



NT Branch
Launch & Seminar:

“Investing Wisely for Children”



This is an opportunity for you and your organisation to become involved with others to lift the public profile and investment in young children.

Friday 26th March, from 8.30 – 3.30pm

- **Northern Seminar:** Menzies School of Health Research, RDH campus, Tiwi.
- **Southern Seminar:** Desert Knowledge Precinct, Corkwood Rm, BIC, Alice Springs.

You are invited to attend the launch of the NT Branch of the *National Investment for the Early Years* (NIFTeY).

NIFTeY works to promote positive early life experiences for all young children from before birth to school entry. It brings together professionals and interested people from across disciplines and roles to share information, disseminate research, promote community awareness and encourage good practice. The NT Branch will support the work of national NIFTeY, and contribute perspectives and information from our part of the world.

NIFTeY NT's inaugural Seminar will focus on *investing wisely for children* – discussing existing knowledge about why investing in young children is so important, and what practices and policies are known to make a positive impact. Territory-specific information will be shared and discussed, and challenges identified for action by NIFTeY NT and others.

The morning session will be a video-conference link between Darwin and Alice Springs. Afternoon sessions will be facilitated at a local level. See overleaf for program schedule. The fee is \$75.00, payable on the day or by EFT, details on last page. A light lunch will be served.

For further information and to RSVP :

Darwin & Katherine:

Nadia Albert
Ph: 8948 0884, or email:
nadia.albert@napcan.org.au

Alice Springs:

Margaret Harrison
Ph: 8951 4499 or email:
margaret.harrison@caac.org.au

hosted by:



hosted by:



Lesley Barclay (AO) PhD

Lesley Barclay (AO PhD) has just taken up the role as Professor and Director of the Northern Rivers University Department of Rural Health for Sydney University. Lesley is well-known in the Territory as the foundation Professor of Health Services Development at Charles Darwin University. Lesley is a maternal child health researcher and health system reformer whose projects have improved maternity services in remote and urban Australia and internationally. Much of her recent research has been rural, remote or indigenous focussed.



Gillian Calvert

Former NSW Commissioner for Children and Young People, 1999 – 2009 Gillian Calvert has spent more than 25 years working the lives of children, young people and their families, including 10 years as the NSW Commissioner for Children and Young People. Gillian advocates for children and young people and works with others to improve their safety, welfare and well-being. Gillian is passionate about helping children and young people speak up and get involved in activities and decisions that affect their lives.



Graham Vimpani

Professor Graham Vimpani is head of the Discipline of Paediatrics and Child Health at the University of Newcastle and head of community child health services within the Child and Youth Health Network in Newcastle. He has a background in community paediatrics and a longstanding interest in promoting child development through social justice and early intervention strategies that address the needs of families with young children. Graham is also Chair of NIFTeY National.



Local Panelists & Facilitation

Julia Christensen, Breakfast Presenter on 105.7 ABC Darwin, will facilitate the panel discussion.

Panelists include:

- **Darwin**
- Veronica Johns (Children's services educator)
- Trish Rushton (Smith Family)
- Dr Barbara Paterson (Chief Health Officer)
- Mel Hazard (CDU)



- **Alice Springs**
- Stephanie Bell (Congress Director)
- Jan Fleming (Batchelor)
- Christa Bartjen Westermann (Tangentyere)
- *More to be confirmed.*

Program: LAUNCH AND SEMINAR

Seminar topic: Investing wisely for young Territory children

Friday 26th March, from 8.30 – 3.30pm

	• DARWIN	• ALICE SPRINGS
8.30	Arrive and register	Arrive and register
8.45:	Welcome and housekeeping	Welcome and Housekeeping
8.50:	Welcome to Country	Welcome to Country
9.00:	Videolink connection to Darwin	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9.10: • 10.00 • 10.45 • 11.15: • 12.00: • 12.15: • 12.30 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof Lesley Barclay. Lesley will provide an overview of “blue chip” <i>effective program</i> investments, with particular reference to her recent research • Gillian Calvert. Gillian will speak about <i>ways of generating political and community support</i> for wise investments for young children • Break • Prof Graham Vimpani. Graham will speak about <i>wise investments in effective practices</i> for young children. • Graham Vimpani, Chair, NIFTeY National - Introduction to NIFTeY and its work • Launch of NIFTeY NT Branch!! Ms Hilary Berry, Acting Children’s Commissioner NT • Videolink ends 	
12.30-1.30	Lunch break	
1.30 – 2.30:	Darwin panel, facilitated by Julia Christensen, Breakfast Presenter, 105.7 ABC Darwin: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do we know about current investments for young children in the Top End? • Are we investing wisely? • Suggestions for improvement. 	Facilitated Alice Springs panel discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do we know about current investments for young children in Central Australia? • Are we investing wisely? • Suggestions for improvement.
2.45:	Directions for NIFTeY NT and opportunities for involvement and contribution: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overview of proposed directions - Audience discussion - Audience feedback 	
3.30:	Seminar ends	

Registration and payment:

To register, please email your interest to:

- Darwin - Nadia.Albert@napcan.org.au, phone 8948 0884
- Alice Springs – Margaret.Harrison@caac.org.au, phone 8951 4499

Registration is also available on the day from 8.30am. Payment in cash is requested on the day, or payment may be made by Electronic Funds Transfer to:

NIFTEY AUSTRALIA LIMITED
 Bank: ANZ
 BSB: 012-071
 Account number: 108289465

Receipts will be provided.