South Australian Community Health Research Unit

REPORT OF ACTIVITIES 2007
Foreword

In April 2005, SACHRU administration and governance transferred to Flinders University. The South Australian Department of Health has a 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 SACHRU 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 now covers the calendar year. This is the report for the 2007 calendar year.

During 2007, SACHRU proposed a new framework for reporting using a logic model approach. The model has been used to design the layout of this report.

ABBREVIATIONS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CYWHS</td>
<td>Children, Youth &amp; Women’s Health Service</td>
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<td>DPH</td>
<td>Department of Public Health, Flinders University</td>
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<td>HP</td>
<td>Health Promotion</td>
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<td>PHC</td>
<td>Primary Health Care</td>
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<td>SACHRU</td>
<td>South Australian Community Health Research Unit</td>
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<td>SDOH</td>
<td>Social Determinants of Health</td>
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<td>WHO</td>
<td>World Health Organisation</td>
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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 (SA Health) 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 SA Health in metropolitan and country South Australia.

The Role of SACHRU is to:

- assist the SA Health 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 CH 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

1. Contributing to the health reform agenda through evaluation of PHC implementation and development
2. 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
3. Researching the dynamics and outcomes of primary health care and population health approaches to health promotion and illness prevention
4. Ensuring the transfer of research knowledge relating to primary health care from research to policy, planning and practice and promoting its uptake
5. Increasing workforce capacity to undertake research and evaluation and gain confidence and skills in contributing a PHC perspective to the health 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.

**2007 Membership**

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<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Chair</td>
<td>Ms Adair Garrett</td>
<td>Central Northern Adelaide Health Service</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>representing Community Health Centre CEOs</td>
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<td>Deputy Chair</td>
<td>Ms Bernadette Roberts</td>
<td>Women’s Health Statewide</td>
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<td>representing Women’s Health Services</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ms Rachel Ambagtsheer</td>
<td>Central Northern Adelaide Health Service</td>
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<td>representing a Metropolitan Community Health Service</td>
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<td>Dr Helen van Eyk</td>
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<td>representing the Director, Strategic Planning and Research Branch, Department of Health</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mr Richard Hicks</td>
<td>Noarlunga Health Services</td>
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<td>representing a Metropolitan Community Health Service</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ms Louise Heuzenroeder</td>
<td>Central Northern Primary Health Care Service</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ms Deb Walker</td>
<td>Aboriginal Health Division, Department of Health</td>
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<td>Mr Kevin Eglinton</td>
<td>Hills Mallee Southern Regional Health Service</td>
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<td>A/Prof Libby Kalucy</td>
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<td>representing the Dean, School of Medicine, Flinders University</td>
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<td>Ms Cheryl Wright</td>
<td>Inner Southern Community Health Service</td>
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<td>Associate Professor Jan Paterson</td>
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<td>representing the Executive Dean, Faculty of Health Sciences, Flinders University</td>
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<td>Staff Nominee</td>
<td>This position is filled by rotation. Staff nominees for 2007 were: Rama Ramanathan, Michael Bentley, Gwyn Jolley and Catherine Hurley.</td>
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Staff Members, 2007

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

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

**Research Officer**
Catherine Hurley B.A.,  
B.Soc. Admin.,  
Grad.Cert.PHC,  
(Research &  
Evaluation)

**Research Officer**
Rama Ramanathan  
BSc (Biol) Hons, Grad  
Cert (Public Health),  
MPHC

**Research Officer**
Habib Seraji  
MBBS, Master of  
Public Health

**Personal Assistant**
Robyne Ridgeway

**Administrative Assistant**
Patricia Lamb

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

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

**Research Assistant**
Laura Winslow  
B.A (Aboriginal Affairs  
Administration)

**Research Officer**
Kate Biedrzycki  
BSc (Biomedical), Grad  
Dip (International Public  
Health)

**Research Officer**
Elsa Barton  
BSc (Psychology),  
Masters of Child &  
Adolescent Welfare

**Research Officer**
Julie Johns  
BAAppSci Occupational  
Therapy, Master of  
Primary Health Care

**Information Officer**
Rebecca Ramm  
BA (Multimedia  
Studies), Grad.Dip.  
(Information Studies)
SACHRU’s work of providing a primary health care research and evaluation service for community health and primary health related services continued in 2007. Community health and primary health care are underpinned by a social understanding of health and especially an understanding of the social determinants of health. Such an approach to health is central to the South Australian Strategic Plan and SACHRU is pleased to present this report of activities that demonstrates the ways in which we are able to contribute to the achievement of this plan.

We are very pleased that Aboriginal health research features strongly in our work program for 2007. A highlight of this work was SACHRU’s role in supporting the Cooperative Research Centre for Aboriginal Health’s hosting of the Commission on the Social Determinants of Health Indigenous Symposium. This meeting was attended by Indigenous peoples from around the world and resulted in a report tabled and discussed in Vancouver at the June 2007 meeting of the Commission. We also continued our NH&MRC-funded project on the social aspects of Indigenous people’s health in Adelaide and worked particularly on the data we have collected from 153 people relating to their reports of racism and the ways in which this affects their health. Our work on Aboriginal Health is greatly helped and supported by our link to the Cooperative Research Centre for Aboriginal Health. Michael Bentley and I are program leaders of the Social Determinants of Health program and were pleased to see the publication of some of the work of the program in a research monograph.

SACHRU’s work continued to have global links. We are partners to a successful international research grant application on comprehensive primary health care, led by Canada and South Africa. In 2007 this research focused on an international review of literature on primary health care and Catherine Hurley and I traveled to South Africa to present the review relating to Australia and the Pacific region and to plan the next stage of the project which will focus on training. We also continued our international links relating to Healthy Cities including a meeting with a delegation from Thailand which Gwyn Jolley co-ordinated.

SACHRU conducts a large number of consultations with a wide range of agencies delivering health promotion and primary health care services across South Australia. This activity enables us to determine ways in which this complex work, often offered to some of the most disadvantaged and least healthy people in our community, succeeds and what would make it more effective. You will see from the description of this work that from these evaluations we are in a position to take the pulse of community health activity in South Australia through our links with the work at the grassroots of service delivery.

Our training activity plays an important role in the staff development of the primary health care workforce in South Australia. We find that we increasingly undertake this work on a request basis and so tailor our training very specifically to the needs of the organization. This method tends to be particularly effective as staff are able to take their collective learning back to their work places and then support each other in implementing the new skills and ideas.

Most importantly, I would like to thank all members of SACHRU’s 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, as ever, been supportive as our funders. Prof. Roy Goldie (Executive Dean, Faculty of Health Sciences) has supported SACHRU fully. We were pleased to welcome Professor Paul Worley to the position of Dean of Medicine at Flinders (and consequently my supervisor) and thank him for his support. It will be evident from this report that SACHRU staff members are incredibly dedicated and hard working with amazing commitment to the Unit’s activities and the values that underpin the social justice approach that guides our work.

