

CALL FOR PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

Parents, Families and Carers: Our Place in the Human Services, Our Agenda for Change

National Conference, Sydney
17-18 March 2008

[Read the Program Outline Here](#)

Proposals for papers and presentations are invited for the inaugural National Conference of the *National Federation of Parents, Families and Carers*. The event will run over two days in Sydney in March 2008 and will explore the place of families in the human services and social policy, and develop a national agenda for change.

The conference will bring together parents, families and carers and their advocacy, self-help and support groups, with service providers, governments and researchers who support an agenda of empowerment and person and family-centred practice. It will explore innovative developments in Australia and overseas, and develop an agenda for policy change, system re-design, innovation and empowerment in fields including early childhood development; child care; education; disability; mental illness; learning, developmental and behavioural challenges; chronic and acute illness; aged care; parental learning and empowerment; and family support.

Proposals are invited for papers, presentations and workshops on the following themes:

- conceptual and foundational perspectives on the place of parents, families and carers in the human services and social policy;
- evaluation of current policies and paradigms, service delivery models and practices, and social outcomes;
- analyses of system failure;
- current innovations in Australia and overseas;
- proposals for system re-design, new service delivery and support models, and new funding models;
- issues and challenges in parenting and family support;
- proposals for strengthening familial relationships and familial social capital in the human services;
- analysis of impediments to change and empowerment of parents, families and carers, and strategies for overcoming these;
- political processes and strategies for change;
- comparative critique of indigenous and non-indigenous approaches in the human services and social policy.

The program outline is available [here](#).

Abstracts of papers and proposals should be forwarded by **Friday 16 November 2007** by email or hard copy (not exceeding 300 words) to:

Vern Hughes
Conference Convenor
vern@civilsociety.org.au
PO Box 159 Yarraville Vic 3013
Tel: 0425 722 890

All presenters at the conference are required to register at the applicable rate.

The *National Federation of Parents, Families and Carers* was formed in August 2007. It is Australia's first national voice for parents, families and carers. Membership is free and is open to individual parents, families and carers and their support, advocacy and self-help groups.

[CLICK HERE](#) to see the inaugural National Council of the *Federation* and to read our foundational principles.

[CLICK HERE](#) to join the Federation. Members are entitled to access the members section of our website which contains resources, campaign information and a discussion forum.

The *Federation* is an initiative of the Centre for Civil Society.

[Click here to see our website!](#)