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Foreword

In April 2005, SACHRU administration and governance transferred to Flinders University. The South Australian Department of Health has a five year contract to fund Flinders University to run SACHRU, through the faculty of Health Sciences. In consequence, planning and reporting requirements to the Department of Health have changed and SAHCRU is now required to prepare an annual plan and a bi-annual performance report. In line with this change SACHRU’s annual report to stakeholders will, in future, cover the calendar year.

This report is for the 18 months from 1 July 2004 to 31 December 2005.

Role

The South Australian Community Health Research Unit (SACHRU) strives to enhance health and wellbeing in South Australian communities. It does this by assisting community health and primary health care agencies and groups to undertake and use the findings from research and evaluation to make services more effective in maintaining and improving the health of their communities.

SACHRU undertakes and advocates for primary health care research and evaluation which:
- focuses on issues of equity
- takes a social view of health and wellbeing
- has implications for policy and practice
- involves, and is responsive to, all relevant players
- is independent, rigorous and has academic excellence
- is disseminated widely and in appropriate ways.

SACHRU is partly funded by the South Australian Department of Health (DH) and administered by Flinders University (FU) to provide a primary health care research and evaluation service for community health services and related agencies and groups that are funded by the DH in metropolitan and country South Australia.

The Role of SACHRU is to:
- assist the DH and service providers to determine needs and priorities for community and primary health care research and evaluation
- develop research and evaluation methodologies suitable for use in a primary health care setting
- design and conduct primary health care research projects
- obtain and manage externally funded research grants and consultancies in community and primary health care
- disseminate research and evaluation findings
- contribute to academic excellence in community health research
- provide research and evaluation support to community and primary health care workers in relation to research, evaluation and primary health care development
- monitor and disseminate Australian and overseas research relevant to primary health care policy and practice
- undertake critical appraisal of policy and programs relevant to primary health care.

Key Directions 2005-09

- Contributing to the health reform agenda through evaluation of PHC implementation and development
- Researching the social, economic and environmental determinants of health and well-being and how these form a program logic for human services interventions including social inclusion strategies
• Researching the dynamics and outcomes of primary health care and population health approaches to health promotion and illness prevention
• Ensuring the transfer of research knowledge relating to primary health care from research to policy, planning and practice and promoting its uptake
• Increasing workforce capacity to undertake research and evaluation and gain confidence and skills in contributing a PHC perspective to the health care reform agenda

Advisory Committee

Since its formation in 1991, SACHRU has been supported by an Advisory Committee, which meets every three months. At each meeting, the SACHRU Director reports on activities and progress, and seeks advice on various management matters including workshop programs and planning days. An Executive consisting of the Chair and Deputy Chair can be called upon for matters requiring urgent attention.

2004-2005 Membership

Ms Adair Garrett (Chair) Northern Metropolitan Community Health Service, representing Community Health Centre CEOs
Ms Bernadette Roberts Women’s Health Statewide
Ms Marj Ellis Adelaide Central Community Health Service and South Australian Community Health Association
Mr Andrew Stanley Strategic Planning and Population Health, Department of Health
Ms Kaye Frigo Flinders Medical Centre
Mr Richard Hicks Noarlunga Health Services
Mr Keith Evans Primary & Community Care, Metropolitan Division, Department of Human Services
Ms Joanne Gell Northern Metropolitan Community Health Service
Mr Kevin Eglinton Hills Mallee Southern Regional Health Service, representing Rural Regional General Managers
A/Prof Libby Kalucy School of Medicine, Flinders University
Ms Sue Foster Inner Southern Community Health Service

Staff Nominee This position is filled by rotation.
Staff nominees for 2004-2005 were:
Gwyn Jolley
Tuesday Udell
Angela Lawless
Michael Bentley
Lisel O'Dwyer
Staff Members
As at December 2005

**Director**
Professor Fran Baum B.A. (Hons.), Ph.D.
(also Head, Department of Public Health, Flinders University of South Australia)

**Senior Research Officer**
Michael Bentley B.Sc. (Maths), Grad.Dip. (Health Admin. & Info. Systems)

**Senior Research Officer**
Gwyn Jolley
B.Sc. (Hons.), PGCEd, Grad Dip. OH, MSc (PHC)

**Senior Research Officer**
Lisel O’Dwyer
BA (Hons), PhD

**Senior Research Officer**
Angela Lawless
B.App Sc (Speech Pathology), Grad. Dip. PHC

**Senior Research Officer**
Catherine Hurley B.A., B.Soc. Admin., Grad.Cert.PHC, Research and Evaluation

**Contract Research Officer**
Tuesday Udell
B.App Sc (Computer Studies), B Food Science with Nutrition (Hons), MSc (Health Science)

**Information Officer**
Rebecca Ramm
BA (Multimedia Studies), Grad Dip (Information Studies)

**Personal Assistant**
Robyne Ridgeway

**Administrative Assistant**
Leigh Kennedy
**Director’s report**

This report covers an 18 month period because of the changed reporting requirements as a result of SACHRU’s governance changing from Flinders Medical Centre to Flinders University. This change occurred in April 2005 and from 2006 we will be producing an annual report that covers each calendar year starting with 2006.

The eighteen months covered by this report was one in which SACHRU was associated with a number of successful grant applications which are covered in detail in this report. These grants demonstrate the ways in which the South Australian Government investment in SACHRU pays off in terms of attracting nationally competitive funds to the state. Most significantly we were successful in winning an NH&MRC Capacity Building Grant in conjunction with staff from the University of Melbourne and the Flinders University Faculty of Social Sciences. This grant enables a focus on equity and the social determinants of health and so advances the core aims of SACHRU. This is also the case with the Department of Health and ARC funded research on the impact of the loss of jobs at Mitsubishi automotive plant on the health of the workers and the NH&MRC funded research on the health of urban Indigenous people. I am especially pleased that we won this funding as SACHRU has put a particularly emphasis on research on community health and Indigenous people and the grant suggests that we are making significant progress in this area. SACHRU is strongly committed to building Indigenous health research capacity through its work with community health teams and through the Cooperative Research Centre for Aboriginal Health.

This report demonstrates the considerable experience that SACHRU staff have in conducting community health evaluations. Many of these are quite small in scale but collectively they are an important means by which an evidence base of work for community health is developed. Each evaluation conducted adds to our experience of what form of evaluation works best in community based research.

Our training work continued over the period of this report. One innovation was the introduction of a writing course for community health workers who wanted to publish their work in a refereed journal. Ten people attended the first of these courses and we are confident that they will succeed in publishing their work.

The period covered by this report was one of significant change and disruption for the community health services with which we work closely. They have been amalgamated into regional health services where there has been less direct control for the community health services. We know from our research on the governance and primary health care project that many community health workers are apprehensive about the future of their sector, especially the aspects of their work that has always made it the cutting edge of primary health care in South Australia – the social action and community development approaches to tackling health issues. We are glad for the chance to have worked with so many dedicated community health people and trust that our work in documenting this vital aspect of the health sector will play some role in ensuring that the unique contribution of community health is acknowledged and valued by the broader health system.