Professor Fran Baum PhD
Director
The South Australian Community Health Research Unit (SACHRU) is committed to the principles of comprehensive primary health care.

SACHRU research, evaluation and workforce development activities will:
- take a social view of health and wellbeing
- focus on issues of equity
- have implications for policy and practice
- be disseminated widely and in appropriate ways
- involve and be responsive to all relevant players
- build the capacity of the primary health care sector to implement and evaluate a CPHC approach
- be independent, rigorous and demonstrate academic excellence
Key Achievements in 2007

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health
SACHRU has continued to build relationships with Aboriginal health researchers and practitioners, through for example, membership of the Cooperative Research Centre for Aboriginal Health (CRCAH). Fran Baum is Program Leader and Michael Bentley provides support to the CRCAH Social Determinants of Aboriginal Health program area. The CRCAH published a Social Determinants Monograph – Beyond Bandaids: Exploring the Underlying Social Determinants of Aboriginal Health – edited by Ian Anderson, Fran Baum, and Michael Bentley. The publication was launched at the National Public Health Association of Australia Conference in Alice Springs in September.

Commission on Social Determinants of Health – International Symposium on Indigenous Health. Flinders University convened this symposium, held in April 2007, and hosted by the Cooperative Research Centre for Aboriginal Health (CRCAH), and SACHRU staff (Michael Bentley, Rama Ramanathan and Patricia Lamb) were heavily involved in the organisation and running of the event. There were over 70 participants from 13 countries. The program included case study presentations on Indigenous peoples’ experiences of social determinants and how these have an impact on health. Another staff member, Laura Winslow, organised site visits to Kaurna and Ngarrindjeri country. The symposium attracted a lot of media interest and featured on ABC Radio National’s Health Report.

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Urban Location and Health project, funded by the NH&MRC, continued.

Locally, work with Nunkuwarrin Yunti and Muna Paiendi continued.

Research programs
Social Capital and Public Policy: How social capital can inform public sector interventions to improve health and reduce inequalities. The findings will be summarised in a handbook for practitioners and policy makers.

Australian Health Inequities Program. SACHRU researchers have been involved in AHIP discussions about establishing an Australian Health Equity Network, and worked with the program on a case study report of South Australia’s Social Inclusion Initiative.

Urban Locational Disadvantage and Health. Community groups within each area were surveyed and a food basket survey was also undertaken. In the consultative workshops preliminary results from these case studies were presented and discussed. A community report incorporating the outcomes from these workshops was published in 2007.

The impact of the retrenchment of Mitsubishi workers on affected workers, their families and communities. Funded by ARC, continued.

Consultancies
Revenue from consultations in 2007 was $205,000.

Training and workforce development
Evaluation tools: completion of a draft set of ‘tools’ to assist primary health care practitioners in planning and evaluation of the equity, community participation and partnerships components of their work was completed. The tools were presented at a workshop at the Australian Health Promotion Conference in May. A journal article was submitted to the Health Promotion Journal of Australia.
Key Achievements in 2007

The Healthy and Sustainable Cities and Communities short course ran from 12th to 16th November. Michael Bentley was the coordinator of this course, attended by 25 people from around Australia and New Zealand. Very positive feedback was given and the course is likely to be run again in 2008.

Comprehensive PHC Research and Evaluation short course: Planning for this five day course to be held in February 2008 is well underway.

Strategies for Change forum: SACHRU convened a forum on 30th July to showcase good and promising practice in primary health care in South Australia. This was attended by about 100 people and very positive feedback was received about the event.

2008 Fulbright Symposium: The Australian-American Fulbright Commission has awarded Flinders University and the Cooperative Research Centre for Aboriginal Health the 2008 Symposium hosting rights. Entitled Healthy People, Prosperous Country the Symposium will be held from 10-12 July 2008 at the National Wine Centre in Adelaide.

Planning and Evaluation Wizard: the resource has been extensively updated to reflect current ideas and issues and to improve its user-friendliness. The revised PEW provides a valuable and accessible tool to primary health care practitioners and managers to assist in planning and evaluation.

Links and Collaborations
Thinker in Residence Program: Fran Baum and Flinders University initiated the successful proposal for Prof. Ilona Kickbusch’s Thinker in Residency and SACHRU is a member of the partners group. Angela Lawless acted as Project Catalyst during the two terms of the residency.

The International Forum for the Alliance for Healthy Cities was held from 26th – 28th September, Gold Coast, Queensland. Fran Baum presented on ‘Healthy Cities and the Social Determinants of Health’ and Gwyn Jolley and Richard Hicks (Chair, Healthy Cities Noarlunga) presented a paper entitled ‘A Healthy Cities Approach: a case study from Noarlunga after 20 years’. A proposal to develop an Australian Healthy Cities chapter was signed by representatives from several local government areas, universities and the WHO.
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Research and evaluation activity in this component is funded by the SA Health grant or through competitive grant-funding.

SA Health grant funded research and evaluation
This activity includes planning, implementation and transfer of core research work, writing competitive grant submissions and support to part-funded projects. In Aboriginal health, in-kind support by SACHRU continues to be provided to a number of grant-funded projects including Michael Bentley’s time on ‘Aboriginal people in urban locations – social capital and health inequalities’. SACHRU has continued to build relationships with Aboriginal health researchers and practitioners, through for example, membership of the Cooperative Research Centre for Aboriginal Health (CRCAH) and work with Nunkuwarrin Yunti and Muna Piaendi. Fran Baum is Program Leader and Michael Bentley provides support to the CRCAH Social Determinants of Aboriginal Health program area – this involves developing the research agenda for the program and planning an international symposium on the social determinants of Indigenous health.

Evaluation Assessment Tools
Gwyn Jolley, Angela Lawless, Catherine Hurley

The report from the project What works? A systematic review of the evidence for the effectiveness of community health in Adelaide (2005) 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. SACHRU therefore undertook to develop an evaluation report writing template for community health workers, and to identify or design tools to assess achievement in the primary health care principles of equity, community participation and working in collaborative partnerships.

Consultation on a set of ‘tools’ to assist primary health care practitioners in planning and evaluation of the equity, community participation and partnerships components of their work was completed. The tools were presented at a workshop at the Australian Health Promotion Conference in May. Following the workshop the tools were refined and disseminated to the field via the website (see http://som.flinders.edu.au/FUSA/SACHRU/toolkit.htm). Feedback from users will be sought in mid 2008. A journal article was submitted to the Health Promotion Journal of Australia in December.

