



Newsletter

New Year Newsletter
2009

This Newsletter is part of the regional **AOD Youth Capacity Building Role**.

Please contact Salli Hickford:

shickford@barwonyouth.org.au to provide any feedback.

Happy New Year!!!!

Notice board

VAADA Conference 09

DIRECTION IN A TIME OF CHANGE

19-20 February 2009

Jasper Hotel, 489 Elizabeth Street, Melbourne

Change isn't new to AOD. Over the years the Alcohol and Other Drug Sector has evolved to meet shifting drug trends, changed government policy imperatives, and an increasingly diverse and complex client group with multiple needs. These changes present many challenges within the AOD field today for both workers and services.

Conference 09 will endeavour to explore these changes and subsequent challenges and offer delegates the opportunity to exchange ideas, share practice wisdom and showcase good practice for dealing with a work environment in flux. It will be of particular interest to those working directly with AOD clients.

VAADA Conference 09 – Rural Subsidy/Bursary Funding Available

Funding is available to provide financial assistance for disadvantaged delegates to attend Conference 09. To apply an application form will need to be obtained from VAADA.

Blueprint: What VAADA is doing

The DHS "blueprint for alcohol and drug treatment services 2009-2013" has been released.

In response VAADA would like to invite AOD sector CEO's and Managers to a forthcoming meeting to discuss the report and it's implications for our sector and how we respond.

Friday Feb 6th 2009, 1.30pm

Richmond Town Hall, Meeting Room 1

If you have any inquiries or require additional copies of our promotional brochure for your work place please contact VAADA. <http://www.vaada.info>

Inquires: Shane Barnes (Conference Organiser)

Email – conference@vaada.org.au

TF – 9416 0899

FebFast – Join in - Barwon Team

FebFast is a community education and awareness campaign that invites people to do something good for their own bodies, and someone else's by sacrificing their alcohol intake for up to one month, during February.

Full registration costs \$25 and concession \$10.

Participants are sponsored by friends & family, with funds distributed to organisations that support young people struggling with substance use. Funds raised in 2008 have been distributed to 8 organisations (spanning Vic, NSW, Tasmania, Qld and WA, including Barwon Youth) working to reduce substance related harms for young people.

You might achieve one or more of the following by participating in FebFast; lose weight, have more energy for your day to day activities, regain balance in your drinking behaviour, have a clearer head, gain financial savings, enjoy deeper and more satisfying sleep or just generally feel better.

On top of this, you will feel great knowing you have made a contribution towards helping young Australians avoid or reduce the serious problem of substance use.

Participating in FebFast is easy. To get started you will need to register (\$25 full or \$10 concession) and build a personalised online fundraising page.

We will send you regular newsletters throughout February to help you stay motivated.

All staff across the Barwon Region that work with young people with substance use issues are encouraged to either to join the Barwon Team by either registering and joining the team or sponsoring someone on it. It is called Barwon's Fundraising Page, You can visit Hero Page at <http://www.everydayhero.com.au/barwon>.

The user name and passwords are Barwon.

ANCD CEO NGO Survey

To CEOs of NGOs within the Drug and Alcohol Sector

At a number of recent community consultation meetings held by the Australian National Council on Drugs (ANCD) the burden on drug and alcohol NGOs in complying with submission and reporting processes from funding bodies has been raised as a major concern. This concern has also been echoed in discussions with the Australasian Therapeutic Communities Association (ATCA).



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Given the ANCD will be launching some major research on the NGO sector in early 2009, the membership of the ANCD has requested that a short survey be undertaken by the ANCD Secretariat to gain a broader understanding of the extent and degree of the impact of this issue on services. The survey specifically seeks information on a number of different aspects, including time spent on completing funding submissions and complying with reporting requirements once funding has been granted.

As the CEOs of these services we would value your input by having you complete this on line survey. It takes approximately 15 minutes to complete and can be accessed at

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=JJ_2feoEQVEOdexY3IZfciQ_3d_3d
<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=JJ_2feoEQVEOdexY3IZfciQ_3d_3d>

The closing date for surveys to be submitted is 21st January 2009.

VCOSS 2009 COMMUNITY SECTOR CAMPAIGN

The Price Index Working Group, a sub-committee of the VCOSS Peaks and Statewide Networks Forum, is planning a campaign strategy for 2009 to highlight the impact of financial pressures on community organisations.

VCOSS will develop key messages and campaign resources as well as sending regular emails to keep you updated about the progress of the campaign and the price index negotiations with the Victorian Government.

The campaign will only be effective if there is a strong community sector voice. We are therefore asking each organisation to consider how they are able to support this campaign by highlighting publicly some of the issues raised in the survey responses. Please let me know by return email/phone as soon as possible if:

- your organisation is prepared to to publicly support the campaign for appropriate community sector funding and indexation.
- your organisation is able to undertake media locally (or more broadly if your organisation's reach extends further) about the funding issues experienced by your agency and the impact on your clients;
- your organisation is in a position to organise a client or former client to speak publicly about

the support your organisation was able to provide to them.