The period that this report covers has been one of change for SACHRU. I would like to thank all members of SACHRU’s Management Advisory Committee for their support in this period, especially Adair Garret our Chair and Bernadette Roberts our Deputy Chair. Andrew Stanley, Helen van Eyk and Heather Petty (SA Department of Health) have been very supportive in overseeing the transition from FMC to Flinders University governance. Roy Goldie (Executive Dean, Faculty of Health Sciences) has been very supportive in overseeing the transition to the University. The staff of SACHRU have also been through a period of uncertainty and change I would like to thank all of them for their commitment and dedication to the work of SACHRU. Without you nothing could have been achieved!

Fran Baum
Director
Research & Evaluation Projects

Australian Health Inequities Program

Staff involved: Fran Baum

The National Health and Medical Research Council announced in November 2004 $2.4million funding over 5 years for an Australian Health Inequities Program (AHIP). AHIP is an exciting new program which brings together researchers from a range of disciplines including public health, labour market economics, housing and geography, to address health inequities and analyse policy and program strategies that aim to reduce them.

Health inequities remain a significant feature of Australia’s health profile. AHIP will examine the complex causes of such inequities, including the contribution of our housing, employment, social connections, the places people live in, and perceptions of our environment. This information will contribute to debates about what level of inequities are acceptable in a country such as Australia and, most importantly, provide guidance to government, service providers and community groups about how to improve the quality of people’s local environments and reduce the health differences between different groups of Australians.

AHIP is a strongly collaborative program linking researchers at Flinders University and the University of Melbourne with other national and international researchers and local policy makers:

- It is headed by Professor Fran Baum, Department of Public Health (Flinders University) and also involves Associate Professor Anne Kavanagh, Key Centre for Women's Health (University of Melbourne), Professor Andrew Beer in the School of Geography, Population and Environmental Management (Flinders University) and Professor Sue Richardson, Director of the National Institute of Labour Studies (Flinders University).
- A key element of AHIP is to build capacity for health inequities research in Australia. To do this it will employ a number of postdoctoral researchers in each of the discipline areas to further their training in health inequities research and policy development.
- AHIP also has a number of international collaborators including researchers from the UK, Canada, South Africa, the USA and Ireland, who will be involved in joint research and share their expertise in addressing health inequities internationally.
- AHIP will create a broad network of researchers working in health related areas, bringing them together in forums and in national/international conferences on health inequities.
- AHIP will be working closely with the South Australian Department of Health and VicHealth and the Department of Human Services in Victoria to improve policy responses to health inequities. Key policy makers will participate through a number of steering committees to oversee AHIP and ensure the transfer of the research into policy and practice.
- AHIP promises to provide a significant resource to deepen understanding of the ways in which health inequities are created and sustained in Australia, and in developing more effective ways of reducing these inequities.
AHIP was launched in Adelaide on 3rd June 2005 along with SACHRU’s birthday celebrations. Sir Eric Neal, Chancellor of Flinders University chaired the proceedings and Josie Agius, a Kaurna Aboriginal Elder gave an opening address. Fran Baum and Sue Richardson described the AHIP research program and its importance. The Minister for Health, the Honourable Lea Stevens, then officially launched the project.

AHIP was also launched in Melbourne on Friday 10th June by Professor Ichiro Kawachi (Harvard School of Public Health) at an event hosted by VicHealth. The launch was followed by a seminar at which Professor Kawachi, his colleague from Harvard Dr. S. V. Subramanian, Fran Baum and Anne Kavanagh spoke. The event was attended by 130 people. Prof. Kawachi is one of the world’s leading researchers on social capital. He is one of the named international collaborators on the Australian Health Inequities Program grant and we will look forward to welcoming him as a visitor to Adelaide during the life of the grant. Our strong link with A/Prof Anne Kavanagh and her team at the University of Melbourne is continuing to develop, especially in respect of the similar work we are doing on location, social capital and health.

The 2005 Australian Health Inequities Program Annual Retreat took place over four days at the St Francis Winery Resort, Old Reynella, south of Adelaide in October.

This year’s retreat was a series of seminars, discussions and a dinner which brought together the core AHIP research group with invited speakers from Australia and overseas, and members of the Australian research and policy community. Minister John Hill spoke at the dinner on the topic of the SA Strategic Plan and Anne Edwards (Vice Chancellor Flinders University) hosted the dinner.

Approximately 60 invited Australian researchers attended a seminar program of health inequities recent research and methodology. The seminar program included:

**Professor Jennie Popay:**
- Understanding the relationship between physical space, social space and health inequalities
- The challenge of community engagement in urban renewal

**Dr Jianghong Li:**
- Data linkage and research in social determinants of health: methodological and political changes
- How can research in health disparities inform policy: examples from Western Australia.

**Associate Professor Antony Blakeley:**
- Shifting dollars, saving lives: what might happen to mortality rates, and socio-economic inequalities in mortality rates, if income was redistributed?
- What have policy makers in NZ learnt from record linkage of census and mortality data? The NZ Census-Mortality Study

**Associate Professor Anne Kavanagh:**
- The Victorian Lifestyles Neighbourhood Environments Study: Lessons from the field.

**Professor Andrew Beer:**
- Impact of an automotive plant closure on the health, housing and labour market careers of displaced workers
The impact of the retrenchment of Mitsubishi workers on affected workers, their families and communities

Staff involved: Fran Baum, Gwyn Jolley, Lisel O’Dwyer

Senior Research Officers Lisel O’Dwyer and Gwyn Jolley are involved in a SA Department of Health ‘Health Services Research and Innovation Program’ funded project examining the impact of retrenchment on Mitsubishi workers on their health, housing status and labour force position and the implications for human services, policies and practices. This project is multidisciplinary, drawing together researchers from community and public health, housing studies, geography, labour studies, and social administration. It is being led by Professors Fran Baum (Public Health and SACHRU), Andrew Beer (Southern Research Centre of the Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute, Sue Richardson (National Institute of Labour Studies) and Dr Fiona Verity, School of Social Administration and Social Work. Dr Anna Ziersch from the Department of Public Health is also contributing to the research.

The retrenchment of approximately 1000 permanent workers from Mitsubishi Motors (Australia) Limited’s (MMAL) Lonsdale foundry and reduction of activities at Tonsley Park is expected to have a significant impact on the lives of retrenched workers, their families and communities. Southern Adelaide is vulnerable to the effects of restructuring because it has an under-developed industrial base with few large employers in the region and a weaker entrepreneurial culture when compared with other parts of Adelaide. There are also significant pockets of low income and relative deprivation and associated poor health outcomes, and high rates of youth unemployment in the region. Social services are already under considerable pressure and some health services, such as general practitioners, are in short supply compared with the rest of Adelaide.

The research is a longitudinal study and will explore mental and physical health, disruption of social networks, prospects for re-employment, attributes and behaviours of the workers that are associated with good outcomes, demand for social and health services, levels of housing stress and impact on children and young people. The research findings will inform policy and service development to help South Australians better prepare for large-scale employment changes in the future.

