LANE VIC 8009  
Australia  
Telephone: (03) 9654 8287  
Fax: (03) 9654 1081  
Email: [info@aiwcw.org.au](mailto:info@aiwcw.org.au)  
Vic. Reg. A0036440S  
ABN 28 696 828 620

Below is our National Office team.

**Lynda Ford** was appointed on 1 July 2010 as our new Executive Officer. Over the past 20 years, Lynda has worked with children in care, homeless young people, migrants and refugees, and in community development and community-based crime prevention. Lynda has an Associate Diploma in Residential Care, a Bachelor of Social Science (Human Services), a Master of Arts in Criminology and Advanced Diplomas in Business (HR) and Business Management.

**David Sharma** is our Assessment Coordinator. David has a Bachelor of Engineering and a Master of Information Systems and his previous roles include RTO Campus Manager and Research Grants Administration Officer with Melbourne University. David's team consists of: Gloria, Leonie, Jane and Sasha. E: [david@aiwcw.org.au](mailto:david@aiwcw.org.au) or E: [assessments@aiwcw.org.au](mailto:assessments@aiwcw.org.au)

**Jane Hughes** is our Membership Eligibility and Qualifications Assessment Officer. Jane completed a Bachelor of Arts (Indigenous Studies) at University of South Australia and a Master of Business Management with Monash University. Jane has worked in Kenya, Tanzania and Vanuata. E: [jane@aiwcw.org.au](mailto:jane@aiwcw.org.au)

**Sasha Lilford** is part of our Assessment Team. Sasha has a Bachelor of Science (Psychology), a Cert IV in Workplace Training and Assessment and is currently completing a Bachelor of Health Science. Sasha has worked with Autism Victoria for the past four years and prior to that in market research. E: [sasha@aiwcw.org.au](mailto:sasha@aiwcw.org.au)

**Leonie Poynter** is part of our Assessment Team and is known to many of you due to her previous Victorian Branch and National Executive Committee involvements. Leonie has worked as a lecturer in the VET sector, in prisoner support services and conducting community programs. Leonie has an Associate Diploma of Arts (Welfare Studies) and a Bachelor of Arts (Human Services). E: [leonie@aiwcw.org.au](mailto:leonie@aiwcw.org.au)

**Gloria Prentice** has returned from her three month social work field placement and works one day a week in the Assessment Team. E: [gloria@aiwcw.org.au](mailto:gloria@aiwcw.org.au)

**Jesu Jacod** is our Course Assessment Officer. Jesu has several years experience working with social service organisations (both in Australia and overseas). He has a Masters Degree in Social Work and a Bachelor of Commerce.

**Helen Le** is our trainee Receptionist. Helen is making a difference to the flow of information and improvement in member services. Helen will be completing a Certificate III in Business while working with us. E: [helen@aiwcw.org.au](mailto:helen@aiwcw.org.au)

**Scott McNair** is our Executive Assistant. Scott has worked in both large and small corporate RTO's and has a vast knowledge of administrative systems and daily office management. E: [scott@aiwcw.org.au](mailto:scott@aiwcw.org.au)

**Thi Tran** is our part-time Finance Officer. Thi works 2.5 days per week and holds a Bachelor of Business (Accounting). E: [finance@aiwcw.org.au](mailto:finance@aiwcw.org.au)

## **Grow with us**

As President of your professional association, I'm excited about the coming months as we begin to reengage with you and better respond to your needs. I'd like to invite you to take advantage of the new and improved services that we'll be releasing and to help us build the profile and reputation of our profession.

We will be contacting members in early 2011 about professional development topics and improved benefits of membership. Keep returning to our website at [www.aiwcw.org.au](http://www.aiwcw.org.au) for more information about changes and details of how to get in touch with your local branch. Please call our National Office to update your contact details. We will send your username and password to access the members area of the website when we send your 2011 membership card.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Colleen Blunt', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**Colleen Blunt**

National President