

QPASTT

Qld Program of Assistance to Survivors of Torture and Trauma Inc



Annual Report 2006

QPASTT's MISSION

QPASTT will implement its vision by:

- Working with and **alongside people** and communities not for
- Building and rediscovering **peoples' strengths** and **resilience**
- Remaining **culturally relevant** to service users and communities
- **Forming partnerships** between people, service providers and community
- Respecting the **importance of place** in meeting with people
- Responding to peoples' needs **holistically** and **creatively**
- Nurturing and **growing** a gentle and **caring** environment
- Valuing our **organization's credibility** and **responsive capability** in the areas of primary health care, mental health, education, settlement services and community services
- Remaining relevant by **employing people** from **community** and having community people **represented** on the **committee of management**
- **Continually improving** the **quality** of our organization, our **workers' competencies**, and our **practice** through reflection, **learning** and evaluation

Table of Contents

Chairperson's Report.....	p5
Director's Report.....	p6
Counselling and Support Team (CAST).....	p9
Capacity Building Team.....	p15
Who is Who at QPASTT.....	p20
Organisational Chart.....	p21
Appendix: Financial Statements	

Chairperson's Report

This is our 11th year of operation, and, as always, it has been a challenging, productive and rewarding time. We welcome the opportunity to provide cross-cultural community recovery to our refugee families and to assist them to establish a new life in Australia. This year we have continued to work with new arrivals from Africa, especially Sudan, Eritrea, Liberia and Sierra Leone. We have appreciated the involvement of community leaders and members in the design of our services and their assistance with ongoing problem solving. Without this assistance, we would not be as effective.

This year we embraced the opportunity to unite the service teams in a single location by re-locating from Woolloongabba to Yeronga. While this was challenging, thanks to Desi and her team's planning and patience, we are now united, and can offer expanded services in some areas, especially with the Homework Club.

The dedication and expertise of our staff are greatly appreciated. We have expanded our services and staff numbers considerably in the last year, and welcome new workers and their input. It is a pleasure to be able to say that we have strong staff teams in all areas – Administration, the Youth Program, Early Intervention, Personal Support Program, Counselling and Support, the QIRCH Clinic, and our newest addition, the POUCH Family Relationships Program. The POUCH Program provides family based support to many African families.

We appreciate the extraordinary efforts of the multi-cultural team who have founded the service. The QIRCH clinic has continued to play a major role in offering quality health care to asylum seekers. We are grateful to the staff and the volunteer doctors for their valuable contribution, and to the Mater hospital for their ongoing assistance to house and run the clinic.

Effective organisations reflect effective leadership. Our Core Management Team of Paula, Donata and Forrest has offered vision for the service at the strategic level, and remarkable problem solving skills at the operational level. Forrest, in his role of Manager Direct Services and Clinical Practice has brought a depth of clinical skills and clinical leadership to the organisation. Donata, as the Associate Director has shouldered a heavy and complex workload. She has exceptional skills in building external partnerships, and has been instrumental in the successful implementation of the new DIMA service model in Early Intervention.

As always, Paula, as the Director has exemplified the dual roles of being both a rock in times of uncertainty, and a light indicating possibilities for continued service improvement and expansion, and organisational renewal. Paula brings to the Director role a rare combination of creativity, resilience and strength of character.

Members of the Management Committee are to be commended for their ongoing dedication and commitment to QPASTT. Fortunately, we have a group of people with a diverse range of backgrounds, skills and experience. We are particularly grateful

for the input from our community members which helps to keep us connected to the issues of our refugee families.

Finally, on a personal note, I wish to acknowledge that as an organisation we will miss the skills of both Ian Mannion and Rafael Pacheco in the next year. Both will be taking a years absence from the Management Committee. We have been very fortunate to have benefited from Ian's professional leadership and Raphael's financial leadership over the past 11 years. Their wisdom and compassion have in no small part, contributed to the longevity and quality of QPASTT.

We look forward to the next year with enthusiasm and purpose.

Dr Keithia Wilson
Chairperson

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

It is a pleasure to present to you the report for the year 2005 - 2006. This year marks the eleventh year of service provision in this vibrant and wonderful organization.

