

voices of Substance

Newsletter of Aboriginal Alcohol and Drug Service Inc.



Autumn 2010
ISSUE 1

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Be part of whats going on!

- Signup as a member and have your say... see the membership form at the back.

National Drug Action Week 2010



The 2010 Drug Action Week (DAW) theme was "LOOKING AFTER YOUR MIND". DAW is a very full 7 days of activities held nationally to raise awareness about alcohol and other drugs (AOD) issues in Australia. The week also highlights the achievements of the dedicated individuals and agencies who work within the AOD sector to reduce alcohol and drug-related harm.

DAW is an initiative of the *Alcohol and other Drugs Council of Australia*, providing individuals, organisations and communities with the opportunity to promote awareness of AOD within each community.

On the 25th June 2010 DAW was celebrated by our staff in partnership with the community by holding an Open Day and showcasing the services on offer by AADS. A number of other agencies from the AOD sector as well as other Aboriginal agencies took part in the event through a range of activities and interactive displays.

The Open Day began with the Welcome to Whatjuk Noongar Country by Rev Sealín Garlett and was then supported by great performances by the Mungart Yonga Dance Group and the excellent George Walley band.

The Open Day was MC'd by our very own star, Des Headland, Fremantle Dockers Football Club and the whole event went extremely well despite earlier bad weather warnings.

We were very impressed with the turnout from so many young and older community members and related service agencies. It was also very encouraging to have so many individuals and groups in attendance representing Perth's many diverse communities, from the Australia's First Peoples to our newest arrivals.

Daniel Morrison
Executive Director

Hello from the Editor

G'Day Folks and welcome to the AADS newsletter. This is the very first edition of our newsletter and it is designed to bring lots of information and good news stories that are happening in our community.

AADS staff will be on the look-out for stories and

events that will be of interest and we will inform you as they happen. We will also be interviewing community members for information as well.

We will also be profiling our Board and staff members so that you know who these people are. Added to

that we will keep you up to date of the services provided by this organisation. We hope you enjoy the newsletter and encourage you to contact us to tell us your stories.

By Charmaine Bartlett
A/Education and
Promotions Coordinator

About AADS | Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Service

The AADS organisation offers treatments, education programs, Yarning (counselling) and a range of natural healing therapies that have always been at the heart of Aboriginal life. The organisation is Aboriginal managed and controlled and operates under the guidance of nine Aboriginal Board of Management.



From the Executive Director

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Welcome to the first of many AADS Newsletters. I have been in the position of Executive Director of AADS since 22nd February 2010 and I am greatly enjoying the opportunity of working with its widely experienced Board of Management and staff. I look forward to many more challenging and rewarding years with the organisation as it develops even further into the future.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge our funding bodies for their ongoing support and commitment to AADS over the years and I for one look forward to building on such positive relationships and working closely in partnership well into the future.

Our funding is made up of a number of different programs and services through the following government agencies - **Office for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health, Drug and Alcohol Office, Department of Child Protection, Department of Health and Ageing and the Department for Communities.**

What first attracted me to AADS was its huge potential to work with our Aboriginal community and with other like-minded organisations intent on improving the health and wellbeing of people and families affected by substance abuse. I believe *100 percent* that the organisation has the ability and the people power behind it to ensure that it achieves everything it plans to achieve for Aboriginal families in the future.

AADS turns 21 this year and this is something to be extremely proud of as we are the only Aboriginal specific AOD service in the Perth area. We are part of the community and belong to the community and that is extremely important in why AADS has been so successful in its work.

We have recently developed and implemented an updated and upgraded communication strategy for AADS and this first edition newsletter is just one component of that strategy. Through the Newsletter we wish to ensure that our community and all other AADS stakeholders are kept fully aware of the great work and initiatives being worked on by this organisation.

I congratulate the staff and Board of Management of AADS (Past and Present) for the great and very important work being carried out for the betterment of the Aboriginal community of Perth.

In terms of planning for future success and continued sustainability in a changing funding environment, AADS is currently working with TBH Niche to conduct an Organisational Review and develop a Strategic Business Plan to plot out how we improve further over the next five years. We envisage that this will be completed by October 2010.

The AADS team has also been very busy over recent months finalising a Memorandum of Understanding with another partner organisation, *Outcare* in relation to a Men's Healing Program taking place within all Male Prisons in the Perth Metropolitan region. We are pleased that this program is now fully operational with two Aboriginal male counsellors employed jointly and working to improve the future prospects of incarcerated men removed from their families and communities.

We are also currently engaging with a number of additional external stakeholders around higher level partnership agreements and establishing additional memoranda of understanding.

