SAFEGUARDING NEWS

JANUARY 2024  care|protect|act

**DATES FOR THE DIARY**

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| FEBRUARY | THEME: **ESAFETY** |
| 13 | Apology to the Stolen Generation by the Aus Government (2008) | [*www.aph.gov.au/Visit\_Parliament/Art/Icons/Apology\_to\_Australias\_Indigenous\_Peoples*](http://www.aph.gov.au/Visit_Parliament/Art/Icons/Apology_to_Australias_Indigenous_Peoples) |
| 13-1917 | Random Acts of Kindness WeekRAK Day | [*www.randomactsofkindness.org*](http://www.randomactsofkindness.org/) |
| 20 | World Day of Social Justice | [World Day of Social Justice | United Nations](https://www.un.org/en/observances/social-justice-day) |
| MARCH | THEME: **CALD (**CULTURAL & LINGUISTIC DIVERSITY) Inclusiveness, diversity, and cultural acceptance |
| 1 | World Day of Prayer | [Join The Ecumenical Christian Laywomen's Movement For World Day Of Prayer Australia](https://www.worlddayofprayeraustralia.org/) |
| **­1** | **Zero Discrimination Day** | Promotes everyone’s right to live a dignified life free from discrimination regardless of their age, gender, sexuality, nationality, ethnicity, skin colour, height, weight, profession, education, and beliefs. |
| 31st week | World Hearing DayHearing Awareness Week (AUS) | [World Hearing Day](https://worldhearingday.org/) [Hearing Awareness Week](http://www.hearingawarenessweek.org.au/) |
| 8 | International Women’s Day | [Internationalwomensday.com](https://www.internationalwomensday.com/) |
| 21 | National Close the Gap Day | [Close the Gap Day](https://closethegap.org.au/close-the-gap-day/)  |
| **21** | **International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination** | [International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination](https://www.un.org/en/observances/end-racism-day) |
| **21** | **Harmony Day** | [Harmony Day - a celebration of cultural diversity – Parliament of Australia (aph.gov.au)](https://www.aph.gov.au/About_Parliament/Parliamentary_Departments/Parliamentary_Library/FlagPost/2012/March/Harmony_Day_-_a_celebration_of_cultural_diversity) |
| **20-26 (2024)** | **Harmony Week** | The Department of Home Affairs leads national celebrations for Harmony Week to recognise diversity and inclusion activities that take place during the entire week. Celebrated during the week that ​includes 21 March, UN International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.[H](https://www.harmony.gov.au/)[armony.gov.au](https://www.harmony.gov.au/about/) |
| **21-27 (2024)** | **Week of Solidarity with the Peoples Struggling against Racism and Racial Discrimination** | Observed by UN, it fosters a global culture of tolerance, equality and anti-discrimination and calls on each and every one of us to stand up against racial prejudice and intolerant attitudes. |
| 23 | Earth Hour | <https://www.earthhour.org.au/> |

**TRAINING**

**AGED CARE**

**Older Persons Advocacy Network’s**

**Planning for Diversity workshop series is available to all aged care providers. It offers practical information and tools to make your services more inclusive of older people from diverse and marginalised groups.**
OPAN's training is aimed at managers and staff members responsible for quality improvement, service planning or compliance. The series includes two face-to-face workshops, an online session and access to a Community of Practice. [**ENROL HERE**](https://opan.org.au/education/education-for-professionals/diversity-education?utm_source=Older%20Persons%20Advocacy%20Network%20Subscribers&utm_campaign=4ab3c7120f-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_28_09_23_DiversityNSWf2f2_3&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_8ef0b8abbc-4ab3c7120f-480131120)

**AGED CARE ADVOCACY ONLINE TRAINING: *TALK TO US FIRST***

OPAN’s free education program Talk to Us First will help aged and health care professionals to understand the role of aged care advocacy in supporting older people. To register for this self-paced online training, send any enquiries to education@opan.org.au or visit: [**Talk to Us First**](https://opan.us19.list-manage.com/track/click?u=a033f127694c66433a4e299c7&id=16c11c1955&e=60bcbd32d1)

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

**DV-Alert 2-Day Foundation Course**

This workshop is for frontline workers to learn how to recognise the signs of domestic violence, respond appropriately, and refer to support services. It covers the nature and scope, patterns and impacts of domestic and family violence, what to consider for diverse groups, communication skills, safety planning, referral pathways and more.

