



SOUTH
EASTERN
CENTRE
AGAINST
SEXUAL
ASSAULT

Annual Report

2010 - 2011

SECASA is a program of *Southern Health*

*One by one we come
to escape, to create,
to heal from those who
perpetrated,
one by one we gather
to no longer be
one*

*one by one
we come to escape,
to create, to heal
from those who perpetrated,
one by one we gather
to no longer
be one.*

HAIKU version:

*One by one we come
perpetrated, to heal
to no longer be one.*

*one by one we gather
creating, to heal
to no longer be one.*

Nancy 2011

Contents

| | |
|---|----|
| • Manager's update | 3 |
| • Mission statement | 4 |
| • Aims | 4 |
| • Our structure | 4 |
| • Service history | 5 |
| • Our service area | 5 |
| • SECASA - an overview | 6 |
| • Location | 9 |
| • Services | 12 |
| • Crisis service | 13 |
| • Counselling | 15 |
| • Telephone counselling and information service | 15 |
| • AWARE | 15 |
| • Website | 16 |
| • Group work | 17 |
| • Work in schools | 18 |
| • Professional education | 19 |
| • Community education | 20 |
| • Special projects | 21 |
| • Springvale Monash Legal Service SECASA Joint Legal Service | 29 |
| • Meeting representation | 30 |
| • Staffing | 31 |
| • Funding | 33 |
| • Donations | 34 |

Manager's update

This has been a challenging year filled with achievements and hard work. As always the workers have worked hard to provide our clients with a great service. Each year they respond to the challenges of service provision, explore new ways of interacting with clients and make SECASA a wonderful place to work. This is my nineteenth year at the Centre. A number of workers have been at the agency for the same period of time, and in a couple of cases longer, which gives SECASA a deep reservoir of knowledge and experience.

This year we have increased our efforts to make the service accessible to a wide range of people. A plaque was erected acknowledging the Wurrundjeri people and paying SECASA's respects to their Elders. A camp was conducted for young African mothers focusing on respectful relationships and non violent interactions. The Making Rights Reality project, providing additional support for clients with a cognitive impairment, finally got under way. New workshops were developed and delivered across the region including Vicarious Trauma and Working With Clients Who Have Been Sexually Assaulted. In March 2011, SECASA, as Chair of CEASE, organised the successful ANZATSA three day roundtable. Staff and clients were involved in assisting the Australian Bureau of Statistics pilot questions for their national 2012 Personal Safety Survey aimed at providing a more accurate picture in relation to family violence and sexual assault.

An additional challenge has been the many hours spent on writing CASA Forum submissions to the State Government around Failure to Protect legislative proposals, Baseline Sentencing, Sex Offender Register and Release of Information and other inquiries which are directly related to SECASA and the CASA Forum's core business. I have continued as Convenor of the CASA Forum for the second year with my term finishing in November 2011.

SECASA received an extraordinarily generous donation from a local woman which will be used to create a children's room when we renovate the Chester Street premise.

During all the hard work and challenges the staff has continued to be a source of inspiration. They have coped with the service broadening its focus and the requirements for them to broaden their practice in response. The Office Managers and my Personal Assistant have maintained their sense of humour and have ably contributed to the running of the organisation.

Carolyn Worth
October 2011

Mission statement

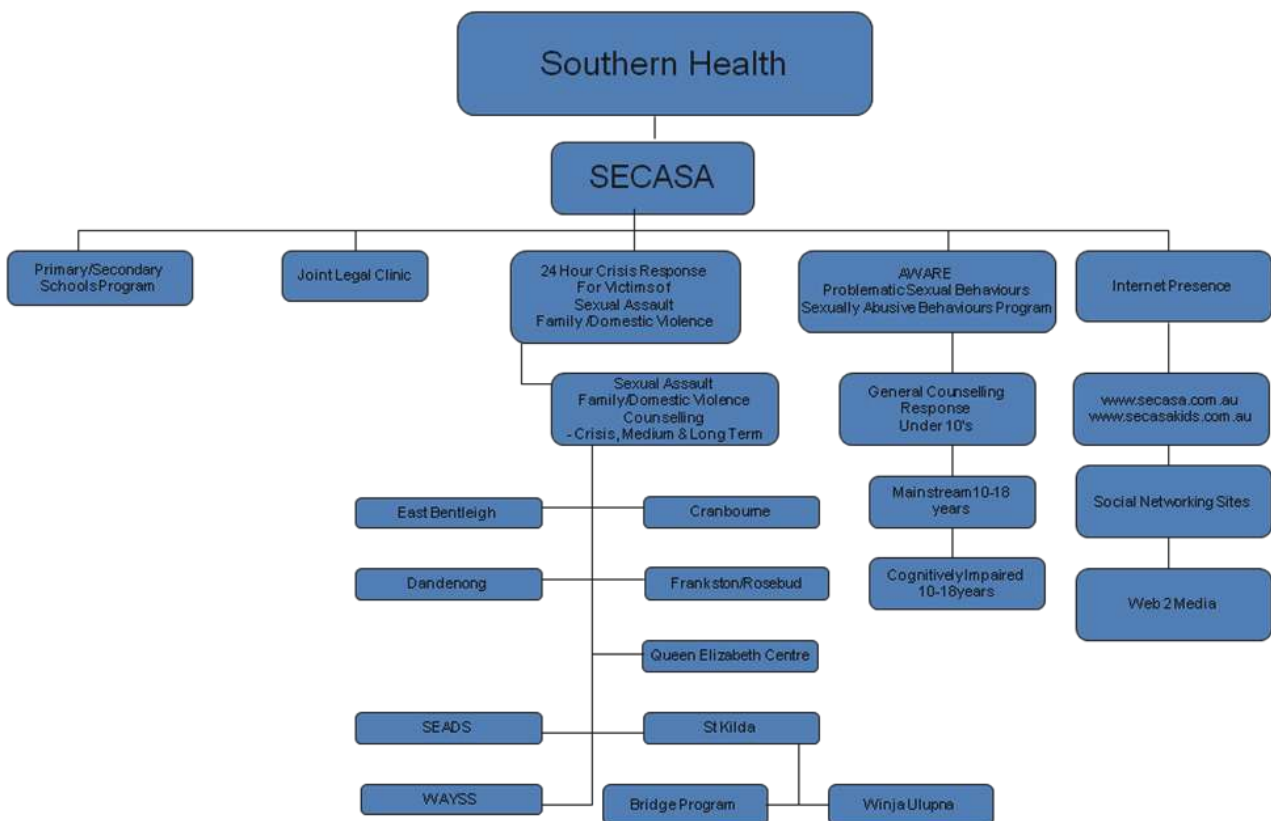
To reduce, and ultimately eliminate, sexual assault and family violence through individual and social change.

