

# Ynews

YWCA CANBERRA  SPRING 2014

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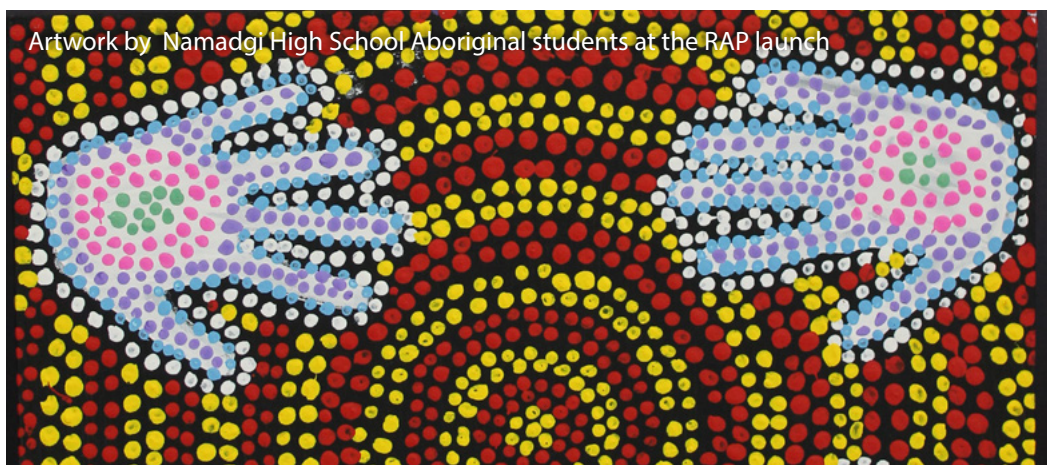
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### Welcome to the Spring edition of Ynews

In this edition, we reflect on the 2014 International AIDS Conference in Melbourne, share highlights from our #Fiver4Food Winter Appeal, get to know YWCA Canberra member Clare Conroy, share some great photos from the launch of our new Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan, and more!



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# WELCOME TO YNEWS

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

As we head into the home stretch of Winter, I'm particularly mindful of the people in our community who don't have a warm and safe place to call home, can't afford the utilities to heat their homes, or who struggle to put food on the table.

The generosity of our friends, corporate partners and members during these chilly months is evidenced by the outcome of our #Fiver4Food campaign. Together we raised more than \$6,000 in food and financial donations, our most successful Winter Appeal to date. We have already started planning for our Christmas Appeal, so keep an eye out for more details in future editions of Ynews and our e-newsletter.

This month we were proud to launch our third Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP). This important document is called a "Stretch RAP", which signifies that we have embedded the principles and practices of reconciliation in our everyday business. Over the next three years we have committed to not only taking action on reconciliation within our organisation, but also to champion reconciliation among the broader Canberra community.

We believe that an important part of our role as a leading not-for-profit organisation in Canberra is to educate others about the importance of reconciliation and constitutional recognition. Our RAP is available to download online, and I encourage you to take a look, and consider what you or your organisation can contribute to reconciliation. I would also like to thank Julianne Williams for the beautiful art work featured in our RAP. Julianne is a local Ngunnawal woman born and raised in the Canberra region, and a previous recipient of one of our Great Ideas grants.

The Second Action Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children was released in July. The plan outlines five national priorities:

1. Driving whole of community action to prevent violence
2. Understanding diverse experiences of violence
3. Supporting innovative services and integrated systems
4. Improving perpetrator interventions
5. Continuing to build the evidence base

YWCA Canberra acknowledges the importance of the National Plan and applauds this recent funding announcement. It sadly comes at a time when data is trending toward an increase in violence against women.

We would like to see a greater focus on addressing the root causes of violence against women, with an emphasis on primary

prevention. By targeting primary school age children, we can enact a cultural change that will lead to a long-term reduction in violence against women, and empower children to form respectful relationships.

Our primary prevention program is *Respect, Communicate, Choose*, a comprehensive school-based initiative that aims to give young people the necessary tools to develop, promote and perpetuate safe and respectful relationships.

Our secondary school program, *Relationship Things*, aims to educate young people and prevent sexual assault and gender-based violence. Both programs are delivered in partnership with primary and high schools. However, without a commitment of funding from either the Commonwealth or the ACT Governments we will sadly miss the opportunity to work with young people to address gender inequality, and end violence against women.

