THE VICTORIAN DISASTER MENTAL HEALTH WORKFORCE CAPACITY SURVEY: EXAMINING THE STATE OF VICTORIA’S DISASTER PREPAREDNESS (PROJECT OVERVIEW)

Presented by Mr Lennart Reifels

Date: Friday 4 November, 2011
Time: 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm
Venue: Room 405A,
Melbourne School of Population Health.
Level 4, 207 Bouverie Street, Carlton

Despite recent advances in responses to natural disasters, our current knowledge base appears insufficient to ascertain Victoria’s state-wide and regional capacity to respond to the mental health consequences of major natural disasters. In view of the emerging expert consensus on what constitutes best-practice in disaster mental health services, this situation should no longer need to be tolerated.

In this seminar we will present an outline of ‘The Victorian Disaster Mental Health Workforce Capacity Survey’ the first systematic state-level study seeking to address this existing knowledge gap. As a 12 month project, the survey is designed to map and assess the current state (nature, scope, profile and capacity) of the disaster mental health workforce in Victoria. Systematic data and a better understanding of Victoria’s disaster mental health workforce capacity will in turn enable a more proactive and strategic approach to disaster response and workforce planning. As a joint initiative between the Centre for Health Policy, Programs and Economics, the Australian Health Workforce Institute, and the Melbourne Sustainable Society Institute, the survey project is funded through the Natural Disaster Resilience Grants Scheme and conducted with wide-ranging cross-professional and stakeholder support.

These Seminars are free of charge. Visitors are most welcome to attend. A light luncheon will be served at 12 noon outside room 405A. No RSVP required

For more information please contact The Centre for Health Policy, Programs & Economics. Ph: (03) 8344 9111