As I read back over my last year's report – I noted that I spent every spare moment being hosted by real estate agents to look at prospective new premises. Despite a folder of options approximately five inches thick, the search was ultimately successful with a move to the new premises at 50 Shottery Street, Yeronga. It is nothing like the previous accommodation which we so affectionately occupied for 8 years. However it does present many possibilities for QPASTT to fulfil its mission. Our mission statement which is produced later in this report states QPASTT's core commitments.

As we begin our second decade it is incumbent upon us to review the range of ways in which QPASTT gives life to its core commitments.

QPASTT remains committed to the provision of services informed by the community whom we serve. We remain committed to respecting the experience of our client communities and the legacy of that experience. Our services remain culturally informed, flexible, and sensitive and delivered in a low key, friendly non institutional environment. As usual we welcome a new Committee, one third of whom represent the communities whom we serve. We rejoice in the feedback that comes to us through the community developments activities we engage in and we are committed to an ongoing consultation agenda.

We are also committed to innovation and the launch of the POUCH project attests to our preparedness to develop and experiment with new ways of delivering services in line with community feedback. POUCH (promoting Our Unity Culture and Human Rights) was based on a bicultural model developed by our sister service in New South Wales (Service for the Treatment and Rehabilitation for Survivors of Torture and Trauma) which we have extended to deliver whole of family support. The upcoming Annual General Meeting will also be an opportunity to launch the POUCH project.

We are committed to developing our workforce and to building an organization this is well placed to providing sustained and consistent care. To this end we undertook a substantial restructure of the organization to ensure the three levels of activity – counselling, advocacy and community development are well managed and supervised.

We are committed to rigorous self scrutiny and evaluation. This year we committed significant resources to a comprehensive evaluation of the past four years of our youth work and have identified a number of recommendations for future work. This work has been extended to evaluate our clinical counselling work. On a national level QPASTT's membership of the Forum of Australian Services for Survivors of

Torture and Trauma (FASSTT) obliges us to participate in a number quality processes.

Firstly we have invested significantly in our own data base to provide us with quality data of client needs and then to link this data to a national data set to give us a comprehensive view. Secondly, FASSTT services have embarked on a comprehensive national endeavour to develop national Standards of Practice and now begin an assessment against our collective national standards for delivery of services to refugee survivors of torture and trauma. Finally QPASTT is managing a National Community Development project for the Forum of Australian Services for Survivors of Torture and Trauma. This project synthesizes the collective practice wisdom of all the FASSTT agencies and will develop an evaluation framework for community development projects which are driven by the objective to promote healing and recovery from torture and trauma.

Finally and most importantly we are committed to promoting human rights and advocating for the elimination of torture. Our work with survivors strongly reinforces why the total prohibition against all forms of torture and other cruel, inhumane and degrading treatment must be upheld internationally by all governments. It is disturbing that current public debate includes suggestions that torture should be legalised for use in some circumstances.

Through our membership of FASSTT we have consistently advocated against the view that the international community should abandon the principle of a total prohibition against all forms of torture as to do so "would require a terrifying diminution of moral standards in order for such a proposition to have a place in international law.

This would do nothing to advance human rights nor would it provide an answer to international terrorism... Australia represents an opportunity for survivors to heal from past, traumatic experiences. "A crucial component to ensuring the sense of safety necessary for this to occur is our rejection of any view that torture could be either acceptable or morally justifiable."

Thank you for the ongoing support that you as a member of the QPASTT community offer. This is a vital, vibrant and compelling area of work and your contribution to it is as important as it is appreciated.

Paula Peterson
Director
25.11.2006

QPASTT – WHOLE AGENCY INDIVIDUAL CLIENTS 2005-06

Country of origin	Numbers of clients	
	New referrals	New and Continuing clients
Afghanistan	78	107
Bosnia	5	19
Burma	1	1
Cambodia	1	1
Chile		1
Croatia	4	4
El Salvador		2
Eritrea	69	69
Ethiopia	25	35
Indonesia	2	2
Iran	25	38
Iraq	12	21
Kenya	7	10
Lebanon	1	1
Liberia	74	120
Other	182	219
Pakistan	1	3
Rwanda	18	18
Serbia	5	5
Sierra Leone	40	64
Slovakia	1	1
Somalia	29	29
Sri Lanka	1	3
Sudan	272	335
Turkey	1	1
Vietnam	9	9
TOTAL	863	1118

COUNSELLING AND SUPPORT SERVICES

COUNSELLING AND SUPPORT TEAM (CAST)

The CAST team have continued to provide high quality brief, medium, and long term counselling and advocacy services to refugee survivors of torture and trauma. The reimplementation of the intake assessment strategy over the last year has become a basis for focusing more specifically on responding to the most pressing needs of clients. The intake process has become more refined, enabling better formulation and response to the psychosocial needs of our clients. There has been a slight drop in client numbers from last year's figures. This, in combination with better intake assessment, has contributed to a significantly shorter waiting list time for clients.

