



18 December 2014

Hon Dr. Mike Nahan MLA  
Treasurer, Minister for Energy, Citizenship and Multi-Cultural Interests  
State of Western Australia  
13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Dumas House  
2 Havelock St  
WEST PERTH WA 6005

Dear Dr. Nahan,

**Re: Western Australian State Government Budget 2015-16**

We are writing to you to highlight a few key areas our members would like you to incorporate into the 2015-16 Western Australian State Government Budget pertaining to employers in the Not for Profit Community Services Sector.

CEWA members continue to be concerned with four key employer related issues.

1. There remains an ongoing need for **workforce planning and capacity development** in the Community sector. As NDIS is rolled out, and as the contracting arrangements of governments change at both a State and a Federal level, NFP service providers will continue to need to adapt to the changing environment. We believe the government has an important role in providing appropriate resources for additional training and development for Community Services Sector Employers and on procurement reform changes.
2. The sustainability of services and the importance of maintaining a strong and vibrant local NFP Community Services Sector, remains very important for CEWA members. We believe that NFP's in many ways provide the cornerstone of social cohesion, social connectedness and support in our community for the marginalised and vulnerable. We are keen to ensure that the benefits delivered by the NFP Community Services sector are recognised and maintained. The budget provides a key avenue for maintaining that sustainability of services through the **appropriate funding of community services and allocation for the provision of new services**. Additionally, we would welcome the government's continued funding and involvement in The Partnership Forum and related Committees, as they provide an important conduit for the Government to work closely with the sector.
3. The reduction of Red-Tape and the simplification of acquittals and reporting obligations are areas at a State Government level, which Community Services Sector employers still grapple with. We understand that some reporting is undertaken on a weekly basis and is a significant cost for many

parties. **We would recommend that the Government allocates appropriate resources to reducing red tape and that meaningful goals and reporting of what is achieved, are set.**

4. The recent release of the draft 10 year Mental Health and Drug & Alcohol plan is an exciting initiative for the Community Services sector and the people our members support. We appreciate that the plan is open for consultation until March 2015, however would like to emphasise that its successful implementation will be subject in large part to an appropriate and sustainable level of funding being allocated to the plan. If we are to improve and address the mental health issues in our communities, it will be essential that a collaborative and holistic approach be adopted. **As the primary stakeholder in the plan, we believe it will be imperative that the Government works closely with NFP's in ensuring there is funding available and that services are being delivered in line with what has been detailed.**

Lastly, we note that WACOSS and National Disability Services WA have both provided the Government with detailed submissions in relation to the ongoing support of a wide cross section of Community Services, and CEWA is also supportive of the issues and funding requirements they have highlighted.

Yours sincerely,

**John Bouffler**  
**Executive Director**

Community Employers WA is a registered Employer Organisation with the Industrial Relations Commission of Western Australia, and represents non-government, not-for-profit employers in the community services sector of Western Australia. CEWA now has 130 members comprising many of the largest and smaller Community Services Sector employers in WA, and continues to grow in numbers and influence. Our members employ in excess of 10,000 staff and are in turn supported by over 10,000 volunteers.

## CEWA MEMBERSHIP LIST AS AT 30 NOVEMBER 2014

Aboriginal Legal Services of WA Inc  
Accordwest  
Activ Foundation Inc  
Advocacy South West Inc  
Advocare  
Albany Youth Support Association  
Alzheimer's Australia WA  
Anglicare WA Inc  
ARAFMI  
Armadale Community Family Centre  
Association for Services to Torture & Trauma  
Survivors (ASeTTS)  
Association for the Blind WA  
Asthma Foundation WA Inc  
Australian Red Cross WA  
Baptistcare  
Beehive Industries of WA  
BJL Connecting Communities  
Bluesky Community Group  
Brightwater Care Group  
Bunbury Community Legal Centre  
Bunbury Pathways '92 Inc.  
Burdekin – Youth in Action  
Calvary Youth Services Mandurah Inc  
Care Options  
Centacare Employment and Training  
Centacare Family Services  
Centrecare Inc  
Child Inclusive Learning and Development  
Australia Inc (CHILD Australia)  
CLAN WA  
Coeliac Western Australia  
Communicare  
Community Housing Coalition of WA  
Community Legal Centres Association (WA) Inc  
Community Vision Inc  
ConnectGroups  
Consumers of Mental Health WA  
Continence Advisory Service of WA  
Cyrenian House  
Derbarl Yerrigan Health Services Inc  
Escare Inc  
Ethnic Communities Council of WA  
Ethnic Disability Advocacy Centre  
Extra Edge Community Services  
Family Support WA Inc  
Financial Counsellors Association of WA Inc.  
FPWA Sexual Health Service  
Fremantle Multicultural Centre Inc  
MercyCare  
Metropolitan Migrant Resource Centre  
Midland Joblink Inc.  
MIFWA  
Mission Australia  
Mosaic Community Care Inc  
Multicultural Services Centre of Western  
Australia Inc  
National Disability Services WA  
Ngala Family Resource Centre  
Nulsen  
Outcare (Inc)  
Palmerston Association Inc  
Parkerville Children Youth Care Inc  
Pat Thomas Memorial Community House Inc.  
Patricia Giles Centre  
Peel and Rockingham Volunteer Resource  
Centres  
Peel Community Living  
People with Disabilities (WA)  
Perth Home Care Services Inc  
Relationships Australia (Western Australia) Inc  
Richmond Fellowship  
Rise Network  
Rocky Bay Inc  
Ruah Community Services  
Secca  
Serenity Lodge  
Shelter WA  
Silver Chain  
South Coastal Women's Health Services  
Southcare Inc  
Southside Care  
St Bartholomew's House  
St Patrick's Community Support Centre  
St Vincent de Paul Society  
Swan City Youth Service  
Swan Emergency Accommodation  
Technology Assisting Disability WA  
Tenancy WA  
The Gowrie (WA) Inc  
The Salvation Army  
The Spiers Centre Inc  
The WA Aids Council  
Therapy Focus Inc  
Uniting Aid  
UnitingCare West  
Uniting Church in the City  
Valued Independent People Inc

Good Samaritan Industries  
Gosnells Women's Health Service  
Headwest  
Health Consumers Council (WA) Inc  
Holyoake The Australian Institute For Alcohol &  
Drug Addiction Resolutions  
Hope Community Services  
Identity WA  
Inclusion WA  
Interchange  
Ishar Multicultural Women's Health Centre Inc  
Kids Camps Inc  
Koolkuna (The Eastern Region Domestic Violence  
Services Network Inc)  
LAMP Inc  
Lifeline WA  
Linkwest  
Margaret River Community Resource Centre Inc  
Meath Care Inc  
Melville Cares Inc  
Vincentcare  
Volunteer Task Force Inc.  
WA Blue Sky Inc  
WA No Interest Loans Inc.  
WANADA  
Wanslea Family Services Inc  
We Can Community Services  
Westcare Inc  
Western Australian Association for Mental  
Health  
Western Australian Council of Social Service Inc  
Women's Council for DFV Services (WA)  
Women's Health Resource Centre  
Women's Health Services  
Women's Healthworks  
Yaandina Family Centre  
YMCA Perth  
Youth Focus  
Youth Futures WA

