

SAFEGUARDING NEWS

JUNE 2024

care | protect | act



Please nominate someone in your office to ensure this email is forwarded to all Parish and Diocesan staff members



OUR TEAM



Julie Patston
Safeguarding Manager



Christine Thompson
Training and Compliance Officer
(Mon-Thurs)



Michelle Davies
Projects Officer
(Mon & Fri)

From the Safeguarding Team

A number of parishes have all acknowledged and celebrated National Volunteer Week 20-26th May 2024. It's a reminder when recruiting or onboarding these valued individuals you are making them aware of the Diocese Commitment to Safeguarding.

To support you in the work that you do, we have compiled some examples that you may use when advertising to recruit either volunteers or paid employees.

“Our (parish) is committed to being a Child Safe Organisation.

Prior to an offer of engagement, candidates will be required to undergo screening checks depending on their role. This may include a Working With Children's Check (WWCC) and/or a National Criminal History Check (NCPC).”

OR

“The Diocese is committed to protecting all children and adults at risk from harm. We require all applicants to undergo an extensive screening process prior to engagement.

Dependent on the role you are applying for, this may include a Working With Children's Check (WWCC) and/or a National Criminal History Check (NCPC).”

New Adventure!

Michelle Davies is moving interstate to start her next adventure. For the past 17 months Michelle has created many resources that benefit us all as we continue to embed a culture of Safeguarding around the Diocese. We are very thankful for her creative mind and abilities. The 5th of July will be Michelle's last day here in the Diocese Safeguarding Office.

FOR IN THE NEWS please see the accompanying Word doc for latest stories with live links. Remember - we are only a phone call or an email away. Thank you for your continued support!

The Safeguarding Team

TRAINING UPDATE



Office of the Children's Guardian

CHILD SAFETY - OCG

Coffs Harbour - Wed the 26th June
Child Safe Standards and Risk Management.

Child Safe Reporting in Early Ed eLearning Module 3: Child Safe Reporting for staff

For early childhood education and care sector.

- Centre-based services
- OSHC, including vacation care,
- Family day care

The third of what will be 6 modules for each course has just been released.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

2-Day, DV-Alert Foundation Course

Learn how to recognise the signs of domestic violence, respond appropriately, and refer to support services. More dates to come.

AGED CARE

OPAN 'Talk to Us First'

A free, short education program to help aged-care providers and professionals to meet the Aged Care Quality Standards 6, ensuring older people feel safe, encouraged, and supported to give feedback or make a complaint.

eSAFETY Commissioner

Free online Webinars

- eSafety 101: How eSafety can help
- Online gaming
- Understanding parental controls
- Online safety and social media.

See Word doc for links to REGISTER

6621 9444

NDIS Worker Screening Check

A number of ‘workers’ have been asked to have **NDIS Worker Screening** to be able to visit aged care facilities.

All states and territories have now commenced implementing NDIS Worker Screening Check arrangements.

The Worker Screening Check is a mandatory check for workers (including some volunteers) of **registered NDIS providers** in risk assessed roles.

If you are a ‘worker’ delivering NDIS supports and services you may need to have an NDIS worker screening clearance. The NDIS Worker Screening Check is an assessment of whether a person who works, or seeks to work, with people with disability poses a risk to them. The assessment will determine whether a person is cleared or excluded from working in certain roles with people with disability.

If you are asked by a service or your employer to obtain an NDIS Worker Screening Check, you will need to log in to your MyServiceNSW Account and select ‘NDIS Worker Check’ from the dashboard.

See website for more details.

www.ndiscommission.gov.au/workers/worker-screening

Dates for the Diary—June

Month Theme: THE ELDERLY

See Page 7

12: World Day Against Child Labour

www.un.org/en/observances/world-day-against-child-labour

15: World Elder Abuse Day

<https://elderabuseawarenessday.org.au/>

<https://www.compass.info/>

18: International Day for Countering Hate Speech

www.un.org/en/observances/countering-hate-speech

20: World Refugee Day

www.un.org/en/observances/refugee-day

29: Wear White to Work Day

www.whitewreath.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/WEAR-WHITE-AT-WORK-PDF.pdf

12: World Day Against Child Labour

World Day Against Child Labour is intended to serve as a catalyst for the growing worldwide movement against child labour. Our joint experience in tackling child labour over the course of the last three decades has demonstrated that child labour can be eliminated, if the root causes are addressed. More than ever, it is urgent for all of us to contribute to bringing solutions to people’s daily problems, and child labour is – possibly – the most visible of these problems.



