Monday 23 February 2015

Support the People, Places, Possibilities of rural and remote Australia

A preliminary program is now available on the Conference website and gives you an idea of the keynote speakers and topics to be covered in Darwin.

There will be a range of pre-conference events prior to the Opening Session, with more information about these events to be added as details are confirmed. Take this opportunity to learn to swing dance, play the didgeridoo, join a bus tour to Nauiyu community, enjoy some bush tucker or sit and yarn with singer/song writer and 2014 NT Australian of the Year, Shellie Morris.

A stimulating arts and health stream is being produced for the Conference and the Alliance has a limited number of the arts and health book ‘Seeded – Great arts and health stories grown in regional Australia’ to give away to registered delegates. Once you have registered, email your preferred postal address to conference@ruralhealth.org.au if you would like a copy.

For travel and accommodation information, airport transfers and What to do in Darwin or anything else you need to know, go to the Conference website.

If you have any questions about the 13th Conference or would like to discuss specific arrangements to meet the needs of your organisation, please contact us.

Real solutions for improved rural and remote mental health services

Real solutions for improved rural and remote mental health services
The rate of suicide in rural areas is 66 per cent higher than in major cities - stark proof that many people are not getting the mental health support they so desperately need. Read more...

Support for CPD in more remote areas available in Round 6 of RHCE2

Online applications can be made between 3 February to 3 March for grants in Round 6 of the Rural Health Continuing Education Stream Two (RHCE2). The RHCE2 program provides grants on a competitive basis to support access to Continuing Professional Development (CPD) for allied health professionals, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workers, nurses and midwives, and GPs in more remote areas. Around $530,000 is available in Round 6 for programs that can provide cost-effective and accessible CPD for health professionals already practising in a rural or remote setting. Read more...

Healthy Workers Quality Framework

The Healthy Living Network is pleased to announce that Healthy Workers Quality Framework registration is now available. Registration is free under the Healthy Workers Initiative until June 2015! The quality framework is based on robust standards and underpinned by a solid risk management approach that recognises the diversity of risk in the physical activity, healthy eating and healthy weight sectors, alcohol reduction and smoking cessation. For more information call 1300 HLN 000 or email info@healthylivingnetwork.com.au. Read more...

Jean Hailes Women's Health Needs Survey

Jean Hailes for Women's Health is conducting two surveys to identify gaps in the health care needs of women in Australia. The surveys are based on whether you are a health consumer or health professional. Please click the appropriate link for either consumers or professionals. Read more...

Friends of the Alliance

- Are you connecting with other likeminded country people?
Are you having your voice heard on the health needs of your community?
Do you have the opportunity to share positive solutions?

Friends of the Alliance is a network of people and organisations that come together to support the work of the National Rural Health Alliance and provide additional grassroots connections for its work. Make sure your Friends membership is up to date by contacting friends@ruralhealth.org.au or to join go to http://ruralhealth.org.au/friends

Photo and poetry competitions now open

We are getting strong interest in the Friends of the Alliance, Photo and Poetry Competition. Make sure to get your entries in by Thursday 9 April 2015. For inspiration, here are the winner and runner-up photos from the 12th National Rural Health Conference. For more information go to http://www.ruralhealth.org.au/friends/activities

Research and Data

The contribution of sleep to ‘Closing the Gap’ in the health of Indigenous children: a methodological approach
Examination of the sleep of Australian Indigenous children presents some unique challenges, particularly in terms of community input, study design and in the collection of relevant data. Read more...

Community participation in health service reform: the development of an innovative remote Aboriginal primary health-care service
This case study describes the evolution of a remote area Aboriginal primary health-care service and analyses the key factors instrumental in bringing about effective and sustainable changes in health-care provision. Read more...

What's On

- The Australian and New Zealand Addiction Conference: Alcohol, other Drugs and Behavioural Addictions, 5 – 6 March, Outrigger Surfers Paradise Qld
- Rural Health West Annual Conference and Trade Exhibition 2015, 7 – 8 March 2015, Hyatt Regency Perth
- National Close the Gap Day, 19 March
- Australian & New Zealand Association for Health Professional Educators (ANZAHPE) Conference, 29 March - 1 April, Newcastle Town Hall, Newcastle, NSW
- World Health Day, 7 April
- Australian Telehealth Conference 2015, 23 – 24 April, Swisshotel Sydney
- World Day for Safety and Health at Work, 28 April
- Creating Futures Conference, 11 – 14 May, Cairns, Qld
- Aboriginal Maternal and Child Health Conference, 13 – 14 May, Perth
- Rural and Remote Retrieval Conference 2015, 14 – 17 May, 2015, Emma Gorge Resort, El Questro Wilderness Park
- The Australian & New Zealand Addiction Conference, 20 - 22 May, Surfers Paradise Qld
- National Reconciliation Week, 27 May–3 June
- World No-Tobacco Day, 31 May
- Communicable Disease Control Conference, 1 – 2 June, Pullman Brisbane
- Health-e-Nation Leadership Summit 2015, 2 – 3 June, Sydney
- World Blood Donor Day, 14 June
- NACCHO Health Summit 2015, 16 – 18 June, Gold Coast
- 14th Annual International Conference on Health Economics, Management & Policy, 22 – 25 June, Athens, Greece
- Come Together for Australia’s Children Conference, 24 – 26 June 2015, Hobart
- Aboriginal Health Conference 2015, 4 – 5 July, Perth
- National Suicide Prevention Conference, 26 – 29 July 2015, Hobart
- World Hepatitis Day, 14 June
- LIME Connection VI, 11 – 13 August 2015, Townsville
- 16th International Mental Health Conference, 12–14 August, Gold Coast, Qld
- 2015 International Conference on Community Health Nursing (ICCHNR2015), 19 – 21 August, Seoul, South Korea
- Population Health Congress 2015, 6 – 9 September, Hobart
- Indigenous Men’s and Indigenous Women’s Conferences, 12 - 14 September, Darwin
- 6th SNAICC National Conference, 15 – 17 September, Perth
- 20th Medical Education and Training Forum, 12 - 15 October, Darwin Convention Centre
Lowitja Institute eBulletin