As you may be aware, the 2014 She Leads Diploma program will commence on 16 September. The program interweaves a gender analysis framework with a traditional Diploma of Management, allowing participants to build their leadership skills while working towards a nationally recognised qualification. If you are interested in participating in the program please visit our website for more information.

Finally, our Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on Monday, 20 October 2014. Our AGM provides our members with a unique opportunity to engage with our organisation through the process of voting, and also to reflect on our achievements throughout the past 12 months. This year members will appoint new Directors and Office Bearers to the Board.

I look forward to celebrating with you.



Frances Crimmins, Executive Director

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As September approaches, the Board and staff at YWCA Canberra prepare to call for nominations for Board, traineeship and committee positions. I urge all members to consider what level of involvement you would like to have with our organisation in 2015.

Perhaps you were a trainee and want to take the step to nominate for the Board? Perhaps you were on the Board and want to nominate for an office bearer role? Perhaps you encountered YWCA Canberra for the first time at the She Leads Conference, or at Reclaim the Night, or at a Women Out Front Workshop, and want to get more involved?

I encourage our members and friends to take the next step in your leadership journey this year. The support, encouragement and benefits of engaging with our Board and committees are immense. You'll have the opportunity to learn from inspiring Canberra women who will support you on your journey.

We have a number of vacancies arising due to current directors reaching their term limit. Committees and groups seeking new members include:

- Human Resources Committee
- Nominations Committee
- Membership Committee
- The Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group
- Finance Committee

Nomination details will be released in the coming weeks. To ensure you don't

miss out, renew your membership via our website at:

[www.ywca-canberra.org.au](http://www.ywca-canberra.org.au)

If you have any questions about the how you can get involved please contact the YWCA Canberra Central office on:

[Canberra@ywca-canberra.org.au](mailto:Canberra@ywca-canberra.org.au)

Best of luck!



Jane Alver, President

## YWCA CANBERRA BRANDING & WEBSITE LAUNCH

We are excited to announce that we will be launching our new brand and website on 8 September at the Canberra Museum and Gallery.

We would love our members, friends, and corporate partners to attend and be the first to see our exciting new look and feel - a pivotal component of our strategic plan.

Come along and enjoy drinks and canapés, mingle with members and friends, and hear about our exciting plans for the future!

Spaces are limited so RSVP soon to secure your place at this milestone event in the history of YWCA Canberra.

When: Monday 8 September, 5.30-8.00pm

Where: Canberra Museum and Gallery, 176 London Circuit, Canberra

RSVP: Monday, 1 September to [Caroline.Dempsey@ywca-canberra.org.au](mailto:Caroline.Dempsey@ywca-canberra.org.au)

### Acknowledgement of Country

*The YWCA of Canberra proudly recognises the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to own and control their cultures, and pays respect around these rights. The YWCA of Canberra acknowledges the need to respect and encourage the diversity of Indigenous cultures and aims to respect Indigenous worldviews, lifestyles and customary laws.*

## A FABULOUS OUTCOME FOR OUR WINTER APPEAL

Our #Fiver4Food Winter Appeal has officially wrapped up, and with your help we raised an amazing \$6,000, in food and financial donations for our Food Hub.



Food donations from our #Fiver4Food finale event

Our emergency food relief program provides free, healthy nutritious food to young people and their families in need. A big thank you to everyone who donated to support Canberrans who are doing it tough this Winter.

We would also like to say thanks to all the organisations and community groups who rallied their resources to support the appeal. A special mention to V-Spot Café for collecting donations and hosting our #Fiver4Food finale event, and Good Food AU and the Canberra Times for donating a special foodie prize pack.

We'd also like to thank Ashurst, PWC, Westpac, the ACT Government Community Services Directorate, EY, and the Department of Health (Safety Quality and Research Branch) for hosting pot-luck events, collecting food donations, and making financial contributions.

Stay tuned for exciting announcements about our Christmas Appeal, which is just around the corner!



Weekend Parent blogger, Serina Huang and Canberra Times Good Food AU editor, Natasha Rudra

## ESTABLISHING THE FIRST COMPUTER CLUBHOUSE IN THE ACT

On Friday 20 June, we opened the doors of the Clubhouse to our first members.