CAST services are currently delivered in Brisbane and Logan. Due to the complex situations of many of our clients, the home based outreach work of CAST has increased over the last year, and has provided services to clients with high needs who would otherwise be unable to access the service.

QPASTT – Counselling and Support Team – Individual Clients 2005-2006

Country of origin	Numbers of clients	
	New referrals	New and Continuing clients
Afghanistan	9	13
Bosnia	1	16
Cambodia	1	1
Chile		1
Croatia	1	3
El Salvador		2
Eritrea	1	1
Ethiopia	4	5
Indonesia	2	2
Iran	2	7
Iraq	2	5
Lebanon	1	1
Liberia	10	7
Other	17	17
Pakistan	1	1
Rwanda		2
Serbia		4
Sierra Leone	3	4
Somalia		1
Sri Lanka	1	3
Sudan	29	37

Turkey	1	1
Vietnam		2
TOTAL	87	136

PERSONAL SUPPORT PROGRAM (PSP)

The Personal Support Program is a labour market program delivered to people who have been identified as having significant barriers to finding and sustaining employment. QPASTT delivers this program to those for whom the experience of torture and trauma has been identified as the employment barrier. Program operations were audited by the funding body this year and were found to be working very well. The program was increased this financial year from 63 places to allow us to see 113 people – across the regions of Brisbane, Logan, Gold Coast Ipswich and Toowoomba.

The program has again been very ably coordinated this year. A reserved number of 84 clients from 15 different nationalities were seen during the 2005-2006 financial year.

Personal Support Program (PSP)

Country of origin	Numbers of clients	
	New referrals	New & continuing clients
Afghanistan	1	1
Bosnia	5	29

Cambodia	1	2
Croatia	1	5
El Salvador		1
Eritrea	1	1
Iran	3	4
Iraq	2	4
Laos		2
Other	1	1
Pakistan		1
Serbia	4	12
Slovakia	1	1
Sudan	4	5
Turkey	1	1
Vietnam	9	13
TOTAL	34	84

NATURAL THERAPIES

The work of the natural therapies workers has continued to focus on complementing the work the clients are undertaking in counselling. The Natural Therapists offer massage, homeopathy and nutritional support to clients experiencing particular chronic and long term distress. The service they offer can only be limited and then only to those most in need amongst our existing clients.

Continuing the expanded access to the natural therapies, the clinic has remained open this year, offering brief appointments to all clients of the agency who are prepared to come and wait on a first come first served basis. The clinic has proven to be useful to clients in acute distress and performs a valuable holding and nurturing function for people who needing longer term support. The long time coordinator of the clinic was been replaced by her very capable colleague earlier in the year.

CHILDREN'S WORK

Children's work continues to be a priority for QPASTT. The departure of our designated children's counsellor earlier in the year provided an opportunity to fully review the role. As a result the new children's counsellor is now located with the Counselling and Support Team, moving from the Youth Team.

The parameters of the role in school work have also been redefined, allowing the new children's counsellor to provide more intensive support to children presenting with the greatest need. We look forward to a new children's position being created early in 2007 that will reinvigorate the school based work.

Children's program participation statistics July 2005 – June 2006

Activity	Number of activities offered	Total number of participants
Circus group	7	128 - (47% M & 53% F)
Rainbow program	2	15 – (67% M & 33% F)

POUCH FAMILY PROGRAM

The last year has seen the development and implantation of the new family work program, Promoting Our Unity Culture and Human Rights (POUCH). The program developed out of the expressed need from African communities for a whole of family approach in our work at QPASTT. The program is funded for an initial three years by the Department of Family and Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaCSIA) under the Humanitarian Entrants Scheme. QPASTT is one of only two Refugee Torture and Trauma Services nationally to receive this funding.

