



Newsletter Date September- October
2008

Family Relationship Centre Townsville Newsletter

Staff Profile:

Pat Sims Indigenous Advisor

Family Relationship Centre Townsville.

Pat joined the centre in March of this year, since then Pat has been busy forming new networks with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community in the service area of Townsville, Ingham, Charters Towers and the Burdekin.

Pat assists and supports families who access the Family Relationship Centre services and forms links with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community.

Pat's role promotes the services of The Family Relationship Centre and the benefits of Family Dispute Resolution to Indigenous families and the wider community about the recent changes to the Family Law Act

regarding separated families and that it recognizes and takes into consideration the traditional culture and the importance of the extended families.

Pat represents the Family Relationship Centre at community network meetings, NAIDOC Celebrations, Indigenous & Island people's conference and developing an Indigenous specific Family Relationship Centre brochure. Pat has also been working on setting up an outreach hub at St Teresa's Catholic Church in Garbutt as an alternative venue for Indigenous clients.

Pat says "I would like to encourage separated families to come to the Family Relationship Centre and have Family Dispute Resolution to make a parenting plan, and if possible stay out of the courts. "Young people need the love and support of the whole family to grow up strong and happy".



Pat Sims



Inside The Family Relationship
Centre Townsville



The Children's Play area



Refreshing Café and Bookstore.

Family Relationship Centre Townsville

281-285 Ross River Road . Aitkenvale Qld Phone (07) 4779 4211



Left: Upper Ross Community Centre with Mayor Les Tyrrell



Above: Centacare Staff attend the Northern Beaches Health Expo.

Right: Family Relationship Centre Townsville staff in Canberra



North Townsville Community Hub

(previously Bohvale Community Centre)

Office hours : 9am-5pm Mon - Fri

Address:

52 Palm Drive DEERAGUN

mail@bvcc.org.au



Dianne, Mandy and Joan visit with Juliet at the hub to strengthen community networks

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Play group area

Shopping at the Bric \$ Brac Store



SERVICES AVAILABLE IN THE NORTH



**Aboriginal & Torres Strait
Islander**

**Women's Legal Services
NQ. Inc.**

Saint James Place

Suite 12 - 155—157

Denham Street Townsville.

Free Call: 1800 082 600

Appointments: 07 4721 6007

Free Legal service for indigenous women.

Areas covered:

- Family law
- Discrimination
- Tenancy
- All women's & families issues.
- Parenting
- Property
- Child protection
- Family Violence

Web sites of Interest:

Department of Communities and Department of Child Protection:

<http://www.community.wa.gov.au/>

Raising Children Network The Australian parenting website:

http://raisingchildren.net.au/articles/indigenous_parents.html

Stepfamily Association. qld Inc. www.stepfamilyqld.org.au

Back on Track

<http://www.csa.gov.au/repartner/down.htm>

FaHCSIA

http://www.facsia.gov.au/internet/facsinternet.nsf/family/parenting-indigenous_parent..

www.theumbrellanetwork.org

formerly known as T.R.I.P.S

The Umbrella Network was started by parents who wanted to help other families navigate difficult questions, access information and utilize resources. We believe that EVERY community should have an ' Umbrella Network' - a one-stop shop for information.

We are NOT experts, social workers or therapists- but mums, dads , grandparents and carers who believe that our children can 'reach for the stars' and achieve their dreams.

Thank you for visiting our website and we hope that at least some part of it helps some people. in some way!

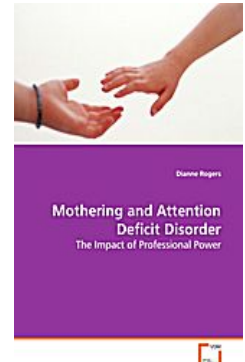
- Angie D'Arcy (President)

New Release Book Launch

Mothering & Attention Deficit Disorder: The Impact of Professional Power



Dr Dianne Rogers book launch
Thursday the 20th November 2008 at 4pm.
Held at The Family Relationship Centre Townsville Library.
281-285 Ross River Road Aitkenvale.
RSVP: Joan on 4779 4211 by the 20th November 2008



I would like to tell you about my book: *Mothering and Attention Deficit Disorder: The Impact of Professional Power.*

The debate on what causes Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD) is conducted fiercely, along with claims and counter-claims as to the validity of the diagnosis.

It appears that everyone has an opinion on the real-ness or otherwise of ADD, and what interventions are needed to assist individuals and families. What is missing from this debate is the day-to-day reality of mothers who have children with ADD.

My book documents the reality of eleven women living in Townsville. The stories of the mother's experiences are revealing and very powerful. The book also traces the development of motherhood and mother blame in the Western World. A journey is undertaken to explain what ADD means to professionals and to the families and individuals affected by ADD. Three concepts are explored which assist the reader to understand the controversy surrounding ADD: difference, normalisation, power and resistance.

This book is a must read for families affected by ADD, and professionals working in the fields of health, education and welfare



CAFÉ

EAT IN OR TAKE-AWAY

Come in and enjoy a meal in a friendly, relaxed, family environment.

A not for profit service providing a fresh nutritious menu

Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday Thursday

and Friday

9am - 2pm

