

**20 May 2007**

***ISS Open Day Celebrated the UN 'International Day of Families'***

The National and New South Wales Branch of International Social Service (ISS) held the ISS Open Day on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> May to celebrate the United Nations 'International Day of Families'. Attendees included guests from many different key community and government organisations.

The ISS Open Day corresponded with National Families Week to celebrate working together to help bridge families across the world. The aim of the event was to promote awareness and action about the issues experienced by families across international borders. ISS staff gave presentations about the programs offered to better inform community partners how these programs may be relevant to their work.

A major highlight of the event was the official launch of the 'Learning from the Links between Domestic Violence and International Parental Child Abduction' research report and planning and prevention resource kit. This kit provides individuals and workers with information about the relationship between family violence and child abduction and was produced following research which has been published in the report.

Most Open Day attendees registered to receive the ISS e-newsletter for ongoing developments and further information about the organisation. Overall, the atmosphere was cheerful and festive and the ISS staff received extremely positive feedback.

ISS would like to thank everyone that attended the Open Days, as well as Weicheng Chen for assisting the National office in decorating the event, Nyatut Ngyoth for talking about her personal experience of being part of a family separated by international borders and Two Good Eggs for catering the NSW Branch event.

For more information about ISS, please contact [adminnsw@iss.org.au](mailto:adminnsw@iss.org.au) or **(02) 9267 0300**.

---

ISS works across borders to help those in vulnerable situations, with a special emphasis on children. We work to ensure entitlement and protection under international human rights frameworks, through the professional delivery of casework and advocacy services.