

\$3.00



Summer, 1980.
Vol. 5, No. 4.

**Economic climate
worsens for families**

**An exercise in
influencing child abuse policies
and programs in Victoria**

**Pre term families
visitors or colleagues**

“The mums’ chums project”

**Outreach —
strengthening families under stress**



IN THIS ISSUE



**Australian
Child and
Family
Welfare**
(QUARTERLY)

EDITORIAL.

Margarita Frederico

3

ECONOMIC CLIMATE WORSENS FOR FAMILIES.

David Scott.

David Scott discusses the effect on families of the current economic situation. He identifies the families who are living below or close to the poverty line, and discusses the effect this situation is having upon their life.

AN EXERCISE IN INFLUENCING CHILD ABUSE POLICIES AND PROGRAMS IN VICTORIA.

Peter Boss.

Peter Boss gives hope to those who despair of influencing any public policies or programs. In this article he provides a framework for influencing policy and discusses how one group "We Care" used this approach.

6

PRE TERM FAMILIES — VISITORS OR COLLEAGUES

Libby Lloyd.

Libby Lloyd discusses a particular crisis for a family, that of the birth of a pre-term baby. She identifies particular areas of stress for the family and suggests how the personnel engaged in treating the baby can help the parents cope with the situation.

12

"THE MUMS' CHUMS PROJECT".

Robyne Schwarz and Paddy Begg.

The authors describe how volunteers provided a support service to new mothers. The approach, which recognised that caring for a new baby can be a period of stress as well as joy, was initiated as a preventive approach to child abuse. The article describes the aims of the program, the structure and the early evaluation of the project.

18

OUTREACH — STRENGTHENING FAMILIES UNDER STRESS

Rae Lindsay.

The author describes the development of a Family Service Centre, and discusses the Centre's approach to helping families under stress.

22

REGULAR FEATURES.

BOOK REVIEWS.

26

POT POURRI.

32

A CHILD.

Teresa Staiano.

34

A prize winning poem, dedicated to the 1979 International Year of the Child.