The Lowitja Institute distributes an eBulletin to update those interested in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health research. The latest eBulletin was released on 16 February and features a collection of news articles, conferences, events, publications and important dates. Subscribe to receive the Lowitja Institute eBulletin by email, or read it online here.

NRHA on Twitter!

https://twitter.com/NRHAlliance and #ruralhealth, #ruralhealthconf

- Medicare expenditure per person much lower in rural & remote. Suicide rates also higher. http://bit.ly/1rekovb
- Open access to AJRHe special edition on rural cancer - http://t.co/OceQyHwOAL
- Social Media Workshop with @futuregp - http://t.co/VzOpvijOOh
- The Improvement Challenge. @AusHealthcare @NHPAreporting pre-conf event http://t.co/VzOpvijOOh
- Medicines in the bush multi-disciplinary workshop @PSA_National - http://t.co/VzOpvijOOh
- Cultural responsiveness: an action based approach to cultural safety http://t.co/VzOpvijOOh
- #AJRHe Writing for publication pre-conf event - http://t.co/VzOpvijOOh@WileyAsiaBlog

Australian Journal of Rural Health

The February edition of the Australian Journal of Rural Health (AJRH) is now available on line. Access to this special issue on Cancer in the Bush is free. It includes:

- An opportunity for rural health in Australia
- There is another gap to narrow
- Cancer outcomes for indigenous Australians in rural and remote areas
- Specialist cancer care through Telehealth
- Who provides care for people dying of cancer?
- Improving regional and rural cancer services in Western Australia
- Oncology service initiatives and research
- Survival from breast, colon, lung, ovarian and rectal cancer by remoteness in NSW
- CRANApus Annual Conference 2015
- Driving down injuries and deaths on country roads

Bush Support Services Line - 1800 805 391

The Bush Support Services Line (formerly Bush Crisis Line) is a 24 hour confidential telephone support service for workers, and their families, who work in health related services in remote and isolated situations. It is staffed by qualified psychologists with remote and cross cultural

Rural Health on the ABC

- AMA wants $30m to fix rural doctor shortage (ABC News Online)
- Closing the Gap: how are we getting it so wrong? More...
- Indigenous health organisations unite to improve dialysis treatment. More...
- Struggle to access healthcare in rural Queensland (@breakfast, ABC RN)

Australian Rural Doctor Newsletter


- Medicare funded telehealth faces uncertain future. More...
- Telstra seeking GPs for rural telemedicine service. More...
- Co-pay plans jar with Closing the Gap: advisors. More...
- No evidence of health risk from wind farms: NHMRC. More...
- Mobile wound service cuts healing time. More...

NACCHO News

Subscribe at http://nacchocommunique.com/

- Aboriginal health must remain the priority to close the gap. More...

Australian Indigenous HealthBulletin

Available at http://healthbulletin.org.au/

- Djarmbi the different Kookaburra
- Mothers and Babies Services
- A national CQI framework
- The kinship conundrum
- Contribution of sleep to ‘Closing the Gap’
- Closing the gap annual reports released
- Social determinants of sugar consumption
- Justice response to partner violence
- ‘Imagine if I gave up smoking …’
- Indigenous child health
- The Worawa Way
- Epidemiology, etiology and alcohol misuse
- Improving antenatal care
- Information for hospital service planning
- Sexual behaviour, drug use and health service use

RDAA News

- 16 Feb 2015 - RDAA Prebudget Letter to Treasurer 2015. More...
- 10 Feb 2015 - Rural doctors urge Government to ‘hit the reset button’ on health reform. More...

ACRRM Country Watch

View the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine’s regular Country Watch newsletter at www.acrrm.org.au/general-medical-news or subscribe at acrrm@acrrm.org.au.
experience, is toll free and available from anywhere in Australia. Visit the website.

The Salvos
The Salvos are among those at the coalface in rural areas with suicide prevention - visit the Salvos website for more information.

Contribution and subscription information and disclaimer

The NRHA eForum is published fortnightly. Contributions are sought on any topic relevant to rural health. Please send contributions to the moderator at grovesc@winshop.com.au (do not “reply” to this email - send contributions to grovesc@winshop.com.au). Contributions received by the Friday of publication will be included in the eForum.

The NRHA eForum is edited by a third party moderator, Jim Groves. As such, the Alliance does not control postings and the contents do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Alliance. Nor do postings necessarily reflect the views of Jim Groves or any organisation he is associated with.

Please forward a copy to any colleague you think may be interested.