



Advancing the human rights of women caught up in the criminal justice system.

WELCOME to the 9th edition of the WIPAN e-news bulletin

In this e-bulletin:

- Office for Women's Policy Funding Granted
- WIPAN approved for Work and Development Order with State Debt Recovery Office
- International Women's Day March
- Mentor Training Continues
- Service of the Month: NSW Rape Crisis
- Membership

WIPAN RECEIVES FUNDING FROM OFFICE OF WOMEN

WIPAN would like to take this opportunity to offer our sincere gratitude to the Office for Women's Policy NSW for approving our most recent grant application. WIPAN have committed to delivering a resource addressing the issues of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault for women in the criminal justice system. We are ever grateful to the Office for Women's Policy for their continued support of the work that we do and endeavour to make the very best of this wonderful opportunity.

WORK & DEVELOPMENT ORDER APPROVAL FOR WIPAN

The State Debt Recovery Office has approved WIPAN as an organisation that can support an application for a Work and Development Order. At present the SDRO are trialing Work and Development Orders for 2 years. Work and Development Orders allow eligible persons to satisfy their outstanding debt with the SDRO through non-monetary means such as un-paid work, medical or mental health treatment, education or vocational courses, financial or other counseling, drug or alcohol treatment and mentoring programs (25 and under).

To be eligible for a WDO, applicants must have a mental illness, intellectual disability or cognitive impairment, are homeless, or who are experiencing acute economic hardship.

As an approved organisation, WIPAN are required to, amongst other activities, oversee participation under WDO's and report on compliance.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY (IWD) - CENTENARY

WIPAN were pleased to attend and help celebrate the 2011 International Women's Day centenary, where we, alongside many other women, men and children, marched through the streets of Sydney to mark the 100th year of IWD. As anticipated it was a wonderfully vibrant day that so importantly highlighted the many issues that challenge women in Australia and all over the world.

MENTOR TRAINING CONTINUES

WIPAN are training 28 new mentors to service women exiting prison all over the Greater Sydney region. Day one of our training program was a huge success with the mentors all coming together and laying the foundations as a very supportive team. The women mentors are again an incredibly diverse and compassionate group of women who are committed to

supporting women exiting prison. Day two concludes our mentor training, at which point all of our mentors will be available for mentoring in the community as of the 20th of March 2011.

If you are aware of any woman exiting prison and who may benefit from a mentor, please contact Samantha on 0415 454 770.

SERVICE OF THE MONTH – NSW RAPE CRISIS CENTRE

NSW Rape Crisis Centre offers a 24/7 telephone (1800 424 017) and online counselling service to any person that has experienced or been impacted by sexual violence. The service is also available to women who were sexually assaulted when they were children. The counsellors are experienced and professional sexual assault trauma counsellors.

NSW Rape Crisis Centre trauma counsellors are also available in seven Women's Health Centres throughout NSW and provide long term trauma counselling to women who were sexually assaulted when they were children. The locations are as follows: Central Coast, Leichhardt, Lismore, Liverpool, Penrith and Albury-Wodonga.

The staff at NSW Rape Crisis are very professional, non-judgemental and compassionate women who understand how difficult it can be to seek support in such circumstances and as such provide a very warm and safe place for women in need.

For further information please phone: (02) 9819 7357 Fax: (02) 9819 6295
Email: info@nswrapecrisis.com.au, or visit website www.nswrapecrisis.com.au

WIPAN MEMBERSHIPS

WIPAN encourage any person interested in supporting women in prison or exiting prison to become a member of WIPAN and attend our monthly meeting to share their knowledge and experience. There are no pre-requisites for becoming a member, we welcome all women, and believe that all women, irrespective of their background, have something of great worth to share.

For prospective and to-be-renewed memberships please submit an application via our [website](#) or alternatively download a [membership form](#) and post it in with the small fee to WIPAN, PO Box 345, Broadway NSW 2007.

CONTACT WIPAN

For further information about WIPAN including our executive members, general members, our funding bodies, strategic plan or WIPAN's vision & aims, please contact us.

Street Address:
Trades Hall Building,
Lower Ground Floor, Suite B1,
4 Goulburn St, Sydney NSW 2000

Postal Address:
PO Box 345, Broadway NSW 2007

Telephone: 02 8011 0699
Mobile: 0415 454 770
Fax: 02 8011 0690
Email: info@wipan.net.au
Website: www.wipan.net.au

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