Day by day our membership base grows, with 25 young people now signed up and regularly visiting our Computer Clubhouse. We'd like to acknowledge and sincerely thank our partners and friends for their time, energy, passion and commitment to helping us make this dream a reality!



Computer Clubhouse Coordinator, Lachlan and members exploring programming with 'Scratch'

- AARNet & ACTDE
- Academy of Interactive Entertainment
- AcidLabs
- ACT Chamber of Commerce
- Coordinate
- CollabIT
- Tuggeranong Reengaging Youth Networks Board
- Content Group
- Dimension Data
- General Repair Company
- HSBC Canberra
- Intravision
- Lockheed Martin Australia
- Meyer Vandenberg
- Microsoft
- Richardson Primary School P&C
- The ACT Education and Training Directorate
- The Networks and Communications Services team at Shared Services ICT
- The Public Education Foundation
- Wacom Australia

We'd also like to make special mention of our Steering Committee members, who have played an integral role in fostering this vibrant community of supporters: Hala Batainah, Tony Henshaw, Greg Castle, Julian Barrington-Smith, Paul VanCampenHaut, and Jason Borton.

The team at YWCA Canberra and Richardson Primary School are now working on plans for the Grand Opening to be held on 10 October.

## Interested in mentoring?

We've recently received a number of enquiries about mentoring opportunities at the Clubhouse. So we thought we'd explain a little more about how our mentoring program works, and what mentors actually do!

Clubhouse mentors vary in age, background, interests, experiences and skills. Some have had experience mentoring young people before, but this is certainly not a prerequisite. Mentors can be university students, artists, educators, graphic designers, software developers, architects, or previous Clubhouse members.



Our 3D printer in action

Mentors often find the Clubhouse in much the same ways that Members do – through word-of-mouth, university programs, or community networks. Typically, mentors will commit one afternoon a week to the Clubhouse program, for a minimum of six months. If you're thinking about becoming a Clubhouse mentor, here are three tips to keep top of mind!

1. Mentors help young people express themselves through technology. Clubhouse mentors support members as they connect their interests with the computer technology skills they need to express those interests.
2. Mentors focus on developing relationships. Successful mentors understand the importance of establishing relationships based on respect and trust.
3. Mentors are mutual learners. Clubhouse mentors sometimes lead, but they often follow. They know it's empowering for young people to teach others too!

If you'd like to find out more about mentoring opportunities at our Clubhouse, please contact Lach Howarth, our Clubhouse Coordinator at:  
Lachlan.Howarth@ywca-canberra.org.au

## The importance of partnerships

Today, over 100 Clubhouses in 20 countries reach tens of thousands of young people from underserved communities each year. Many were started with funding by Intel Corporation, which has invested \$50 million since 2000. Others were started by local foundations, corporations, government agencies, and individuals who believe in the Clubhouse mission. All are supported on an ongoing basis by their own local funding sources.

The sustainability and success of the YWCA Computer Clubhouse is determined by the support of corporate and philanthropic partnerships. These partnerships may comprise software and hardware contributions, professional mentoring for clubhouse members, and financial contributions to cover operating costs.

If you would like to find out more about the Computer Clubhouse, mentoring or partnership opportunities, please contact Joanna Allebone, Director of Corporate Relations and Communications at:

Joanna.Allebone@ywca-canberra.org.au

## CELEBRATING NAIDOC WEEK 2014

NAIDOC Week was celebrated from 6 – 13 July, with the theme 'Serving Country: Centenary & Beyond' honouring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men and women who have fought in defense of our country throughout history.



YWCA Canberra staff Sienna Aguilar and Zoya Patel visited NAIDOC at the Peninsula, a market and activities day, on behalf of the organisation on Sunday 6 July. The event is held annually by the Australian Institute for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) in conjunction with the National Museum of Australia (NMA), and this year it was packed right from the beginning of the day.

Stalls were set up stretching from the AIATSIS building through to the entrance to the NMA, including community

sector organisations, local Indigenous Australian artists and craftmakers, delicious looking food and more.

Zoya and Sienna heard from the ACT NAIDOC Committee chairperson, Jo Chivers as well as a representative from Minister Shane Rattenbury's office about the significance of NAIDOC week in celebrating and acknowledging the contributions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to our communities.