Medical Practice in Community Health
Angela Lawless and Fran Baum

A chapter titled Opposing motion “Family medicine should emphasise the personal care of patients” based on the work undertaken for this project was written by Fran Baum and Angela Lawless and published in December 2007 in Ideological Debates in Family Medicine (eds) Stephen Buetow, Tim Keneally.
Aboriginal Health Research Agenda for Primary Health Care/Community Health

Michael Bentley

In 2007, SACHRU has been working with Muna Paiendi Primary Health Care Service on the process and impact evaluation of the *Deadly Nungas Say No To Puiya* tobacco control project. The project, funded over three years, aims to:

1. Move the tobacco control activities of Central Northern Adelaide Health Service’s Primary Health Care Services (CNPHCS) - North beyond traditional best practice for health services and pilot new innovative strategies that focus on the social determinants of smoking, and
2. Create a strong evidence based tobacco control ‘foundation’ at CNPHCS (North) by developing best practice policy and increasing broad population and staff knowledge and advocacy around the harms of tobacco.

SACHRU has developed a program logic model to describe the activities and implementation of the project. The evaluation will be completed by June 2008.

Evaluation of Comprehensive Primary Health Care

*Fran Baum, Gwyn Jolley, Angela Lawless, Catherine Hurley, Michael Bentley.*

A proposal for a major project regarding the development of a framework for evaluating the performance of comprehensive primary health care within the South Australian health system was submitted to the NHMRC in March. The proposal links the work SACHRU is undertaking as part of an international research collaboration (funded by the Canadian Teasdale-Corti Global Health Research Partnership Program) with local primary health care evaluation effort. Following assessors’ feedback, a less complex and more specific proposal will be re-submitted in the March 2008 funding round.

If successful this research will focus on the evaluation of the establishment and work of various models of comprehensive primary health care facilities in South Australia and the Central Australian Aboriginal Congress, Alice Springs. The over-arching aims of the proposed study are to develop a valid and robust set of criteria for evaluating the effectiveness of a model of health service delivery known as Comprehensive Primary Health Care (CPHC), and secondly, the specifically developed evaluation framework will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of the CPHC centres.

This proposal is linked to the international study ‘Revitalizing Comprehensive Primary Health Care’. Fran Baum and two international advisors are members of a consortium of researchers and practitioners involved in this Teesdale-Corti Global Health Research Partnership Program to consolidate at a *global* level existing knowledge, create new knowledge, develop new research capacity, and lay the ground for a global network of practitioner, civil society, policy and academic actors involved in CPHC thus adding significant value to country-based work. The funding was confirmed in December 2006 and the project commenced in 2007. Catherine Hurley, Julie Johns, Rama Ramaanathan and Angela Lawless have contributed to the systematic review of comprehensive PHC across Australasia and Asia and this will feed into the work from other global regions.

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Linked to both the local and international projects above are plans for a week long intensive workforce development course on ‘Evaluation of comprehensive primary health care’. The course will be held in Adelaide from 18th to 22nd February 2008.

**Competitive Grants**

SACHRU collaborates with the Department of Public Health (DPH), Flinders University and other researchers in grant applications to NHMRC, ARC and other granting bodies. Grant funded research continuing or starting in 2007 is described below.

**Australian Health Inequities Program**

*Fran Baum*

The Australian Health Inequities Program (AHIP) continued in 2007 with $2.4 million of funding over five years from NHMRC. AHIP 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. AHIP is headed by Professor Fran Baum, Department of Public Health (Flinders University) and also involves Professor Anne Kavanagh, Director of the 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), along with five team investigators from these departments. Links with AHIP are beneficial to SACHRU in that it enables the Unit to keep up on the latest thinking in health inequities research.

Health inequities remain a significant feature of Australia’s health profile. In 2007, AHIP chief and team investigators continued to work on, and publish, in relation to the impacts on health and wellbeing of housing, employment, social connections, social inclusion, the places people live in, and perceptions of the local environment. SACHRU researchers have been involved in AHIP discussions about
Primary Health Care and Social Determinants of Health  
Research and Evaluation

establishing an Australian Health Equity Network, and worked with AHIP on a case study report of South Australia’s Social Inclusion Initiative. The annual AHIP retreats which SACHRU researchers attend 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.

The impact of the retrenchment of Mitsubishi workers on affected workers, their families and communities  
Fran Baum, Gwyn Jolley

This project is examining the impact of retrenchment on Mitsubishi workers on their health, housing status and labour force participation and the implications for human services policies and practices. The SA Department of Health ‘Health Services Research and Innovation Program’ and the Australian Research Council are funders of this research. The 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, Dr Lareen Newman and Dr Guangyu Zhang from the Department of Public Health are 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 exploring 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 five 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.

Data collection has included a series of three quantitative interviews over two years with over 300 retrenched workers, and two rounds of qualitative interviews with a sub-set of 39 respondents. Quantitative responses are being compared with the adult male metropolitan Adelaide population through the SA Health Monitor. In addition, a focus group with children of affected workers was held and data from this informed 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 and a follow up forum have 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.

An enormous volume of data has been collected and the research team is coming to grips with the challenges of analysis and writing within a multi-disciplinary approach. 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.

Governance and Primary Health Care

Gwyn Jolley, Fran Baum, Angela Lawless, Catherine Hurley

The project ‘Governance change and PHC in metropolitan Adelaide’, funded by Flinders University University/Industry Collaborative Research Grant scheme and industry partners (SA Health, SAHS, CNAHS, CYWHs) commenced in 2006 and is nearing completion. This project aims to provide an assessment of the impact on primary health care (PHC) that has been brought about by the implementation of regional governance as part of the health reform agenda.

The aim of the study is to begin an assessment of the impact of the new regional health structure in two health regions on commitment to, and implementation of, primary health care, including allocation of resources. The study addressed the questions: What is the most effective way to organise health service governance in order to promote and strengthen primary health care as a key focus of the health system? How does a change in health service governance affect the position of primary health care in relation to acute care health services?

Methods involved collection of base-line data, face-to-face interviews with key informants and document analysis. These data will be analysed to assess the impact of reform on PHC and to further develop the PHC Evaluation Framework which was developed in an earlier study conducted in the southern region of Adelaide.

Unfortunately, our application to the Australian Research Council Linkage Projects for a grant to continue this research was unsuccessful. This means that the planned evaluation of the reform agenda in South Australia from a primary health care perspective is unlikely to happen.
Urban Locational Disadvantage and Health

Fran Baum

Urban Locational Disadvantage and Health is a four year National Health and Medical Research Council funded project which has been examining the ways that local neighbourhoods can have an impact on the health of its residents, in particular in terms of the role of social capital. The project is a collaboration between SACHRU, the Department of Public Health and the School of Environment and Population Studies at Flinders University. As part of the project four case studies have been conducted in postcodes within the Local Government Areas of Onkaparinga, Playford, Burnside and Prospect. Residents within these areas were asked about their experiences of living in their neighbourhood through questionnaires and interviews, with a small number also asked to take photographs of what they liked and didn’t like about their areas. Community groups within each area were surveyed and a food basket survey was also undertaken. In the consultative workshops preliminary results from these case studies were presented and discussed. A community report incorporating the outcomes from these workshops was published in 2007. Please see our webpage for further information:


Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Urban Location and Health

Fran Baum, Michael Bentley, Laura Winslow

This project, funded by the NH&MRC, is being conducted by the Department of Public Health by a team consisting of both Indigenous and non-Indigenous public health researchers. 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 health.

