



ARACY CONFERENCE '09

AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH ALLIANCE
FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH

TRANSFORMING AUSTRALIA FOR OUR CHILDREN'S FUTURE:

MAKING PREVENTION WORK

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

DEADLINE FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSION
IS THURSDAY 30 APRIL 2009

MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA
2 - 4 SEPTEMBER 2009

www.aracyconference.org.au

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

WELCOME

The Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth (ARACY) is presenting its National Conference - Transforming Australia for our children's future: Making prevention work - in Melbourne on 2-4 September 2009.

This Conference will focus on prevention as the only viable response to the complex problems facing children and youth. Primary prevention entails tackling the source of problems and can involve policies, programs and specific interventions. The Conference is designed to enhance our capacity to learn from one another and work together to innovate and take action to improve outcomes for young Australians. The Conference aims to build links between international and national experts, researchers, policy makers, practitioners, social entrepreneurs, marketers, business and financiers. It will explore pathways to success, and showcase preventive innovations that are improving the lives of children and young people.

CONFERENCE HOST

ARACY is a national non-profit organisation tackling the complex issues facing children and young people. By harnessing best evidence and collaborating with experts, ARACY is progressing solutions. And through forging partnerships with researchers, practitioners and policy makers, we foster action aimed at preventing problems before they arise.

CONFERENCE THEMES

Macro-level prevention: How can macro-level policies achieve an effective balance between economic progress and social reform, resulting in good indicators of child and youth wellbeing?

Politics and processes of social change: Addressing issues such as - what can we learn from overseas examples and other sectors about successful primary prevention? Is change led by the state or citizens? What is the role of social marketing?

Prevention pays: What is the evidence that prevention pays? What can we learn from other sectors about demonstrating the value of prevention?

Abstract submissions: Theories, Models and Best Practice in Prevention.

Submissions on the broad issue of primary prevention are invited. Submissions may be theoretical, policy-based, research-based or practice-based. The Program Committee is particularly keen to receive submissions on successful models and best practice examples of prevention. Besides the three themes of the Conference, submissions may address prevention in relation to themes in the [ARACY Report Card](#), such as health and safety; education; training and employment; peer and family relationships; behaviours and risks; participation; and the environment. Those making submissions are encouraged to involve young people in a meaningful way in the development and delivery of presentations. While the focus is on improving the wellbeing of children and youth, relevant examples of prevention from other sectors are welcome.

ABSTRACT CONTENT

Abstracts should be no more than 250 words, plus 50-word biographies on presenters. Abstracts should be as informative as possible and provide an accurate outline of content rather than a promise of what will be discussed. They must contain sufficient information to allow a delegate to learn what may be gained by attendance. Abstracts should include a concluding sentence providing a strong summary. Abstracts will be used for selection purposes. Selected symposia and workshop abstracts will be published in the Conference Program and may be available on the Conference website prior to the Conference.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

In addition to the abstract, learning objectives should also be provided. Answers to the learning objectives are to be concise and no more than 100 words each.

Learning objective (1) is to answer the question: "What will people in the audience gain or learn from attending this presentation?" (Don't say what you are going to teach, but what they are going to learn).

Learning objective (2) is to answer the question: "How is this topic/issue relevant to transforming Australia for our children and youth through prevention?"

These learning objectives will not be published in the Conference Program but will be used by the Program Committee in reviewing the abstract.

TYPES OF PRESENTATIONS

SYMPOSIUM (90 MINUTES)

A symposium is expected to include 3-4 presentations on a common topic. To encourage multiple viewpoints and cross-sector and cross-discipline perspectives on the topic, each paper should normally come from a different organisation. You are encouraged to include a convenor and/or discussant for the symposium and it is expected that a good portion of time (20 minutes minimum) will be set aside for audience participation.

'Presentation' is interpreted broadly and might take the form of a paper with or without PowerPoint, or a DVD, poem, debate or whatever form will best convey your message. You are encouraged to consider creative and meaningful ways of including children and youth in the symposium.

An abstract providing an overview of the symposium, and including a biography of the convenor/discussant and each speaker, is required. Additionally an abstract for each of the papers, describing background/context, objectives, methods (if relevant), results (if relevant) and conclusions/key messages is to be submitted. An abstract submission template is available from the Conference website.

WORKSHOP (45 OR 90 MINUTES)

A submission for a workshop can be for a single session (45 minutes) or a double session (90 minutes). The workshop is expected to: focus on practical issues (e.g. applying a prevention model in new contexts, how to do cost-benefit analyses, new tools and techniques); to involve active participation by the audience; and to provide practical take-home learnings. The workshop can have one or multiple presenters, using a format and presentation style that best fits the subject (i.e. be creative and consider engaging children or young people in a meaningful way). In submitting a workshop abstract you can specify the maximum number of attendees if necessary. The abstract must describe the purpose, methods and objectives of the workshop, as well as presenter details. An abstract submission template is available from the Conference website.

