



Rural Social Workers Action Practice Group
(RSWAPG)

Victorian Branch – AASW Ltd
ABN 93 008 576 010



**12th Biennial National Rural Remote
Social Work Conference**

Rural Communities Making It Happen

Call for Abstracts

**Thursday 30 July and Friday 31st July 2015 Shepparton, Victoria
Rural Social Workers Action Practice Group
(RSWAPG)**

Rural and Remote Social Workers and Community Workers are intimately involved in the diverse challenges that face rural communities. We play a key role in designing services and programs that are responsive, locally relevant and support individuals, groups and whole communities.

Critically, these front line workers are ensuring that 'Taking Care' is actually a lived experience, not merely a slogan that fits neatly into a promotional plan. We are heavily engaged in listening, embracing, collaborating, challenging, resolving conflicts, mediating and ensuring services actually reach out into communities that are beyond the horizon of policy developers.

Rural communities know the importance of conversations about how local services can best address the complex social/economic/political issues which can be celebrated through community networks. The 12th National Rural/Remote Social Work Conference will build upon the themes of the first Rural Conference, 'The Personal, The Practical and The Political' held at Dookie College in June 1993.

We are experiencing incredible challenges that were quite unthinkable in 1993 but we are tackling them in a manner that provides fresh growth, hope and sustainability across rural/remote communities. This conference will show case how rural communities get on with the doing and just make things happen.

This is an opportunity where presenters can share how they or their collective community teams have contributed in both enhancing resilience and the determination of communities in their response to challenges within Rural/Remote Communities.

Submissions:

An invitation is extended for submission of abstracts for oral presentations and/or posters. Please consider submissions in the light of the following question: What skills/knowledge will participants gain as a result of this presentation or poster?

Important Dates:

Final Submission Date: 13th February 2015. Acceptance Notification: after 20th March 2015

Abstract Submission Process:

The abstract must be submitted as a word document via email to: Elizabeth Lillecrapp (liz.lillecrapp2@sa.gov.au)

- The abstract title should be in Title Case, Arial, bold 14 pt size and centred

- The abstract should contain
 1. Paper's Title
 2. Full author list, department and organisation, presenting author/s underlined
 3. Text
- Abstract titles should be followed by author's first initial and last name
- Superscript numbers should be used to indicate the author's institution, followed by city and country (in this order). Do not include degrees or professional titles.
- Abstract text must be in Arial font 12 pt size.
- Must be no more than 200 words
- The covering email must specify if the abstract is to be considered for an oral presentation and/or a poster.

Selection Process:

Abstracts will be rated anonymously using the following criteria:

- Submissions should be relevant to the theme and objectives of the conference
- Clarity of presentation
- Contribution of new knowledge or practice models to the field

Note:

Presenters are required to officially register for either the day of their presentation or for the whole conference.

If you require further information please contact the Convenor of the RSWAPG Abstract Committee, Elizabeth Lillecrapp (liz.lillecrapp2@sa.gov.au)