Some of the other actions you could consider undertaking over the next couple of months include:

- writing to your local MPs to highlight the funding pressures faced by your organisation and the subsequent impact on your clients. Seeking meetings with MPs or inviting them to visit your service;
- supporting clients, carers and families to contact and/or meet with your local MPs to discuss the importance of community services; and
- contacting local and state media outlets to highlight the issues facing community organisations.

VCOSS will be developing a series of communications shortly to assist your advocacy work including background information and a template media release and letter.

Please let VCOSS know if you do arrange any meetings or undertake media in your local area. It would also be of assistance if you could copy VCOSS into any letters or send copies so we can keep them on file.

We are also planning to organise a Community Sector Advocacy Day at Parliament House during the parliamentary sitting week of March 10-13.

Community sector organisations will be invited to send one or two staff or board members along with a client or former client to meet with all MPs to highlight the critical funding issues facing the Victorian community services sector. The day will conclude with a community picnic. More details about this day will follow in the New Year.

Thank you again for all of your support to date. VCOSS greatly appreciates how many organisations responded to the recent survey in the short timeframe. It is this support which has helped to strengthen the case for appropriate funding for the community services sector. We look forward to working with you on the ongoing funding campaign in the new year.



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For further information please contact Paula Grogan, Partnerships Policy Officer (E: paula.grogan@vcoss.org.au T: 9654 5050 on Tuesdays and Thursdays).

Chapter authors: mental health-substance use textbook

Dear Colleagues:

I am currently working on a series of 6 textbooks related to mental health-substance use. Book 6 relates to a series of chapters that are case study based. They are practice chapters intended to show the 'how to,' of intervention from identification, through assessment, to outcome, for the person or persons involved, plus the professionals part in that intervention.

I am keen to hear from any practitioner interested in writing one of the below chapter. It is OK if you are new to writing, I will provide the necessary input to develop these skills. I am more interested in the professional expertise of the author, and the compassion demonstrated.

The three chapters are:

- ? Stimulants and mental health, in practice
- ? Other drugs and mental health, in practice
- ? Prescription drugs and mental health, in practice

I look forward to hearing from anyone interested. My thanks, David

'It is only through constant training that our practice will grow steady and we will be able to control our negative tendencies fearlessly.' Dilgo Khyentse Rinpoche

David B. Cooper, **Editor-in-Chief: Mental Health and Substance Use - dual diagnosis**

23 Orchard Gate, Dolton, Winkleigh Devon, EX19 8QZ

T: +44 (0) 1805 804 445

E: david.b.cooper@compassionem.co.uk

Victoria Police checks - Changes

Please be aware that there has been a change to the way Victoria Police now want police checks processed - changes will apply to the Victoria Police National Police Record Check process.

- A downloadable online application form will replace the current form.

- Applicants can download, complete and print the new online form.
- A 100-point identification check will be introduced.
- An authorised certifier is required to witness and certify identity documents and signature of applicant.
- The certificate will only be issued to the applicant.
- To increase protection of information released, the new certificate includes seven security features.

www.police.vic.gov.au/content.asp?Document_ID=274

The Human Rights Charter in the alcohol and drug sector

The Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities has been operational in Victoria for over a year and over 4500 people have already attended the Commission's Charter workshops. Is your organisation up to date with human rights training?

Alcohol and drug clinicians and professionals:
o The Charter can help you better understand and advocate for your clients' rights
o The Charter is an excellent tool for encouraging clients to participate in the development of higher quality services that meet their needs
Alcohol and drug policy workers and program managers:

o Find out how the Charter works and what it means for your organisation and sector
o We can help your organisation develop and work within a human rights framework
The Charter is an agreed set of democratic rights and freedoms protected by law that requires all public authorities, and any organisation providing public services on behalf of government, to act in a way that is consistent with human rights. The Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission offers a range of generalist courses including:

- o Introducing the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities (**next session 10th February – book now!**)
- o An exploration of the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities (next session 19th)



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February)

o The Advocates' Charter: A tool for individual and systemic change (next session 3rd March)

o From Principle to practice: Implementing a human rights based approach in community organisations (next session 12th March)

Places are available for workers in community sector and non-government agencies, but are strictly limited, so register soon to avoid missing out. For more information or to register online, please visit the VEOHRC website at: <http://www.humanrightscommission.vic.gov.au/education%20and%20training/community%20workshops/>
For more information, call Cameron Brodie on (03) 9281 7122

Resources

Co morbidity Website Launched

The peak body, **VAADA**, (Victorian Alcohol and Drug Association) in Melbourne Australia launched a website dedicated to Co morbidity today.

The *Co morbidity* website was developed as part of the Cross Sectorial Support and Strategic Partnerships Project (CSSSPP) also known as the Improved Services Initiative.

Funded by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, the website provides comprehensive information on the many aspects involved with the improvement of services who work with people who experience both mental health and drug and alcohol problems.

"The website offers a unique collection of resources about co morbidity/dual diagnosis and the elements of capacity building of relevance to anyone interested in the field, with a specialised section for the 27 Victorian grant recipients funded by the federal government's Department of Health and Ageing " said Gail Ward the Project Coordinator for the at VAADA.