The research has 5 key objectives:

1. To track the changing effects of job loss over the critical transition period.
2. To conduct detailed investigations with sub-samples of the above populations
3. To study the impact of job losses on the children of retrenched workers
4. To assess the perceived impact of job losses on the region by service providers
5. To provide policy recommendations based on the above research. The research outcomes of the project will identify the most effective re-employment strategies of retrenched workers and what services were valuable in assisting them.

The research project will also:

- Inform policy makers of the first, second and third order impacts of the job losses at MMAL
- Provide an evidence base of the impact of the MMAL job losses to inform future policy negotiations on industry restructuring
- Identify strategies to alleviate the worst impacts of the job losses
- Provide an evidence base on the most useful support strategies for employees to inform future responses to large-scale job losses
- Give information on local services and supports to people being interviewed
- Offer a template of best practice for Mitsubishi Motors Australian Limited in managing employee retrenchments.
The research team was very pleased to learn that an application for an ARC Linkage grant has been successful. This means that the current study can be extended longitudinally to a series of three quantitative interviews over two years with retrenched workers. Qualitative interviews with a sub-set of respondents will also be conducted in three stages.

An initial focus group with children of affected workers was held and data from this will inform the planned interviews with approximately 20 children about their perceptions of what the changes have brought to the family.

A survey of health and community services in the region has also been completed to help in assessment of the impact on service organisations. It is hoped that this information will help in service planning for the region and for other areas facing similar job losses. Further consultation with community service providers is planned.

Face-to-face quantitative survey interviews will be held with up to 500 permanent full-time workers experiencing job loss and in-depth qualitative interviews with a small group of these workers. The survey interviews and in-depth interviews will be conducted in 3 stages – before job loss, six months later, and 18 months later. Responses will be compared with the adult male metropolitan Adelaide population through the SA Health Monitor.

The research questions include:

- What effect does involuntary retrenchment have on the mental and physical health of workers?
- What characteristics of workers lead to greater resilience in response to retrenchment?
- How are housing careers affected by involuntary retrenchment?
- How does the use and perception of housing change with the changed work circumstances, is home ownership a burden, a support or something else?
- What job-finding strategies are effective for retrenched workers?
- What role do social networks play in retrenched workers’ experience of job loss and future employability?
- What are children’s experiences of their parents’ changing employment conditions, with particular emphasis: on relationships with family and peers, education, sport, leisure and holidays, current and future expectations and hopes about their own employment, and impact on their sense of opportunities and threats in their worlds?
- What are the policy implications of the involuntary retrenchments?

Experience from the first round of interviews indicates a diversity of responses, though many workers are indicating stress levels above their normal experience. Higher levels of mental health distress, and lower levels of sense of control and hope for the future, were evident in the retrenched workers when compared to a randomised sample of men in Adelaide. Social activity and connectedness also appeared to be reduced in at least half the respondents.

Respondents have also been keen to share their views with the research team and most of the planned 40 in-depth interviews have been completed. Stage 2 interviews are also starting. We would like to acknowledge the support of Mitsubishi Motors Australia Ltd in conducting this research and in helping to arrange contact with the workers.
Governance and Primary Health Care in the South
Staff involved: Gwyn Jolley, Fran Baum, Angela Lawless, Catherine Hurley, Tuesday Udell

Following the Generational Health Review in 2002 one of the goals of the SA Government health reform agenda is to strengthen primary health care. In 2005 SACHRU undertook a research project, funded by the Flinders Institute for Health and Medical Research, to monitor the regionalisation process in the southern metropolitan region of Adelaide and the impact on primary health care. For this pilot project we have conducted 12 interviews with key stakeholders to determine their vision for primary health care and how the change process will be implemented and assessed. Two focus groups with community health service workers explored the goals for primary health care and the functioning of the new region from the perspective of health workers. From this large volume of data the research team collated themes and identified goal statements and some potential indicators. An advisory group made up of key stakeholders and consumers guided the data collection, analysis and reporting.

These different perspectives were brought together in a forum in November to work towards an agreed set of goals and specific indicators that can be used to assess progress.

Funding for this pilot project concluded in December and a brief report will be prepared in 2006. An application to the Australian Research Council was submitted earlier this year for grant funding to extend the research to include both the metropolitan geographical metropolitan regions in Adelaide and the statewide population region for children, youth and women. Unfortunately, we heard just after the forum that our application was unsuccessful even though we had received positive assessor comments. Other funding options were explored and an application to the University Industry Collaboration Research Grant scheme of Flinders University was successful and will enable us to continue this research into 2006. We also plan to re-submit to the ARC Linkage grant scheme in April 2006 for longer term funding.

Systematic Review Community Health Service Evaluations
Staff involved: Gwyn Jolley, Fran Baum, Catherine Hurley

The report from this project *What works? A systematic review of the evidence for the effectiveness of community health in Adelaide* was launched by David Panter (CEO, Central Northern Adelaide Health Service) at a seminar on 10th December 2004, attended by over 100 people.

The authors - Fran Baum, Gwyn Jolley and Catherine Hurley - gave an overview of the report and Denise Fry, a co-author and NSW health consultant, described her observations of SA community health and health reform changes from an interstate perspective. Denise talked about the need for evaluation to demonstrate visibility, intelligibility and legitimacy of the community health sector.
The report describes a systematic review of 93 evaluations conducted in SA metropolitan community health services between 1999 and 2002. Systematic review is one way to integrate findings from different evaluation studies in order to build a body of evidence of what works. The research found that there is some impressive evaluation activity in community health but there is room for improvement. There also needs to more attention paid to disseminating findings more widely. More investment in building an evaluation culture in all levels of organisation is recommended.

One of the immediate outcomes of this research is an evaluation report template that community health services can use when writing up their evaluations. This should help reports to be more comprehensive and consistent across services. Three presentations were given that trialled the use of the template:

- Blood awareness in Hackham Small Business 2004, Steve Parker, Noarlunga Health Services
- Northern Regional Youth Services Plan 2003-2004, Deb Odgers, Northern Metropolitan Community Health Service & Vanessa Krivickas, Salisbury Council
- Healthy Weight Program, Melissa Carapetis, Inner Southern Community Health Service

After the presentations, a panel discussed their responses to the evaluations and how a stronger evidence base for community health could be developed.

Following on from some of the recommendations in the report, SACHRU has embarked on a number of follow up tasks. These include: further development of the evaluation report writing template for community health workers, and identifying or designing tools to assess achievement in the primary health care principles of equity, community participation and working in collaborative partnerships. *What Works* concluded that, while a large amount of evaluation activity occurred in Adelaide community health services, limited resources and skills meant that the quality of reporting was variable. The template and assessment tools are aimed at increasing consistency and relevance outside the reporting agency of evaluation efforts. This is turn should help to establish evidence for the effectiveness of community health services and the primary health care approach in the current climate of reporting ‘evidence-based’ practice.

The final version of the report writing template will be available on the website soon. The assessment tools are currently being developed and should be ready for piloting in 2006.

**Geographical Access to Food project**

*Staff involved: Tuesday Udell*

This project is examining the food shopping experiences of households in metropolitan Adelaide. We aim to identify possible gaps and opportunities in food availability so that we may inform public health policy in the areas of transport, housing and location of food shops.