In order to gain a range of perspectives from Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander people living in different parts of Adelaide, the project will specifically focus on five postcode-based areas in Port Adelaide, Burnside-Prospect, Playford and Onkaparinga.

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.

It is hoped that the outcomes of this project will provide:

- Improved knowledge of the underlying social and economic determinants of health for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.
- Better understanding of the experiences of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in suburban Australia, especially in regard to experiences of racism and the ways in which these experiences affect health.
- Knowledge to improve the quality and content of policies and programs that seek to improve Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander health.
- Development of the skills, knowledge and competence of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander researchers.
Gilbert Gallaher is the project manager with Michelle Ah Matt as Administrative Assistant. Laura Winslow finished in August 2006 as a Research Assistant. Interviews are completed and a series of community and policy workshops will be held in 2008, with project completion due in August 2008.

Social Capital and Public Policy: How social capital can inform public sector interventions to improve health and reduce inequalities
Fran Baum, Patricia Lamb

This research is funded primarily by the Australian Research Council Linkage Fund with contributions from each of the Industry Partners: Department of Health, Arts SA, City of Onkaparinga, and Department of Justice.

The project key aim was to develop a greater understanding of the concept of social capital and the way it has been and may best be used for policy to reduce economic and health inequalities. In particular, this project sought to understand the ways in which social capital can affect policy outcomes in Australia and to provide insights into how the principles of social capital can inform policy and practice. By closely examining existing initiatives (case studies that embraced social capital as their framework), the investigators sought to understand in more depth the strengths and challenges of these kinds of projects as well as their health related outcomes. The three case studies chosen for the project were: (1) Blair Athol Community Capacity Building Project (Department of Health), (2) The Parks Helix project (Arts SA), (3) Yangara Reserve Redevelopment and Community Capacity Building Project (City of Onkaparinga).

The findings will be summarised in a handbook for practitioners and policy makers. This document will also provide a review of existing evidence and theoretical framework and a range of practical tools and references.

As of December 2007, the handbook is in the latest stages of development. As a result of a close collaboration with partners involved (both on the ground and from policy sectors), the research team decided to split the handbook into two separate documents, one designed to assist those involved in work on the ground, and another to assist policy makers.

The first one, titled Practical Social Capital: a Guide to Creating Health and Wellbeing, has been designed to assist organisations to apply a social capital approach in practice. The Guide has been written for government and non-government organizations involved with local communities who wish to design and deliver programs that will assist in creating health and wellbeing and reducing inequities.

This publication is planned to be released in about August 2008 and will include:

- a description of the case studies, including lessons and challenges, followed by recommendations for future practice
- an overview and rationale for employing a social capital approach in community building work, including evidence for social capital and its effectiveness in building health equity
- tools to make the agency ‘social capital’ savvy, to measure change and social capital
- steps towards straightforward evaluation and planning
- a list of free resources available on line.
The second ‘policy’ publication will be written and released later in the year and will provide concise information for policy makers on evidence linking social capital and health, as well as factors important for successful community projects. The researchers hope to demonstrate that a social capital approach makes economic sense as it assists in building long term health results for communities.

**Changing patterns of work: impacts on physical and mental health and the mediating role of resiliency and social capital**

*Fran Baum*

This is a five year project funded by an NH&MRC Strategic Award and brings together researchers in SACHRU, the National Institute of Labour Studies at Flinders and the University of Melbourne. This project is working to provide a detailed understanding of the impact of the changing forms of employment and unemployment on overall health. It will provide original insights into what aspects of the employment relationship help or harm health; and on what enables some people to escape the harm that others experience. To date work has focused on secondary analysis of the HILDA data base which is a longitudinal study of Australian workers. Fran Baum will be involved in the qualitative arm of the research which will explore workers’ perceptions of the changing nature of work on their health. The project will provide vital information to underpin policies designed to gain the benefits of a flexible workplace, with minimum harm to workers.
Consultations

Tenders and consultancies
SACHRU undertakes consultations to PHC and related organisations in order to contribute to the evidence base for PHC work and to attract funds to increase SACHRU’s critical mass and capacity. Consultations emerge from requests or responses to tenders. Revenue from consultations in 2007 was $205,000.

Evaluation of CNAHS GP Plus Networks Diabetes Action Plan development
Michael Bentley, Gwyn Jolley, Kate Biedrzycki, Julie Johns

SACHRU is conducting a process evaluation of the establishment and implementation of the Diabetes Action Plan undertaken by the GP Plus Health Networks in the Central Adelaide Health Service (CNAHS) Region.

Three Primary Health Care Networks (now known as GP Plus Health Networks) were established by CNAHS following a pilot phase funded by the SA Department of Health and evaluated by consultants from the University of Adelaide. GP Plus Health Networks reflect the broad aims of the SA Department of Health’s reform agenda: early intervention and prevention; health promotion; and chronic disease management. In the CNAHS region the networks are focusing initially on Type 2 Diabetes.

The initial focus of the evaluation is on the effectiveness of the network relationships and processes in relation to the establishment of the ‘Diabetes Action Plan’. In recognition that clinical health outcomes are likely to take several years to become apparent, the other output of the evaluation will be a model and suggested tools that can be used in the future to evaluate the impacts of the network on service delivery and client outcomes, and the effectiveness of the coordination of services between network stakeholders.

Methods include:
- Consultative meetings with the 3 local networks and the whole group
- Brief review of key relevant literature on chronic disease and networks – to provide theoretical context, appropriate approaches and assist analysis
- Document analysis – to provide historical overview of development, planning, implementation and actions
- Face to face interviews with the 3 local Network Coordinators and the Manager, Building Capacity
- Self completion questionnaires for network members and other people involved in the development of the Diabetes Action Plan.

The first phase of the evaluation will be reported in early 2008, with consultation about designing a logic model and future framework for evaluations to follow.

Review of the management of health care workers with blood borne viruses
Kate Biedrzycki

The responsibility for the management of public health issues associated with health care workers infected with blood borne viruses sits with the Department of Health. This sensitive process balances the protection of the health of the public whilst supporting and empowering health care workers to actively manage their health and professional practice. Professional registration boards and employers work alongside the Department of Health to implement the process and support health care workers. There are also a number of external issues such as legal considerations which are shaping the current climate of risk management for this process.
SACHRU was asked to review the process of managing infected health care workers in consultation with external stakeholders in April 2007. A draft report is currently being drafted for consideration by the Department of Health.