The site also includes a number of tools and resources including:

A self-assessment tool for services to rate their capacity to work with people experiencing comorbidity

- ? Information about conferences
- ? Latest available training
- ? Forthcoming seminars and forums locally, nationally and internationally

To find out more, visit www.comorbidity.org.au

VAADA Annual 07/08 Report

The 2007/2008 VAADA Annual Report is available at:

<http://www.vaada.org.au/resources/items/2008/12/249594-upload-00001.pdf>

November/December VAADA News

The November/December edition of the VAADA News is available to download at:

<http://www.vaada.org.au>

Mentoring Tool: Partnerships with Businesses

The guide includes information on:

- Planning a successful partnership
- Approaching business
- Negotiating an agreement and
- Developing and reviewing the relationship

The guide also includes electronic tools to assist organizations and showcases mutually beneficial partnerships between youth mentoring organizations and business.

Electronic copies and more information can be found through the website

www.youth.vic.gov.au > Grants and Programs > Mentoring > Tools for better Mentoring

The Recovery Foundation

Please click on the following links to download flyer.

Recovery Foundation Flyer

Advocacy With Anonymity, by a Not For Profit Foundation in USA called Faces and Voices of Recovery, this article explains how people in recovery can share their stories without violating the traditions of AA or NA

We will be launching the website soon and I will be looking for articles and also stories from people to post to the site. We will be filming people who wish to share their story on a YouTube format, but we are also looking for people who want to write their stories as well. This initiative has been taken because it is time to get positive messages of recovery out into the public arena. We believe the time is right to do this with all the negative attention in the media, not only recently, but over the past few years. There will be a wide range of stories from people who have used all sorts of different ways, methods, life skills etc to achieve



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their goals, and our younger generation, especially, need to hear these stories of recovery.

As you will see on the brochure, we have Jimmy Barnes and his brother John Swan working for us. We are working with the music industry to have a concert in order to raise awareness for The Recovery Foundation, so we will keep you all informed about this. Please feel free to email me with any advice, comments, offers of help or anything else you can dream up. We intend the website to be ran by all of you folks out there, so interaction between us all is a vital part of this service. We also ask that you pass on the flyer to anyone you think would like know about us. We want as many people to see this as is possible. comments or suggestions to

George Thompson CMACA

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The Inaugural DARRANGGEEYT FESTIVAL OF TENNIS

1-3 May 2009 in Geelong

The Indigenous Tennis Australia Foundation (ITAF), in partnership with Tennis Victoria has announced the Inaugural Darranggeeyt Festival of Tennis.

The festival, which will be held in Geelong from 1-3 May 2009, is the first of its kind and has been designed to help develop passion for the sport amongst Victorian aboriginal communities, whilst at the same time showcasing their unique culture. The 3 day festival for players 10 – 18 years includes clinics coaching and a 2 day tournament.

The festival will be staged in Geelong and has significant support from the local Wathaurong community, providing strong social, welfare and cultural ties for the event.

For more information, please contact:

Nick Hinneberg (Executive Manager of Operations at Tennis Victoria) on 8240 8415

Paul Gaff (Tournament Director and ITAF Board Member) on 9859 2437

Lou Smarrelli (ITAF Board Member) on 0408108246

Dave McLachlan (Wathaurong Aboriginal Co-Operative) on 0407 879 793

"AUSTRALIA: HEALTHIEST COUNTRY BY 2020" ...AN INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE

The Preventative Health Taskforce appointed by Health Minister Nicola Roxon has just released a major discussion paper - Australia: the Healthiest Country by 2020 - with supporting technical reports, and is keen to consult with as many organisations, groups and individuals as possible on this and the National Preventative Health Strategy, which is the next stage in its work. The discussion paper was released on 10 October 2008 and is available at:

<http://www.preventativehealth.org.au/internet/preventativehealth/publishing.nsf/Content/discussion-healthiest>

The National Opioid Pharmacotherapy Statistics Annual Data (NOPSAD) collection is an administrative by-product collection. Data are collated in each jurisdiction from information already collected for the purposes of administering or providing a service.

In Australia, people with opioid dependence have been treated using opioid pharmacotherapy for a number of decades (Methadone since 1969 and Buprenorphine since the 1980s). The Australian Government funds the provision of pharmacotherapy drugs via pharmaceutical benefits arrangements, through clinics and pharmacies approved by state and territory governments. Treatment of opiate dependence is administered according to the law of the relevant state or territory, and within a framework which includes not only medical treatment, but also social and psychological treatment. The report can be downloaded at:

<http://www.aihw.gov.au/publications/index.cfm/title/10697>

VAADA Monthly Newsletter

The January Edition of the VAADA News is available at:

<http://www.vaada.org.au/news/items/2009/01/25/8054-upload-00001.pdf>



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Funding Available

AER Foundation Ltd's new funding round.

Applications are now available on our website for:

Innovative projects – up to \$20,000.00

- 1) Conference Attendance – up to \$5,000.00

We have also now uploaded fact sheets to assist in preparing applications. They are available on

www.aerf.com.au/community/about.aspx.

