

Volume 5

September 2009

WAGEC is an independent community based service funded through the
Department of Community Services Supported Accommodation Assistance Program.

Wisdom of the Streets

Online donations

- You can donate online to our account

Women's & Girls' Emergency Centre
Commonwealth Bank

BSB - 062 033

Acc. No. 10331227

Please don't forget to identify your name on the donation - and email coordinator@wagec.org.au so that we can forward you a receipt for your donation.

Street Smart Australia has been a consistent supporter of WAGEC and projects that we run, and once again this year WAGEC successfully applied for a grant to work with women.

Wisdom of the Streets will be a book of recipes with a twist. The book will be interspersed with short stories of varying women's' homelessness experiences, quotes, images and on the cheap nutritious recipes.

It will be featuring recopies from diverse cultures, and will appeal to a wide group of people especially during these financially difficult times.

The aim is to provide each client who becomes newly housed with a copy and it will not only be a rich resource for the women to build and strengthen their

living skills but will also be used as a resource to highlight to the wider community the issues that surround women and homelessness.

Thank you Street Smart Australia for supporting the Homeless Community at WAGEC.



A WAGEC client cooking up a storm

Education Support at WAGEC

Since the start of the year WAGEC has been blessed with two volunteers who have been donating their time on Tuesdays to assist women accessing the centre with computer tuition.

Sarah Uther and Natasha Edwards have been driving a self directed approach to up skilling clients IT skills and confidence in navigating around the computer systems.

Client demands and existing skills have varied, often making it quite difficult for tutors to manage the one on one attention required.

During the first few months the same group of client attended regularly, utilizing tutor assistance for employment development and skills enhancement. In response to demand, generic CV templates and application letters were created by the tutors and saved on each

computer for clients to access and use for CV development and job applications. Exercises to enhance typing skills were also developed by the tutors and made available for the clients to access and use at any time.

Thank you Sarah & Natasha for your support and dedication to the women who access the centre.

North Ryde Secondary College

Another big thank you goes to Ms Tracy Nash and the students and teachers at North Ryde Secondary College.

In a winter fundraising drive the school has provided homeless women with an abundance of socks, and under wear to make the winter chill a bit more bearable.

A group of North Ryde students attended a service visit and learnt about issues impacting homeless women and girls in the inner city of Sydney. We look forward to future partnership work with the school and thank them for their support to disadvantaged women within the community.



WOMEN'S & GIRLS' EMERGENCY CENTRE INC.

WAGEC Supporter

From the Board



The WAGEC Board bids farewell to

Andrea Christie-David!

Following over a year of service on the WAGEC board, it is with both excitement for her adventure and sadness at the loss of Andrea's expertise and energy, that we say goodbye.

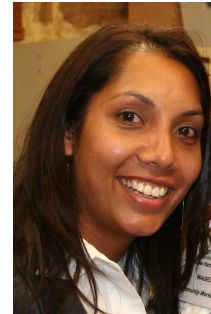
Andrea had been a solid support to both the service manager and fellow board members during her year of service, bringing her legal expertise and mindset to meetings and her flair for fundraising to the forefront of WAGEC's planning.

Andrea has been instrumental in sourcing support for the redesigning of the organisations logo, and rebuilding of the website.

It will be exciting to see what a 3 month residency in New York will bring about for Andrea's career and future contributions towards the community.

We wish Andrea the best of luck and look forward to hearing about the adventures she will be embarking on in the US.

Good luck and thank you, Andrea!



Minter Ellison Lawyers have been a strong support of WAGEC since our partnership began in 2006. Since this time Minters have supported our women through pro bono legal clinics, financial donations, volunteering for our Christmas party, providing donations and Christmas presents. Most recently Minters Lawyers had a huge book drive to establish the new WAGEC library.

The Board of Management express their gratitude towards all the support Minter Ellison Lawyers have provided the centre.

Where the money goes...

Earlier this year, WAGEC produced *It's not Rocket Science* – policies and procedures for services working with Transgender clients.

The policies have been written by the Gender Centre for incorporation into existing services policy and procedure manuals, to assist staff in the provision of appropriate service delivery in

accommodation services and projects to meet the needs of Transgender clients accessing inner city services.

It is hoped that agencies will as part of an employee's induction, provide a copy of the document to staff so that they are familiarized with language and issues relating to providing equitable and safe services to clients with gender issues, and to increase workers ability in engaging in gender dialogue if this is something that the client is wanting.

Special thanks must go to the City of Sydney for their financial support in producing the document, and the Gender Centre for writing and providing the policy advice and transgender expertise.

Further sources of information for workers and transgender clients alike is available at WAGEC's online blog

<http://wagectransgenderproject.wordpress.com>

"Even if you're on the right track,

you'll get run over

if you just sit there"

Leo Buscaglia

Thank you to the following supporters for recent contributions

**WOMEN'S
& GIRLS'
EMERGENCY
CENTRE inc.**



WAGEC is constantly seeking supporters and professionals to assist with various projects with the organisation.

We would like to thank Jessica Blackwood for her creativity and time donated to the service in redesigning our agency logo.

Currently we are in the midst of registering the logo so that we can launch it at our AGM in November

Currently WAGEC is seeking the assistance of a

Volunteer

To assist with Fundraising

Please contact Lara, Service Manager at WAGEC if you think you could contribute to Women's & Girls.

coordinator@wagec.org.au