**Evaluation of the Experiences and Health Needs of Aboriginal People affected by Imprisonment in South Australia**  
*Michael Bentley*

SACHRU is providing research support for the analysis of in-depth interviews and report writing components of this evaluation, being conducted by Nunkuwarrin Yunti. We are using an action-research-based evaluation approach, working closely with the cultural consultant and project manager at Nunkuwarrin Yunti in developing criteria to achieve rigour and relevance of the process and findings of in-depth interviews conducted with Aboriginal participants. SACHRU is managing the data entry, analysis and supporting the report writing.

Interviews have been conducted and analysis completed with the report submitted to the Aboriginal Prisoner Health Steering Committee in February 2007.

**Effective Data for Aboriginal Health Project**  
*Michael Bentley*

Although there is a wide range of data available on Aboriginal health, there is a deficiency of understanding as to what “effective data” means within the Aboriginal Health worker context. The purpose of this project is to develop an understanding of, and framework for, effective data for Aboriginal health service providers in the Hills Mallee Southern region.

The project will take a collaborative participatory approach with SACHRU working with a dedicated Aboriginal project officer in the Hills Mallee Southern region. The project has established a small reference group to advise on progress and act as a reflective group for considering emergent findings in the process. In doing so, the project will maintain a flexible approach to the understanding and development of effective data for Aboriginal health.

A data framework for Aboriginal Health in the Hills Mallee Southern Region will be developed during 2007.

**Social Determinants of Aboriginal Health**  
*Fran Baum, Michael Bentley*

The Program goal is to develop a more detailed understanding of the social determinants of Indigenous health and of the interventions that are effective in improving health status through action on social determinants. Social determinants are taken to include housing, education, social networks and connections, physical infrastructure, barriers to access to health services, racism, employment and law enforcement and the legal and custodial system.

In 2007, the CRCAH published a Social Determinants Monograph – *Beyond Band-aids: Exploring the Underlying Social Determinants of Aboriginal Health* – edited by Ian Anderson, Fran Baum, and Michael Bentley. The publication was launched at the National Public Health Association of Australia Conference in Alice Springs in September.
The CRCAH, in partnership with the Public Health Association of Australia (PHAA) and the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) undertook an industry roundtable to identify research priorities in the areas of Aboriginal prisoner health and reducing recidivism. Michael Bentley participated in this roundtable held in November in Canberra. Further information on the Program is available at www.crcah.org.au.

Health Service Utilisation and Linkage Project
Michael Bentley

A research project team with members from Flinders and La Trobe Universities and the Queensland Aboriginal and Islander Health Council has developed a four month project that represents the developmental first stage (Stage 1) of a larger research project (Stage 2) that aims to increase understanding about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people’s use of services with a particular focus on identifying salient community and family level cultural and psychosocial factors that influence appropriate access and use (including non-use) of existing health services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in urban and peri-urban areas. Stage 1 will determine the most appropriate and feasible methods and approaches for gaining this type of information from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in urban and/or peri-urban locations.

Stage 1 aims to increase understanding and agreement about how to approach research into patterns of service utilisation (including non-utilisation) by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in urban and peri-urban locations in ways that are both effective and culturally safe, and to facilitate extensive involvement of key stakeholders.

The key objectives are:

- To review current evidence in this area; including methodology
- To bring together potential research collaborators to explore the issues in detail and seek wider agreement to the most feasible approach
- To develop a full research design and budget (Stage 2) to be presented to the CRCAH Board for approval.

A literature review had been commissioned and was completed in January 2007. A stakeholder workshop and Stage 2 development followed in 2007. The CRCAH has decided not to proceed to Stage 2 of the project.

Young Nungas Yarnin’ Together
Michael Bentley, Laura Winslow

The Young Nungas Yarnin’ Together Project has established an Indigenous Youth Peer Education program, whose aims are to:

- Engage young Indigenous people in drug prevention and early intervention activities with other youth
- Provide young Indigenous people with the knowledge, skills and ability to actively support other young people who use drugs
- Provide young Indigenous people as ‘peer educators’ with access to appropriate and up to date information on harm minimisation principles, resources and support.

The purpose of the evaluation is to undertake a process evaluation of the Indigenous Youth Peer Education program component of the Young Nungas Yarnin’ Together Project. A focus group with peer educators has been conducted and interviews with project staff are underway. The evaluation is due for completion in June 2008.
Evaluation of the development process of the CNAHS Mental Health Cultural Operational Protocol and the implementation of the protocol
Michael Bentley

This project to develop and implement the Mental Health Cultural Operational Protocol aims to enable (CNAHS mental health) service providers to work more effectively and appropriately with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with mental health issues. A working party comprised of various stakeholders will identify and collect information on needs and culturally appropriate and effective responses, and develop training to ensure service providers are aware of key issues, processes and procedures.

SACHRU is working with Paul Laris & Associates to look at both the processes and the outcomes of the project. The evaluation will report on the role of the working party, the involvement of the various stakeholders, development of the protocol, and the process of its implementation. It will identify changes in cultural competence within participating services and the implications for access to services and for client outcomes. The evaluation is due for completion in June 2008.

Peer Support Project
Catherine Hurley, Kate Biedrzycki

Baptist Community Services has been funded by the South Australian Government to run a Peer Support Project. The project aimed to develop a system for the education and employment of peer support workers (people living well with a mental illness) to work alongside mental health services in providing peer specialist activities such as coaching for life skills, self management and relapse prevention. Peer support workers were recruited and employed in mental health services while attending training one day per week for a year. Peer support workers, trainers, peer mentors and the stakeholder reference group were part of the two-stage evaluation processes.

SACHRU was contracted to conduct the external evaluation of the project using a combination of quantitative and qualitative measures. The project began in February 2006 and is due to finish in mid 2008. A midpoint evaluation was completed in March 2007 and found that the program had successfully trained and placed a small number of peer workers. Some stakeholders were concerned that only a small number of services had taken up the peer worker model and more needed to be done in this area. A final evaluation will further consider whether this has been successful, considering some of the challenges and opportunities in progressing the successful integration of peer work into mental health settings, along with other relevant issues.

Big Brother, Big Sister
Angela Lawless, Catherine Hurley

The South Australian Community Health Research Unit (SACHRU) is undertaking an evaluation of the YWCA of Adelaide’s Big Brothers Big Sisters program to explore the implementation of program processes, the quality of program components and the experience of a number mentor-mentee pairs. The evaluation captures the experience and perspectives of ‘Littles’ as they progress through the program as well as the experience and perspectives of their Big Brothers and Sisters (volunteer mentors). The evaluation explores both program processes and the impacts of the program on participants.

Part of the evaluation project brief was to explore options for BBBS to build internal evaluation processes into their routine operation. Working with the BBBS staff, the BBBS program model was examined in relation to understandings of best practice from the relevant literature to develop a ‘program rationale’ and program logic. These articulated the assumptions and evidence on which the BBBS Adelaide program is based, the activities
Consultations

undertaken and the likely short-term and longer-term outcomes. The program logic model was then used to establish an ongoing monitoring and evaluation framework that can be implemented by the BBBS team.