VICSERV FREE OHS Workplace Assessments

VICSERV, in conjunction with WorkSafe Victoria, is pleased to present an opportunity for small community service organisations (with a budget of less than \$1 million), to obtain FREE and confidential three-hour OHS Workplace Assessments from an independent consultant.

An independent OHS consultant will assist your organisation to develop and implement sustainable health and safety practices. The consultant will work with your organisation to develop a safety action plan, detailing how your organisation can address identified issues. The consultations are worth approximately \$500 and are available until December 2010.

For more information on this initiative, contact me at VICSERV on 03 9519 7000 or by [email](mailto:).

Barwon Alcohol and Other Drug Services Post Graduate Grants

The region is inviting applications from workers currently enrolled in post graduate study and workers wishing to enrol in a postgraduate course. Applicants may apply for grants of up to \$1,500, but may be funded for a lesser amount subject to budget availability. Funding will be provided to the agency in the March 09 variation. Workers are encouraged to undertake study in AOD or addiction studies, however postgraduate courses in related fields that would benefit the AOD sector are acceptable. Attached is a list of AOD postgraduate courses offered in Victoria. Application forms can be obtained from Ami Hodgkinson on ami.hodgkinson@dhs.vic.gov.au and submitted via email, fax or post, but must be received by **5pm** on **Monday 2nd February 2009**,



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Resources for young people

Short Films!

Are you between 13 and 18 years and live in postcode 3223. Portarlington, Indented Heads and St Leonards. Make your own short films. Do you have an interest in film making on either side of the camera? Contact Louise van Herwenden, Bellarine Community Health Service, ph. 5258 0891 or email louise.van@bch.org.au

We need young people !

As you may be aware, NCETA is currently involved in a number of large projects examining young people and alcohol. We have been interviewing young people and key stakeholders as part of this, but we are keen to talk to more young people from across Australia in the 14-24 year old age range, and especially the 14-17 and 20-24 years olds. Can you help?

If you can direct us to young people in these age groups, or to others who could assist us in this way we would be most grateful.

Interviews are mostly conducted over the phone (where face to face is not possible), interviewees are reimbursed (\$\$) for their time, and parental permission is required for those under 18 years. We are interested in talking to young people about their views, perceptions and experiences (direct or indirect) about alcohol.

If you would like more information please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Any assistance you can provide would be great.

Many thanks

Ann

Professor Ann M Roche, Director, National Centre for Education and Training on Addiction Flinders University, Ph: 08 8201 7575, Fax: 08 8201 7550

www.nceta.flinders.edu.au



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Professional Development Opportunities

New entries are in **BLUE**

Training held in the region are **BOXED**

Trainer Training program.

This program has been provided in four rural and one Metropolitan region for 68 experienced family violence workers. Participants completed combined one day Comprehensive Risk assessment workshops and one day Trainer Training workshops. These sessions enable them to organise and deliver shorter 'Identifying Family Violence' sessions in their local service catchment to particular local groups such as teachers, community workers and others to improve referrals in to the specialist family violence service system.

The final three metropolitan Trainer Training programs will commence in early 2009 and Expressions of Interest and funding guidelines are available through the Family Violence Regional Integration Coordinators for experienced family violence workers.

Comprehensive and Preliminary Training programs

The first of the full day Comprehensive training and half day Preliminary training has been successfully undertaken by 66 practitioners from Barwon and Loddon-Mallee regions. The pilots provided useful feedback and insight into the strengths of the training and how best to meet the local needs of participants.

Maternal and Child Health Nurse training

Customised programs have been provided to 121 participants in three regions: Mildura, Loddon-Mallee and Eastern to help workers consider different implications of the risk assessment process in their roles. Some Enhanced MCHN workers have also attended Comprehensive training due to the relevance of family violence issues in their more specialist roles.

Training resources

Training resources have now been piloted and completed for all six training programs and include an excellent DVD to be incorporated in all programs. The generous input from women who have experienced violence and from experienced practitioners has ensured that the DVD and other materials are relevant, demonstrate best practice and enhance understanding of the impacts of quality assessment in family violence.

In 2009 a website will also be completed to simplify access to information, articles and resources about the training.

The contact for Barwon South West: Vicky Grosser
vgrosser@comconnect.com.au

,Senior Policy Officer: Tricia Hazeleger,
Family Violence Reform Coordination Unit,
DPCD Tel: 9208 3134 Email:

tricia.hazeleger@dpcd.vic.gov.au

Diagnosis Training

Course Cost Subsidised for 2008

\$886 total per participant

- inclusive of resources, headphones, online support and facilitation

Contact Karen Cuthbert

Phone 03 5225 0862

Email kcuthbert@gordontafe.edu.au

Centre for Excellence in Child and Family Welfare Learning and Development Unit

The Centre L&D Unit is a unit of the Centre for Excellence in Child and Family Welfare which delivers training, training brokerage services, advice and consultancy services to the community care sector and the Department of Human Services.