Aims

SECASA aims to provide:

- A comprehensive service which responds to the needs of those who have been sexually assaulted or suffered family violence, including crisis care, counselling, medical care and advocacy
- Information and education to raise community awareness of the nature and incidence of sexual assault and family violence
- Awareness and prevention focused programs.

Our structure



Service history

The Sexual Assault Centre was originally set up at the Queen Victoria Medical Centre, Lonsdale Street, Melbourne, in 1977. This was the first Centre to provide services to victim/survivors of sexual assault in Melbourne. In 1987 the Centre moved with the Queen Victoria Medical Centre to the new premises of Monash Medical Centre Clayton.

From 1987 until 1993 the Centre was known as the Monash Sexual Assault Centre and was situated within the Social Work Department at Monash Medical Centre Clayton. In February 1993 it moved to separate premises adjoining Monash Medical Centre Moorabbin and changed its name to the South Eastern Centre Against Sexual Assault (SECASA) The Honourable Minister for Health, Mrs. Marie Tehan, officially opened the new premises on 8 October 1993.

Whilst having the administrative centre at Monash Medical Centre Moorabbin, the Centre operates from seven permanent locations and provides a visiting service in several others including Rosebud.

Our service area



SECASA - an overview

SECASA provides services within the Southern Metropolitan Region to children and adults, both female and male, who have experienced sexual assault and family violence. The Centre works with non-offending family members, partners, caregivers and support workers, and children and young people with problematic sexual behaviours and sexually abusive behaviours. The Department of Human Services Child Protection refer families for a range of specialist services including assessment and treatment.

The Southern Metropolitan Region encompasses the south-east suburbs of Melbourne and also covers the Mornington Peninsula, Westernport and the Dandenong, Cranbourne and Pakenham growth corridors.

The Department of Human Services Protective Services refer their clientele for a range of specialist services including assessment and treatment.

The **AWARE program** provides services for 4-18 year olds. Services for children with problematic sexual behaviour are provided in the counselling victim service as well as AWARE. Young people with sexually abusive behaviours are seen in the AWARE program which operates in Dandenong and Frankston. AWARE provides assessment and treatment for mainstream young people and those with cognitive impairment.



SECASA - an overview (Continued)

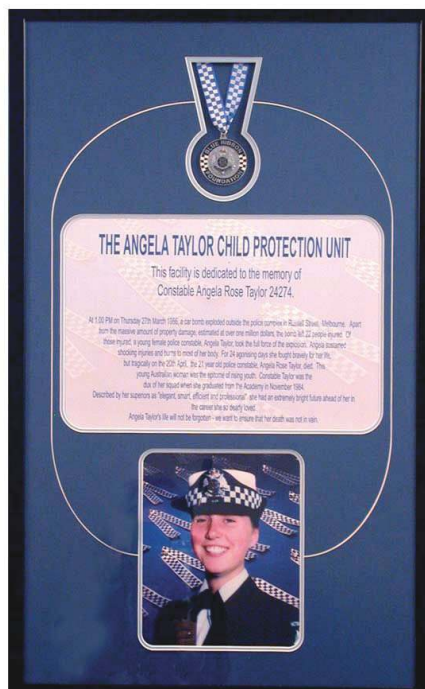
Respect, Protect, Connect and **Feeling Safe Together** are programs conducted in Secondary and Primary Schools throughout the entire region. RPC has been running for 15 years in the Southern Metropolitan Region.

In 2010, the male and female components of the **Respect, Protect, Connect** program were amalgamated under SECASA. Previously the young women's program had been run by Women's Health in the South East but it was absorbed under the SECASA umbrella along with the young women's program co-ordinator Hayley Wesson. The program is healthier as a result, with greater financial stability and the ability for both sides of the program to work closely.

Altogether Respect, Protect, Connect presented workshops to 6,130 students between 1 July 2010 and 30 June 2011.

