



YACSA update

Gawler & District Youth Workers Network (GDYWN) - April

YACSA

DHS is going ahead with **SAYW 2020** and YACSA is running a social media campaign as a youth week event. Young people are being asked to submit videos, pics, stories, songs, whatever they want, sharing their tips and tools for staying healthy, happy and connected during the pandemic. Content will be showcased during SAYW (17th – 26th of April) and the best stuff will be posted on the SAYW Facebook page. More info about [SAYW is here](#) and YACSA will be promoting it on social media so please share.

Since YACSA closed its office the focus has been on **gathering information from members**. Information will be collated via a [sector survey](#), conversations with members and a [survey for young people](#). The results will inform our advocacy and source or develop resources to support the sector and young people. The survey for young people can be used to facilitate discussion with young people you work with and complete on their behalf if they are not able to. There are links posted on our social media for you to share with young people and other youth sector workers across the state on our YACSA Facebook page [here](#).

The **YACSA Member Community group** on Facebook is growing with members daily who are taking advantage of this new platform. With so much change and transition the group has been an ideal place for members to ask questions and share information that help's everyone. If you are not member and want to join the group please contact Melanie at melanie@yacsa.com.au for more information on becoming a member.

State

The February **unemployment rate** for people aged 15-24 years in SA saw a slight decrease on January's from 13.6% and is now 13.4%. There are currently 19,700 young people looking for work out of a total of 52,500 vying for 11,500 jobs. We continue to support the #RaiseTheRate campaign and ACOSS' updated position that calls for Newstart to be increased by \$95 per week in order to cover cost of living basics. More [here](#).

Despite the interruption of COVID-19 the Federal Education Minister Dan Tehan says the Commonwealth and states have agreed that all **year 12 students will finish high school this year**. There is more to consider around how students will be supported with the Minister saying they would consult further on possible adjustments to this year's ATAR scoring, so they are not disadvantaged.

The SA Ombudsman has released a [report](#) into the use of segregation, isolation and punishment in the Adelaide Youth Training Centre which was prompted by the receipt of two complaints made by residents. It follows the release of a report late last year about the use of "spit hoods" which was sparked by the ABC report on practices in the NT's Don Dale Youth Detention Centre in 2016 and subsequent Royal Commission. While young people should be held to account for their actions, so to must the government that is responsible for the care, protection and guidance of children and young people within the justice system.

Federal

We have just provided a submission to the Federal Government's **Religious Freedom Reforms - Second Exposure Bills**. These Bills seek to place the right to hold and express a religious belief over the right of all citizens to be free from discrimination and to be equal before the law and will have a disproportionate impact

on LGBTIQ young people, women and girls, Indigenous Australians and people living in rural and remote areas. As such, we do not support the Second Exposure Bills. You can read the submission [here](#).



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