They also watched an excellent performance from the Solid Young Fellas and Sisters dance troupe, which included a flashmob style performance where the kids showed off their breakdancing techniques!

NAIDOC at the Peninsula was a great way for YWCA Canberra to connect tangibly with the importance of Reconciliation, and engage with people on the day about how we can continue this important process into the future.

## THE 2014 SHE LEADS DIPLOMA PROGRAM KICKS OFF ON 16 SEPTEMBER

The She Leads Diploma is at the cutting edge of leadership development. You will have the opportunity to explore and refine your leadership identity, and reflect on your experiences, strengths, values, and vision for the future.



2013 She Leads Diploma Graduates

The program is delivered over nine dynamic, full day classes which encompass seminars, practical exercises with case studies and role plays, personal development sessions, and peer coaching. All classes will take place at the stylish EY offices in the city.

The first class, entitled, *Leadership and Me*, will introduce participants to concepts of leadership and lay the groundwork for the rest of the program.

In this class, participants will have the unique opportunity to learn first-hand from distinguished women leaders in an intimate environment. We're pleased to announce the following

women will feature on our first in-class panel discussion:

- Gai Brodtmann (Federal MP Canberra)
- Julia Newton-Howes (Chief Executive of Care Australia)
- Chris Faulks (CEO of Canberra Business Council)
- Tjanara Goreng Goreng (Assistant Professor of Indigenous Studies at University of Canberra)

## 2014-2015 class schedule

- Induction night, 9 September - Setting the scene
- Day 1, 16 September - Leadership and Me
- Day 2, 21 October - Personal and professional priorities
- Day 3, 18 November - Communication
- Day 4, 9 December - Financial leadership
- Day 5, 17 February - Continuous improvement
- Day 6, 17 March - Project management
- Day 7, 21 April - People: Ensuring team effectiveness
- Day 8, 19 May - People: Manage people performance
- Day 9, 16 June - Being a leader

We currently have only a few spaces vacant, so get in quick to secure your place. For more information and to download the She Leads Course Guide visit our website at: [www.ywca-canberra.org.au](http://www.ywca-canberra.org.au)

## GREAT YDEAS GRANT HELPS SUPPORT INDIGENOUS RIGHTS INTERNATIONALLY

YWCA Canberra member Tjanara Goreng Goreng successfully applied for a Great Ydeas grant in 2013 to attend the UN Permanent Forum for Indigenous Peoples in New York.



Tjanara Goreng Goreng at the Forum for Indigenous Peoples in New York

With the support of a YWCA Canberra Great Ydeas Grant, Tjanara and Amala, from the Indigenous Peoples Organisation, were able to attend this prestigious event. Prior to the UN forum, the pair also attended the Pacific and Australian delegations meeting in Sydney with funding from the Foundation for Indigenous Recovery and Development. The purpose of this

meeting was to establish parameters and write resolutions and recommendations in preparation for the New York meeting.

During the meeting, Tjanara and Amala both worked on a range of interventions that were put to the floor for delegates to discuss. Issues ranged from self-determination and human rights to native title rights, culture, Indigenous knowledge, food and environmental sustainability rights.

Tjanara said it was great to be engaged internationally on high-level diplomacy, working towards the implementation of the rights of Indigenous Australians at the UN.

"Additionally, we were part of the Pacific and Oceania nations delegations which enabled us to meet and network with everyone on each day to agree to support each other's interventions and work at the UN," Tjanara said.

Both women found the experience a wonderful opportunity, building their confidence and skills in public speaking and advocacy on the international stage.

## MEET CLARE CONROY, YWCA CANBERRA MEMBER

This article is the first in our new member profile series. Our members tell us that one of the things they really love about being part of our community, is getting to know likeminded women. So, in each issue of Ynews we'll feature an interview with a member, so you can get to know each other a little better.



Clare recently hosted one of our Women Out Front + Workshops, which are an extension of our highly successful Women Out Front series where our members come together to share their professional skills, expertise, and passions.

Clare's workshop was a two-hour crash course on design thinking, a human-centred methodology for investigating problems, acquiring information, analysing knowledge, and developing solutions.

You in a nutshell

Novice mum, new business owner, design thinker, trainer, non-fiction reader, lover of learning.... oh, and I'm 33!

**What's your highlight of 2014?**

A couple of highlights.... Firstly, being involved in YWCA Canberra's first She Leads Conference. Secondly, finally taking the leap to start my own business.