Feeling Safe Together has had a busy year with new co-ordinator Hayley Wesson implementing training for a dedicated group of young educators who facilitate the program with SECASA counselors.

The **Angela Taylor Child Protection Unit** at Monash Medical Centre Clayton operates with wider boundaries than the Southern Metropolitan Region. The Unit provides a service for all children who live south of the Yarra River. Children living north of the Yarra River attend the Royal Children's Hospital Gatehouse Centre. Medical examinations are conducted by the Victorian Forensic Paediatric Medical Service.



SECASA - an overview (continued)

For the past 18 years Springvale Monash Legal Service and SECASA have run a **joint legal service** for clients who live within the region.

SECASA provides a **24 hour service** for victims of family violence to discuss their options with a counselor at the **Crisis Care Unit**. A counselling service is also provided across the region for those exposed to family and domestic violence. This service operates for children and adults.

Our websites (www.secasa.com.au and www.secacakids.com.au) continue to provide a wide range of information about sexual and physical assault accessible twenty-four hours a day.

In order to reach young people SECASA has started using social media with a Facebook site and utilises Twitter to provide information for young people in a format they find more acceptable than traditional information sharing systems. SECASA also answers questions about sexual assault and violence posted on Yahoo Answers and Somazone which are social networking sites for young people.



Finally, professional and community education is provided throughout the region.

Location

SECASA is auspiced by Southern Health. Counselling is provided in a variety of settings. The Centre's administration and some counselling services are based in a house on the grounds of Monash Medical Centre Moorabbin, Centre Road, East Bentleigh. Four workers are housed in the hospital Annex. Workers also operate in permanent locations in Frankston, Clayton, Rosebud, St Kilda, Dandenong, Berwick and Cranbourne.

St Kilda update

There has been a lot of change at SECASA's St Kilda outpost during the past year. Long-time staff member Sarah McGregor has been on maternity leave and Jess Miranda has stepped into the role. Mary Martin who has worked part-time from St Kilda over many years has now permanently relocated to the East Bentleigh office.

The St Kilda SECASA office has moved into a self-contained flat in the front of the Salvation Army Bridge Centre. This enables us to have 4 counsellors working here. The new accommodation offers a 'homely atmosphere' for staff and clients alike. We are looking forward to the new team working together to provide high quality counselling and community development services in the area.

Referrals for sexual assault services in St Kilda remain consistent and reflect the population in the area. We provide services to some of the most marginalised members of our community – drug users, homeless, those with mental health issues, street sex workers as well as young professionals and students. The majority of those accessing SECASA counselling tend to be single adult females who are recognising the interconnection of their current difficulties and their histories of child sexual assault. There are an increasing number of male clients presenting for similar issues. Counselling can range from crisis, to short or long term as required.

An adult female survivor group was run from St Kilda in late 2010 by Wendy and Mary. Feedback was extremely positive from all the participants and ideally this will become a regular occurrence in the region.

Community education remains an important priority and counsellors are often invited to address various agency staff about specific issues related to sexual assault. These include Alfred Hospital, Salvation Army Crisis Services, Young Women's network and family violence support services.

Dagmar Jenkins Wendy Miller Jess Miranda Mary Mass

Location (continued)

SECASA is committed to providing an accessible service. The Frankston service has nine staff co-located in the Peninsula Sexual Assault Centre with Victoria Police. Dandenong has five workers located at YStop. The Cranbourne workers are located at the Cranbourne Community Information and Support Service and Southern Health's Cranbourne Integrated Care Centre. Four workers are based in the residence at the Salvation Army Bridge Project. The AWARE program has seven workers based at Frankston PenSAC. The service will continue to locate workers out in the region with Moorabbin serving as an administrative base.

Cranbourne update

SECASA outer South East offices underwent a number of changes throughout 2010-2011. Early in 2011 two workers located in the Cranbourne Information and Support Services (CISS) building were relocated to the Southern Health Cranbourne Integrated Care Centre (CICC) building whilst renovations were underway in the CISS building.

SECASA closed the Berwick offices and the two workers from there moved to Cranbourne. This area is now able to provide additional support and can accommodate larger families.

Whilst Cranbourne SECASA had a strong connection to the community and the team at CISS, we are now developing networks within the Southern Health community via the CICC location.

Robyn Breheny

Frankston update

SECASA Frankston has had a very active year here at the MDC. We have 9 highly experienced staff, including our admin manager, and all provide a service responsive to needs. Whilst the MDC Pilot has ceased, its success has meant a transition from working closely with 8 SOCIT police members to working with 23 Police Members and 4 Child Protection staff. We all work very hard to provide the best collaborative service we can for our clients.

It has also been a year of variety and cooperation, both national and international. We have conducted survivor's support and art therapy groups, given community and professional education, worked closely with schools and health/welfare services, became a member agency of the Smoke Free Charter, supervised community medical students and hosted workers from the Northern Territory, New Guinea, Jordan, and 8 delegates from World Vision Cambodia.

