



**Early Childhood  
Australia**

Tasmania Branch

## Tasmanian ECEC & SAC Skills Plan Newsletter February 2014

### Skills Plan Update

ECA Tas Branch were successful in gaining funding from Skills Tas to continue the work being undertaken in the Skills Plan for the next two years. The steering committee are meeting in late February to decide on the project priorities for 2014. These will be outlined in the March newsletter.

### Grant Alert - Skills Fund [www.skills.tas.gov.au/skillsfund](http://www.skills.tas.gov.au/skillsfund)

Applications for the previous round should have been announced in mid January. The final tender round should be opened in late January or early February.

For more information please send your queries to Deb Doherty, 03) 6233 3976, [theskillsfund@skills.tas.gov.au](mailto:theskillsfund@skills.tas.gov.au)

### ECA Flexibility Survey [www.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au/projects/flexibility-survey.html](http://www.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au/projects/flexibility-survey.html)

#### Is your early childhood service responsive to families?

Early Childhood Australia (ECA) wants to find out how flexible early childhood education and care services are, and what flexible models are being successfully implemented by the sector that meet the needs of both children and families. They are also interested in finding out if there are any barriers restricting operators being able to increase flexibility for families.

### Training and Assessment Guide

Last year ECA sought feedback from all services about what they would like to see in a Training and Assessment Resource that could be made available to all registered services across Tasmania.

ECA have now received funding from the Minister's Education & Care Advisory Council (MECAC) to develop the Resource. It is planned to be a simple and easy to use tool that will support educators and services to have a better understanding of quality vocational education and training.

We are currently undertaking a tender process to select an author. At the March Roundtable the successful author will present a short briefing and will seek additional early feedback from the sector.

It is anticipated that the completed 'Resource' will be distributed free to all services in September/October. Its release will be supported by state wide implementation workshops.

### Sector Website of the month

[www.kidsmatter.edu.au/early-childhood/resources-support-childrens-mental-health/connecting-families-elearning](http://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/early-childhood/resources-support-childrens-mental-health/connecting-families-elearning)



This *elearning* course has been developed by KidsMatter to support early childhood educators and teachers in their work with *families*. It aims to build on skills that you have and provide a step by step process to assist in your conversations with families.

### Dates to remember

#### February

- 13 CS&HISC Discussion Forum
- 20 ECA Statewide

#### March

- 5 Roundtable - Campbell Town

#### May

- 27 ECA Statewide

#### June

- 4 Roundtable - Campbell Town

#### September

- 4-7 ECA National Conference
- 17 Roundtable - Campbell Town

*Cheers*

Roger

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