**What's on your playlist?**

I've been putting together some playlists for my design thinking workshops with lots of upbeat, funk tracks. At the moment I'm really liking Beck's Que' Onda Guero.

**Why did you join the Y?**

I joined the Y when my friend Emily mentioned to me that she'd been to the Women Out Front (WOF) board governance and finance workshops. I've always been interested in being on a board and thought the workshops sounded worthwhile, so I joined the Y and signed up for the next round of workshops. I think there is a really positive energy that comes from professional women supporting other women which I wanted to be part of and to contribute to at the Y.

**Who inspires you?**

I'm a big TED fan (having produced TEDxCanberra for three years from 2010-2012), and one of my favourite and most inspiring TED speakers is the amazing Eve Ensler (author of the Vagina Monologues). Her advice about happiness - in that it exists in action, and in telling the truth, and in giving away what you want the most - is something that I think about often.

**What's the change you want to see in the world?**

I'd like to see more people rediscover their creative confidence. As kids we start out with a belief that we're creative and a desire to play and experiment, but as we get older we tend to lose that confidence and are quick to declare ourselves as 'not creative'. The world definitely needs people who believe in their own capacity to design their lives and to creatively tackle challenges and issues that they care about!

**Want to get in touch with Clare?**

Visit [www.stickynote.co](http://www.stickynote.co), send an email at [Clare@stickynote.co](mailto:Clare@stickynote.co), or follow her on Twitter at [@StickyNoteCo](https://twitter.com/StickyNoteCo).

# LAUNCHING OUR RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN

YWCA Canberra launched its Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) at a lunchtime event at the Mura Lanyon Youth and Community Centre last Wednesday.



Ngunnawal Elder Aunty Agnes Shea providing a welcome to country

The launch was a celebration of the work YWCA Canberra has contributed as a champion for reconciliation in the Canberra community. It was attended by Ngunnawal Elder Aunty Agnes Shea, local school principals, representatives from the community sector, and YWCA Canberra staff from across the region.

Aunty Agnes Shea, who spoke at the event, said, "YWCA Canberra embraces a grass-roots approach to its work, involving all of its clients, program participants, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander partners, staff members and its Board of Directors in the reconciliation journey."

She commended YWCA Canberra on its ongoing work supporting young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women through initiatives like scholarships for the She Leads Conference, the Great Ydeas Grants Program, and the Young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women's Leadership Program.

Executive Director Frances Crimmins said YWCA Canberra is dedicated not only to taking action on reconciliation within the organisation, but also to championing reconciliation among the broader Canberra community.

"An important part of our role as a leading not-for-profit organisation in Canberra is to educate others about the importance of reconciliation and constitutional recognition," Ms Crimmins said.

"Our RAP is an important educational tool, not only for our staff, but also for the communities we work with, like the children who attend our children's services and their parents for example.

"Our ethos is to include everyone in the conversation – it's like that saying, 'Don't have a conversation about us without us'.

"But what makes the RAP program really powerful is that it's about taking action, and making a measurable contribution to reconciliation."

YWCA Canberra's stretch RAP will cover the period from August 2014 to August 2016, and sets out clear goals and objectives to achieve within that timeframe.

Ms Crimmins said that while the launch event was an important time to acknowledge and celebrate the achievements of YWCA Canberra and the progress to date, she added, "We know we have a long way to go, and we remain committed to reconciliation in the long term."

Aunty Agnes wished YWCA Canberra well on its way forward. "As you all embark on the implementation of this journey, I wish you luck and thank you for continuing to walk and work with us, the Ngunnawal people," she said.

## STAFF SNAPSHOT: JANINE YOKOM, SHE LEADS COORDINATOR

We are excited to have Janine Yokom join our team at YWCA Canberra as our She Leads Coordinator. We caught up with Janine to find out more about her, what she gets up to outside work, and who inspires her!



Janine Yokom, She Leads Coordinator and her mother Joy

Can you tell us a bit about your role at the Y and what brought you to us?

My new role as the She leads Coordinator entails facilitating the Young Women's Leadership program here at YWCA Canberra.

I spend a lot of my time talking to young women about how they can use the She Leads Diploma of Management as part of their development plan for the job they're in now, and how it can improve their chances of promotion with a Diploma of Management as part of the course accreditation.



