

Children's Matters:

What Really Matters to Victoria's Children?

Prompted by the significant legislative changes to Victoria's child protection system which take effect on 1 March, 2016, MHYFVic (Mental Health for the Young and their Families), The Law Institute of Victoria, Berry Street, The Office of the Public Advocate and Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency are convening a series of policy seminars in 2016 to promote collaboration and reform in the interests of children's rights and family well-being.

Children's Matters Seminar One:

Stability & Permanency for Victoria's Children and Young People
Monday 29th February 2016 - 9.30am to 1.00pm

(9.00am Registration, tea and coffee on arrival)

The Ella Latham Theatre, Royal Children's Hospital, 50 Flemington Road, Parkville

This first seminar will focus on the major 2014 reforms to the Children Youth & Families Act 2005 in Victoria and explore the strengths and limitations of these changes and the likely impacts on children and families. Key issues for discussion will include improving permanency and stability of care, the rights of siblings in care to live together, Aboriginal children's connections to culture and family, judicial and independent oversight of children in care and supporting children and parents with disabilities. Panel presenters are drawn from variety of stakeholders and will include young people with an OOHC experience, together with carers and agency representatives from across the Victorian Child Protection system whom will provide challenging thought leadership and create opportunities for policy collaboration in the child protection sphere.

Keynote speaker: The Hon Justice Alastair Nicholson AO RFD QC

*The rule of law and the importance of judicial oversight in care arrangements
- ways to improve Victoria's child protection system.*

Panel presentations will then be made, inter alia, by:

Ms. Colleen Pearce Victoria's Public Advocate; Muriel Bamblett AM, Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency; Crystal Moon, Y Change Youth Advocate and Anne McLeish, Grandparents Victoria;

Morning tea will be provided

Please RSVP to our seminar coordinator Dr Briony Horsfall by 24 February, 2016
Dr Briony Horsfall - M: 0438 857 515 E: bhorsfall@swin.edu.au



More information regarding Children's Matters Seminar Series:

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