

## Welcome to the Inner West Child & Family Interagency

The Inner West Child & Family Interagency (IWCFI) is a network of agencies that provide services for families and children 0 - 8 years old in the wider Inner West area.

The Child and Family Interagency is a project of Families NSW and funded by the NSW Department of Community Services. Families NSW is the NSW Government's early intervention and prevention strategy. The broad aim and objective of the strategy is to work through a co-ordinated network of agencies to help parents give their children (0-8 years) a good start in life.

The IWCFI aims to make access to services more seamless for children and families. Bi-monthly meetings are one way we come together to network, develop relationships and seek opportunities to work together to support and build capacity of parents and carers to raise children. We value and promote:

- Relationship-based service delivery
- Working together collaboratively
- Respect for diverse and different perspectives within the membership
- Respect for the confidentiality of clients and colleagues
- A welcoming and friendly environment

The strategic direction of the interagency is reviewed and a work plan is developed annually. Members are welcome to participate in local collaborative projects and initiatives that arise during annual planning and/or discussion at meetings. In recent years the interagency has initiated or participated in projects contributing to:

- Early literacy development
- School readiness
- Parenting program awareness and coordination
- Building capacity of the local service network through professional development opportunities

We currently have a number of working groups addressing the following issues:

- Mental Health Working Group
- Family Support Working Group
- Domestic Violence Working Group

The IWCFI is open to professionals working in government and non-government agencies. It may from time to time invite participation from service users and community members to provide input into the work of the interagency.

Notices of monthly meetings are forwarded to the interagency via an email distribution list. If you would like to receive meeting information as well as updates on local services, training, events and best practice, email [youth@innerwest.nsw.gov.au](mailto:youth@innerwest.nsw.gov.au) to request your address be added to the list.

For further information contact Charlie Coorey, Team Leader – Children and Families, Inner West Council on 9335 2156 or [youth@innerwest.nsw.gov.au](mailto:youth@innerwest.nsw.gov.au)