A recruitment agency has been employed to locate households without a car within four local government areas (LGAs) and in collector districts (smallest statistical area) we had identified in a previous study as 'food deserts'. We are particularly interested in households that: are low-income, have a single parent, are large families, have a disability, or are elderly. We are also recruiting households without a car as a comparison group. The comparison households are in the same LGA and without a car, but not living in an identified ‘food desert’. To-date six people have been interviewed in their homes. The interviews were semi-structured and taped. All interviews have been transcribed and analysed for themes. Household demographics have been collated. We are aiming to complete another 14 interviews by June 2006. Currently we are investigating other avenues of recruitment.
Work & Wellbeing  
*Staff involved: Peter Nixon, Fran Baum*

The “Work and Well Being” project explores aspects of the relationship between employees’ working conditions and their health. It is a Flinders University collaboration between the Department of Public Health and the National Institute of Labour Studies. The project focuses on white-collar employees aged in their late 20s and early 30s. The research compares employees in public and private employment and those with continuing, casual and contract employment agreements.

Original information has being drawn from three groups of employees in the form of focus groups and responses to a self reported health status questionnaire. A fourth group was interviewed instead, because of logistic problems in arranging a meeting. The groups were permanent public servants, contract public servants, permanent non-government employees and casual non-government employees.

An article has been submitted to the Australian Journal of Health Promotion and is currently under review.

Urban Locational Disadvantage and Health  
*Staff involved: Fran Baum, Lisel O’Dwyer*

The Department of Public Health and the School of Environment and Population Management, Flinders University, won a four-year NHMRC grant to explore urban locational disadvantage and health. The study particularly focuses on factors that contribute to the differing health outcomes within Australian urban populations. The project aims to help reduce health inequalities in areas characterised by low socioeconomic status and locational disadvantage by comparing those compositional factors (i.e. characteristics of individuals) and contextual factors (i.e. characteristics of the social and physical environment) that contribute to health in areas of both low and high socioeconomic status. From this research, the project will develop a series of key indicators of social and environmental factors that contribute to the health promoting potential of local neighbourhoods.

Case study suburbs have been selected from four LGAs representing extremes in levels of social capital and socioeconomic status and a questionnaire has been sent to household in these areas. Field trips have provided photographic data of features such as housing type, gardens, open space, real estate signs and other aspects of neighbourhood characterising the area.

Data analysis is underway and two conference papers have been presented. A food basket and community survey is also underway.

The study is due for completion in 2006.

Systematic Review of Locational Interventions  
*Staff involved: Fran Baum, Lisel O’Dwyer*

This project commenced in 2003 and is based on the link between socioeconomic status and health. Locational interventions may focus on either the contextual or compositional factors in area, or both. The literature review aimed to identify, appraise and report on locational interventions to reduce socioeconomic inequities in health that have been formally evaluated.

The diverse range of literature found has been difficult to reconcile with the formal boundaries of systematic review. The project has therefore constructed a typology of the different ways the concept of ‘location’ or ‘area’ has been used in evaluations of interventions aimed at reducing health inequalities and will present the findings in the form of a narrative review.
Indigenous Perspectives on Location  
*Staff involved: Michael Bentley*

This project is being conducted by the Department of Public Health by a team consisting of both Indigenous and non-Indigenous public health researchers (Fran Baum and Michael Bentley from SACHRU are part of the team of investigators). This project involves working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in different urban locations across Adelaide to look at ways to best promote healthy neighbourhoods. The project seeks to gather information about where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people live and how this influences our health.

The project has three major research aims:

- To investigate the determinants of Locational differences in health as they relate to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in Adelaide.
- To explore the dynamics of the production of health inequities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in the five post-code areas.
- To contribute to culturally safe policy development designed to reduce health inequities within urban Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

A research manager has been appointed and the interview questionnaire is being designed. The project also has an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Committee whose role is to help guide the research. They will provide particularly strong input in the final stages of the project which is concerned with determining policy implications of the research findings.
Research & Evaluation Consultancies

**Healthy Ageing - Nutrition Project**
*Staff involved: Gwyn Jolley*

SACHRU was approached in 2004 to undertake a formative evaluation of the Healthy Ageing – Nutrition Project. The project received funding under the Human Services Research and Innovation Program (HSRIP) and aims to:

- increase awareness and knowledge of the food and nutritional needs of older people among community, carer and professional groups
- increase knowledge and skills in early identification of nutritional risk by the use of simple assessment and screening tools
- increase the use of appropriate nutrition early intervention strategies
- increase intersectoral collaboration in addressing food and nutrition needs among organisations and groups who support healthy ageing.

The project is underpinned by an action research methodology. Organisations that have a role in service delivery or advocacy for the nutritional outcomes of older people will be invited to participate. Project staff will work with organisations to identify ways to build organisational and workforce capacity to enhance nutritional outcomes for older people. An action research approach will encourage a continual cycle of planning, action and reflection to foster organisational and project learning.

Evaluation methods included two rounds of interviews with the ten participating organisations, three interviews with the project manner, a focus group with the project reference group and analysis of project documentation.

An interim report was prepared and presented to the project management group in July 2005, based on the first round of interviews and one interview with the project manager. During December, further analysis and synthesis of all the data from the different sources was undertaken and a draft report was presented in December 2005. Following discussion and feedback from the project manager and evaluation management team the final report is due to be completed in February 2006.

**Linking Southern Seniors**
*Staff involved: Tuesday Udell, Gwyn Jolley*

The Linking Southern Seniors (LSS) project was facilitated by Noarlunga Health Services Community Health staff and supported by funding from the Royal District Nursing Service to focus on the health and well-being of older isolated people in the outer southern suburbs. Using a primary health care approach, LSS aimed to engage with older isolated people living in the outer southern suburbs within the City of Onkaparinga and to work collaboratively with the key agencies responsible for providing services for this population.

The South Australian Community Health Research Unit conducted an external evaluation of the LSS project between July and August 2005. The focus of the evaluation was on the impact on participants and stakeholder organisations and in particular:

- Partnerships with other organisations
- Links with the community
- Enabling community access to information and services
- Sustainability

Interview data were collected from a sample of 34 LSS participants, from a mailing list of 231 members. Thirteen stakeholder organisations responded to a written survey.

The findings of this evaluation suggest that agencies/organisations perceived that they had benefited from their involvement with LSS because they had created and strengthened their partnerships with
other agencies/organisations. The LSS project has helped to support the growth of a network of older people that has served to increase their community connections. Community access to information and services has improved due to the LSS project and its activities. It has provided older people with more options and choices. The agencies/organisations commented that the project had impacted on their service planning and service delivery.

The evaluation report was completed in November 2005.

**Aboriginal health teams within community health services**

*Staff involved: Michael Bentley*

Michael Bentley has a research bursary from the South Australian (Primary Health Care) Research Network (SARNet) to conduct a project on Aboriginal health teams within community health services. The aims of the project are to:

- develop a better understanding of the contribution that Aboriginal Health Workers within mainstream community health services make to Aboriginal health
- determine which structural and organisational factors (that affect the operation of Aboriginal health services within mainstream community health services) are most important in bringing about effective action to improve Aboriginal health.