Susan McDougall, Team Leader



Nancy Hogan, Susan McDougall and Rob McIndoe – Launch Frankston and Mornington Peninsula Smoke Free Charter

Services

The range of services provided by SECASA includes:

- 24 hour crisis counselling and medical care
- Crisis counselling (short-term) for victim/survivors of sexual assault and family violence
- Supportive counselling (medium/long term) for victim/survivors of sexual assault and family violence
- Counselling for under 10s with problematic sexual behavior
- ANCOR assessments for families living with an offender on the Sex Offender Registry
- Movement therapy
- Creative Arts therapy
- After Hours Family Violence Counselling Service
- Treatment programs for mainstream and cognitively impaired young people with sexually abusive behaviours
- Medical follow-up
- Groups for adult survivors, children, adolescents and non-offending parents/caregivers and partners
- Legal service for criminal injuries claims
- Legal advocacy
- Reports for courts and tribunals
- Interpreter services
- Secondary consultation
- Community education
- Professional training
- Student supervision
- Supervision for workers in community agencies
- Research.

Crisis service

After Hours Sexual Assault

SECASA provides a **24-hour crisis care service** from the Crisis Care Unit within the Emergency Department at Monash Medical Centre Clayton and a **24 hour crisis care response** at PenSAC in Frankston.

These services assist victim/survivors during the initial crisis following a recent sexual assault. Counsellors provide support, information and advocacy enabling those using the service to make informed choices in relation to reporting to police, legal action and medical care.

Follow-up counselling is offered at a convenient site either at East Bentleigh, Clayton, Frankston, Rosebud, Dandenong, St Kilda or Cranbourne, as well as a number of locations catering for clients with special needs.

From 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011, 250 people aged eighteen years and over attended the two Crisis Care Units. Under 18 year olds were seen in The Angela Taylor Crisis Care Unit at Monash Medical Centre Clayton.



PenSAC Multidisciplinary Centre – Frankston

Crisis service (continued)

After Hours Family Violence

SECASA provides an **after hours service for victims of family violence**. This service is provided to single women, women with children and same sex couples.

In the Outer South Peninsula area this service is a collaboration between SECASA, WAYSS, and WAYSS Domestic Violence Outreach Service. In the Inner Middle area SECASA is part of the Inner Middle Crisis Referral Service (IMCARS) and provides after hours counselling, referral and accommodation in the Monash Medical Centre MediHotel or local motels. The Salvation Army is a partner in the IMCARS system providing on-going case management.

Follow-up counselling is provided by SECASA in the Outer South. In the Inner and Middle South follow up counseling is provided by a coalition of Inner South Community Health Service, Connections and Family Life.

From 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011 31 women and their children attended for after hours assistance.

The Angela Taylor Child Protection Unit

The **Angela Taylor Child Protection Unit** provides a medical service for all physically and sexually abused children who live south of the Yarra River. The other half of the state has a service provided by the Gatehouse Centre at the Royal Children's Hospital.

During business hours paediatric forensic medicals are conducted in sessions run by the Victorian Forensic Paediatric Medical Service.

After hours medicals are provided by an after-hours Doctors' roster for sexual assault cases or the Emergency Department Paediatric Registrar for physical abuse cases.

Counselling

SECASA provides free, medium to long-term, confidential counselling to adults/children, male and female victims of both recent and past sexual assault and family violence. Counselling and support is also available to non-offending parents, partners, caregivers and support workers. Some home visits are undertaken and residents of the Queen Elizabeth Residential Complex receive a twenty-four hour response to a request for counselling.

Male clients are able to choose either a female or a male counsellor.

From 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011 there were 1965 new contacts with the agency.

Telephone counselling and information service

A worker is on duty at Monash Medical Centre Clayton from 9.00 a.m. - 5.30 p.m. each weekday to provide telephone counselling, case consultation and an information and referral service for victim/survivors, their partners, close friends, family members and other agencies.

After hours, at weekends and on Public Holidays service is provided by the statewide Sexual Assault Crisis Line (SACL).

The Duty/Intake worker is available for emergency presentations and secondary consultation for the Department of Human Services and other community agencies.

AWARE

SECASA provides services for children and youth with problematic sexual behaviours (PSB) and sexually abusive behaviours (SAB) from the age of 4 through to 18 in the AWARE program. Under 10's service are seen by victim counselors as well as AWARE. Ten to 18 year olds are seen by clinicians who work with youth with sexually abusive behaviours.



Website

The first SECASA website - www.secasa.com.au went online in 1999. It was officially launched by the then Minister for Women's Affairs, The Honourable Sherryl Garbutt in 2000. Since this date SECASA's online presence has been continually improved and extended with the SECASAKids website launched in 2010 – www.secasakids.com.au. For 2010-2011 there were 272,508 unique visitors to the adult's website with a growth from 1.1% in June last year to 4.8% in June this year in the number of people accessing site via mobile phone technology.

At the end of the year there were over a million pages downloaded. This was an increase of 27,622 visitors from the previous 12 months. This breaks down to nearly 22,709 unique visitors per month and totals 703,347 visitors in the last three years. The RSS feed has proved to be a popular way for people to keep up to date with changes to the website. In June the feed was checked 6,432 times by our subscribers. The total number of PDFs downloaded from this site was 41,517. The total number of unique visitors to the SECASA kids website was 3,780 who viewed 17,878 pages of information.



SECASA's YouTube channel was started on 12 July 2010 with 10 short videos taken from the Back on Track DVD. There are currently 14 videos on the SECASA YouTube channel which has have been viewed a total of 6,714 times over the last 12 months. These videos are being viewed predominantly by males aged between 35 – 64.