15: World Elder Abuse Day

See Page 3 for more on our June Safeguarding theme.

8: International Day for Countering Hate Speech

The devastating effect of hatred is sadly nothing new. However, its scale and impact are amplified today by new technologies of communication, so much so that hate speech, has become one of the most frequent methods for spreading divisive rhetoric and ideologies on a global scale. If left unchecked, hate speech can even harm peace and development, as it lays the ground for conflicts and tensions, wide scale human rights violations.



20: World Refugee Day

World Refugee Day is an international day designated by the United Nations to honour refugees around the globe. It falls each year on June 20 and celebrates the strength and courage of people who have been forced to flee their home country to escape conflict or persecution. World Refugee Day is an occasion to build empathy and understanding for their plight and to recognize their resilience in rebuilding their lives.



29: Wear White to Work Day Support for Mental Illness and Suicide



JUNE SAFEGUARDING THEME: *The Elderly*

15: World Elder Abuse Day

The United Nations General Assembly, in its resolution 66/127, designated 15 June as World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD).

WEAAD is celebrated each year, globally, providing an opportunity for communities to stand together against the abuse, mistreatment and neglect of older people.

Ageing and Disability Commission - NSW

One of the most important steps in protecting older people from abuse is having a greater awareness about the signs of abuse, and knowing what to do to take action. You can use our **communications toolkit** (PDF, 3.3 MB) to bring attention to World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, share our **video** - external site launch with your community and **download our flyers** that promote the rights of older people and adults with disability. Use the QR codes to link.



Toolkit



Video



Flyers

TURN UP THE VOLUME!

22-24 July 2024

2024 Australian Elder Abuse Conference

Adelaide Convention Centre

compass an EAAA project

GUIDING ACTION ON ELDER ABUSE

RESOURCES

Webinars Factsheets Posters Other

Elder Abuse Service, Legal Aid NSW

One Year of Service, A Snapshot

Most common forms of abuse reported



68%
clients reported financial abuse
(ADC 30%*)



50%
clients reported psychological abuse
(ADC 35%*)



1%
clients reported physical abuse



1%
clients reported neglect



(Aligns with statistics from the Ageing and Disability Commission)

- Sexual Abuse
- Physical Abuse
- Financial Abuse
- Emotional/Psychological Abuse
- Neglect

35%
clients reported more than one form of abuse



50%
of abusers were adult children

References

Ageing and Disability Commission Annual Report (2019-2020)

*We are in our first year of service and rely on referrals from stakeholders. We are continually expanding our referral pathways which has high impact on the type of matters and clients we see.



Dates for the Diary—July

Month Theme: NAIDOC

See Page 5

Kind July

www.staykind.com.au/kind-july/

1st Sunday - National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday (ACBC)

www.natsicc.org.au/

4-11 (2024) - NAIDOC Week

www.naidoc.org.au/

23 - World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly (Pope)

www.catholic.au/s/article/World-Day-of-Grandparents-and-the-Elderly

30- World Day Against Trafficking in Persons

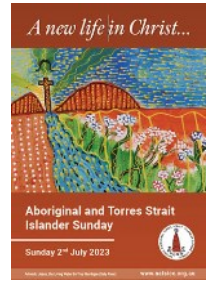
<https://www.un.org/en/observances/end-human-trafficking-day>

30 - International Day of Friendship

www.un.org/en/observances/friendship-day

1st Sunday - National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday (ACBC)

Every year, on the first Sunday in July, Catholics come together across Australia to acknowledge and celebrate the gifts of Australia’s First Peoples in the Catholic Church. In Australia we are blessed to be home to the world’s oldest continuing Culture and the resources that we have created and collated will assist you to celebrate this very important day on our Liturgical Calendar.



4-11 (2024) - NAIDOC Week

See NAIDOC theme information

23 - World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly (Pope)

Loneliness’ at heart of Pope’s theme for 4th Grandparents Day. Pope Francis releases the theme for his message for the 2024 World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly: “Do not cast me off in my old age”.



30- World Day Against Trafficking in Persons

Global crises, conflicts, and the climate emergency are escalating trafficking risks. Displacement and socio-economic inequalities are impacting millions of people worldwide, leaving them vulnerable to exploitation by traffickers. Those who lack legal status, live in poverty, have limited access to education, healthcare, or decent work, face discrimination, violence, or abuse, or come from marginalized communities are often the primary targets.



