



Child Protection Practitioners

Association of Queensland Limited 1 September 2011 – 31 August 2012

ABN: 83 151 398 480

## Practice Paper Series

PO Box 12056 Brisbane George Street QLD 4003

[www.cppaq.com.au](http://www.cppaq.com.au)

### Tuesday, 6 December 2011 (includes Xmas drinks)

#### **Topic: “Challenges and Opportunities of Inter-professional Collaboration in Child Protection”**

Ineffective interagency and interdisciplinary collaboration is frequently cited in child protection inquiries as a significant factor contributing to inadequate systemic responses where children have been severely harmed or died as a result of abuse and neglect. The first paper in the inaugural CPPAQ Practice Paper Series will begin by exploring the challenges faced by child protection professionals in engaging in inter-professional collaboration. The primary assertion of this paper is that despite enduring fundamental professional differences in perspectives, knowledge and responsibilities, inter-professional collaboration is possible. Furthermore it has the potential to transcend established segmented professional boundaries and transform complex professional interactions into complimentary and constructive approaches to child protection practice. This approach will ultimately enhance the safety of children and young people in our community. This presentation sets out the particular knowledge and skills required to be an effective inter-professional collaborator.

**About our presenter:** Penny Gordon is a psychologist with over 30 years experience working in child protection which includes 9 years working in statutory systems, 7 years in NGO's and for the past 15 years as a psychologist in private practice working in both clinical and organisational fields. Penny is currently Director and Principal Consultant for Penny Gordon and Associates. She was a previous Chair of the Queensland Child Protection Council (1999-2001), a member of the Forde Inquiry Implementation Monitoring Group (1999-2001) and Chair of PACT (2007-2009). She provides mentoring and supervision for a cross section of professionals from social work, psychology, medical, legal, nursing, and clergy and a broad range of other human services personnel and leaders to assist them in their roles and in many cases assistance to deal with the secondary trauma associated with the work they undertake. Ms Gordon is a member of CPPAQ.

**Venue:** Grant Thornton King George Square 102 Adelaide Street Brisbane City

**Time:** 5 :30 pm to 7:00 pm

**Cost:** Free for members or \$30 one off attendance