**Port Macquarie - February 22 - 23**

**Goonellabah** - **February 29 - March 1 2024** at Invercauld House

**Bellingen - March 5 - 6**

Visit [**dvalert.org.au**](http://dvalert.org.au/)for more information

**CHILD SAFETY**

**Office of the Children’s Guardian Webinars coming soon**

* Upcoming webinars include:
* SAFE Series Protective-behaviours Program
* Introduction to the Child Safe Standards
* Developing a Child Safe Risk Management Plan
* Child Safe Reporting Obligations

[**MORE INFORMATION**](https://ocg.nsw.gov.au/events?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Monthly%20stakeholder%20newsletter%20-%20November&utm_content=Monthly%20stakeholder%20newsletter%20-%20November+CID_21f4faa2fbabc858e204197e039cfc9a&utm_source=ocg_edm&utm_term=Go%20to%20webinars%20and%20training)

**eSAFETY**

**Free online Webinars through the eSafety Commissioner website**

Each webinar is designed to improve your understanding and response to online challenges your child may face. The webinar topics include:

 **-** eSafety 101: How eSafety can help

 **-** Understanding how to support your child with online gaming

 **-** Understanding parental controls to safeguard your child

 **-** Online safety and social media: TikTok, YouTube and Instagram.

[**MORE INFORMATION**](https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/webinars)

IN THE NEWS

Stories found on CathNews but original sources used for links where possible

Scholarships help vulnerable children attend Catholic schools

Almost 500 scholarships have been offered to primary and secondary school-aged children and young people in care as part of an ongoing collaboration between Catholic Education South Australia and the Department for Child Protection. Source: *The Southern Cross*.  [READ MORE](https://thesoutherncross.org.au/schools/2024/01/31/scholarships-helping-vulnerable-children-in-sa/)

# Panel overseeing reviews of abuse complaints holds first meeting

A meeting of the National Appeals and Review Panel, facilitated by Australian Catholic Safeguarding Ltd, has resulted in a greater focus on trauma-informed review processes for abuse complaints. Original Source: Australian Catholics Anti-Slavery Network. [**READ MORE**](https://cathnews.com/~documents/media-releases/media-releases-2024/240124-acan-new-commissioner-needs-specific-powers-to-lead-modern-slavery-response/?layout=default)

ACAN says anti-slavery commissioner must have power and resources

The Australian Catholic Anti-Slavery Network is calling for an independent Australian anti-slavery commissioner with the power and resources to do their job effectively. Source: CathNews.
  [**READ MORE**](https://www.australianageingagenda.com.au/executive/quality-going-up/)

**Little Amal brings big message to Australia**

A giant doll raising awareness about the millions of young children caught up in the horrors of war and conflict will walk on Australian soil for the first time after travelling through 15 countries to promote peace. Source: CathNews.  [**READ MORE**](https://cathnews.com/2024/01/24/little-amal-brings-big-message-to-australia/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Social%20profiles%20help%20parishes%20serve%20their%20communities%20%20Catholic%20school%20leaders%20say%20report%20an%20attack%20on%20faith%20communities%20%20Year%20of%20Prayer%20preparing%20the%20groundwork%20for%20Jubilee&utm_content=Social%20profiles%20help%20parishes%20serve%20their%20communities%20%20Catholic%20school%20leaders%20say%20report%20an%20attack%20on%20faith%20communities%20%20Year%20of%20Prayer%20preparing%20the%20groundwork%20for%20Jubilee%20CID_7d4fab89a61d2ab7d9ebceb9baedadbd&utm_source=Cathnews%20Newsletter&utm_term=Little%20Amal%20brings%20big%20message%20to%20Australia)

**Schools urged to be on lookout for signs of forced marriage**

Federal police are calling on schools across the country to keep an eye out for the warning signs of forced marriage in a renewed bid to disrupt human trafficking in Australia. Source: ABC News.

  [**READ MORE**](https://www.abc.net.au/news/2024-01-20/apf-warns-school-forced-marriage-after-spike-australia/103369500)

**New study looks to reduce child maltreatment in the home**

New Australian Catholic University research has identified a complex interplay of child, parental, and contextual factors associated with the maltreatment of children by their families. Source: ACU.

 [**READ MORE**](https://cathnews.com/~documents/media-releases/media-releases-2024/240116-acu-new-study-identifies-factors-associated-with-child-maltreatment-in-the-home/?layout=default)

**Agencies want more Church involvement in fight against family violence**

Australia’s largest Catholic social service agencies want more advocacy, education, and collaboration within the Church to improve the response to the scourge of family violence, a new report has found. *Source: ACU*.  [**READ MORE**](https://cathnews.com/~documents/media-releases/media-releases-2024/240206-acu-church-agencies-at-the-frontline-of-family-violence-call-for-greater-whole-of-church-resp/?layout=default)

**ATTACHMENTS: New Bulletin Messages in colour and BW**

   

