

Referral (02) 4324 7239

Office (02) 4325 3540

Fax (02) 4324 7876

ABN 174 7048 6295



Address Rear, 97 Donnison Street

(PO Box 1234) Gosford NSW 2250

Email admin@coastshelter.org.au

Website www.coastshelter.org.au

MEDIA RELEASE

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CONNECT DAY 2009

Following the leadership of Brisbane City Council, Gosford will host its second Connect Day.

Brisbane City Council has held a Connect Day in the Brisbane Town Hall for the past five years.

Connect Day provides practical services, which provide support and assistance to the homeless and those doing it tough in the community, the opportunity to meet together and tell the community about the support they provide in the "expo" type exhibition.

Organised by Coast Shelter, Connect Day 2009 will be held at the Central Coast Leagues Club on Wednesday 5th August, during Homeless Persons' Week.

The day will commence with an invitation to the homeless and those doing it tough to have breakfast with Mayor Chris Holstein, to be followed by an expo of local support services

"In the present economic climate, with the growing number of unemployed, many families are experiencing economic hardship and just don't know what assistance is available and where to go to get help" Laurie Maher, Executive Officer of Coast Shelter said.

"When faced with unemployment and financial hardship, many families respond by withdrawing and suffer the added problem of social isolation", Gavin Shepherd, Chairperson of the Connect Day Committee said.

"This is an opportunity for all the support services, which exist in our community to show those in need we are there to help", Maher stated.

"There are many services out there who can help in times of need, but unless people know about them, they are not much good to anyone", Shepherd said.

Supported by Gosford City Council, The Central Coast Leagues Club and The Department of Fair Trading, Gosford City's Connect Day 2009 will provide advice and support to those in need.

Media Enquiries contact Laurie Maher on phone: 02 4325 3540 mobile: 0408 439 179