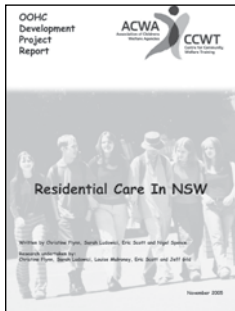


ACWA PUBLICATIONS

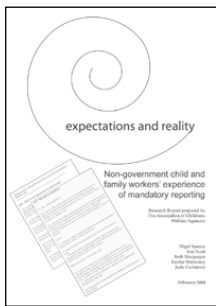


Residential Care in NSW

This report represents the first comprehensive appraisal of residential care in NSW since the early 1980s. It is based on surveys of all current NSW residential care providers and other stakeholders and documents the current provision of residential care in NSW as well as presenting views about the place and future development of residential.

Audit of Australian Out-Of-Home Care Research (2004)

This first national audit of Australian out-of-home care research identifies and lists all completed or continuing out-of-home care research projects in Australia in the period 1995 - 2000. The audit analyses strengths and gaps in the current research and identifies priorities for future research. It was conducted by Dr Judy Cashmore and Dr Frank CAFWAA and ACWA with a grant provided by the Ian Potter Foundation

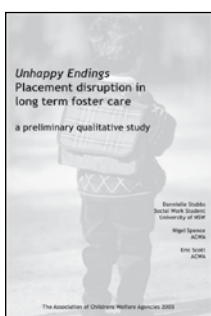
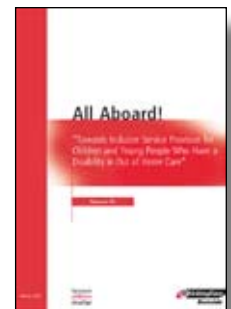


Expectations and reality (2004)

The introduction of the *Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998* brought about the extension of mandatory reporting with a dramatic increase in the number of contacts made to DoCS and widespread concern. Within this context, ACWA undertook to investigate the factors which influence the making of reports by non-government child and family service providers, their expectations of reporters and their views as to whether children are better protected by the new reporting system.

All Aboard (2003)

This Resource Kit was developed by UnitingCare Burnside with funding from DADHC, as a tool to assist child and family services in the process of quality improvement, to develop and remodel in line with good practices in out-of-home care. The kit can be used to assist service providers to ensure that specific issues for a child or young person with a disability are considered when recruiting a family to provide an out-of-home care placement.

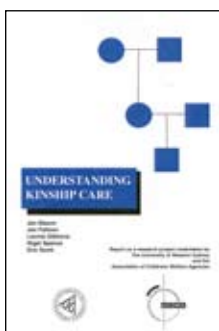
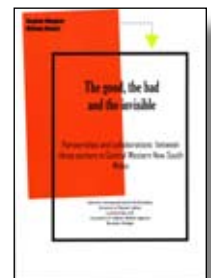


Unhappy Endings (2003)

This research project was undertaken in order to gain a preliminary understanding of some of the experiences of children/young people, foster carers and non-government agency workers involved in placement breakdowns in long term foster care. The aim of the project was to gain an understanding of what contributes to, or prevents such placement breakdowns and what helps children/young people and carers in dealing with the disruption.

The good, the bad and the invisible (2003)

This action research project was undertaken in the Central West of NSW by the Centre for Learning and Social Transformation at UWS with ACWA and the support of Barnardos Mudgee and agencies in the region. The project looked at collaborations and partnerships between the government, non government and private sectors and identifies the benefits and disadvantages, the enablers and the barriers and the differences between the sectors.



Understanding Kinship Care (2002)

This is the report of a research project on the use of kinship care for children in the care and protection system and the experience of carers children and workers. The research was undertaken by The Childhood and Youth Policy Research Unit of the University of Western Sydney and the Association of Childrens Welfare Agencies, assisted by funding from the Financial Markets for Children Foundation.

The Costs of Caring: A Study of Appropriate Foster Care Payments for Stable and Adequate Out of Home Care in Australia (2002)

The first national study to compare foster care reimbursement with the “normal” costs of caring for children. It was undertaken by the Social Policy Research Centre at UNSW and provides a landmark study of costs along with key recommendations for improvements in the payments system. The work was assisted by the Ian Potter Foundation.



Everybody knows I'm a welfare worker (2001)

A report on a qualitative research project of the factors which impact on job satisfaction, staff morale and staff recruitment in community service organisations in a rural area. The project was undertaken in collaboration with community agencies in the Forbes and Parkes areas of central NSW by ACWA and the Centre for Learning and Social Transformation at the University of Western Sydney. The project builds on *I always say I'm a Plumber* and identifies the particular issues affecting staff in rural services.