The model that has been developed is unique. Following an extensive process of community consultation, the program employed two African Bi-Cultural Counsellor Trainees, one from Congo and the other from Rwanda. Both these workers have been provided with extensive training to support their development in their roles.

One of the aims of developing the trainee positions is to develop community capacity and sustainability for the work should program funding end following the initial three years. Both the new workers have settled in well and are providing excellent services to clients. Considerable credit for the development of the program goes to the first coordinator, who has recently been replaced by another enthusiastic and visionary person in the role.

Unfortunately, due to ongoing problems with the FaCSIA FaCSLINK data system, client data is not available at this time.

YOUTH TEAM

National Suicide Prevention Project Evaluation

An extensive external evaluation of the suicide prevention activities of the Youth Team between 2002 and 2005 was finalised in March by Samantha Abbato of the Refugee Health Research Centre, Latrobe University. The evaluation showed that more than 1/3 of the young refugee population in Brisbane (aged 12-24) had some involvement in the youth activities and that their satisfaction with the youth activities was high with the number of programs offered and participation rates increasing over the three years of the program.

Results from young people completing a questionnaire about the impact of the youth program indicate that it assisted them in connecting to peers (58%), culture (87%) and place (72%). Although not part of the original program plan, monitoring and

counselling of young people at high risk of suicide proved to be an integral part of the program.

Results of the evaluation were presented by Julie Huysman and Samantha Abbato in a paper "Prevention through Connection" at the Qld Self-harm and Suicide Prevention Conference, March 2006.

SUPPORT TO TEACHERS AND OTHER SCHOOL STAFF

QPASTT receives calls on a regular basis from school staff who wish to confer with counsellor/advocates about issues they are facing in the classroom or about difficulties with a particular child. QPASTT is approached informally several times a week on this basis.

INDIVIDUAL WORK

The youth team is structured so that a young people may access assistance and support a multiple levels including camps, school outreach, homework club, holiday activities and so on. In addition a number of students are provided with additional individual counselling and casework support.

These students are those who have been identified as having particularly complex needs, who display psychological symptoms such as suicide ideation and self harming behaviours, or who are identified as being "at risk" in terms of school drop out.

A summary of this work is contained in the following table.

QPASTT Youth team – individual clients 2005-2006

Country of origin	Numbers of clients	
	New referrals	New and Continuing clients
Afghanistan	3	5
Bosnia	1	1
Ethiopia		1
Iran	1	3
Iraq		2
Liberia	5	9
Other	7	11
Rwanda		2
Serbia		1
Sierra Leone		4
Somalia		1
Sudan	23	35

TOTAL	40	75

GROUP WORK

The ongoing group work activities of the Youth Team were augmented during the last year by the addition of a Youth Support Coordinator who has been very active in establishing group work programs at Sunnybank, Nyanda and McGregor High Schools.

CAMPS

One camp was held on Stradbroke Island this year with fifty young people participating. The camp focussed on building the leadership potential of the young people attending, building relationships of trust and cooperation between the participants and building community relations. The camp was very successful and was delivered in partnership with MultiLink.

HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

A range of sporting, recreation, creative and self development activities have been conducted. Funding is usually gained from Brisbane City Council Chill Out Youth at Risk Program for activity costs eg: transport, entrance fees. Focus is on supporting and encouraging young people to access local youth spaces and sporting centres eg workers catch public transport with young people to increase their knowledge and confidence in accessing spaces and activities independently

As an example of the Teams work in this area, September holiday activities included welcome activities at the new QPASTT address, basketball, games, talent competitions and hip-hop debate, beach volleyball and embroidery.

HOMEWORK CLUB

This is a coordinated volunteer based program whereby university students help refugee, high school students from Coorparoo, Yeronga, Kedron, Sunnybank, Toowong, Milperra and St James with their homework and assignments. It allows students to develop their academic skills and aloes to meet and socialise with their peers in a supervised and safe and welcoming environment. Homework Club has expanded significantly over the last year.

SCHOOL OUTREACH

QPASTT outposts our youth program at identified schools to meet young people during lunchtimes, providing them information about current activities, informally talking to students about their wellbeing and school experiences. The focus of this work has been Milperra Special High School, Yeronga High School, and Sunnybank High School and Coorparoo, Nyanda and McGregor High Schools. A summary of all youth activities is listed below.

