ICT Project Nomination Form 2011

The teams choose projects based on this short description. There is no guarantee that your project will be taken, make it sound as interesting and as educational as possible.

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**Project Title:**

UnitingCare Tasmania: An interface for the 21st century

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**Client retains Intellectual Property:** Yes

**Confidentiality Agreement required:** Yes

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**Project Description:**

UnitingCare Tasmania is a Tasmanian charity made up of 3 existing unrelated services, brought together to make a cohesive statewide family focussed suite of services.

The existing services were very run down as they were under resourced and poorly managed. A lot of work has been done to fix that situation.

Some of the programs we currently run are:

- providing education programs, skill development and support to young pregnant women (and their partners if possible)
- education, support and practical programs to parents at risk of statutory involvement with child protection through issues of neglect, abuse or incompetent parenting
- Reunification programs for families who have had their children removed by Child Protection and are ready/appropriately skilled and/or resourced for reunification to occur.
- Prison Programs for parents due for release who were incarcerated for parenting breaches.
- Individual and family counselling
- Emergency Relief for those in material or financial difficulty/crisis.
- Child Care

This project is about bringing the agency into the 21st century, professionalising and modernising it, making it relevant and user friendly to a broad client base.

There is an existing website using Joomla (a content management system). The rudimentary bits are there, but we need it to appeal and be user friendly to young people and the elderly and all those in between. We also need to have the ability to modify the website in-house.

We want it to have all the most effective ways to keep the interest of the young parents, link to our facebook page, have podcasts, perhaps a blog, you tube, download resources, links to other sites etc.

Any use of technology that works. We want it to be as funky as it can be, and not just rely on written language. Lots of these kids can't read.

Many children in out of home care live with grandparents. For the older user the site must be extremely easy to use/navigate around. Many of these folk have very limited exposure to the web, but need to ... not just for the info they need but also to be able to communicate with, support and understand the world their grandchildren live in.

In addition the website needs to have a resource library database of books, videos, toys, resource kits that people can borrow. It needs to be able to show whats available, when something that is out on loan is due back etc.
Lastly the website needs to be able to let us access it as an intranet using sharepoint. We currently have this facility but its not set up correctly.

There is also an existing broken database for a family support guide that needs rebuilding. It needs to have capacity for all family services state wide to be able to log in and upload their own details, and amend them regularly. It needs to be able to query and report on services by fields such as region, town, age, issues, and cost. It then needs to be able to print or email the selections. It will be used by all kinds of services to find information for their own use or to refer clients onto, but also by members of the public to self refer. It will be extremely empowering.

This will be in the public domain and likely linked to our website. It needs to be robust, able to be used by many people across the state at the same time, and have in built integrity.

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**Project Technical Information:**
Website... commenced using Joomla as content management system (but this could be changed if something better available)
The databases are Access, but again could be changed to something better.

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