



Clients in Common – a social dataset

***Christopher Gascoigne and **Bianca Barbaro**, *Principal Research and Information Officer, South Australian Department for Families and Communities, **Research and Information Officer, South Australian Department of Health (chris.gascoigne@dfc.sa.gov.au)

The Clients in Common Project is a project linking and analysing administrative datasets from the South Australian Department for Families and Communities and the Department of Health. Data, which are for the period 2002 – 2003, cover Metropolitan Adelaide, Whyalla and Mt Gambier and are provided by a number of major service providers including:

- Public Hospitals
 - Emergency Department
 - Inpatients
- SA Housing Trust
 - Tenants
 - Private Rental Assistance
- Adult Mental Health Services
- Child, Youth and Family Services
- Child and Youth Health
 - Children (CRIB)
 - Youth (The Second Story)
- SA Community Housing
- Aboriginal Housing Authority
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health
- Disability Services
- Community Health Services

The de-identified dataset comprises some 1.5 million records focussing on services provided to individuals, with a record for each presentation. Wherever possible records were geocoded. As part of the geocoding process, and to protect privacy of individuals, locations were randomly shifted in any direction by up to 200 metres (constrained by natural boundaries). All records attributable to any one individual were shifted to a single point. This project was undertaken to facilitate research into multiple service use by clients, particularly in relation to services from multiple providers. This dataset will be made available during 2006 to researchers both internal to the two departments and external. Ethics approvals will be required before the de-identified dataset is released to researchers. This presentation will focus on the dataset, access to the dataset and some initial analysis. The analysis will deal with broad issues before honing in on specific projects such as young women and homelessness.