The Centre L&D Unit seeks to provide a central point of reference for the Centre members and Departmental staff seeking information and training services. The Centre also undertakes research relating to training needs within the sector and advocates for appropriate funding to be allocated to training.

To make an enquiry regarding a program, training service or a learning issue please visit our [Enquiry page](#) To download the 2009 Training Callender go to

<http://www.childhood.org.au/downloads/Training%20Calendar%202008.pdf>

2009

Motivational Interviewing

PCMC is pleased to announce an exciting training schedule for New Zealand and Australia. Dr Joel Porter will provide Introductory, Intermediate, Advanced, as well as MI and Clinical Supervision workshops in Auckland, Wellington, Sydney, Adelaide and Melbourne throughout the year. More



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locations and dates in New Zealand to be added. Mark your dairies now.

Introduction to MI Melbourne: 11-12 May

Intermediate MI Melbourne: 17-18 August

Advanced MI Melbourne: 19-20 October

MI & Clinical Supervision Melbourne: 23-24 November

More information and registration for these workshops will be available in October of 2008. Seating will be limited to only 30 delegates in each workshop. To register your interest in the 2009 workshops, please contact us: workshops@pacificcmc.com.

PCMC also offers on-line training in Motivational Interviewing. For more information, please visit our website at www.pacificcmc.com or contact Dr Suzanne Habib via e-mail at suzanne.habib@pacificcmc.com. Over the years, PCMC has provided MI training to a wide range of mental health, addiction, behavioural health, corrections and educational organisations around the world. If your organisation is seeking systematic and cost effective MI, Relapse Prevention, or professional ethics training, please let us know. We are delighted to tailor training to your organisations' particular needs and culture.

Alcohol and Other Drugs Clinical Supervision Training Program

The Bouverie Centre, La Trobe University, has places available in their 2009 Alcohol and Other Drugs Clinical Supervision Training Program for AOD workers who are currently supervising clinical staff, or who plan to do so in the near future. Two courses are planned for 2009, each comprising six day-long sessions, with a gap of two to three weeks between each training day. It is essential that participants be available to attend all six sessions as the course is a skills development course.

Pam Rycroft and Colleague (TBA) will train Group A at The Bouverie Centre in Brunswick on the following Tuesdays: 17 March, 7 April, 28 April, 12 May, 26 May, and 9 June 2009.

Pam Rycroft and Colleen Cousins will train Group B at The Bouverie Centre in Brunswick on the following Tuesdays: 2 June, 16 June, 30 June, 14 July, 28 July, and 11 August 2009.

There is no cost for this training, and morning tea and lunch will be provided. However, there are limited places available, so interested staff should act quickly.

To find out more contact Michelle Wills on 03 9385 5100 or your Regional advisor. Application close 3rd February.

Professional Certificate of Adolescent Counselling

The Faculty of Education, Monash University offers Professional Development Programs which might be of interest to the staff within your organization. The programs range from one-day workshops to 10 week part-time classes

In particular, the 'Professional Certificate of Adolescent Counselling' aims to meet the needs of the community in the area of adolescent counselling. It provides participants with the appropriate knowledge, skills and attitudes required to support and guide young people.

The next course will be conducted at Monash University Clayton Campus, 12th March - 28 May and consists of evening classes of three hours per week over 10 weeks. This course is very practical, informative and is also recognized by the Faculty of Education to the value of 12 credit points at postgraduate level.

We would appreciate your time to distribute this information to the staff at your organization. I have also included an A4 Flyer which could be forwarded on to relevant staff members or displayed on your noticeboard in your staff rooms/meeting rooms.

For further information please refer to the Monash University website:

www.education.monash.edu.au/shortcourses

February 2009

19-20 February 2009 VAADA Conference

Jasper Hotel, 489 Elizabeth Street, Melbourne
Change isn't new to AOD. Over the years the Alcohol and Other Drug Sector has evolved to meet shifting drug trends, changed government policy imperatives, and an increasingly diverse and complex client group with multiple needs. These changes present many challenges within the AOD field today for both workers and services.



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Conference 09 will endeavour to explore these changes and subsequent challenges and offer delegates the opportunity to exchange ideas, share practice wisdom and showcase good practice for dealing with a work environment in flux. It will be of particular interest to those working directly with AOD clients.

For further conference information and to register visit: <http://www.vaada.info>

For all other inquires:

Shane Barnes (Conference Organiser)

Email – conference@vaada.org.au

TF – 9416 0899

4th February

YSAS Critical Thinking Seminar

Reefer madness: exploring the links between cannabis and psychosis

This seminar aims to explore:

- The changing historical view of cannabis from the sensationalist horror stories of the 1930's (epitomized by the movie 'Reefer Madness') to its growing acceptance as a 'soft' drug in the 1960's through to the more problematic construction of the present day.
- Issues covered will include changes in cannabis potency, dependency potential, and the pharmacodynamics and pharmacokinetics of THC.
- This will be followed by a brief overview of the current observational studies linking cannabis to schizophrenia, and some analysis of the uncertainties with regard to this data along with some potentially useful suggestions for those working with cannabis using clients.

