



ECIA(VC) Bulletin

June 2006

ECIA(VC) has had a busy six months with activities including:

- Ongoing liaison with *Department of Human Services* – as well as quarterly meetings, ECIA(VC) committee and DHS representatives participated in a joint planning day in February. There has also been consultation regarding the proposed *Victorian Plan for Children*, including organising a parent panel to meet with Dr Tim Gilley, Senior Policy Advisor for Statewide Planning. ECIA(VC) is also a member of the recently established *Early Years Advisory Group*.
- Involvement with the Jack Shonkoff visit in March - providing presentations of the Victorian context and issues, as part of Jack's overall program. Documents can be viewed on our website: www.eciavic.org.au
- Some members may have viewed a video *Gus, An Early Intervention Story*, produced by Jane Collins, describing her own parent story and response to early childhood intervention services. ECIA(VC) and Jane are producing a resource to accompany this DVD and it is expected to be completed this year.
- Our *ECIA National Councillors*, John Forster and Susana Gavidia-Payne supported ECIA(SA) in presenting the *National Conference in March*. Three national working groups have been established - one is developing criteria for a web based research database. Another is following up procedures and guidelines for future National conferences. The third group is considering elements of our *ECIA(VC) Outcomes Statement* that may be taken as priorities for a *National Outcome Statement*.

Remember that there are four ways of being involved with ECIA(VC):

- Join the *Website Mailing list* to receive information bulletins regarding events and announcements. There is no charge to be on this distribution list –register via the website.
- Join the *ECIS Manager's Network* email list. Matters pertinent to those managing agencies have a separate email list (eg: training opportunities, minutes of network meetings) – those with an interest in receiving this information can register on: eciavic@bigpond.com
- Become a *financial member* – tax deductible membership fees support the work of ECIA at state and national levels; benefits include receiving a quarterly newsletter, discounts at ECIA events, promotion of your events and job vacancies through the ECIA website and weblist.
- *Join the committee* – ECIA(VC) is reliant on a voluntary committee. The time commitment involves a 2-3 hour committee meeting 10 months of the year, plus time given to smaller working groups. The annual general meeting will be on August 18 and new nominations for the committee from financial members are welcome.

DIARY DATES – full details and updates on the website.

- Monday July 10 – Forum on Outcomes in Community Inclusion.
- National Early Childhood Intervention Awareness Week – August 12 to 20.
- Monday August 14 – Manager's network meeting day
- Friday August 18 – ECIA(VC) mini conference and Annual General Meeting.
- Saturday 19 August and 2 September – Introduction to Counselling Course.