Michael is developing a participatory action research and evaluation approach with Muna Paiendi (North/North East Primary Health Care Services) on this project, with the objectives of developing a program of engagement with Aboriginal Health team leaders and other stakeholders within community health services for the development of future research proposals.

The Bursary Report was submitted to SARNet in June 2005.

Michael presented a paper, “PAR for the course? Participatory action research with Aboriginal health teams within community health services”, at the NZ Public Health Association conference in Wellington in July 2005.

The Muna Paiendi Aboriginal Health Team (with Michael’s assistance) prepared and presented a poster, “Muna Paiendi – Forefront Runners: an Aboriginal health team in a mainstream community health setting”, in Perth at the Public Health Association of Australia’s national conference in September 2005. The poster was also presented at the Cooperative Research Centre for Aboriginal Health’s research showcase at Flinders University in November 2005.

Action research with Muna Paiendi on organisational development is ongoing.

**Resthaven Respite Care**

*Staff involved: Catherine Hurley, Gwyn Jolley*

In June, 2005, the Resthaven Southern Community Respite Care Program appointed SACHRU to evaluate its services. The purpose of the evaluation was to see whether the program met the needs of carers and care recipients, how respite affects the health and well being of the people who use it and to make recommendations for improvement and future development of the respite service. SACHRU researchers interviewed carers and care recipients and surveyed the Resthaven care workers and people from other stakeholder organisations.

The findings included that respite care, both in groups and in people’s homes, is very important and beneficial for both carers and care recipients. Carers felt that it gives them a break, both physically and
mentally and gives them time to do other important activities. The care recipients identified that they benefit from seeing other people, getting out of the house if they wish and learning new things. Most people were happy with their respite from Resthaven but some would like longer hours, more groups or a different type of respite care.

Care workers also believed that respite benefited both carers and care recipients. They are committed to providing a quality service with clear communication and being responsive to client needs. Outside organisations were happy with the response of Resthaven to any referrals they made and felt the service was a good one.

The main concern for all three groups was whether there was enough funding available to provide the best possible service to the people who need it. Some people felt that current carers could benefit from longer hours or more flexible services along with shorter waiting times while staff and external organisations are aware that there is a significant level of unmet need among carers who have not been able to access services due to lack of funding.

**Playford Food Alliance**

*Staff involved: Catherine Hurley*

The evaluation of the Playford Food Alliance was completed in June, 2005. This project was auspiced by the Playford Community Health Centre with funding from Health Promotion SA. It aimed “to increase food security for residents of Playford, (in the northern suburbs of Adelaide) in particular the Peachey Belt and empower families to make nutritious food choices.”

The Playford Food Alliance used a range of strategies to achieve its two main objectives of raising awareness of food security as an issue and addressing it. These strategies included forming a Project Management Group and a Community Advisory group to oversee the project and holding a Food Expo and forum to launch the project and receive input on how it should proceed. It also sought to identify key issues and gaps in services. From this, the Community Foodies program, the Farmer’s Market and the Food Service Directory were all brought about through collaboration between government and non-government agencies, local growers and interested community members. The findings of the forum have also been the basis of the Local Area Action Plan that has been developed.

The evaluation undertook a range of activities including telephone interviews with key stakeholders, construction and analysis of surveys of market users and a survey of directory recipients.

In general, the evaluation indicated that the project had been successful in promoting awareness of food security as an issue, getting agencies to collaborate to address it and implementing several successful strategies. The Farmer’s Market has provided an alternative source of quality fresh fruit and vegetables in the Peachey Belt area and most attendees appreciated the quality and affordability of produce that it provided. There was general agreement that more stallholders were needed if the market was to continue to succeed and expand. The Food Services Directory was well received by those who responded to the survey included with it and most recipients felt confident they would use it in their work. The strengths of the Playford Food Alliance identified in the evaluation included the skills and enthusiasm of the Project Manager, the willingness of the agencies involved to collaborate and the growing level of community awareness and interest in some of the strategies. The later focus on tangible initiatives such as the market was also one of its keys to success. It is hoped that many of the activities initiated by the Playford Food Alliance will continue beyond the life of the project.

**Community Foodies**

*Staff involved: Gwyn Jolley*

This statewide project is auspiced by Noarlunga Health Services and is funded by DH. The project aims to increase access of people on low incomes to nutrition information and skills, using a peer education model.

SACHRU supported the evaluation process, in particular the processes and outcomes associated with
training provided to nutritionists/dietitians and the perceptions of community trainees. Data collection involved a survey of community foodies (the peer trainees) and a focus group with the nutritionists/dietitians involved in the project.

Community Foodies reported increased skills, knowledge and confidence in relation to nutrition and healthy eating. They are actively involved in passing on their skills and knowledge through their community networks. The training and support received was valued by participants and overall they rated highly the skills of the dietitians/nutritionists they worked with in the project. As often happens with peer education projects, some participants wanted to see more formal training and recognition for their work. Community Foodies are keen to continue and to see the project become more sustainable. They recognise that resources are required to continue and expand the program.

The dietitian respondents in this evaluation believed the Community Foodies program had the potential to deliver health and other benefits in their communities. They rated the training, support and resources highly and were enthusiastic about their role in further development of the program. Findings suggest the importance of involving managers early on in order to get organisational level support for any changes in policy and practice that are needed to implement the program in an agency. Although still early days for most, a number of achievements were described and the peer education model was supported. For many health agencies, working with peer educators requires policy and systems change. This can act as a barrier at first but, once established, is likely to be a sustaining factor.

A number of challenges were also described. These fall into two main themes:
- the time commitment needed, particularly in the setting up stage
- the dietitians, their agencies, and other organisations, all learning to work in new ways.

Overall, the respondents were very positive about the Community Foodies program. They believed that, provided adequate resources could be found, the program had the potential to grow and be sustainable. The Community Foodies program provides a means for quality information about good food and healthy eating to be delivered to community members in a way that is likely to build community strength and collaboration.

The project and the evaluation report was presented to Noarlunga Health Services in May 2005.

**Arts SA Partnerships Project Evaluation**

*Staff involved: Catherine Hurley*

In April and May 2005, SACHRU was involved in an evaluation of the first year of a number of three year partnerships projects, funded by Arts SA and auspiced by non-arts organisations. The aims of these projects was to support collaboration between the arts and non-arts organisations in providing programs that involve community people in arts activities in a way that promotes social inclusion, community links and networks and understanding of other cultures. The three partnerships involved were:

- The Parks Helix projects based at the Parks Community Centre and involving five other partners including Parks Community Health Service, Ridley Grove school, Westwood developers, the Pt Adelaide/Enfield council and Parenting Network.
- A Young Mermaids Guide to Planet Earth project hosted by Women’s Health Statewide and with partners Dale St Women’s Health and Vitalstatistix Theatre Company.
- The Playford Partnership, hosted by the Playford Council and involving various arts, health and other partners.