Geelong Conference Centre, Adams Court, Eastern Park. Time 2pm -4pm Cost: Free

To book contact Lou Vaughn 94158860 or www.ysas.org.au

Sun 8th, Mon 9th, Tues 10th February 2009

Equine Assisted Psychotherapy (EAP) Training

This unique model is highly innovative and effective. The training provides a practical and specific model of bringing horses into mental health sessions. EAP assists a broad range of clients with relationship and mental health issues. It has been used effectively in programs for young people at risk, substance abuse and eating disorders.

The Model is a Team approach using a mental health professional and an equine specialist. The training builds on accessible professional skills and expertise. It does not provide instruction in horsemanship techniques and does not train people how to do therapy. Part 1 & Part 2 involve 3-days of intensive, experiential & theoretical training in the fundamental applications of the EAGALA Model.

The training is suitable for qualified and experienced therapists and counsellors, psychologists, social workers, occupational therapists, and other mental health clinicians. It is also suitable for experienced & qualified horse professionals working in the equine field.

For further information about Equine Assisted Psychotherapy, EAGALA Model, training, and certification go to www.eagala.org

PART 1 Dates: Sun 8th, Mon 9th, Tues 10th

February 2009. Location: Wallington Park Equestrian Centre, 1625 Bellarine Hwy, Wallington, (near Geelong) Victoria

PART 2 Dates: Fri 13th, Sat 14th, Sun 15th, February 2009

See below for 2009 training dates & venues in Australia. Register early, as places are limited. For Training Registration go to www.eagala.org

20th Feb

Introduction to Health Promotion

4 hour short course 2009

Is your **organisation** involved in health promotion? Are **you** involved in health promotion? Have you ever wondered what health promotion is?

Then this is the course for **you**

This four hour short course has been designed for staff from a range of organisations with basic or limited health promotion knowledge.

Participants will be able to:

Identify the key features and values of health promotion.

Provide a brief description of the social model of health and identify the determinants of health for an issue.

Categorise interventions / strategies using the integrated health promotion framework.



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Articulate and explain what health promotion is and recognise health promotion practices within their own work roles.

10-3pm.

Bannockburn Family Services Centre, 2 Pope St
Bannockburn

Registration and enquiries:

populationhealth@barwonhealth.org.au

26th Feb and 5th march

Introduction to Dual Diagnosis for AOD Workers

This 2-day workshop will introduce participants to the context of Dual Diagnosis in Australia and models of understanding within current intervention approaches. An overview of how drugs affect mental state will be provided as well as exploration of the interactions between mental illness and substance use problems. This workshop will also have a focus on identification of Dual Diagnosis, and the process of consultation and liaison. Participants will also learn about the Mental Health service system and how it can be accessed. At the end of this workshop participants will be able to:

- describe the implications of Dual Diagnosis for consumers, clinicians, and service providers; discuss interactions and effects of medications and substance use on mental health
- identify the effect of substances/medication withdrawals on mental health
- display skills in identifying symptoms of mental illness describe the elements of the Mental State exam discuss and compare mental health and substance use treatment models discuss an integrated treatment approach for Dual Diagnosis

This FREE two day workshop will be presented by the Victorian Dual Diagnosis Initiative Education & Training Unit

Dates: 26th February and 5th March 2009

Time 9:30am to 4:00pm

Venue: Seminar Room, Level 2 Bolte Wing, St Vincent's Hospital, Nicholson St, Fitzroy

March

12th March 2009

YSAS Critical Thinking Seminar

Hormone inferno: alcohol, adolescent development and public health

Work in the AOD and allied sectors often straddles the sticky interface where societal demands clash with the needs of clients. Current public health approaches targeting young people and their use of alcohol form a case in point.

This seminar offers participants updated information on alcohol's pharmacology and pharmacokinetics and a review of:

- Public health imperatives and variables of risk
- Information on adolescent development, hormonal and maturing pubertal brain changes
- Research aimed at aiding the development of alcohol and related strategies that target young people

Geelong Conference Centre, Adams Court, Eastern Park. Time 2pm -4pm Cost: Free

16th & 17th March

Fighting Fair (level 1)

Mediation & conflict resolution training

Venue CO.AS.IT 199 Faraday Street, Carlton (Melbourne), **Times** 9:15 – 4:15

Catering A delicious morning and afternoon tea will be provided. **Materials** Each participant will receive a training manual.

Cost \$290+GST for AASW members or \$320+GST for non-members.

Full payment is required to confirm your place. It is advisable to register early to reserve a place.

Cancellation If there is more than 4 weeks notice, a \$40 administration fee applies. Between 2-4 weeks, 25% of the total is payable. Less than 14 days, 50% is payable. If less than 24 hours notice is given, full payment is required.

Registration Log onto www.fightingfair.com.au and fill in the online registration form.

Presenter: Scott Dutton bsw.bsc.maasw
Mediation & Training Consultant

0425 837 756

fightingfair@bigpond.com

www.fightingfair.com.au

17-18th March

PsyCheck - Train the Trainer

The PsyCheck Screening Tool is a mental health screening instrument designed for use by clinicians



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who are not mental health specialists. It is designed to detect potential mental health problems that may be missed if not specifically investigated by the clinician or raised by the client.

