

## **Celebrating 10 Years of the Institute of Child Protection Studies**

The Institute of Child Protection Studies (ICPS) is holding a garden party on Tuesday 2 December to celebrate 10 years since it was established in Canberra in 2005 as a partnership between Australian Catholic University (ACU) and ACT Community Services Directorate.

Emeritus Professor Dorothy Scott will reflect on the state of child protection in Australia, as the keynote speaker. Other speakers include:

- Professor Greg Craven, ACU Vice-Chancellor
- Mr Mick Gentleman MLA, Minister for Community Services, Children and Young People
- Ms Natalie Howson, Director-General of the ACT Community Services Directorate
- Prof Morag McArthur, Founding Director of ICPS
- Prof Patrick McArdle, Dean of the ACU Canberra Campus

ICPS promotes and enhances the protection and wellbeing of children, young people and families in their communities by conducting and disseminating quality research and evaluation; and has become a nationally recognised centre of research excellence in the area of child, youth and family welfare.

The Institute recently garnered an Australian Research Council Discovery Grant of \$335,500 to explore the ethical issues relating to children's participation in research about sensitive issues. The 2.5 year study aims to better understand and address the tensions between the protection of children and their participation in research, and to explore how ethics committees, parents, other gatekeepers and children themselves manage and navigate these tensions.

Since its establishment in 2005, ICPS has completed more than 60 research and evaluation projects relating to vulnerable children, young people and their families, and produced more than 100 publications, including research reports and peer-reviewed academic journal articles. Significant research undertaken by ICPS include exploring children's experiences of safety in institutions; a three-year study to develop and pilot a model of contact between children in out-of-home care and their birth parents; the experiences of children with incarcerated parents; and examining the social supports and connections required by refugee parents and their children.

### **Celebration Details:**

**Date:** Tuesday 2 December 2014  
**Time:** 4pm – 6pm (formal proceedings 4:30 – 5:30pm)  
**Venue:** Signadou Garden, Australian Catholic University, Canberra Campus  
223 Antill St, Watson ACT

**For further information or to arrange an interview, please contact** ICPS Director Prof Morag McArthur: 0412 593 080 or [morag.mcarthur@acu.edu.au](mailto:morag.mcarthur@acu.edu.au).

ICPS is part of the Learning Sciences Institute Australia, in the Faculty of Education and Arts. For more information about ICPS visit [www.acu.edu.au/icps](http://www.acu.edu.au/icps).