The She Leads Coordinator role caught my eye as I love coaching and training women to be the best at what they want to achieve. It gives me a great platform to reach out to young women to show them how they too can go on to be successful leaders in their organisations, and as a nation we really need to get our numbers up in leadership positions.

I have spent a long time in management positions and understand how important it is to have accreditations on your resume. And if I can do an Advanced Diploma at the age of 49, I'm sure our young women can achieve a Diploma of Management with the added bonus of leadership identity!

**What is the scariest thing you've done in the past year?**

Leaving a role as a bank manager and a company I had been employed by for the past 17 years, and making the decision to find a role where I could add value to others with all the skills that I have learnt over the years.

It took 5 months to find this role and I have never been out of a job in my life and I must admit, even though everyone was saying "just wait the right role will find you," I was getting pretty antsy about not having a job for such a long time. But the up side to this was having a fantastic partner and the support he gave me to make sure I took the time to find what was important to me.

**If you had to choose a single thing about the Y that makes you proud to work here, what would it be?**

Because it's full of amazing women, all with attributes and qualifications that may blow your mind. They turn up to work to achieve great outcomes to support the women of Canberra.

**When you're not at work, what's your relaxation activity of choice?**

I love to ride my Harley, just jump on and blow the cobwebs out of my mind and enjoy the view.

**Whose your favourite inspirational woman?**

My mother Joy. She has raised four children on her own, and she herself had a very hard childhood with limited education (she left school at the age of eight). I was four when my father left and there was no such thing as child support in those days.

Mum worked at the NZ Post office for more than 20 years. We were all well fed and dressed (a lot of our clothes were homemade, at the time I didn't think that was really fantastic as all the others had the fashion of the time). But looking back my mum could make anything – clothes, curtains, you name it. She could also make our dinner menu out of anything in the cupboard (you always ate your dinner because you knew Mum would reconstruct it for breakfast).

When we left home, mum took to volunteering at the local nursing home. She is always putting a smile on other people's faces when they aren't feeling the best. She herself has had five back surgeries and her latest hip surgery wasn't successful, but she still gets around with her crutches and all the animals in her neighborhood love her as she has treats in her handbag for when she walks past daily.

She has always inspired me to be the best at what I do, as you are only disadvantaged by your self-limiting.



Janine Yokom, She Leads Coordinator

# UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday 7 September  
Canberra Times Fun Run  
To join our team visit:  
[ywca-canberra.org.au](http://ywca-canberra.org.au)

Monday 8 September  
Branding & Website Launch  
Canberra Museum & Gallery

Tuesday 16 September  
She Leads Diploma Program  
EY Offices, Canberra City

Friday 10 October  
Computer Clubhouse  
Grand Opening  
Richardson Primary School

Sunday 12-18 October  
Anti Poverty Week  
Various locations, visit:  
[antipovertyweek.org.au](http://antipovertyweek.org.au)

Monday 13-18 October  
Week Without Violence  
Global campaign, visit:  
[www.worldywc.org](http://www.worldywc.org)

Monday 20 October  
Annual General Meeting  
Canberra Museum & Gallery

# 2014 INTERNATIONAL AIDS CONFERENCE IN MELBOURNE

*By Zoya Patel, YWCA Canberra Communications and Advocacy Officer*

The 20th International AIDS Conference took place in Melbourne from 19 to 27 July. The peak event for HIV/AIDS researchers, community health workers, activists and people living with HIV, the Conference drew 15,000 delegates to the Melbourne Exhibition Centre to participate in panels, plenaries, workshops, exhibitions and cultural events.



I was fortunate enough to be awarded a scholarship through YWCA Australia to attend AIDS 2014 as part of the World YWCA Delegation to the Conference. The World YWCA has been advocating for the sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) of women for decades, with a primary focus on bettering the outcomes of HIV positive women across the world, and preventing infection through advocacy for and education around the use of female condoms.

The World YWCA delegation to AIDS 2014 was comprised of 21 women from 15 countries, including Malawi, Kenya, Sierra Leone, Nigeria, Benin, Belize, India, Albania, and more. Many of the delegates are women living with HIV, and all work to support HIV positive women in their communities. Our goal for the Conference was to learn more about the impact of HIV on women globally, and to represent the views of young women living with HIV wherever we could.