Youth Program participation statistics July – December 2005

Activity	Number of activities offered	Total number of participant units *(% Male, % Female)
Holiday Activity	13	277 (53%M, 47%F)
Homework Club	33	208 (47%M, 51%F)
Milperra Care	1	12 (100%F)
School Outreach	33	117 (41%M,59%F)
Other Activity	1	9 (100%M)
Grand Total	81	623 (49%M,51%F)

Forrest James
CAST Team Leader

Capacity Building Report

The work undertaken over the past 12 months has been driven by the needs of our clients and the demands placed upon the service by external partners and gaps in the system. The focus has been to build on our body of knowledge and skills and ensure that we work developmentally and maintain a strong client focus.

The overall aim is to achieve better outcomes and meet the complex needs of refugees settling in Queensland through the work of the Early Intervention Team, the QIRCH Clinic and community development initiatives.

The work is always challenging and at times overwhelming nonetheless with dedicated staff, supportive management and inspiring community members it has been possible to pull together some positive outcomes.

Early Intervention (IHSS) Brisbane Metro

The new consortium arrangement entered into by QPASTT in October 2005 with MDA and MATCH marked a new era in the provision of early intervention to recently arrived refugees. The initial few months were slow and difficult with both a slower intake of refugees and general confusion about referral processes and protocols for communication. The last 6 months however have indicated a high level of activity as per the table below.

Families and individuals settling in Brisbane Metro are being seen by counsellor advocates within the first two to four weeks after arrival. Referrals are made mostly by the lead agency, MDA.

The majority of new arrivals are still from African countries including: Burundi, Eritrea, Congo, Liberia and Sudan. However a significant focus on South East Asia has meant we are also working with families and individuals who are Karen and identify as a minority ethnic group from Burma or as many refer to Myanmar. As with every new and emerging community QPASTT and all other service providers need to respond by supporting and identifying community members with capacity to provide interpreting services, advocate to government for support in this area and also become informed of relevant cultural, historical and social factors.

Issues emerging from our work include an ongoing need for coordination of services in particular primary health care. The need for information which is easily understood on a range of issues is often highlighted as a need by community members. In response QPASTT is facilitating a FICT (Families in Cultural Transition) program with the Burundi community which is co-facilitated by workers in the POUCH program.

MDA will be organizing regular information sessions for all new arrivals and QPASTT and QIRCH will deliver information on physical and mental health care. As with all our work, information sharing is regarded as only useful if delivered not only in an appropriate language but also in a culturally sensitive and inclusive manner.

The early intervention team has identified the need to be flexible in the delivery of the service and therefore we have negotiated space at Southbank TAFE and the Chermide Library to meet our clients who may find it difficult to access QPASTT. Counsellor/advocates work to empower clients to be self-reliant but also acknowledge the reality of being a new arrival and will on most occasions organize a home visit for the first assessment.

Although the role of QPASTT in the new contract has moved away from managing all health care needs and this is now MDA's role, we are still supporting clients to access QIRCH and other health care services on an individual case basis. The focus for Early Intervention will continue to be client focused, to work closely with consortium partners and develop productive working relationships and contribute to the development and documentation of operational processes.

Early Intervention (IHSS) Regional

QPASTT is in a sub-contracting relationship with Anglicare **Toowoomba** and one counsellor/advocate who is co-located with Lifeline provides the short term torture and trauma counselling work. This arrangement is an extension of the work under the old contract and builds on the extensive networks which support refugees living in Toowoomba. In terms of new arrivals once again Sudanese families feature as the largest group however we are also seeing a few Liberian families.

There has been a general decline in the total number of new arrivals who are being proposed under a 202 visa category. This could be due to a number of factors including the increase in cost of airfares which might delay the capacity for families to sponsor.

Individual and family work with new arrivals is complimented by other activities which aim to build capacity and better services. QPASTT works closely with health services in Toowoomba including GPs and the Toowoomba Base hospital to ensure access to health care. Initiatives driven by local networks including TRAMS (Toowoomba Refugee and Migrant Service) are supported by QPASTT which plays an active role in linking and supporting new arrivals.