Some of these organisations are *Next Step Drug and Alcohol Services, Palm-*

erston Association, Cyrenian House, Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service, Yorgum Aboriginal Corporation, Aboriginal Legal Service, Royal Perth Hospital, Sexual Assault Resource Centre, Department of Child Protection, Department of Corrective Services, Perth Children's Court, Department of Sport and Recreation, Midland PCYC and the Indigenous Community Volunteers.

AADS has been the lead agency dealing with AOD abuse in the Perth Aboriginal community for 21 years. With solid, updated planning for the future and through these additional partnerships and new relationships being formed, we now have an even greater capacity to provide counselling and treatment outcomes to Aboriginal community members and their families collectively dealing with AOD problems.

There is no doubt that this will allow AADS to become the future Aboriginal centre of excellence within the AOD service sector of Western Australia, if not the nation.

Daniel Morrison
Executive Director





BEAT BOX



Stories from the Youth Team

NAIDOC Family Day

A great day was had by one and all. The doom and gloomy weather wasn't enough to keep the Aboriginal Community away from the Derbarl Yerrigan Health Services NAIDOC Family Day.

The NAIDOC Event was held on Thursday the 8th of July 2010. This annual event is done in partnership between the Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service and the local Town of Bassendean. The Family Day was held at the Ashfield Reserve.

The MC's for the day were *Jim Morrison* followed by the one and only *Mary G*, who by the way had everyone in a fit of laughter with her stories and jokes. The crowds were also treated to some awesome entertainment such as *The Bartlett Brothers Band*, *Michelle Wilsons Old Flames Band* and *Dennis Simmonds Cultural Dance Group*.

Whilst moving around the people were invited to look at all the Information Stalls and Displays which were held by various Agencies and Community Groups. Some of the Stall holders were AADS, FESA (Fire Emergency Services Authority), The WA Cancer Foundation, Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service, BHP and PEEDAC.



AADS had an excellent Stall providing a generous range of Drug and Alcohol information, Fact Sheets and a huge range of giveaways to all who attended the Marque and the colourful "Get On Move On" Bus. The "Get On Move On" Bus is used in conjunction with the AADS Youth Team which provides positive Youth Drug and Alcohol Programs and Youth Activities to schools and community groups.

Not only was our stall informative but we also conducted a Flower Essence Therapy Service. The Flower Essence treatment was used on a number of community members who wished to experience the treatment and wanted to know more about the healing effects it can

have on people.

We must also take our hats off to the organisers (DYHS) for the magnificent food and refreshments. To feed so many people with cultural food and various other dishes was fantastic. This certainly went a long way in making it a successful Family Day.

Danny Penny
Youth Support Worker

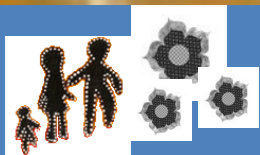


EDUCATION PROGRAM

The Youth Outreach Team works with many schools and partners on the *GET ON MOVE ON* program, to develop the confidence of our Youth to cope with life's situations and struggles, and to develop good relationships with their families and with others.

Contact Danny on dpenny@aads.org.au





Wungening MOB

[Healing]

From the Clinic Team



AADS Clinical Services Team Leader (CSTL) Patricia Taoi has recently come to us from lecturing in the Indigenous Community Health Program at Curtin University. Her main objective since commencing at AADS has been to ensure that the Clinic Services Team is working solidly towards an evidence-based approach to service provision in the area of substance misuse. The CSTL has also developed a refined Case Management Model plus an instructional tool on Social and Emotional Wellbeing which highlights the complex underlying issues and the lasting damage that colonisation has on the wellbeing of Aboriginal peoples.

The CSTL 'hit the ground running' during her first week at AADS, as the organisation had recently undergone a periodic Risk Assessment by the major funding body and was in the process of implementing the resulting recommendations. This led to the

review of various policies and procedures within the organisation followed by amendments which involved endorsement from all staff. Another major task was the development and implementation of 6 monthly Staff Workplans.

The Clinic Services Team members have not only been busily involved in these tasks but also in the planning and participation of community events during Drug Action Week and the AADS Open Day followed by 2010 NAIDOC week activities.

Throughout the past two weeks, the Clinic Services Team have been working non stop to assist Libby in updating the SIMS data entries and the client filing system. Once this project is completed it will enable the required acquittal reports to be generated for the funding bodies and ensure that all organisational reporting requirements are met to the letter.

The Intake Counsellor position has recently been filled by Charlotte Hill. Patrick Smith has filled the Outcare position and commenced induction. Patrick will be working alongside Joshua Pickett on the Mens Healing Program to be implemented in the various metro prisons.

Clinic Services Team have identified numerous therapies and the group work sessions that will be developed and implemented to enable client therapeutical pathways for healing. One group work will be Yarning and Art Therapy, another will be Sandplay Therapy and the third will be a Carers Group for women. It is expected that these sessions will commence in early September 2010. Other sessions will cater for youth groups and also to the Outcare Program. With all these innovative ideas the Clinic Services Team will be looking forward to an exciting and busy year ahead.