Evaluation activities included face to face interviews with art workers for each of the projects, telephone interviews with the partners and surveys of people attending a launch for the Parks Helix project. The evaluation found that the projects had been successful in a number of their objectives and had formed
new links through collaboration between health and arts. The findings were also used to develop a proposal for further evaluation to be undertaken in the second year. This work was done in co-operation with Dr Christine Putland from the Department of Public Health at Flinders University

**Evaluation of the Early Learning for Families (ELF) project, 2003-2005**

*Staff involved: Catherine Hurley, Gwyn Jolley*

The evaluation of the ELF program, auspiced by the Southern Fleurieu Health Service and funded by the Commonwealth Stronger Families and Communities program, was completed in April, 2005. The ELF program sought to provide transdisciplinary services to children from 0-8 years of age at risk of developmental delay, and their families in the Fleurieu peninsula. The final report brought together the findings from two years of evaluation activities including:

- Baseline, midpoint and endpoint client profile data
- A survey of parents whose children were receiving ELF services
- Case studies based on two interviews six months apart with parents of children receiving services from ELF.
- A phone survey of local service providers involved in collaborative programs with ELF.

The evaluation showed that the ELF program has achieved its aims of providing services to support children with developmental delay and their parents in a way that maximises participation and provides understanding and strategies to deal with difficulties being experienced by families as a result. ELF has used its transdisciplinary model and a range of collaborative alliances with other local providers to provide not only individual therapy but also groupwork, early intervention and prevention screening and changes in practice that have benefited children and families in the area. The high levels of satisfaction and support from the parents and service providers suggest that their model is a successful one. The only concerns relate to sufficiency of resources and the likelihood of ongoing funding in an area where, it is agreed by these groups, the need is likely to continue to be high.

**Family-centred Practice**

*Staff involved: Michael Bentley*

SACHRU was contracted by Novita Children’s Services to provide an external evaluation of the family-centred practice of Novita Children’s Services using the Measure of Processes of Care survey instrument.

The two objectives of the project are

- to assess the family-centred behaviours of the Novita Children’s Services by its client families using the Measure of Processes of Care (MPOC) self-reported measure, and
- to assess the experiences and behaviours of therapy, rehabilitation and options staff at Novita Children’s Services using the Measure of Processes of Care for Service Providers (MPOC-SP) self-reported measure.

The survey was conducted using a mail-out questionnaire.

The evaluation report was submitted to Novita in March 2005.

A summary of the findings are available in the March 2005 edition of *Nexus* - The official newsletter of the clients, families, carers, staff and friends of Novita Children’s Service Inc. (www.novita.org.au)
Evaluation of SHine SA Youth Advisory Teams program
Staff involved: Gwyn Jolley

SACHRU was contracted by SHine SA to undertake an evaluation of the Youth Advisory Team program. Youth Advisory Teams (YATs) have been set up for each of the three primary health care teams; northern, east/west and southern. SHine SA has established the YATs as part of the organisational commitment to youth participation within the service, The SHine SA Framework for Youth Participation Document 2002 describes the context and principles for the YATs. The evaluation was timely as the first two-year term for YAT members had just ended.

The evaluation methods, developed in consultation with program managers at SHine SA, included:
- short focus groups with each regional YAT
- questionnaire to individual YAT members
- focus group with YAT team leaders/coordinators
- questionnaire to all SHine SA staff.

Findings indicate that individual YAT members, staff and the organisation have benefited from the YAT program. This benefit is likely to be extended to clients and the wider community as SHine SA services have become more accessible and appropriate for young people. Within the primary health care teams there is a high level of engagement with the YATs. There is room for improvement in getting timely input from young people into the higher decision making processes of the organisation.

The model as it has been identified from the evaluation findings reflects SHine SA’s key principles of youth participation. There is increased accountability between young people and workers, and the relationships are built on mutual respect and honesty. There is a strong acknowledgement of the power dynamic between young people, workers and the organisation. Although this cannot be removed altogether, SHine SA has made good progress in tackling the factors that contribute to power differentials.

Critical elements of the YAT model include:

- open communication and mutual respect
- top down commitment to youth participation and service improvement
- time, resources and energy committed
- manageable and realistic expectations
- flexibility and responsiveness
- organisation open to change so not tokenistic
- young people treated as valued consultants
- team cohesion and enjoyable activities.

The final report was presented to Shine SA in February 2005.

Women’s Healthline
Staff involved: Angela Lawless

The Women’s Healthline is one of the services that Women’s Health Statewide provides. It is a telephone and email service that provides information, counseling and referral on any health issues that affect women’s lives. The line operates Monday to Friday between 1pm and 4.30 pm. It is staffed by female Registered Nurses, who operate within a feminist framework.

This evaluation was undertaken as a collaborative project between Women’s Health Statewide and the South Australian Community Health Research Unit.

The evaluation included:
- A telephone survey of users of the Healthline
- A series of focus groups conducted with Healthline staff, WHS administrative staff, an
• Indigenous advisory group, a women’s non-English speaking advisory group and a domestic violence action group.
• A questionnaire sent to 7 selected rural Women’s Community Health Centre Coordinators
• Healthline statistics obtained from Community Health Information System (CHIS)

The evaluation examined current usage of the Healthline, to qualify users’ expectations and experiences of the Healthline and to explore whether the service is accessed by, and relevant to, women from identified communities of interest.

The evaluation highlighted that the service remains a highly valued and well-utilized service. However it also indicates that there is limited knowledge of the scope of services offered by the Healthline, the hours of operation and the accessibility features available.

Gilles Plains Community Campus
Staff involved: Angela Lawless

The Gilles Plains Community Campus comprises a range of co-located agencies and includes a number of cooperative or collaborative programs. The Campus partners wanted to build on the strong tradition of cooperation and collaboration to further develop the campus in order to better meet the needs of the community. Angela Lawless of SACHRU worked with a small working group to develop a draft model and goals for the community campus that could serve as a basis for evaluation.

The working group examined the structures and processes already in place at Gilles Plains and drew on the relevant Australian literature as well as initiatives in the UK and US. Representatives from each of the campus agencies were interviewed and a community survey was distributed through the school and other agencies. A Campus workshop was held with representatives from the various campus agencies and community groups. The workshop further developed the model, refined goals and objectives and made plans to achieve some short term successes as well as undertake longer term development.

As a result of the work undertaken in developing the model, the Community Campus is now in a position to undertake an evaluation of its activities. It is envisaged the evaluation process will have two stages. The first will be a process evaluation, including an evaluation of partnerships and community participation. The second will assess some of the impacts and outcomes on the campus initiative on the health and wellbeing of community.