30 - International Day of Friendship

Our world faces many challenges, crises and forces of division — such as poverty, violence, and human rights abuses — among many others — that undermine peace, security, development and social harmony among the world’s peoples. To confront those crises and challenges, their root causes must be addressed by promoting and defending a shared spirit of human solidarity that takes many forms — the simplest of which is friendship.



Kind July

Kind July is doing an act of kindness every day, in the month Thomas Kelly lost his life to violence, and Stuart Kelly lost his life to suicide after being targeted by bullies.

Imagine being part of making the world a kinder place. That’s why the Stay Kind movement is encouraging you to join us to do something kind each day in July. Imagine how you feel when someone is kind to you? Did you know that staying kind triggers powerful positive feelings in you? So, it’s not just the receiver who benefits! Here’s some inspirational kindness to get you started.

JULY SAFEGUARDING THEME: NAIDOC



KEEP THE FIRE BURNING! BLAK, LOUD AND PROUD

7-14 JULY 2024



Held across the country from 7-14 July 2024, NAIDOC Week will celebrate and recognise the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. This year's theme chosen by the National NAIDOC Committee, is Keep the Fire Burning! Blak, Loud & Proud. The theme honours the enduring strength and vitality of First Nations culture – with fire a symbol of connection to Country, to each other, and to the rich tapestry of traditions that define Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People

As the First Peoples of Australia, the sovereignty over which was never ceded, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples have inherent rights, including the right to self-determination. These rights are enshrined in binding international treaties, and reaffirmed in the

United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Acknowledging, respecting and protecting these rights is vital in addressing the injustices of colonialism, past and present.



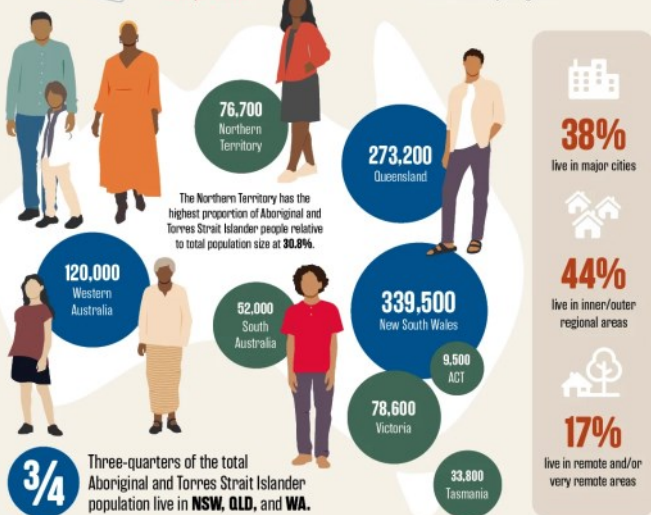
In Australia there are approximately

984,000

Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people.*

This represents **3.8%** of the total population.

*It is important to note that First Nations people are undercounted in census data, so this number may be higher.



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people maintain strong connections to culture, language, and traditional lands, and contribute significantly to the environmental management, economic development, and cultural identity of Australia.



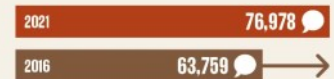
recognise an area as a homeland or traditional country
91% in remote areas
71% in non-remote areas



live on their homeland
43% in remote areas
20% in non-remote areas

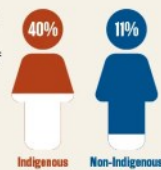


People who reported speaking an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander language are on the rise.



The ongoing colonisation of Australia has negatively affected many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities. This is important to note when considering experiences of disadvantage, discrimination, and hardship.

40% live without two or more essentials for a decent standard of living, such as housing, clean water, and food. Compared to 11% of non-Indigenous people born in Australia.



57% aged 20 years and over have a year 12 certificate or higher qualification.

Make up 0.7% of senior leadership across Australian employers.

The median income of First Nations peoples is **60% less** than non-Indigenous peoples. This gap stretches to **85% in remote areas.**

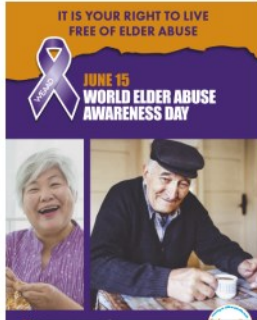


15% aged 15 and over provide unpaid assistance to a person with a disability.



ATTACHMENTS

Elder Abuse



Logo/banner



Posters



Toolkit



Brochures



Naidoc

Logos



KEEP THE FIRE BURNING! BLAK, LOUD AND PROUD
7-14 JULY 2024



Poster



Infographics