The evaluation is due for completion in June 2008.

Families Empowered to Act Together
*Angela Lawless, Catherine Hurley, Kate Biedrzycki*

Families Empowered to Act Together (FEAT) is a collaborative early intervention program supporting families in Salisbury North with children between the ages of 5-13 years at risk of disengaging from learning. FEAT was established in response to agencies and four schools in the region identifying the need for additional support for children and families to engage positively with schools and learning. Referrals are made to the program through the primary schools in Salisbury North.

The program has been functioning for some 18 months and the FEAT Program Advisory Group is seeking an evaluation in order to assess the implementation of the program to date, explore outcomes for participating families and contribute to service improvement. It is important that services can be confident that their programs are beneficial to participants and the wider community, that practitioners have a good understanding of what interventions are effective and why and what may cause harm. This type of evaluation evidence is important to convince decision-makers to fund or extend programmes and to contribute to a knowledge base regarding interventions that work to promote school engagement.

The evaluation tracked the progress of families through the FEAT program and captured the experiences and perspectives of stakeholders. In particular the evaluation sought to allow the ‘voices’ of children and their parents regarding their experience of the FEAT program to be heard. The evaluation found that the intervention was successful in addressing some of the issues associated with engaging with school and learning.

Early Childhood Development Services Review
*Angela Lawless, Catherine Hurley, Kate Biedrzycki*

In 2006 the South Australian Community Health Research Unit (SACHRU) was commissioned to conduct a project examining Early Childhood Development (ECD) services in the Southern Adelaide Health Service (SAHS) region with a focus on services provided by Southern Primary Health: Noarlunga, Seaford/Aldinga, Woodcroft and the Inner Southern service. Recent moves to regionalise services had highlighted the variation in ECD programs, eligibility, staffing, intake and service models across the four sites.

The stated aim of the project was to: “**review early childhood development services across SAHS with emphasis on the community based service models and referral pathways through to acute services with the aim of recommending locations and allocation of existing resources across the SAHS region to address need, demand and obtain optimal outcomes.**”

Interviews and focus groups were undertaken with practitioners, managers and other stakeholders in ECD services and a project officer conducted telephone interviews with consumers that SACHRU staff analysed and included in the report. A literature scan on the evidence for early childhood intervention models was also conducted. The final report for this project was forwarded to SAHS in September 2007.
Rapid Appraisal of Social Inclusion Initiative
Kate Biedrzycki

This Rapid Appraisal Case Study of South Australia’s Social Inclusion Initiative (SII) was undertaken to contribute to the work of the Social Exclusion Knowledge Network (SEKN) of the World Health Organization’s Commission on Social Determinants of Health (CSSA Health). The CSSA Health was established in 2005 to investigate ways in which international, national, regional and local bodies could take action on the social determinants of health. The report provided a rapid assessment of the ways in which South Australia’s SII has originated and operated. The research was conducted between March and June 2007 with SEKN leadership and in collaboration with the Australian Health Inequities Program, Flinders University and staff from the Social Inclusion Unit, Department of Premier and Cabinet.

The CSSA Health’s nine themed Knowledge Networks synthesise knowledge around incorporating complex social dimensions and the social determinants of health into policy and programming across all government sectors. Part of SEKN’s work is to assemble country case studies to provide a systems level analysis of processes and factors that enable and/or constrain the implementation and scaling up of policies, programs and/or institutional arrangements that have the potential to reduce social exclusion and ultimately reduce health inequalities.

Evidence which informed the South Australian SII rapid appraisal included interview evidence from key informants and documentary evidence. Questions asked of the documents and interview respondents followed a standard template developed by the SEKN for the Case Study Appraisals. These were to provide background information, explanations of how the program/policy was developed, assessment of what factors aided its success, and the extent to which the action is assessed as transferable to other regions or countries.

The final report of the Rapid Appraisal Case Study of South Australia’s Social Inclusion Initiative was published in June 2007 and can be viewed at http://som.flinders.edu.au/FUSA/PublicHealth/AHIP/Publications2007.htm
Research Exchange

SACHRU contributes to the sharing of research knowledge to inform policy and practice. Resources such as the website and newsletter provide wide dissemination of SACHRU work. Reports, journal articles, conference presentations and seminars all contribute to research transfer. SACHRU staff draw on their research work when presenting to other researchers, practitioners, managers, policy-makers and tertiary students.

SACHRU continued its tradition of good research transfer practices, seeking more opportunities to build relationships and networks linking researchers, practitioners and others affected by the issue being investigated. Key stakeholders are involved in all stages of research when possible – from planning to dissemination and transfer. This may be through membership of project advisory or reference groups, SACHRU’s Advisory Committee, seminars etc.

Commission on Social Determinants of Health – International Symposium on Indigenous Health

Flinders University convened this symposium, held in April 2007, and hosted by the Cooperative Research Centre for Aboriginal Health (CRCAH), and SACHRU staff (Michael Bentley, Rama Ramanathan and Patricia Lamb) were heavily involved in the organisation and running of the event. There were over 70 participants from 13 countries.

The program included case study presentations on Indigenous peoples’ experiences of social determinants and how these have an impact on health. Another staff member, Laura Winslow, organised site visits to Kaurna and Ngarrindjeri country. The symposium attracted a lot of media interest and featured on ABC Radio National’s Health Report.

The symposium was funded by the CRCAH, SA Dept of Health and OATSIH.

2008 Fulbright Symposium

The Australian-American Fulbright Commission has awarded Flinders University and the Cooperative Research Centre for Aboriginal Health the 2008 Symposium hosting rights. Entitled Healthy People, Prosperous Country the Symposium will be held from 10-12 July 2008 at the National Wine Centre in Adelaide. The symposium will examine how to encourage whole of government action to promote health and well-being locally and nationally and explore ways in which existing inequities in the health status of different groups in the population, can be addressed. The central themes of the Symposium concern the importance of the social determinants of health and health inequities in Australia and the United States, with a particular focus on Indigenous health.
Fran Baum is the co-leader of the Symposium and Michael Bentley is the Program Manager, funded by the Symposium budget.

‘Research Matters’ Newsletter
The newsletter is widely distributed in primary health care settings and remains a key tool for informing the field of primary health care evaluation issues, resources and events. The mailing list is over 1,200 and includes South Australian, Australian and international readers. The first edition for 2007, Vol 16 (1) was distributed in June, with a theme of ‘Global Issues in PHC’. Vol 16 (2) was distributed in October with a theme of ‘Advocacy’.

Ongoing revision of Planning and Evaluation Wizard (PEW)
The resource has been extensively updated to reflect current ideas and issues and to improve its user-friendliness. The revised PEW provides a valuable and accessible tool to primary health care practitioners and managers to assist in planning and evaluation. As a web-based, free-of-charge tool PEW provides access to planning and evaluation practice wisdom for primary health workers.