Issues emerging in Toowoomba include the need to provide ongoing opportunities for inclusion not only within mainstream but also within people's own community groups and therefore initiatives such as a mothers' group at TRAMS is very well attended.

QPASTT provides supervision, training and de-briefing to the IHSS **Cairns** program and in particular the counsellor employed by Centacare Cairns. Under this arrangement two face to face contacts one in Cairns and one in Brisbane were organized to deliver and share information about our work. Regular phone supervision further compliments the support QPASST extends to the Cairns program.

Although numbers have been small with less than ten families being settled the workers have found it very challenging. Three large Burundi families have settled in Cairns and all have needed extensive support. The challenge in the regions is about access to language support services and other community support. For more detail on individual referrals refer to the following table.

QPASTT – IHSS Individual referrals 2005 – 06

Country of Origin	New referrals
Afghanistan	62
Bosnia	1
Eritrea	67
Ethiopia	19
Iran	23
Iraq	10
Kenya	7
Liberia	61
Other	160
Rwanda	18
Sierra Leone	34
Somalia	28
Sudan	232
TOTAL	723

QIRCH CLINIC

QIRCH is continuing to meet significant gaps in the provision of health care to refugees settling in Brisbane. The ongoing lobbying of Queensland Health and some initial movement at the National level to address the needs of refugees in a more coordinator manner have still not yielded a practical response in Queensland. QIRCH relies heavily on the resources provided by the St Vincent and Holy Spirit Health Services and still only receives a small amount of funds from Queensland Health. The doctors who are tirelessly volunteering at the Clinic are an inspiration and their commitment is the back bone of the clinic.

This has been complimented by the employment of a full time nurse who provides clinical assessments and support to the GPs. A total number of 293 patients were seen between April to September 2006. Over the past four years approximately 776 people were assessed and treated at QIRCH. On reflection this is almost unbelievable as the clinic has always only relied on volunteer GPs and became full time just under two years ago.

The clinical work of QIRCH is becoming increasingly demanding and requires a very different set of skills to manage it. In recognition of this factor the Partnership Advisory Group with the assistance of an external facilitator came to an understanding that the work of QIRCH can be described as: Clinical service provision, sector development and training and advocacy and policy development. In light of QPASTT not possessing the clinical expertise Mater Health Services was approached to take over management of this aspect. New arrangements from early next year will ensure that QIRCH continues to deliver high quality health care to refugees and refugee claimants.

The Mater will be responsible for clinical services including operational management of the clinic from the 1st of January and will manage the clinic staff. QPASTT will retain management of the Refugee Health Development position which is funded

under IHSS and has a sector development, training and consortium support focus. The partnership advisory group to QIRCH will also be retained and QPASTT will formalise a memorandum of understanding with the Mater in relation to the ongoing sector development and policy development work.

This marks a new opportunity for QIRCH to be able to not only provide ongoing high quality and innovative care to refugees but also an opportunity to continue lobbying Queensland Health and ensure sustainability and enhancement of resources.

Community Development:

What an exciting year for community development at QPASTT. Two major initiatives have ensured that community development continues to play an important role in the recovery and healing of survivors of torture and trauma and also there is hope for a better articulated understanding of where community development fits in the agency. This is due to the employment of an African Community Development worker and the facilitation of the National Community Development Evaluation Framework project.

The African Community Development position which is funded by Multicultural Affairs Queensland (MAQ) and is in partnership with Multicultural Development Association (MDA) is a part time position but has achieved a great deal in a short space of time. The focus of the position is on building strong links with African communities, supporting existing community processes and facilitating opportunities for advocacy and policy change. After many years of working with African leaders and workers QPASTT was able to work closely with both established community leaders and emerging community leaders to support their own initiative of establishing the Queensland African Communities Council (QACC).

Although still at a very early stage the potential for a sustainable and strong representative group is very possible. The African Community Development worker will continue to work with this group and other both formal and informal community groups to ensure information is shared and people have an opportunity to discuss and build their capacity to access services and participate in broader processes. MAQ has been working across Qld Government to ensure government agencies have well thought out multicultural action plans and in particular QPASTT has contributed through this position to the African Action plan.

