UNLOCKING Citizen Led Change
Community Development Conference 2013
October 31st - November 1st
Bay Youth and Sports Centre, Deception Bay

An opportunity for people who are interested in creating change in their communities to come together to share stories, learn from each other, and experience examples of contemporary community work. Over 3 days, this conference will deliver its well loved ‘CD Practices Day & Les Halliwell Address’, along with supporting events ‘Conversations from the Heart about Community and Change’ and ‘Strong Boards Strong Futures.’

CD Practices Day - Unlocking Citizen Led Change
Friday 1st November, 2013
8am regos/coffee; 8:30am – 4:30pm
Cost: $55 (unwaged); $130 (early bird); $160 (waged)
Meals provided

The Les Halliwell Address
Thursday 31st October, 2013
5pm drinks; 5:45 – 6:45pm
Acknowledgement and the address
Cost: Free

Supporting Events
Conversations from the Heart about Community and Change
Thursday 31st October, 2013
9am - 4pm
Cost: $35 (unwaged); $80 (waged)
Meals provided

Strong Boards Strong Futures
Saturday 2nd November, 2013
9am - 2pm
Cost: Free

All events will be held at:
Bay Youth and Sports Centre
100 -166 Maine Tce, Deception Bay Rd.
(Parking is available along the street and at the Deception Bay Shopping Centre, it’s a 3 minute walk)

To register go to:
www.trybooking.com/61109
The CD Practices Day will be an opportunity for people who are interested in creating change in their communities to come together to share stories, learn from each other, and experience examples of contemporary community work. The day will include a creative presentation mixing theory and story, interactive workshops, and snapshopt of innovative practice by your peers.

This event is brought to you by CDQld and the Deception Bay Child and Family Alliance.

The Power of Structural Community Development to Unlock Citizen-Led Change

After more than a decade of practice as a community development worker, I commenced doctoral research to explore ‘a practice problem’. I was trained in an approach to practice, euphemistically known to some as the ‘Gandhian’ tradition, which has a central analysis that exploitation and dominance creates poverty. This ‘truth’, if pursued, would unleash the most powerful moral, social and economic forces available to rectify oppression, that is, a force of liberation for the ‘poorest of the poor’, so goes the analysis. This lofty ambition became the kernel of the practice problem revolving around the neo-liberal context in which community development often operates. This context, driven by ideological hegemony such as individualism, consumerism, competition and economic rationalism has created a kind of ‘amnesia’ about the power of the collective. We are not seeing the socially transformative outcomes that some of the community development literature argues should result from practice. Moreover, on a very practical level, I am concerned that practice skills associated with collective approaches within the challenging neo-liberal context are at risk of being lost to us. Without a strong theoretical framework to draw from, we tend to uncritically accept the domain paradigm.

The research process involved conducting in-depth interviews with 22 experienced CD practitioners across Australia, and two group work processes with half of those participants where together we explored this subject matter. The presentation will convey the outcomes of the research, particularly focussing on three frameworks ‘Structural Connecting’, ‘Structural Shaping’ and ‘Structural Politicking’ and stories related to those frameworks as examples of emancipatory practice. I believe that these ideas provide a useful theory from which practitioners can draw, one that will enhance the effectiveness of their practice for our contemporary times.

Tina has 30 years practice experience in the social service sector, particularly in the areas of disability support, community development in neighbourhood centre contexts and sector development work with peak bodies. She is a Lecturer in Social Work at the University of the Sunshine Coast. She joined the Social Work program in early 2012 and teaches the courses ‘Community Development and Social Action’ and ‘Critical Social Policy Analysis’.
Community Praxis Co-op is a workers co-op committed to peaceful, just and sustainable communities. In these times when sound bites dominate and information is exchanged at a fast and furious pace we wanted to create an event where conversations (from the heart) about community and change could take place. The gathering will explore the issues and topics of interest to you about community development in the 21st century.

It’s an event with a difference (guaranteed to have no PowerPoint presentations or long monologues!) The big difference is you not only take part in setting the agenda, you have the opportunity to be both initiator and participant in the conversations that take place. The program uses an adaptation of ‘open space’ processes – where there are various spaces provided for groups, people identify the topics that they want to explore, and invite others to join them in open, respectful, reciprocal conversations.

Some of the conversation topics that we’ve come up with include:
- How sustainable is sustainability, really?
- Parallel Processes: How do you work ‘with’ community who expect you to work ‘for’ and ‘to’?
- Apathy, activism and civic participation
- Another world is possible… beyond mining
- Play and fun in community development

So join us with your conversation topic and share your thoughts, listen to the ideas of others and learn new ways of approaching CD in the 21st century.

For more information go to:
www.communitypraxis.org or
Contact Gerard Dowling on 0409 542 840 or Howard Buckley on 0408 005 638.

The Coalition of Community Boards invites board members and key members of staff to join us in exploring ways to ensure strong futures for our communities and organisations. A combination of keynote speakers and stories from local collaborations will be interspersed with interactive discussion designed to bring a broader understanding of issues facing our organisations and ways to work through our challenges.

Session 1: Funding Place Based Futures: Foundations and Philanthropy
Exploring ways to develop community foundations and attract philanthropic support. Keynote speaker tba.

Session 2: Boards Getting Active: Influencing Policy
As board members of our organisations, we hold a different authority than our staff and community members. This session identifies our strengths and strategic roles as key influencers and representatives of our communities

Session 3 (opt): Annual meeting of the Coalition of Community Boards
An opportunity for our networks to come together and meet face to face, extend our conversations from our monthly teleconferences and discuss future directions. We also welcome new people to attend and find out more. Note: This meeting will begin after the main event finishes at 1pm.

For more information email: admin@cocb.org.au | www.cocb.org.au | www.facebook.com/coalitionvoice
Registrations:
To register for any or all of the conference events go to:

www.trybooking.com/61109

Registrations close 5pm Friday October 25th

For more information contact:
Jennie Drever
Deception Bay Child and Family Alliance Coordinator
Ph: 3204 0277
Email: jennie@dbcyp.org.au
www.facebook.com/CDQLD2013

Go to: www.facebook.com/CDQLD2013 for the latest conference updates

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2013 Community Development Conference
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