SECASA is now on Twitter, with our account being created on 22 February and we currently have 24 followers. On Facebook, we have had 105 people like our page in the last 12 months, our posts were viewed 30,62 times and we had 250 post feedbacks from our readers. User demographics are Australian females between 18 – 54 with 30% being between 25 – 34.

Over the last 12 months the cyber outreach team have answered a total of 591 questions from sexual assault and family violence survivors which is 53 more questions than the previous year.

The major developments this year have been the inclusion of the Back on Track videos and moving into social networks. The team has also been involved in documenting their experiences and presenting at conferences.

Group work

In 2010-2011 SECASA facilitated a range of groups including:

- African Young Women's Camp
- Self Care Group
- Protective Behaviour Group – Frankston
- Sexual Abuse and Violence – Trauma and Addiction
- Female Survivors of Childhood Sexual Assault
- Feeling Safe Together Groups
 - 5-6 year olds
 - 9-10 year olds
 - 11-12 year olds
- Art Group – East Bentleigh
- Mosaic Group – Frankston.



Artwork from the Mosaic Group

Work in schools

Secondary Schools Anti Violence Workshops – Respect, Protect, Connect

This program was a joint venture between Women’s Health in the South East (WHISE) and SECASA. It is now run by SECASA following WHISE’s decision to relinquish their share of the funding. It has been funded for the past 15 years by the Department of Human Services.

This program provides interactive workshops in secondary schools principally in the Southern Region to participants in years 7-12.

These workshops are conducted as single-sex sessions using young adult peer educators. The broad aims are to reduce violence, promote consent and mutuality in relationships, and to affirm positive and respectful ways for young people to relate to others and themselves.

Primary Schools Protective Behaviours Workshops – Feeling Safe Together

The Feeling Safe Together program utilises the successful skills for safety from protective education programs that were in existence in the 1980’s, both in Australia and overseas. SECASA has enhanced these with material strategic to the current needs and personal/social difficulties facing Victorian children, their families and teachers today.

This program has become the basis for the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development’s (DEECD) manuals for an Advanced Safety Program. This Advanced Safety Program is to be rolled out across the state. As the Advanced Safety Program has not yet been incorporated in the statewide curriculum SECASA is still running Feeling Safe Together.

Professional education

Professional education is an important activity for SECASA. During 2010-2011 the agency maintained its commitment to this activity and provided training and information within the hospital and region. SECASA is running the Statewide Workforce Development Project for the sexual assault field with Sheryl Musgrove, acting co-ordinator whilst Sarah McGregor is on maternity leave.

Regular talks were given to the Emergency Department nurses, Obstetric and Gynaecology and Paediatric registrars at Monash Medical Centre Clayton and Emergency Department staff at Frankston and Dandenong Hospitals. In addition, SECASA started training about family violence for midwifery staff. The information sessions were presented via Healthy Opportunities seminars across various Southern Health sites.

SECASA participated in the Sexual Offences and Child Abuse Investigation Team training courses at the Police Academy, the Detective Training courses and provided secondary consultations to a wide range of local agencies.

Information and education were provided at workshops for the following organisations:

- Greater Dandenong Community Health Service
- Southern Health Psychiatric Nurses – Dandenong Hospital
- Chisholm TAFE – Children’s Diploma Students
- Port Phillip Community Team – Rosebud
- Teacher Training – Brighton
- Gippsland CASA workers
- Karingal Connecting Families
- Monash Social Work Distance Education Students
- Vicarious Trauma - Peninsula Health
- Cranbourne Complex Care Team
- Southern health “Care in Context”
- Critical Linkages Dandenong
- Family Violence Training for Southern Health Midwives
- Healthy Mothers. Healthy Babies
- Workshop for partners of male victims who attended Mike Lew Weekend Retreat
- Peninsula Health Nurse Graduate Education program
- Needle Exchange Workers St Kilda
- Peninsula Mental Health Service – Lunchtime seminar for Community Clinicians.
- Specialist Assessments
- Prahran Mission Staff
- Yavnah Teachers
- Victorian Medical Women’s Association and Victorian Women Lawyers’ Society.

Community education

Biannual information sessions are run for the Frankston, Dandenong, Cheltenham and Box Hill offices of the Department of Human Services and the Frankston, Dandenong, Moorabbin, Blackburn, Melbourne and Knox offices of the Sexual Offences and Child Abuse Investigation Teams.

The Centre was also involved in **Community Safety Week**, the **Gay Pride March** and the **Midsumma Festival** providing publicity for the service in the gay and lesbian communities.

During 2010-2011 the agency was involved in **public education forums** and **information days** for:

- Fountain Gate Secondary College
- Rosebud Community Information Support Service
- Highett Mothers Group
- Walk Against Violence
- Dandenong Secondary College
- Reclaim The Night
- Mentone Secondary College
- Kingston Youth Forum
- Lilydale Secondary College.

Special projects

Calendar

SECASA creates an annual calendar in conjunction with visual artist Anne Riggs who runs art groups for victim/survivors of sexual assault. The 2011 calendar featured pictures of beautiful mosaics created by a very talented group of women.



AASW Sexual Assault Special Interest Group

This Special Interest Group has been in existence since early 2005. Having initially decided on a couple of tasks which have become regular occurrences – the twice yearly Sexual assault Group and Training Calendar and Mike Lew’s annual tour – the group had been searching for a new direction.