On the first official day of AIDS 2014, Dr Lydia Mungherera from Uganda said, 'I think the face of the pandemic is a female face.'

Increasingly, this is becoming more evident. Rates of HIV are growing steadily in young women aged 15 - 25 globally, and women account for 59% of infections in sub-

Saharan Africa, the region with the highest rates of HIV in the world (AVERT, 2014).

Not only are women disproportionately affected by HIV infection, but factors such as violence against women, a lack of economic security and the continuing issues of stigma and discrimination around HIV result in significantly lower social, economic and health outcomes for HIV positive women across the world.



As Jennifer Gatsi-Mallet stated on the second day of AIDS 2014, it is imperative that women are given a voice in addressing the AIDS epidemic – women in leadership positions are integral to breaking down stigma and gender discrimination around HIV.

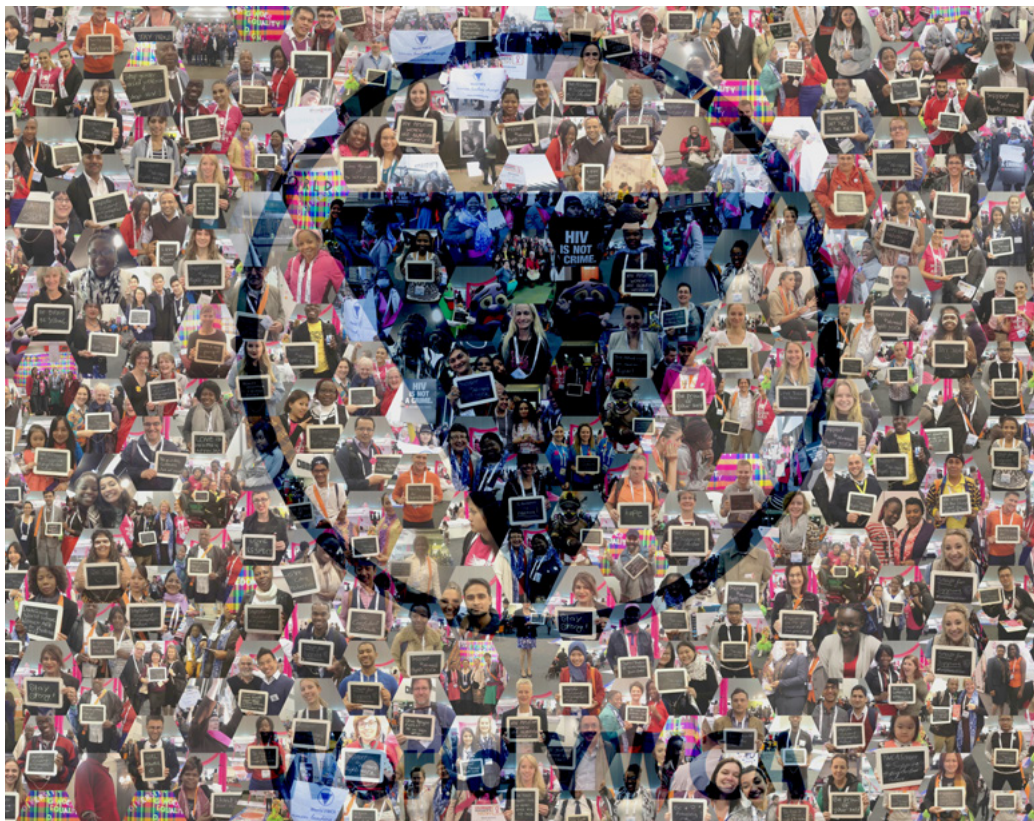
I felt proud to be attending the Conference on behalf of an organisation that actively supports women living with HIV to take on leadership positions, and to advocate for their rights in a global setting. Throughout the Conference, the World YWCA delegation attended plenaries and workshops, spoke at events and hosted sideline events outside of the Conference.

A key event was YWCA Australia's Young Women's Reception, where several delegates shared their stories of living with HIV, and advocating for better outcomes for women in their community.

The event was held at the Melbourne City Mission, and it was a wonderful safe space where guests and delegates got to know each other, danced together to the excellent South of the River Choir and shared their experiences.