Managerial and leadership responsibilities in community organisations (2001)

This report, by the Workbased Learning Unit at the University of Western Sydney, in partnership with ACWA reports on a major survey of community sector managers and identifies manager profiles, manager activities and professional development. The discussion summarises the impact of microeconomic reform, manager qualifications and sectorial intervention strategies.



A Time to invest (2000)

Reform of Australia's child and family welfare system requires a comprehensive, strategic and long term planning approach, by all levels of government, non-government agencies and the community itself. Published by The Child and Family Welfare Association of Australia (CAFWAA), *A Time to Invest* paints a picture of how we might establish opportunities to empower and enrich Australia's families and children

I can do better than my Mum did (1999)

This research project arose out of concern by leaving care practitioners and child protection staff about the needs and issues for young people who leave the care system who then become parents at a young age.

It is a preliminary study involving a small number of young parents and specialist leaving care workers aimed at understanding the impact of being young and having been in care on effective parenting and to identify the supports, services and resources thought to be most helpful to the young people.

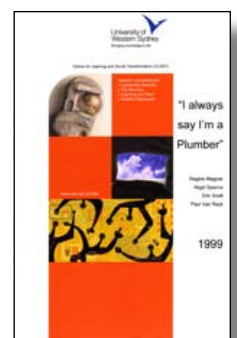


A Home without Parents: Young People with High Support Needs in Substitute Care: A Qualitative Research Study (1999)

Several factors provided the context for this study including the changing views of childhood, ideological and economic influences and theoretical debate about models of residential care. With theorists and practitioners calling for increased participation by young people the results of this qualitative study provides a much needed piece in the jig saw of understanding that is necessary if we are to work for better quality services for this very vulnerable group.

I Always say I'm a Plumber: Significant factors in job satisfaction, staff morale and retention in children's welfare agencies (1999)

The relationships between the quality of service provision in community organisations, the quality of staff training and development and job retention, job satisfaction and staff morale and organisational structures and cultures remain largely unexplored. This pilot project conducted by ACWA and the Workbased Learning Group at the University of Western Sydney, Nepean aimed to establish some preliminary findings of the factors that impact on job satisfaction, staff morale and staff retention in child welfare service organisations in the Penrith region.





Missing the Mark: Contemporary out of home care services for young people with intensive support needs (1998)

Few if any challenges for the care system are as critically important at present as the need to find and deliver an effective range of services for young people with high support needs. The purpose of this paper (by Howard Bath, Director, Thomas Wright Institute) is to stimulate discussion and action around service responses to young people with intensive support needs who come into contact with out-of-home care services.

Children Out Of Home (1998)

A detailed analysis figures from the Department of Community Services, the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare and other studies of children in care (1991-1996). The number of children in care in NSW is increasing but fewer residential care services and foster homes are available to them. The report also notes the rise in "kinship" placements. and discusses problems in the data collection system.



The Tender Trap – A Discussion on tendering and contracting (1998)

The Tender Trap provided a review of some of the issues facing the community welfare industry at a critical time when services were being funded by way of tenders and contracts. This paper sought to generate debate and ensure that the services received by clients are enhanced not diminished by a competitive tendering environment.

A Journal for the sector

developing practice is published in Sydney by the Association of Childrens Welfare Agencies (ACWA) and the NSW Family Services (FamS) for the child, youth and family services sector. The journal is aimed at practitioners and managers who provide programs and services for vulnerable children, young people and families. It is designed to provide an opportunity to present and discuss practices, programs, ideas and practical initiatives aimed at assisting children, young people and families. By subscription: 3 Issues per year.



Training Resources from ACWA/CCWT



Shared Stories, Shared Lives

This is an eight module training course for new and prospective foster carers. The resource includes

- leaders guide
- participants workbook
- photocopy-ready handouts, overheads and workbook
- two training videos

Step by Step

A resource package to assist foster care agencies in assessing potential foster carers. It provides is a comprehensive, competency based resource. It provides a range of material to enable agencies and applicants to

- engage and share relevant information
- make an informed decision about the suitability of the applicant to be a foster carer.

Step by Step is produced by by ACWA/CCWT with funding by the NSW Department of Community Services.



Real Kids Real Carers

Real Kids Real Carers is a continuing education resource for foster carers consisting of 6 booklets. Copies of the Real Kids, Real carers resource can be downloaded from www.acwa.asn.au/realkidsrealcarers/