It is now:

- providing a focus for people working with sexual assault to raise issues
- offering support for people working with sexual assault
- providing a forum to raise issues around sexual assault and support to address those issues at all levels.

Special projects (continued)

Mike Lew visit

The annual **Victims No Longer retreat** was held in Maldon for the fifth year running in July 2011. This was extremely successful with a number of men attending for the fourth and fifth year.

The R. E Ross Trust supported the retreat by providing funding for three years for men who are unable to pay the fee for the weekend.

The men have continued to provide support through an email tree since this retreat. The Back on Track DVD about their experiences was launched in February 2011 (Find out more on page 24).

Victims No Longer Male Survivor Weekend Retreat – March 2011

This was the fifth weekend retreat run by SECASA. Twenty-four men travelled to Maldon, Derby Hill Blue Light Youth Camp, arriving for dinner on Friday evening.

The weekend was facilitated by Mike Lew, the author of *Victims No Longer, A Guide for Men Recovering from Sexual Child Abuse*. The event is hard work mixed in with fun.

The men discover that there are other men who are also on the road to recovery and each year the group develops strong support bonds leading to the maintenance of an email tree. The Sunday lunchtime barbeque is both a celebration and a sad time as the men prepare to return home.

The men find this weekend an important part of their recovery and for some it is the beginning of breaking down the isolation they have experienced.

Men came from Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, Port Lincoln and Perth to take place in the retreat.

Donovan Pill

Special projects (continued)

Art Therapy groups

Anne Riggs is a visual artist. Her association with SECASA began in 2005 when she worked with participants and counsellors in Berwick to make a number of mosaics.

Anne has worked closely with SECASA to run a number of art projects for women who have experienced sexual abuse. Each year a SECASA calendar is created showcasing the work of the women who take part in the groups. This enables the women to make a public statement about their healing.

No longer watching life from behind the curtains

My name is Vanessa, I am 43 years old. I was a victim of childhood sexual abuse. I am an ex-heroin addict, prostitute etc. I suffer from chronic depression and find myself a negative hopeless person; more often than not I feel life is over for me. I have been part of the mosaic group run by SECASA for the last eight or so weeks.

Before starting the group I rarely socialised with people, especially women, for years. I spend most of my time alone at home. Sometimes I only go out when I have to; I would rather hide out by myself. I don't even have any hobbies or interests. My counselor, Lorraine, told me about the mosaic group and whether I would like to join. I knew there would be others like me in the group, and the mosaic art aspect of it was something that I always wanted to try. That was actually what made me go in the beginning.

The first few weeks I kept to myself and felt very out of place. At the start, just being in the room with everyone was weird. Even though I started looking forward to Mondays, being around everyone gave me a crazy mind for a few days. That has settled down now, probably because I feel more comfortable with the group.

We do not talk about our problems or even why we are there. We chat, work and watch each other's work. In the last few weeks especially I finally feel like I belong in the group, I find myself thinking how sad I will be when it's all finished.

I feel a real kinship with the women and am sorry it will be over soon. I will continue with the mosaic; as a hobby I find it very calming. I have even planted a small veggie garden in the last month.

So it is obvious to me the positive effect the group has had on me.

I don't want to go back to always watching life from behind the curtains.

It's lonely.

Vanessa

Special projects (continued)

Australian Centre for Post-traumatic Mental Health (ACPMH)

The collaborative project with the ACPMH to promote the use of evidence-based practice based on the Australian Guidelines for the Treatment of adults with ASD and PTSD came to a conclusion in 2010.

The pilot was intended to provide training in the use of the treatment protocol and to evaluate the immediate and short-term impact of training on staff competence and on best-practice uptake in the medium to long-term.

The guidelines are now being reviewed and SECASA is again involved in the process.

Back on Track DVD

Back on Track is a DVD made by SECASA which features a number of men, who have participated in Victims No Longer weekends, discussing their childhood experiences and their journey of recovery.

It was launched in February 2011 at Monash Medical Centre Clayton.

It was directed with great skill, patience and compassion by Nina Christesen, CQL Productions.



Special projects (continued)

African Young Women's Camp

In December 2010, Springvale Community Aid and Advice Bureau's Youthlinks Team and the South Eastern Centre Against Sexual Assault collaborated for a second time to take eleven young Sudanese women and their 12 small children on camp.

The camp was generously funded by the Integrated Family Violence Reform Partnership. The camp's purpose was to provide an environment where the participants could discuss relationships, parenting, assertiveness and health whilst promoting inclusion, connectedness and wellbeing.

The women attending the camp were able to take part in activities such as beach walks, a giant swing, and a clay workshop with artist Anne Riggs. The women were also able to enjoy some time for self care whilst their babies and children were looked after nearby.

The camp provided opportunities for developing friendships, discussing parenting and relationships and increasing knowledge of services.



African Young Women's Camp

Back row: Dagmar Jenkins (SECASA, Tabby, Nyadouth, Nekan

Middle row: Ding, Naima, Nyanyal, Winter, Nyabol, Deu

Front Row: Callagham Campos (Youthlinks), Saeeda, Hanna Kopel (Youthlinks)

Special projects (continued)

New Workshop on Vicarious Trauma

Over the past 12 months, Kerrie Bence and Robyn Breheny have developed new training for workers on Vicarious Trauma.