Dept of Health and Aging has funded 5 FASSTT (Forum of Australian Services for Survivors of Torture and Trauma) agencies to participate in an exciting project of developing an evaluation framework for planning and evaluating the outcomes of community development work we currently undertake. Five internal consultants were employed including Ally at QPASTT. I am the project manager for the project and Jenny Mitchell is an external consultant based in Melbourne who is facilitating the intellectual discussion and documenting the framework.

This is truly exciting as it has allowed each agency including the three who were not specifically funded to undertake this process, an opportunity to reflect and build on our collective understanding of how community development contributes to recovery. The framework will be ready by February 2007 and it will incorporate feedback from 25 consultations with diverse communities across all five services. The consultations were focused on getting community feedback on the indicators. It is hoped that all those involved in this process and the directors will meet in February 2007 and discuss future possibilities for the implementation and piloting of the framework. It is

hoped to attract more funding to allow this process to continue and to actually pilot the framework across FASSTT.

To support the community development work of the agency, workers who are engaged in community development as well as counsellor/ advocates are accessing external supervision from an experienced community development worker and academic. The intention is to develop closer links between the personal and the public or the counselling and the community capacity building work. The capacity to clearly articulate what we do, the impact it has and the links to recovery and better mental health outcomes is the reason for investing considerably in this intellectual exercise.

In conclusion I would like to say that this year has been one of the most challenging of the 11 years I have worked at QPASTT but the communities we work with and our colleagues have been a source of hope and energy. The move to 50 Shottery Street has significantly brought QPASTT programs together and I am confident that the communities we serve will feel at home and safe in this new environment.

Donata Rossi
Associate Director
Manager Capacity Building

WHO IS WHO AT QPASTT IN 2005 - 2006

1. COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

- Keithia Wilson Co– Chair
- Danijel Kis – Co-Chair (Until March 2006)
- Rosalind Azzizi – Secretary
- Rafael Pacheco – Treasurer
- Ian Mannion
- Jacob Jok Gai
- Jeremy Butler
- Margo Couldrey
- Afshin Al Khavari

2. SUB COMMITTEES

a) QIRCH

- Ian Mannion – Chair
- Kate Ramsay – Mater Health Services
- Sr Christine Henry – Sisters of Charity and Holy Spirit Health Services
- Dee Jeffery – Queensland Health – Community Health
- Brad McCall – Queensland Health - Public Health Unit
- Christine Kardash – Brisbane Inner South Division of General Practice
- Gaby Heuft – Refugee Claimants Support Centre
- Donata Rossi – QPASTT

b) STAFFING SUB COMMITTEE

- Keithia Wilson
- Rosalind Azzizi
- Paula Peterson

c) FINANCE SUB COMMITTEE

- Rafael Pacheco
- Desi Castillo
- Paula Peterson

STAFF

- Paula Peterson – Director
- Donata Rossi – Associate Director, Manager Community Services
- Forrest James – Manager Direct Services and Clinical Practice
- Natasha Cordasic – POUCH Coordinator
- Lejla Cistic – Team Leader – IHSS Team (from October 2005 – June 2006)
- Desi Castillo – Team Leader - Administration

- Liz Gordon – Counsellor Advocate - CAST
- Kristy Date - Counsellor Advocate – CAST

- Zia Song – Counsellor Advocate – CAST/PSP

- Marina Chand – Natural Therapies Coordinator to May 2006
- Bronwynne Jettoo – Natural Therapies sessional worker and Coordinator

- Fernanda Torresi – Counsellor Advocate – IHSS
- Taher Forotan - Counsellor Advocate – IHSS
- Charito Hassell - Counsellor Advocate –IHSS
- Melissa Queitzsch – Refugee Health Development Worker

- Julie Huysman - Counsellor Advocate – Youth
- Kellie Grant - Counsellor Advocate – Children and Youth
- Abdi Yusuf – Youth Support Coordinator
- Marcela Ramirez – Youth Project worker
- Ally Wakefield – Children’s Project worker

- Dee Hiller – Administrative Officer
- Azeb Ayalekebet – Administrative Assistant

- Sarah Grealy – QIRCH Coordinator
- Monique Patterson-Lucas – QIRCH Administration Officer

- Rafael Pacheco – Financial consultant
- Luis Melgar – Financial consultant
- Chris Lobsinger – Sessional counsellor
- Kent Smith – Sessional counsellor
- Lois Whiteman – Sessional counsellor