Website development and maintenance
SACHRU's website http://som.flinders.edu.au/sachru continues to provide information on staff, activities, workshops and publications, as well as access to the Planning and Evaluation Wizard and selected reports and presentations. During 2006 a major update of the website was undertaken and the new design went live in 2007.

Two electronic discussion lists are maintained:
c-health (c-health@listserver.flinders.edu.au) with a membership of 323.
healthy cities (Healthycities@listserver.flinders.edu.au) with a membership of 84.

Reports

Baum F. and Lawless A. (2007) Opposing the Motion that “Family Medicine should emphasise personal care” In Stephen Buetow et al (eds) Ideological Debates in Family Medicine, forthcoming


Strategic Alliances
SACHRU has continued to develop and maintain strong relationships with policy, research and practice communities including metropolitan and country regional health services. Each of the SROs has provided a key contact and ‘first port of call’. This arrangement continues to evolve in light of changes to regional structures.

Links with other organisations working in primary health care and health reform include the WHO Commission on the Social Determinants of Health, the Peoples’ Health Movement, CRCAH, Flinders University Aboriginal Health ASRI, Flinders University Health and Society ASRI, Health Reform SA/SACOSS and Healthy Cities Noarlunga.

Thinker in Residence Program
Fran Baum and Flinders University initiated the successful proposal for Prof. Ilona Kickbusch to be invited as the South Australian Thinker in Residence. SACHRU is a member of the Thinker in Residence partners group. Angela Lawless acted as Project Catalyst during the two terms of the residency. This has resulted in new opportunities to connect with a range of partners and networks, promote SACHRU, and facilitate research, policy and practice links.

Healthy Cities
SACHRU has maintained a long relationship with Healthy Cities Noarlunga and with the broader WHO Healthy Cities project. Fran Baum co-chairs the research group for the Alliance of Healthy Cities and Gwyn Jolley is co-deputy chair of Healthy Cities Noarlunga Management Committee.

The International Forum for the Alliance for Healthy Cities was held from 26th – 28th September, Gold Coast, Queensland. Since its establishment in 2003, membership of the Alliance has grown to 75 including cities and communities from Australia, China, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Mongolia, Philippines and Vietnam.

The goal of the Alliance is to promote and protect health and improve the quality of life of urban populations in a sustainable manner through the Healthy Cities approach. Dr. Hisashi Ogawa, Regional Advisor, Western Pacific Regional Office, described the Healthy Cities approach as a best practice response to the many health and sustainability issues facing the world today.

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2 Areas of Strategic Research Investment are flagship collaborative research programs which are selected competitively to represent Flinders’ key research capabilities
Strategic Alliances

Fran Baum presented on ‘Healthy Cities and the Social Determinants of Health’ and Gwyn Jolley and Richard Hicks (Chair, Healthy Cities Noarlunga) presented a paper entitled ‘A Healthy Cities Approach: a case study from Noarlunga after 20 years.

Healthy Cities Noarlunga Members at the signing of the Australian Chapter Declaration

A proposal to develop an Australian Healthy Cities chapter was signed by representatives from several local government areas, universities and the WHO. The proposal will be more fully developed at a proposed meeting in Kiama, NSW in 2007 and presented to the 3rd Global Assembly in Ichikawa, Japan, in 2008. Gwyn Jolley is the HCN representative for the Australian Chapter.

Collaboration and links
SACHRU maintains strong links with the community health sector, primary health care sector, NGOs and community organisations, state, interstate and international academic institutions. Most of the externally grant funded work is in collaboration with others. Active membership of health/research organisations enhances relevance and transfer of our research, and keeps research and evaluation on the agenda of other organisations. Attendance at events and hosting visitors to SACHRU helps to keep staff up-to-date and enhances our reputation in the field.

In order to maintain and develop engagement with SA Health, regions and the broad primary health care community and contribute to the health reform process, SACHRU staff have maintained links with a wide range of groups, committees and networks. These include:

- WHO Commission on the Social Determinants of Health
- People’s Health Movement
- Flinders Institute of Health and Medical Research
- SA Health & Medical Research Council
- HCN Management Committee
- Flinders University Aboriginal Health ASRI
- Flinders University Health and Society ASRI
- Co-operative Research Centre for Aboriginal Health Research and Development Group
- SACOSS
- Inner Southern Social Planning Alliance
- PHC-RED Advisory Group
- Aboriginal Health Council of SA Health Research Scoping Study
- Health Consumer Alliance
- Health Literacy Alliance
- National Primary and Community Health Network
Workforce Development

SACHRU aims to provide accessible, relevant and timely training to the PHC sector and undertake relevant teaching and tutoring in association with the Department of Public Health, Flinders University.

SACHRU provides evaluation support to community health services in South Australia through both formal workforce development sessions and more informal engagement with centres and individuals. SACHRU staff also contribute to seminars and short courses run by the Department of Public Health.

Towards the end of 2006 SACHRU commissioned a review of training and workforce development needs of PHC/community health agencies in SA. This led to a change in the way the training program was developed for 2007. On the basis of preliminary findings a major event ‘Strategies for Change’ was held on 30th July, showcasing good and promising practice in PHC.

Other training and workforce development has been provided by request for individual organizations. In addition staff of community health services received individual support and advice at no charge and for other organisations a consultancy system allows SACHRU to charge for ongoing support.

Resources to support workforce capacity include the Planning and Evaluation Wizard, an online tool for PHC practitioners. Revision and update is nearly complete. Over 300 copies of the Evaluation Report Writing template have been distributed to SA community health services and it is also available for download from the website.

Healthy and Sustainable Cities and Communities short course 12th to 16th November
Michael Bentley was the coordinator of this course, attended by 25 people from around Australia and New Zealand. Very positive feedback was given and the course is likely to be run again in 2008.

Participants at the Healthy and Sustainable Cities and Communities Short Course
Comprehensive PHC Research and Evaluation short course Feb 2008
Planning for this five day course is well underway. Gwyn Jolley is the coordinator.

**Strategies for Change forum**
SACHRU convened a forum on 30th July to showcase good and promising practice in primary health care in South Australia. This was attended by over 100 people and very positive feedback was received about the event.