PsyCheck intervention utilises four core cognitive behavioural therapy techniques:

- Educating the client about the cognitive model and the common unhelpful thinking patterns.
- Educating the client about how to identify their unhelpful patterns of thinking.
- Modifying these negative or distorted thoughts by a process called cognitive restructuring.
- Developing strategies to prevent relapse and maintain healthier patterns of thinking.

The package outlines the steps of the screening and intervention in detail for clinicians who are new to mental health intervention but is presented so that more experienced clinicians can use techniques and strategies as appropriate in their routine practice. Dissemination model

Turning Point has been funded by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing to provide eight 2-day train the trainer courses. These courses are aimed at senior alcohol and drug, mental health and dual diagnosis clinicians and trainers.

- Are you an experienced AOD or mental health clinician/educator?
- Are you experienced or interested in providing education on PsyCheck to the AOD sector?

Turning Point, 142 Gertrude Street, Fitzroy, Melbourne. Tel (03) 8413 8700

24th March

Introduction to Health Promotion

4 hour short course 2009

Is your **organisation** involved in health promotion? Are **you** involved in health promotion? Have you ever wondered what health promotion is?

Then this is the course for **you**

This four hour short course has been designed for staff from a range of organisations with basic or limited health promotion knowledge.

Participants will be able to:

Identify the key features and values of health promotion.

Provide a brief description of the social model of health and identify the determinants of health for an issue.

Categorise interventions / strategies using the integrated health promotion framework.

Articulate and explain what health promotion is and recognise health promotion practices within their own work roles. Time: 10-3pm.

Registration and enquiries:
populationhealth@barwonhealth.org.au

Barwon Health Corio, 2 Gellibrand Street, Corio

NATIONAL AMPHETAMINE TYPE STIMULANTS TRAINING

Does your work involve contact with people who use Amphetamine Type Stimulants such as speed? Amphetamine Type Stimulants (ATS) are amongst the most commonly used illicit drugs and their impact can be significant.

Do you work in the Health or Community sector or services such as: Needle & Syringe Programs
Alcohol & Other Drug Services
Mental Health Services

Social Work

Youth Services

Indigenous Organisations

Housing or emergency accommodation

Or any other services that work with this client group.

Then this training is for you! If you want to:

Build and improve your knowledge and confidence in relation to ATS

Improve your brief intervention and referral skills to work effectively with people who use ATS

Improve your knowledge and understanding of the potential harms associated with ATS use

Improve your knowledge regarding strategies to work effectively with clients to prevent and reduce harms

Anex is a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) and our Vocational Education and Training activities are delivered in accordance with the Australian Quality Training Framework.

Training is free, however bookings are essential.

www.amphetamines.org.au

info@amphetamines.org.au

ph- 03 9486 6399

Venue: Portland District Health Staff Training Room (former Seymour Cundy Wing), Bentinck Street, Portland VIC 3305

April 2009



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2nd April

YSAS Critical Thinking Seminar

Ice: beyond the hype

This seminar aims to:

- Clarify the differing effects of speed (amphetamine) and ice (methamphetamine) on the central nervous system through an exploration of their differing pharmacodynamics and pharmacokinetics.
- Examine potential harms.
- Review the changing construction of stimulants from their early origins in Chinese medicine to their everyday use as a decongestant of choice in the 1930's, to post-war weight loss panaceas and antidepressants through to current controversies regarding their use in children.

Geelong Conference Centre, Adams Court, Eastern Park. Time 2pm -4pm Cost: Free To book contact Lou Vaughn 94158860 or www.ysas.org.au

9th April

Introduction to Health Promotion

4 hour short course 2009

Is your **organisation** involved in health promotion? Are **you** involved in health promotion? Have you ever wondered what health promotion is?

Then this is the course for **you**

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Participants will be able to:

Identify the key features and values of health promotion.

Provide a brief description of the social model of health and identify the determinants of health for an issue.

Categorise interventions / strategies using the integrated health promotion framework. Articulate and explain what health promotion is and recognise health promotion practices within their own work roles. Time:

Registration and enquiries:
populationhealth@barwonhealth.org.au Hesse Health, 8 Gofney Street, Winchelsea. 10-3pm.