Medical Practice in Community Health Centres
Staff involved: Angela Lawless

This project seeks to examine the model of medical practice conducted in South Australian metropolitan community health services and examine why this model has not been more widely adopted. Models of practice are being re-examined in debates regarding the future of general practice and in forums such as the Generational Health Review. General practice is currently seeking to define its role, particularly in relation to multi-disciplinary and intersectoral approaches, preventive approaches, population health and health promotion. These activities are seen to augment the traditional role of the general practitioner. Community health centres in South Australia have sought to incorporate such approaches in line with the intent of the original Community Health Program and the Alma Ata declaration of 1978. Although the number of doctors involved in community health centres is tiny, it is likely that the experience of community health centres incorporating primary medical care is relevant to the current debate regarding the future direction for general practice. This research builds on two earlier research projects conducted by the Department of Public Health.
Workforce Recruitment and Retention

Staff involved: Angela Lawless

The South Australian Community Health Research Unit conducted a targeted literature review of evaluations and reports of health workforce recruitment and retention programs and projects in Australia and overseas (post 1994) for Health Workforce Australia. The review found that recruiting and retaining health workforces is an international issue and effective and sustainable interventions are likely to require action at multiple levels. The literature also suggests a mix of both short and long-term multi-level strategies are required to bring about sustainable improvement in health workforces numbers and distribution. A number of common themes emerged across recruitment and retention strategies whether at an international or local level and also across professions. Financial incentives do play a role particularly in recruiting and retaining staff in underserved areas. Maintaining a manageable workload is also important. For internationally recruited staff, staff returning to practice or moving to new geographical areas, mentorship features in a number of programs reporting success. Supportive management and organisational processes play a strong role in promoting both recruitment and retention. Providing flexibility for workers appears to be a key factor in improving retention of health professionals. A number of the projects that addressed retention issues through scheduling and rostering initiatives improved outcomes for both workers and the organisation. Such practices appear to hold promise both in retaining staff and attracting former workers back into the system. There appears to be some evidence that patient satisfaction and patient outcomes are also enhanced. Investing in the professional development of workers, including older workers improves retention. New ways of working that provide opportunity for work/life balance need to be actively encouraged and promoted to workers not currently in the workforce.
Research & Evaluation training & resources

Seminars and workshops

SACHRU conducts a seminar series throughout the year and provides workshops for individual organisations on request.

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<th>Topic</th>
<th>Organisation</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Participatory action research</td>
<td>SACHRU seminar series</td>
<td>9th July 04</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evaluation</td>
<td>ACCHS (Dale Street CHS)</td>
<td>4th Aug 04</td>
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<tr>
<td>Qualitative interviews &amp; analysis</td>
<td>SACHRU seminar series</td>
<td>6th Aug 04</td>
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<td>Focus groups</td>
<td>SACHRU seminar series</td>
<td>6th Aug 04</td>
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<td>Consumer feedback</td>
<td>SACHRU seminar series</td>
<td>10th Sept 04</td>
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<td>Evaluation</td>
<td>ISCHS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evaluating arts in health</td>
<td>SACHRU seminar series</td>
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<td>Evaluation</td>
<td>SACHRU seminar series</td>
<td>29th Oct 04</td>
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<tr>
<td>Population health and PHC</td>
<td>Noarlunga Health Services (PHC nursing team)</td>
<td>30th March 05</td>
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<td>Evaluation &amp; performance measurement</td>
<td>Lower North RHS, Clare</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participatory action research</td>
<td>NSW North Coast Area HS, Byron Bay</td>
<td>26th &amp; 27th April 05</td>
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<tr>
<td>Innovative approaches to Evaluation</td>
<td>ACCHS</td>
<td>26th April 05</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evaluation and PEW</td>
<td>ISCHS</td>
<td>17th May 05</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHC &amp; Social determinants of health</td>
<td>Tullawon HS, Yalata</td>
<td>16th &amp; 17th June 05</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing Intensive</td>
<td>Metro and country CHS</td>
<td>19-23 Sept 2005</td>
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<tr>
<td>Building Evaluation into Practice</td>
<td>SACHRU seminar series</td>
<td>14th October 2005</td>
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<tr>
<td>Introduction to evidence-based interventions for community health</td>
<td>ISCHS</td>
<td>18th October 2005</td>
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<tr>
<td>Using Evidence/ Critical Appraisal</td>
<td>SACHRU seminar series</td>
<td>11th Nov 2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performance Indicators</td>
<td>Centre for Health Promotion, Women’s &amp; Children’s Hospital</td>
<td>17th Nov 2005</td>
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SACHRU report of activities 2004/2005

Academic programs and units

SACHRU staff delivered a number of teaching and training sessions:

Introduction to primary health care evaluation for health promotion programs. Presentation for B.EnH students, Flinders University, 30th Aug 2004

Primary Health Care research: writing the proposal. Presentation for Graduate Certificate in PHC students, Flinders University, 16th September 04

Contribution to Health Promoting Health Services Short Course, Flinders University 8th -12th May 2005

Contribution to Healthy Cities and Communities Short Course, Flinders University, 23rd – 27th May 2005

Understanding White Men: Researching Masculinities and Men’s Health. Presentation for the Anthropology and Public Health National Short Course University of Adelaide, Adelaide, 12th July 2005

Contribution to Public Health Research Intensive, Flinders University, 22nd – 26th August 2005

Research and Evidence for Evidence-Based Policy Making. Presentation for the Public Health Research Intensive, Flinders University, 23rd August 2005

Evaluation of Community/Consumer Participation in Health Services. Presentation for the Community Participation Short Course, Flinders University, 15th September 2005

Men’s Health Promotion. B.HSc students, Flinders University, 4th October 2005

Planning and Evaluation Wizard. Presentation for the Evaluation for Human Services - A Health Care Approach Short Course, Flinders University, 19th October 2005

Focus groups in Primary Health Care. Presentation for the Evaluation for Human Services - A Health Care Approach Short Course, Flinders University, 19th October 2005

Qualitative analysis. Presentation for the Evaluation for Human Services - A Health Care Approach Short Course, Flinders University, 20th October 2005


Introduction to primary health care evaluation for health promotion programs. Presentation for B.EnH students, Flinders University, 24th October 2005

Primary Health Care research: writing the proposal. Presentation for Graduate Certificate in PHC students, Flinders University, 27th October 2005

Contribution to evaluation of MPH practicum student presentations, Flinders University, 16th December 2005
'Research Matters' Newsletter

Four editions of the ‘Research Matters’ newsletter were produced during 2004-2005, in December 2004, March, July and December 2005. The mailing list for the newsletter includes local, national and international groups, organisations and individuals. ‘Research Matters’ provides the opportunity for the Unit to detail new and existing research projects, consultations and information on training seminars, conferences and publications. The newsletter is also available in electronic form through the SACHRU web page.

SACHRU Website

SACHRU's website http://som.flinders.edu.au/sachru continues to provide information on staff, activities, workshops and publications, as well as access to Planing Evaluation Wizard and selected reports and presentations.

SACHRU Publications

SACHRU's role in disseminating research and evaluation findings together with our commitment to training and support for people working in the primary health care/community health sector has resulted in the publication of the following resources:

The report from this project What works? A systematic review of the evidence for the effectiveness of community health in Adelaide was launched by David Panter (CEO, Central Northern Adelaide Health Service) at a seminar on 10th December 2004, attended by over 100 people.