SHineSA youth representatives at the Strategies for Change Forum


**Seminars/training/workforce development sessions:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Organisation</th>
<th>Number attending</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Inner Southern Social Planning Alliance Report Launch and Workshop</td>
<td>February</td>
<td>Inner Southern Social Planning Alliance, Mitcham Council</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Retention Action Plan</td>
<td>10th May</td>
<td>Social Inclusion Unit and SA Health</td>
<td>13</td>
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<td>Program Logic for Planning and Evaluation</td>
<td>11th May</td>
<td>SA Nutrition Network</td>
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<tr>
<td>Program Logic for Planning: Adolescent Health Centre</td>
<td>25th June</td>
<td>CYWHS, Paralowie R-12 school</td>
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<td>Just Sustainability: Local Environmental Action and Climate Change</td>
<td>July</td>
<td>Flinders Health &amp; Society Public Seminar: Local Action on Climate Change &amp; Well-Being with Professor Tony McMichael</td>
<td>30</td>
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<td>Logic models</td>
<td>27th Aug</td>
<td>Healthy Weight Coordinators, SA Health</td>
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<td>Tools for impact evaluation of community or public health nutrition programs</td>
<td>August</td>
<td>South Australian Nutrition Network, Adelaide</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Program logic</td>
<td>27th Sept</td>
<td>CYWHS, Centre for Health Promotion</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Healthy and Sustainable Cities and Communities short course</td>
<td>12-16 Nov</td>
<td>SACHRU</td>
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Participants at the Strategies for Change Forum

Invited presentations to Flinders University courses

*Evaluation of Health Promotion* B.En Health students 13th Aug

*Generational Health Review and health reform* H.Sc students 21st Aug

*SA health system and Healthy Cities* DPH International students 14th Aug

*Systematic review of community health evaluation reports* Evaluation short course 30th Aug

*The Planning and Evaluation Wizard.* Presentation for the Evaluation in Human Services – A primary health care approach short course, August 2007

*Evaluating equity* short course 31st Oct

*Working collaboratively with others* presented at Leadership and the New Public Health internal class October 16th 2007 (plus tutoring for same course in second semester).

*Men, Gender and access to health services* Presentation for the Equity of access to health care services –conceptualisation, measurement and analysis short course, October 2007

*Access to services for Aboriginal peoples – a case-study in South Australia* Presentation (with Steve Sumner, Manager Aboriginal Health Services, Country Health SA) for the Equity of access to health care services –conceptualisation, measurement and analysis short course, October 2007.
Leadership and Advocacy

SACHRU aims to provide leadership in policy and practice debates regarding PHC, SDoH and health equity.

Fran Baum continues in her role as a Commissioner on the Commission on the Social Determinants of Health, established by WHO.

A seminar series will be held in conjunction with the CPHC research and evaluation short course providing a wider audience with access to internationally recognised leaders in the field.

The Australian-America Fulbright Commission has awarded Flinders University the hosting rights for the 2008 Fulbright Symposium Healthy People, Prosperous Country Adelaide 10 - 12 July. The Symposium will examine how action on the social determinants can reduce health inequities and disparities, looking at lessons from and for the USA and Australia. Fran Baum is the Symposium leader (funded by Flinders University) and Michael Bentley is the Program Manager (funded by the Symposium budget).

Visit of Bangkok Municipal Association officers

On 10\textsuperscript{th} August, 20 municipal officers from Bangkok and a Fijian Research Fellow visited Healthy Cities Noarlunga, including a tour of Onkaparinga, visits to key health and community organisations, a presentation on Healthy Cities and a reception hosted by the Mayor of Onkaparinga. This visit was coordinated by Gwyn Jolley.

International visitors at Healthy Cities Noarlunga

Ottawa Charter birthday

SACHRU collaborated in the organisation of the Ottawa Charter birthday celebrations held on 23\textsuperscript{rd} November. Illona Kickbusch, one of the writers of the Ottawa Charter gave a presentation on the current relevance of the Charter.
Internal Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation

SACHRU staff attend six general SACHRU meetings and two half-day planning meetings per year. Research staff also attend five Department of Public Health, Flinders University research meetings and two Public Health research retreats. The management group (Fran Baum, Gwyn Jolley, Michael Bentley, Angela Lawless) meet bi-monthly and administrative staff meet monthly.

The SACHRU Advisory Committee meets four times per year and is serviced by the Director’s PA and attended by the Director and one staff representative.

The annual plan and bi-annual performance and financial reports to the Department of Health are prepared by a Senior Research Officer, approved by the Director and submitted by the Executive Dean, Faculty of Health Sciences.

Plans for relocation to a new shared Health Sciences building commenced. The move is expected to occur in the second half of 2008.

In 2007 SACHRU contributed to the Research Quality Framework exercise in Flinders University.

Administrative Arrangements

SACHRU is administered by Flinders University through the Faculty of Health Sciences. Part-funding is supplied via a contract with SA Health. SACHRU is co-located with the Department of Public Health and shares some staff and infrastructure.

2006/07 Budget

SACHRU received a core budget from SA Health of $495,314 for the 06/07 financial year. 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 SA Health on an annual basis in July for the previous financial year.

Staff Development

Core research staff attended the 17th Annual Conference of the Australian Health Promotion Association, the Australasian Evaluation Society Conference, and the Alliance for Healthy Cities Conference. Other staff attended seminars, conferences and staff development sessions:

- Early Childhood Research seminar
- Thinker in Residence seminar
- Introduction to NVIVO training
- Accessing the Grey Literature workshop
- Survey Design workshop
- Qualitative Research training
- Advanced NVIVO training
Committee/Group Membership

- Commission on the Social Determinants of Health, WHO
  - Fran Baum
- Editorial Board, Australian Journal of Primary Health
  - Fran Baum
- Editorial Board, Critical Public Health
  - Fran Baum
- Editorial Committee, Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health
  - Fran Baum
- Flinders Institute of Health Research Board
  - Fran Baum
- Flinders University Aboriginal Health ASRI membership
  - Fran Baum & Michael Bentley
- PHCRED Advisory Committee
  - Fran Baum
- Healthy Cities (Noarlunga) Management Committee
  - Gwyn Jolley
- Inner Southern Social Planning Alliance
  - Michael Bentley
- Making research relevant: Grant assessment processes in Indigenous Research Reference Group. Project for the CRCAH
  - Michael Bentley
- Public Health Research Advisory Committee (PHAA) - Convenor
  - Fran Baum
- Cooperative Research Centre for Aboriginal Health, Research Development Group
  - Fran Baum & Michael Bentley
- SACHRU representative to the new Health Sciences Building group
  - Michael Bentley
- SA Health and Medical Research Advisory Council
  - Fran Baum
- SA Institute of Population Health, Interim Steering Committee
  - Fran Baum
- Health and Society ASRI membership
  - All research staff
Publications and Conference Presentations

Refereed Publications


Books


Chapters in Books


Government, International Agencies and Research Reports


Keynote, Plenary and Invited Addresses


Other Conference Papers


Organisational Chart

0.4 FTE Director

Senior Research Officers
2.4 FTE

1.0 FTE Research Officer
0.4 FTE Information Officer
0.6 FTE Research Officer

0.5 FTE Research Officer
1.0 FTE Research Officer
0.5 FTE Research Officer

0.8 FTE Administrative Services Officer
0.8 FTE Personal Assistant to the Director