The aims of the training include:

- To increase workers knowledge of vicarious trauma; what it is and its effects
- To help workers understand the difference between vicarious trauma, burnout and compassion fatigue
- To develop workers awareness of risk factors/protective factors for vicarious trauma
- To help workers develop protective strategies to minimise the possible negative effects of trauma exposure from their work.

To date, the training has been provided to the following agencies:

- Anglicare Frankston
- Eastern Region Mental Health Association (ERMHA)
- Cranbourne Information and Support Service (CISS)
- South East Alcohol and Drug Service Adult Counselling staff
- Chisholm TAFE
- Southern Health In Context Staff
- VT Workshop to professions
- Casey Hospital.

Special projects (continued)

Wurrundjeri People Plaque Unveiling

A plaque acknowledging the Wurrundjeri People and paying SECASA's respects to their Elders was unveiled in December 2011. Aunty Doreen from the Wurrundjeri Council unveiled the plaque.



Carolyn Worth, SECASA and Aunty Doreen Garvey Wandin

Papua New Guinea Internship

Lai Ben Angoun spent three months at SECASA learning about our approach to family violence and sexual assault situations. Her good humour and knowledge were a source of inspiration for all of the workers who came into contact with her. Lai has since returned to Papua New Guinea to continue her work. Her internship was overseen by Irene Naitoro-Tumu from the Southern Health General Medicine Department who work closely with organisations in Papua New Guinea.



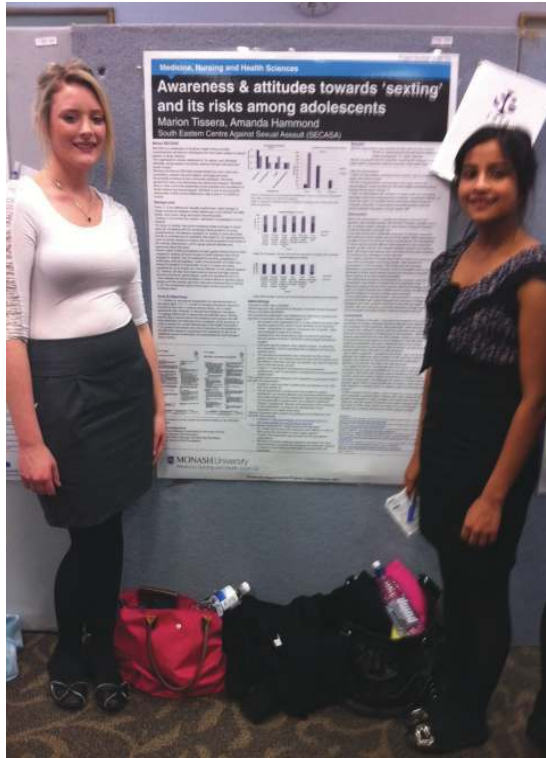
Lai Ben Angoun

Special projects (continued)

Monash Faculty of Medicine Community Based Program

In 2010, Rifath Syeda and Elizabeth Prime, Monash University Medical Students, were based at SECASA Frankston for their Community Based Program placement. They undertook a project in local schools **Promoting Awareness of Healthy Romantic Relationships Amongst Adolescents**. Rifath and Elizabeth won the Chris Silagy Award for this project

This year two Monash University Medical Students undertook a project on **Promoting Awareness of the Health and Legal Implications of Sexting Among Young People**. Amanda Hammond and Marion Tissera presented an information session for Year 9 students and their parents at Brighton Secondary College and Cranbourne and Hampton Park Secondary College. They also created fact sheets for SECASA's websites on this topic.



Amanda Hammond and Marion Tissera standing by their poster at the Monash Medical Faculty Community Based Program project presentation.

Springvale Monash Legal Service / SECASA Joint Legal Service

This service has now been in operation for eighteen years. It provides a quality legal service for SECASA clients. The service provides assistance in relation to the following:

- Victims of Crime Assistance Tribunal
- Appeals to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal
- Action Against Religious Bodies
- Civil Actions Against Offenders where appropriate
- Family Law and Wills issues related to sexual assault
- Liaison with Medical Practitioners Board
- Assistance with Complaints to the Health Service Commission
- Sexual assault in a therapeutic relationship
- Advocacy/support for complainants required to give evidence in criminal proceedings
- Family violence issues and Intervention Orders arising from sexual assault
- Workplace pressure to provide sexual services
- General advocacy in relation to the above with Housing Authorities, Police, Department of Social Security, Department of Human Services and Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs, Law Institute.

The service maintained this focus when the Bracks amendments to the Criminal Injuries Legislation brought pain and suffering back as a category from 1 January 2001 in relation to compensation for victims of sexual assault.

It continues to provide an amazing service to SECASA's clients. Meghan Butterworth and Janine Hill-Buxton have provided supervision to the students and volunteers. Janine has covered the clinic whilst Meghan was on maternity leave.

