A logo for a child care company

Description automatically generatedSAFEGUARDING NEWS

JANUARY 2024  care|protect|act

**DATES FOR THE DIARY**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| JANUARY | THEME: **SAFEGUARDING RESET**  Maintenance, checks, updates | |
| 3rd Sunday | World Religion Day | Celebration of the oneness of religion  <https://nationaltoday.com/world-religion-day/> |
| 26 | Australia Day |  |
| 28 | Privacy Day International | [Data Privacy Day (iapp.org)](https://iapp.org/connect/data-privacy-day/)  Privacy Awareness Week run in Australia in May |
|  |  |  |
| FEBRUARY | THEME: **ESAFETY** | |
| First Week | World Interfaith Harmony Week | [World Interfaith Harmony Week](https://worldinterfaithharmonyweek.com/) |
| 6 | International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation | [**International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation**](https://www.un.org/en/observances/female-genital-mutilation-day) |
| **6 (2024)** | **Safer Internet Day** | [**Safer Internet Day 2023 | eSafety Commissioner**](https://www.esafety.gov.au/newsroom/whats-on/safer-internet-day-2023) |
| 11 | World Day of Prayer for the Sick | Feast Day of Our Lady of Lourdes  Pope’s Message: <https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/sick/documents/20240110-giornata-malato.html> |
| 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) |
| 13-19  17 | Random Acts of Kindness Week  RAK 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) |

**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.  Workshops are currently running in New South Wales. Enrolments for ACT and the Northern Territory are also open.The series includes two face-to-face workshops, an online session and access to a Community of Practice. Participants will also receive workbooks, diversity resources, and a certificate of completion.

[**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](mailto: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**

**The Office of the Children’s Guardian is training in the south of the Diocese.**

For those who were keen to attend the OCG workshops - we have good news! The OCG will present their workshops again - this time in Port Macquarie.

**Session 1:** **Introduction to the Child Safe Standards** – **January 23, 11am-12pm**

**Session 2:** **Developing a Risk Management Plan** **– January 23, 1-3pm**

[**REGISTER HERE**](https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/727216673647?aff=oddtdtcreator)

**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)

IN THE NEWS

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

# **Aged care homes reaching for the stars**

The latest star ratings show a sizeable improvement in the quality of aged care homes across the country, according to Commonwealth Government data. Original Source: Australian Ageing Agenda.  [**READ MORE**](https://www.australianageingagenda.com.au/executive/quality-going-up/)

Maronite Eparchy demonstrates commitment to safeguarding

Key safeguarding policies are in place within the Maronite Eparchy of Australia, New Zealand, and Oceania, according to an audit focusing on the safeguarding of children released by Australian Catholic Safeguarding. Original Source: ACSL.  [**READ MORE**](https://cathnews.com/~documents/media-releases/media-releases-2023/231221-acsl-maronite-eparchy-demonstrates-commitment-to-safeguarding/?layout=default)

# Safeguarding audit finds ‘solid practices in place’

A safeguarding audit report of the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart published by Australian Catholic Safeguarding Ltd has found safeguarding practices are understood and embedded across the congregation’s members and key activities.  [**READ MORE**](https://cathnews.com/~documents/media-releases/media-releases-2023/231220-acsl-safeguarding-audit-of-sisters-of-st-joseph-finds-commitment-to-safeguarding-embedded-acr/?layout=default)

# Catholic Social Services announces national conference

“Commons, Commonality, Common Good” is the theme for the 2024 Catholic Social Services national conference, to be held in Melbourne. Source: CSSA and CSSV.  [**READ MORE**](https://css.org.au/publications/catholic-social-services-national-conference-fostering-unity-for-the-common-good/)

# Actuary estimates extra $25 billion needed to make scheme sustainable

Governments will need to invest an additional $25 billion over the next five years if they are to achieve plans to rein in the National Disability Insurance Scheme’s growth by raising disability services outside the scheme, an actuary has estimated. Original Source: The Guardian.   [**READ MORE**](https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2023/dec/19/ndis-services-funding-government)

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

 

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