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Poster presentations are an important component of the Conference and will be featured prominently. They can be used to describe specific prevention policies, programs, projects and methods in relation to any of the themes of the Conference as described above. Relevant examples from other sectors will be welcomed.

Poster Format: The Program Committee is hoping to feature poster presentations as "electronic posters" that are viewable to delegates throughout the Conference on computer terminals located in high traffic areas around the venue. An electronic poster takes the form of a series of PowerPoint slides featuring the information found in a traditional printed poster. They will also be placed on the Conference website, and it will be possible for readers to send questions and comments to authors. Details and instructions will be provided to authors upon acceptance of their abstract. The title and author details of successful poster presentations will be included in the Conference Program; therefore please ensure the title is as descriptive as possible. Electronic posters will be available on the Conference website for 12 months after the Conference.

Poster discussion sessions: The Program Committee will group posters by theme. There will be a number of 45 minute poster discussion sessions, led by an expert discussant, within the program. The discussion sessions will allow authors to contribute to discussion on their own poster topic and the broader group theme. You will be informed if your poster has been assigned to a discussion group upon receiving notification of acceptance of your poster.

The abstract for a poster should describe the background/context, objectives, methods (if relevant), results (if relevant) and conclusions/key messages. The abstract submission template is available from the Conference website.

PROCESS

In order to make a presentation at the ARACY National Conference, please submit your abstract via the Conference website.

Abstracts are to be a maximum of 250 words in length (including only words and numbers, not tables, images, or graphs). An abstract template for each presentation type, guidelines and comprehensive instructions on the submission process are available from the Conference website.

Acceptance or otherwise of abstracts is at the discretion of the Program Committee. The presenting author will be advised via email of the Committee's decision by Wednesday 3 June, 2009. All abstracts will be considered on the basis of the merit of the individual submission and will be assessed according to the following criteria:

- A Relevance to Conference theme, and learning objectives addressed
- B Importance of the information to be presented for progressing prevention efforts
- C Capacity to actively engage with audience

Authors accepted into the program will be provided in future correspondence, with presentation guidelines to assist in the preparation of presentations.

Submissions received after the closing date will not be considered.

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

All abstracts must be submitted online by following the link on the Conference website <http://www.aracyconference.org.au/call.php>

ABSTRACT TERMS & CONDITIONS

- All submissions are to be lodged electronically through the ARACY Conference 2009 website <http://www.aracyconference.org.au/call.php> using the relevant abstract template
- There will be no paper submissions. If you cannot submit electronically, please contact the Conference Managers by email aracy2009@meetingplanners.com.au or by calling 03 9417 0888 for alternatives.
- There is no fee for submitting an abstract.
- An independent panel of reviewers will review all submitted abstracts.
- Multiple abstract submissions are welcome.
- Please use the relevant abstract template, which can be downloaded from the Conference website.
- Presenters must confirm acceptance of their presentation offer in writing to the Conference Managers by Friday 19 June, 2009.
- All workshop, symposia and poster presenters must be registered for the Conference when confirming their acceptance. Acceptance is conditional on registration as a delegate. Presenters must register by Friday 19 June, 2009 and will be granted a Speaker Registration rate equivalent to the Early Bird Member Registration rate. Alternatively you can register for a single day.
- Presenters are responsible for their own travel, accommodation and incidentals in respect to attending the Conference.
- The paper must be presented by the specified presenting author(s). Proxies will not be permitted except in an emergency such as illness.
- The first author (as given on the abstract submission form) will be the main contact for any correspondence about the presentation.
- By submission of an abstract, the author(s) transfers copyright ownership to the Conference Managers for publication in the Conference Program.
- No full papers are required.
- All abstracts, oral and poster presentations must be in English.

The Program Committee reserves the right to accept or refuse any abstract.

The Program Committee reserves the right to allocate a session time or presentation type.

CONFERENCE MANAGERS

THE MEETING PLANNERS

91-97 Islington Street, Collingwood Vic 3066

P: +61 3 9417 0888

F: + 61 3 9417 0899

E: aracy2009@meetingplanners.com.au

MARK YOUR DIARIES

ABSTRACTS

THURSDAY 30 APRIL 2009

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS

WEDNESDAY 3 JUNE 2009

NOTIFICATION OF ACCEPTANCE

FRIDAY 19 JUNE 2009

DEADLINE FOR CONFIRMING ACCEPTANCE OF PRESENTATION OFFER
 DEADLINE FOR PRESENTERS TO BE REGISTERED