The authors: Fran Baum, Gwyn Jolley and Catherine Hurley, gave an overview of the report and Denise Fry, a co-author and NSW health consultant, described her observations of SA community health and health reform changes from an interstate perspective. Denise talked about the need for evaluation to demonstrate visibility, intelligibility and legitimacy of the community health sector.

The report describes a systematic review of 93 evaluations conducted in SA metropolitan community health services between 1999 and 2002. Systematic review is one way to integrate findings from different evaluation studies in order to build a body of evidence of what works. The research found that there is some impressive evaluation activity in community health but there is room for improvement. There needs to be more attention paid to disseminating findings. More investment in building evaluation skills and culture in all levels of organisation is recommended.

SACHRU 21st Birthday

On 3rd June 2005, over 70 people gathered at Tandanya in Adelaide to help SACHRU celebrate 21 years of community health research in SA and to launch the Australian Health Inequities Program (see page 5).

For 21 years SACHRU, and its forerunners, SCHRU and NCHRU, have produced an impressive collection of research, reports, resources and academic papers. Some of the highlights are featured in our 21st birthday publication available on http://som.flinders.edu.au/sachru

The celebration was chaired by Sir Eric Neal, Chancellor of Flinders University and opened by Josie Agius, a Kaurna Aboriginal elder.

Catherine Sumner performed a number of beautiful songs, followed by Adair Garrett, chair of SACHRU’s management committee, paying tribute to SACHRU’s achievements.
Professor Fran Baum introduced the AHIP and Professor Sue Richardson talked about the social importance of the program.

The Minster for Health, the Honourable Lea Stevens, then talked about SACHRU’s contribution to health research and officially launched the AHIP.

The Minster was assisted in cutting the SACHRU birthday cake by Fran Baum, Adair Garrett, Helma Hooper and Professor Roy Goldie, Executive Dean, Faculty of Health Sciences, Flinders University.

We would like to acknowledge all our past and current staff, supporters and friends in the community health sector, the Department of Health, Flinders University and elsewhere and we look forward to another 21 years!
Staff Development

SACHRU staff have attended the following workforce development opportunities.

MapInfo Pro. Level 2 Spatial analysis training (Tonkin Consulting, Wayville)
Planning for Inclusive Evaluations (SA DH)
Managing Long Documents in Word (Flinders University)
SPSS (Flinders University)
NVIVO (Flinders University)
Using Electronic Journals for Academic Research (Flinders University)
Understanding systematic review and meta-analysis (Flinders University)
Making Evaluation Meaningful and Useful (GP&PHC Research Conference workshop)
The Indispensable Personal Assistant (University of Adelaide)
Moving from Personal Assistant to Executive Assistant (University of Adelaide)
Oracle Training x 2 (Flinders University)
Introduction to Endnote (Flinders University)
## Committee Membership

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Country Primary Health Care Working Group for the Office of Health Reform, DHS</td>
<td>Michael Bentley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Editorial Board, Australian Journal of Primary Health</td>
<td>Fran Baum</td>
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<tr>
<td>Editorial Board, Critical Public Health</td>
<td>Fran Baum</td>
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<tr>
<td>Editorial Committee, Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health</td>
<td>Fran Baum</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flinders Institute of Health Research Board</td>
<td>Fran Baum</td>
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<tr>
<td>FUSA PHCREDS Advisory Committee</td>
<td>Fran Baum</td>
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<tr>
<td>Healthy Cities (Noarlunga) Management Committee</td>
<td>Gwyn Jolley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inequalities in SA – Volume II Reference Group</td>
<td>Lisel O’Dwyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Health Research Advisory Committee (PHAA) - Convenor</td>
<td>Fran Baum</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Working Group, Cooperative Research Centre for Aboriginal Health</td>
<td>Fran Baum</td>
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<tr>
<td>SACOSS Policy Council</td>
<td>Gwyn Jolley</td>
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<td>SA Health and Medical Research Advisory Council</td>
<td>Fran Baum</td>
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<tr>
<td>SA Institute of Population Health, Interim Steering Committee</td>
<td>Fran Baum</td>
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Publications and conference presentations

Journal articles


Books, chapters and manuals


Invited presentations.
Baum, F. (2005) Thinking Equity: why a more equitable society might be a better place to live and some ideas for achieving it, Plenary Address presented at International Conference - Thinking Drinking: Achieving cultural change by 2020, 21st February 2005


Baum, F. (2005) International People’s Health University Course Ecuador, 11-16 July 2005


Conference presentations.


Baum, F. (2005) Public health in the community: research and advocacy, Keynote Address, Public Health in the Community, AFPHM, PHAA(SA) AHPA(SA) Conference 22nd October, Adelaide


Muna Paiendi Aboriginal Health Team (with the assistance of Michael Bentley) (2005) Muna Paiendi – Forefront Runners: An Aboriginal Health Team in a Mainstream Community Health Setting. Poster Presentation. Public Health Association of Australia Conference, Perth, September 2005

Muna Paiendi Aboriginal Health Team (with the assistance of Michael Bentley) (2005) Muna Paiendi – Forefront Runners: An Aboriginal Health Team in a Mainstream Community Health Setting. Poster Presentation. Flinders University Aboriginal Health Research Expo, Adelaide, November 2005


Reports


Conference attendance

SACHRU staff have attended the following conferences:

36th Annual PHAA Conference, Perth, September 2005
GP&PHC Research Conference, Adelaide, 26-28 July 2005
Closer than you think, SACOSS, Adelaide, 28-29 July 2005
11th International Medical Geography Symposium, Texas, 5-9 July 2005
New Zealand Public Health Association Conference, Wellington, 6-9 July 2005
South Australian (Primary Health Care) Research Network (SARNet) Research Retreat, Adelaide, September 2004
European Network for Housing Research, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom July 2004
Institute of Australian Geographers Annual Conference ‘Geographies of knowledge: the past, present and future of the discipline’ 13 - 16 April, Stamford Grand, Glenelg 2004

Administration arrangements

Up until March 2005, SACHRU was administered by Flinders Medical Centre. In April 2005 administration and governance passed to Flinders University, through the faculty of Health Sciences. A five year agreement between the DH and Flinders University will enable us to plan for more long term stability. Most staff are now employed by Flinders University.

2004/05 Budget

SACHRU received a core budget from the DH of $430,000 for the 04/05 financial year and $241,617 for the 6-month period 1 July-31 December 2005. This funds the following positions: 0.4 FTE Director, 2.3 FTE Senior Research Officers, 0.4 FTE Information Officer and 1.5 Administration Officers. Competitive grants, consultancies and training fees provide the remainder of SACHRU income. Flinders University provides a financial statement to the DH on a 6-monthly basis.
Organisational Chart

0.4 FTE
Director

1.0 FTE
Snr Research Officer

0.8 FTE
Snr Research Officer

Contract Research Officer

0.4 FTE
Information Officer

0.6 FTE
Contract Research Officer

Contract Research Officer

1.0 FTE
Snr Research Officer

1.0 FTE
Snr Research Officer

Contract Research Officer

0.8 FTE
Administrative Services Officer

0.8 FTE
Personal Assistant to the Director

SACHRU
Management
Advisory
Committee