Meeting representation

- Cardinia Shire Youth Services Network
- CASA Forum
- CEASE
- Counsellor/Advocate Forum Planning Committee
- Cranbourne Community Information Support Services
- Cranbourne District Community Services Group
- Cunningham Dax Committee – Trauma Art
- Dandenong and District Aboriginal Cooperative
- Dandenong Youth Network
- Empowering Young People Project – Office of Child Safety Commissioner
- Family Violence Statewide Advisory Committee
- Frankston Men's Alliance
- Frankston-Peninsula PCP
- Frankston Police Youth Assist Program
- Inner Middle Integrated Family Violence Reform
- Inner Middle Integrated Family Violence Reform Executive
- Jewish Taskforce Against Family Violence
- Joint Legal Clinic Steering Committee
- Kingston Bayside Youth Network
- MMC Moorabbin Site Meeting
- Mornington Peninsula Family Violence Network
- Occupational Health and Safety Meeting
- Outer South Integrated Family Violence Partnership
- PCP Casey
- Primary Care Partnerships – Peninsula, Greater Dandenong
- Peninsula Indigenous Action Group
- Peninsula Child Advocacy Group
- Peninsula Counsellors Network
- Rosebud Service Providers
- Sexual Assault Crisis Response Liaison
- Sexual Assault Workforce Development Project
- Southern Collective Against Violence and Abuse
- Southern Health Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Steering Committee
- Statewide Advisory Committee to Prevent Sexual Assault
- The Alfred – Gender Safety Committee
- Vic Safe Committee
- Victoria Police SOCIT Units – Frankston, Dandenong, Moorabbin, Knox, Box Hill
- Westernport Counsellors Group
- WHISE/SECASA RPC Reference Group
- Women's Mental Health Network
- Same Sex Attracted Youth Workers Network – Rainbow Group
- Victorian Offender Treatment Association
- Sexual Assault – Women and Cognitive Impairment Reference Group
- Victorian Centres Against Sexual Assault Forum
- Victorian Offender Treatment Association
- Womens Mental Health Network
- Women with Disabilities Family Violence Reference Group.

Staffing

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Manager | Carolyn Worth |
| Senior Social Workers | Sally Kempler Susan McDougall Nerrida Mitchell |
| Senior Psychologist | Karla Lopez (Resigned December 2010) Janine Lemon |
| Counsellor/Advocates | Lorraine Andrieu Kerrie Bence Jan Bland (part-time) Robyn Breheny Kathryn Brown Jenny Butler Colleen Cahill Max Clarke (part-time) Gwendoline Hanson Brooke Harris Jenny Jacobs (part-time) Mary Jadresko Richard James Dagmar Jenkins (part-time) Marian Lok Mary Mass (part-time) Sarah McGregor (part-time) Wendy Miller (part-time) Jessica Miranda Ros Monteith Sheryl Musgrove Peter Paapaa Donovan Pill Harriet Pliakos (part-time) Shanthani Ponnusamy Chrissie Ryan Natasha Silberberg Lara Stevenson Ima Uko Gael Wallace (part-time) Linda Watson (seconded to WAYSS to July 2012) |

Staffing (continued)

Project Worker Christopher Mitchell (part-time)
Hayley Wesson

On-Line Project Worker Juliet Summers (part-time)

Office Managers Emily Manning (part-time)
Sue Shadforth (part-time)
Chris Smith (part-time)

Personal Assistant to Manager Christina Psyllos

Students John Belieu
Avrille Burrows
Kerryn Coombe
Michi Forgan
Esther Mazzotta
Lisa Smith
Rachel Smith

Springvale Monash Legal Services / SECASA Joint Legal Service

Supervisors Meghan Butterfield
Janine Hill-Buxton

Volunteers/students Emily Archer
Ali Besiroglu
James Brown
Emma Burchall
Laura Chipp
Chris Edwards
Eyal Grenande
Caitlin James
Hollie Johnston
Celeste Koravos
Alina Leikin
Jess Malin
Fiona Martin
Katie Minogue
Cameron Myers
Lachlan Smith
Chris Spain

Funding

| | \$ |
|--|------------------|
| Sexual Assault Support Services - Department of Human Services | 2,440,550 |
| Forensic Community Services - Department of Human Services ACMH – Mental Health - PDSS | 147,342 |
| Sexual Abuse Behaviour Treatment Services - Department of Human Services | 448,489 |
| Family Violence Support Services - Department of Human Services | 252,073 |
| Family Violence After Hours Service Responding to Risk | 66,556 |
| Family Violence After Hours Enhanced Response | 21,519 |
| Additional Treatment Places for Sexually Abusive Behaviours 15 – 17 year olds Department of Justice | 151,968 |
| Workforce Development | 102,427 |
| Total | 3,630,924 |

Donations

Bayside Quilters

The Bayside Quilters have again donated a large number of wonderful quilts to SECASA. This year was the largest number of quilts ever donated. There were 125. These quilts continue to be a source of pleasure and comfort for some of our most damaged clients both child and adult.



Bayside Quilters quilts on display at Beaumaris Library Community Room prior to being donated to SECASA.

Donations

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Lorraine Summers | Books/Clothing |
| Bayside Quilters | 125 quilts |
| Salvation Army | Toys |
| Lions Club of Moorabbin | \$750 |
| Ladies Auxiliary | \$1,000 |
| Christina Giarrusso | \$100 |
| Linda Nayna | \$200 |
| Margaret Mackie | \$100 |
| Sai Organisation of Australia and PNG | Toiletries |
| Pam Schwarz | Bunny rug/Large white bear |
| Jen Lipzker | \$10,000 |
| CWA Monbulk | TraumaDolls/Care Packs/Quilts |



Carolyn Worth SECASA and Marilyn Lissenberg Moorabbin Lions Club

Notes



SOUTH
EASTERN
CENTRE
AGAINST
SEXUAL
ASSAULT