Alongside these uplifting and inspirational moments, were more somber experiences. In the week prior to the Conference, the Malaysian Airlines flight MH17 was shot down in Ukraine, leading to the deaths of several key HIV researchers including Joep Lang, among others.

This tragedy cast a new light on the research and activities presented at the Conference, drawing attention to the fact that despite a lot of important headways made in the



## SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

YWCA Canberra will be running exciting programs throughout the 2014 school holidays, engaging children in arts and crafts, sports and games.

The program will run across the following four locations, in both South and North Canberra:

- Turner Primary School
- St Benedicts School
- Majura Primary
- Kingsford Smith Primary

The cost of the program is \$65 per day, and includes a healthy morning tea, afternoon tea, and all excursions.

Child care benefit and child care rebate are available. For more information call 02 6175 9922 or visit:

[www.ywca-canberra.org.au](http://www.ywca-canberra.org.au)

search for a cure to HIV, there remains a lot of work to do and a shrinking pool of support and research funds. A loss of this magnitude in terms of HIV researchers and knowledge will have a significant impact on the field.

Again, it was impressed on delegates that the most effective way of ending the epidemic is prevention through better sexual health education, access to male and female condoms, regular testing and the decriminalisation of sex work.

Whilst we have a long way to go, the combination of innovative research, medical health outreach and support, and the breaking down of social stigma and barriers will help us see the end of HIV/AIDS. As President Bill Clinton said at AIDS 2014, 'An AIDS free generation is within our reach'.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank World YWCA, YWCA Australia and YWCA Canberra for making it possible for me to attend AIDS 2014. It was an incredible experience, and has greatly increased my awareness of the primary issues around HIV/AIDS. To read more about the World YWCA delegation to AIDS 2014, visit: [womenleadingchange.wordpress.com](http://womenleadingchange.wordpress.com)

## TAKE ACTION

Join us now. Support, lobby, donate or volunteer. Get involved!

## SPEAK OUT

YWCA Canberra is vocal and active on issues that are important to women and you can be too.

## SPEAK UP

Contribute your ideas for creating social change and improving services and opportunities for women in the Canberra community.

## SUPPORT AND EMPOWER YOUNG WOMEN

The YWCA is one of the oldest and largest women's organisations in the world and has been a driving force in creating opportunities for young women in Canberra since 1929.

## SUPPORT OUR WORK IN THE CANBERRA COMMUNITY

We believe all members of the community have the right to contribute and share equally in the benefits of the community's social, cultural and economic development.



# KEEP YOUR MEMBERSHIP UP TO DATE

## PERSONAL DETAILS

Name

Address

Ph home

Ph work

Fax

Mobile

Date of birth

Occupation

Email address

## DIVERSITY

The YWCA of Canberra is committed to ensuring the diversity of our membership and responding to the specific needs of our members. If you identify as a member of one or more of the following groups we invite you to share this information with us (please tick).

Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander

Person with a disability

Person from a culturally or linguistically diverse background

## MEMBERSHIP DETAILS

New member

Renewing member

1 Year membership

2 Year membership

## FULL VOTING MEMBER (per year)

## AFFILIATE MEMBERS (per year)

Women 18 +

\$35

Men & women

\$25

Concession\*

\$15

Membership payment: \$

\* Concessions are available to health card holders, students, pensioners and seniors.

## DONATIONS

Your tax deductible donation (\$2 or more) will assist in the work of the YWCA of Canberra.

Donation: \$

## PAYMENT AND DECLARATION

Cheque or money order made payable to the YWCA of Canberra

In person at the YWCA of Canberra Central Office

Credit card

Mastercard

Visa

Card number

Expiry Date

Name of cardholder

I apply for membership of the YWCA of Canberra. I accept the aims and objectives of the association and agree to be bound by the terms of its constitution, which is available upon request. The YWCA of Canberra's membership is renewable on 1 July each year. Applications received after 1 April each year will be applied to forthcoming financial year.

Signed

Date

This document satisfies the requirements of a valid tax invoice once payment is made. Please keep a copy for your records. All amounts are GST inclusive. YWCA of Canberra ABN: 48 008 389 151

Mail to:  
YWCA of Canberra  
GPO Box 767, Canberra ACT 2601

Fax to:  
02 6175 9991

Renew your membership online at: [www.ywca-canberra.org.au/membership](http://www.ywca-canberra.org.au/membership)