20-23rd April

Harm Reduction 2009 – Thailand The conference will be held at the Imperial Queen's Park Hotel over four full days A draft programme is now available to download at www.ihraconferences.net. There are many highlights, including:

- A Plenary Session on drug use and HIV in Asia – including a presentation from the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Health, Anand Grover.
- A Plenary Session on 'Harm Reduction and Human Rights' (the conference theme) – including a presentation from UN Special Rapporteur on Torture, Professor Manfred Nowak.
- A Plenary Session on 'Methamphetamines' – organised on the back of the successful 1st Global Methamphetamine Conference in 2008.
- 15 Major Sessions (more than in the previous IHRA conferences) – covering topics such as 'Harm Reduction in Thailand', coercive treatment, young people, research, drinking patterns in Asia, law enforcement, sex work and drug policy reform.
- 36 Concurrent Sessions covering our largest ever range of topics – from human rights to hepatitis, tobacco to prisons, peer-driven approaches to conflict zones!

info@ihra.net www.ihra.net

Promoting harm reduction on a global basis

May 2009

6-8 May

NADA CXonference – Community Responses to Complex and Diverse needs' at Dockside, Darling Harbour, Sydney. The conference is co hosted by the Mental Health Coordinating Council (MHCC) and the Network of Alcohol and Other Drug Agencies (NADA). Community service providers today acknowledge the existence of coexisting problems for many people accessing services and are looking for a paradigm shift in service delivery approaches that will provide meaningful responses to people's diverse needs.

The conference will:

- Explore innovative and creative ways to engage and assist people with complex and diverse needs.
- Highlight different community sector approaches, challenges and areas for development.



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- Create a space to network with a diverse range of providers, policy makers, researchers, service users and carers.
- Celebrate community sector achievements and leadership in working with people who have complex and diverse needs
- Inspire by exposing delegates to speakers and workshop presenters who will provoke and motivate with challenges, brainstorming opportunities, new thinking and strategies
- Inform with the latest on policy directions and new approaches at state and national level.

For more info <http://www.nada.org.au>

7th May

YSAS Critical Thinking Seminar journeys in inner space: ketamine and the NMDA antagonists

'I was no longer in my New York apartment. I was in Egypt, inside a pyramid lying inside an open sarcophagus..... I felt that this light which moved through me and radiated from me, connected me with everything else through space and time...'

This seminar will provide an overview of recently synthesized compounds that seldom come to the attention of AOD workers and as a result retain an air of mystery.

- Phenethylamines, tryptamines, piperazines and dissociatives
- The NMDA receptor
- Pharmacology and pharmacokinetics
- Down the K-hole: The Near Death Experience
- Minimising the risks associated with these drugs

**Geelong Conference Centre, Adams Court,
Eastern Park. Time 2pm -4pm Cost: Free To book
contact Lou Vaughn 94158860 or www.ysas.org.au**

17-19 May 2009

Interagency National Conference Alcohol and Other Drugs - Alice Springs

A national conference in the Northern Territory to showcase practice innovation, evolving evidence, challenges and opportunities.

Interagency National Conference
Alcohol and Other drugs 17-19 May
dcem@desliens.com.au

25-27 May 2009

The Australian Winter School

Research Policy Practice

The Australian Winter School 2009, held over three days, has been divided into separate themes for each of the three days, they are:

Monday: National Best Practice – Alcohol and Tobacco

Tuesday: National Best Practice – Challenges

Wednesday: National Best Practice – Illicit Drugs

Look at the Plenary Speakers page in the top menu to see confirmed plenary speakers for the conference.

Confirmed presenters for the 2009 conference include Mel Miller who will be presenting the Opening Day Oration

www.winterschool.info

25th May

Introduction to Health Promotion 4 hour short course 2009

Is your **organisation** involved in health promotion? Are **you** involved in health promotion? Have you ever wondered what health promotion is?

Then this is the course for **you**

This four hour short course has been designed for staff from a range of organisations with basic or limited health promotion knowledge.

Participants will be able to:

Identify the key features and values of health promotion.

Provide a brief description of the social model of health and identify the determinants of health for an issue. Categorise interventions / strategies using the integrated health promotion framework. Articulate and explain what health promotion is and recognise health promotion practices within their own work roles. Time: **Registration and enquiries:**

populationhealth@barwonhealth.org.au

Surfcoast Council 25 Grossmans Road Torquay 10-3pm.

27 – 28th May

4th National Conference on Anxiety & Depression – Reconnexion

The Melbourne Exhibition and Convention Centre

The conference format will remain the same as in 2008 with keynote, plenary and concurrent



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sessions allowing participants to attend sessions in specific areas of interest. Cost of registration will remain at an achievable \$440 with a reduction for early bird registration; our wish is to ensure the price doesn't exclude people from attending.

Who Should Attend drug and alcohol counsellors, private psychologists, psychologists working in public health settings, general practitioners, psychiatrists, social workers, counsellors, nurses, teachers and university educators.

What people said about the 2008 conference: "First conference in years which has excited me with possibilities" "Great to have a practitioner focused conference" "A wonderful experience" "Thank you very much for a very rewarding and professional experience"

For more information or to register your interest please contact Education & Training Manager janet@reconnexion.org.au or phone 03 9886 9400. www.reconnexion.org.au

June

24-26th June

Beyond Addiction:

"Connections to the Future"

24 – 26 June Surfers Paradise, Gold Coast Queensland.

This Conference will be an opportunity for drug and alcohol nurses and other interested health professionals to come together to discuss innovations in the field and challenges and connections for the future. Call for papers and registration is now open.

Email: danaconference.com.au

Website: [Conference website](#)

November

23-26th

2008 APSAD National Conference Darling Harbour, Sydney, NSW 23-26 November 2008

www.apsad.org.au