

ISANA VIC/TAS NEWSLETTER FOR 2015

The ISANA Victoria/Tasmania PD Team would like to invite **members and non-members** to join our last Professional Development session on Thursday 19 November 2015.

- 12 noon- 1.00pm** Registration and a networking lunch
- 1.00 -2.00** ISANA Victorian / Tasmanian Branch AGM
- 2.00 - 2.30** The session will introduce an overview of the new OHSC report on International students and health that has been commissioned by ISANA Vic/Tas and compiled by Dr Kate Dempsey

International Students Pay upfront at Emergency - Crushed hand? - Kate Dempsey

Did you know that international students are still being discriminated against at hospitals in Victoria and all around Australia? Here is an example...

In 2014 Louis was involved in an incident in the automotive workshop during class, where his hand was crushed when lowering a car. He was taken to the nearby public hospital by his teacher for emergency treatment. Upon arrival, he was told that he had to pay \$500 upfront to receive treatment. He was not given any option to be invoiced or to pay at a later time. Payment was to be received before treatment. Louis handed over his credit card.

So, what are rules for international students and why don't our health care professionals seem to be aware of international student rights?

***ISANA (Vic and TAS Branch)** is preparing a report on this ongoing injustice, in collaboration with other key stakeholders. A report will be put to the State Government later in 2015.*

- 2.30 - 3.45** Panelist presentation- Mental Health
- 3.45 – 4.00** Afternoon tea
- 4.00- 4.45** Q & A
- 4.45 -5.00** Close

REGISTRATION: PLEASE EMAIL WITH “VIC PD” IN THE SUBJECT LINE & YOUR DETAILS TO isana@isana.org.au

For planning purposes please register via the registration listed above, by close of business **Friday 13 November** . If you have any questions about the PD session please email: ISANA@isana.org.au

Cost of Participation:

ISANA members – **FREE**

Non-members - \$80 (includes Lunch)

Non-members - \$50 (excludes Lunch)

Encourage your friends/colleagues to come along.

Theme: "Dealing with Mental Health Holistically to enhance the international student Experience"

Date: Thursday 19 November 2015
Time: 12noon - 5pm (Networking lunch)
Location: Graduate House, 220 Leicester Street, Carlton
Chair: Peggy Sterkin

This will be a panel session comprised of experts to shed some light on when, how and where to refer, duty of care, current initiatives and suggestions for enhancing the international student experience. The session will share experiences and knowledge from a variety of different perspectives and the panelists will take Q&A from the participants.

Mental Health Panel: (Each will speak from their unique perspective)

- **University Counsellor:** What counsellors offer in terms of services and follow up; are Counsellors seeing an increase in the number of international students? Is there a reduction in stigma associated with mental health for international students? Coping techniques?
- **Representative from a mental health organisation (Orygen/Reach/Headspace):** How can they assist university staff in dealing with international students having mental health issues? What programs do they have in place?
- **Representative from Study Melbourne Student Centre:** SMSC will give a little intro about their clients at the Centre who have mental health related issues, what action does SMSC staff takes to help out or where do they refer students to.
- **Representative from Swinburne Psychology Clinic:** How can a Psychology clinic support and offer assistance to international students experiencing mental health issues, especially after their counselling sessions are over. Are there workshops that these students can attend to seek further support? What are the cost?
- **Representative from OHSC representative (BUPA or Medibank or Allianz)** Is there a trend in claims for mental health care payments? How does claims for mental health care work. What pre-emptive strategies exist or provided by OSHC providers to help international students maintain and improve their mental health and reduce stress?

This personal development session is designed to help you to form networks, build connections and develop best practice in international student advisory and administrative services.

Sofia Albert/ Nooi Chang
Victoria/ Tasmania ISANA PD Coordinator