



March 2012

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Featured Websites

www.youthweek.com

National Youth Week is coming up on Friday 13 April - Sunday 22 April 2012. The theme is *imagine.create.inspire*.

www.youtube.com/user/YouthSolutionsNSW

Youth Solutions has a YouTube channel! Make sure you subscribe to our channel, more videos to come.

Upcoming Activities

Wednesday 4 April 2012

McDonald's Charity Fun Night

Tuesday 17 April 2012

REPresent Regional Youth Forum, Bowden Centre, The Australian Botanic Garden, Mount Annan, 10.00am - 3.00pm

Wednesday 18 April 2012

DECKed out heART workshop, Narellan Library 12.00pm - 3.00pm

Message from the CEO - Geraldine Dean

This month has seen fresh ideas and new perspectives circulating the office and we are making solid plans for the future.

Thank you to everyone who filled in surveys giving us feedback about our services and programs. Your input in planning for the future is incredibly important to us.

Don't forget *National Youth Week* begins Friday 13 April. We will join the community to celebrate young people living in Macarthur and Wingecarribee through workshops and youth activities.

For now, make sure you [click here](#) to 'Like' us on Facebook to keep up to date with all things Youth Solutions.



Impact of advertising on underage drinking

Written by Dan Lea - Program Coordinator

I read an article on the weekend that highlighted alcohol advertising in the media and the impact it has on underage drinking. As someone who prefers to seek further information before believing the first thing I see, I decided to do my own research.

In less than a minute, I was able to find two beer commercials. One played before an online news report and the other on a website for kids interactive games.

In 2008, Australian alcohol advertisers spent over \$109 million, spread across traditional advertising such as television, press, radio, cinema and outdoor advertisements and this doesn't even include social media. The ease in which people can post advertising through Facebook, Twitter and YouTube and the potential for it to reach thousands of people quickly can certainly complicate advertising regulation and monitoring.

Here are the facts...on average, 1 in 4 hospitalisations of people aged 15-24 happen because of alcohol and 1 in 5 young Australians aged 18-24 are diagnosed with having an alcohol use disorder.

It is certainly not my intention to attack advertising companies and I wouldn't want to live in a nanny state where over 18's can't enjoy a social drink. However, I just wanted to ask the question...does advertising regulation need to be monitored more closely?

Thursday 19 April 2012

DECKed out heART workshop,
Narellan Library, 12.00pm -
3.00pm

Friday 20 April 2012

DECKed out heART workshop,
Narellan Library, 12.00pm -
3.00pm

Saturday 21 July 2012

Charity Event - Latin
Fiesta...feel the rhythm! The
Cube, Campbelltown Catholic
Club, 6.30pm - 11.30pm

Helpful Phone Numbers

000 For Emergencies

9616 8586 Drug & Alcohol
Treatment Access Line,
Sydney South West Area
Health Service

1800 422 899 ADIS (Alcohol
Drug Info Service) 24 hours

13 11 14 Lifeline 24 hours

Who Carries the Responsibility?

February saw the end of *Who Carries the Responsibility?*, a joint project between Youth Solutions and the *Campbelltown Catholic Club* and supported by *News Local Macarthur Chronicle* and *C91.3FM*.



Presenting its resources for the first time to an audience of 500 young people aged 12-18 years, *Who Carries the Responsibility?* hit the ground running at a concert featuring Australia's Got Talent winners, *Justice Crew*, at The Cube, *Campbelltown Catholic Club* on 2 December.

Over the course of the campaign, a massive 14 000 resources were distributed to the community including; fact sheets, lanyards, posters, bags, t-shirts and coasters.

Through the support of *C91.3FM* and *News Local Macarthur Chronicle* 188 x 30 second radio commercials and six full colour ads circulated the community with the amazing ability to reach over 250 000 listeners and readers combined.

Also a big thanks to *McDonald's in Macarthur* and *Lend Lease Macarthur Square* for contributing to our pledge nights.

Finally a huge thanks to the *Campbelltown Catholic Club* - this campaign wouldn't have been the success it was without them.

Until next year, keep carrying the responsibility to keep your friends, family and yourself safe beyond the season of celebrations.

Youth Week 2012

Kicking off on Friday 13 April and ending Sunday 22 April *National Youth Week* is on again with this years theme, **imagine.create.inspire.**

Youth Solutions will be busy again this year running *DECKed out heART*, and our *Youth Advisory Group (YAG)* will participate in the *REPresent Regional Youth Forum* which will see young people from the Macarthur and Wingecarribee regions come together and discuss issues surrounding local young people.

If you are interested in participating in the *REPresent Regional Youth Forum*, please contact Jodie Dench, Youth Community Project Officer for *Camden Council* on 4645 5021 or email youth@camden.nsw.gov.au.



See the April newsletter for more details about DECKed out heART and other *Youth Solutions'* activities or [click here](#) to download a calendar of events.

IMB Youth Participation Project - Give Us a Hand



Our Youth Advisory Group (YAG) has been busy over the last 12 months collating, and analysing survey responses as part of the *Youth Participation Project* funded by *IMB Community Foundation*. In Youth Week, the YAG will launch their multimedia campaign as part of this project.

Give Us a Hand is an interactive online campaign that will provide young people and the wider community an opportunity to decorate a virtual hand and post it to their Facebook profiles promoting the message **WRECKreational Drugs, don't let them wreck your night**.

Through this campaign, the YAG will build skills in project management, health promotion and peer education. The development of a workshop resource specifically discussing recreational drugs is a projected outcome of the campaign. We hope this resource will be facilitated by the YAG within schools, universities and community settings and be available for use by community services and schools. Through these workshops, the message...**WRECKreational Drugs, don't let them wreck your night** will have a strong voice in the community.

The *Give Us a Hand* launch will be held Thursday 19 April 5.30 - 7pm at *The Space* at Narellan Library, Cnr of Queen and Elyard Street - Narellan.

We would love to see you there!

Charity Night - 21 July 2012



It's all happening again, but this year, bigger, brighter and bolder than ever before at *The Cube, Campbelltown Catholic Club* 6.30pm-11.30pm on 21 July for the Youth Solutions Annual Charity Event.

This year the theme is *Latin Fiesta!.. feel the rhythm*, and we are in for a night of fun, music that makes your heart beat and vivacious entertainment that will have you smiling from ear to ear.

Contact Brooke on 4628 2319 or brooke@youthsolutions.com.au for information about sponsorship packages or to book tickets.

Feel the rhythm...this July.

Thought of the month

How early should parents be talking to their children about alcohol?

Go to our Facebook page and comment on this status to let us know what you think.

Heard anything you're not sure about or want to put forward for debate...email us info@youthsolutions.com.au.

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