That's All For Now!

Patricia Taoi
Clinical Services Team Leader



Did you know!??

WHAT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IS?

Domestic violence is a pattern of abusive behaviour that an individual uses to control their intimate partner and can be in the form of a violent act, abuse or a threat of violence towards their partner. It can include physical, sexual, emotional, psychological and verbal abuse.

The following questions may help you decide whether you are being abused:

Has someone ever:
Hit, kicked, shoved or injured you?
Used weapons/objects against you or threatened you?

Forced you to do something you did not want to do?

Threatened or hurt you or others?

Controlled what you do and who you see in a way that interferes with your work, education or other personal activities?

Stolen or destroyed your belongings?

Constantly criticized you, called you names or put you down?

Made you feel afraid?

Denied your basic needs such as food, clothing, housing or medical assistance?

If you answered "Yes" to any of the above, it may be time to think about your safety. For more information or assistance relating to domestic violence you may contact the following places:

AADS Family Support Worker
(08) 9221 1411

Domestic Violence Advocacy Service (DVAS) (08) 9226 2370

Crisis Care (08) 9223 1111

Or Toll free 1800 199 008

Domestic Violence Children's Counseling Service (08) 9328 1888

Family Helpline (08) 9223 1100
Or Toll free 1800 643 000

In Loving Memory of Helena Pritchard

This article is to acknowledge Helena, and the hard work that she has put into our community, and to show our respect to her and her family.

Born 20 August 1952, Died 15 July 2010

Helena was a wife, mother, granny, sister, aunty and friend to many but she was also a campaigner for social justice especially for Aboriginal people.

Helena was a highly respected community member, who worked tirelessly for her people; she endeavoured to enforce change that would see her people have better access to services that would determine a better quality of life.

Her ability to encourage and support other Aboriginal people was carried out with ease and finesse; she was never backward in expressing her opinion.

Amongst other organisations Helena had been



involved with the Aboriginal Alcohol and Drug Services Inc for many years both as a worker and Board Member; including Chairperson. As a result of this Helena was awarded life membership to AADS at our January 2010 Annual General Meeting.

Helena put in many hours of hard work to ensure the Board and staff provided a great service to the community and her expectations were that our clients were looked after to the highest degree.

Helena's work here at AADS is very much valued by the Board of Management, Executive Director and staff and we will miss her coming in for a cuppa and sharing of yarns.

Our deepest condolences to her family.
AADS Board of Management and Staff.



Daniel with Peter Sir CEO of Outcare

In Partnership

OUTCARE and ABORIGINAL ALCOHOL AND DRUG SERVICE

Men's Healing Program

The Men's Healing Program is a partnership between AADS and Outcare and this program is funded through the Commonwealth Attorney Generals Department through the Proceeds of Crime funding.

After a lengthy negotiation process between the AADS and Outcare a memorandum of understanding was signed on the 7th May 2010 and soon after our two agencies jointly appointed two very experienced program workers Joshua Pickett and Patrick Smith. Josh and Patrick work seamlessly between our two agencies with their clients currently being in the adult male criminal justice system. The program is funded for a 3 year period and we look forward to achieving some very positive outcomes for the Noongar community. We also look forward to a positive and productive ongoing relationship with Outcare Inc.



Program Workers: Patrick and Josh



AADS Board Member wins Community Service Award

About Oriel

Oriel Green has been a Board member of AADS for several years now, and as she has had vast experience of being on Boards and Committees she brings a wealth of knowledge and support to the organisation. Added to this she was a member of the NASAS inaugural advisory committee, a Member of the Aboriginal Education and Training Council for TAFE, a Member of the Aboriginal Justice Agreement Reference Group and a Member of the Indigenous Women's Congress (6 years)

Oriel's ancestry is Yamatji/Noongar of the YUED, Ballardong and Amangu people. Her mother's people are Ryder and Wyatt and her father's people are Bartlett and Jacobs.

Employment

After growing up six children she commenced work in the field of Early Education; which included being a trainer of Aboriginal women from all over WA in childcare services.

Oriel has also been involved in education and training in various roles including as the acting Chairperson of the Western Australian Aboriginal Education Consultative Group (WAAEGC), and Executive of the same group. She was also awarded a certificate of appreciation for "Contributing to the Implementation of the Expansion of the Family Violence Court Regime Reference Group in WA".



In June 2010 Oriel was awarded a Community Service Award from the Federal Government and presented to her by the Honourable Justine Elliot MP Minister for Ageing and Member for Richmond. The award was presented at a forum for seniors at Warwick Community Centre where she was accompanied by her husband Peter Green snr, son Connolly Green, daughter-in-law Brenda Stack and several grandchildren.

Other Awards

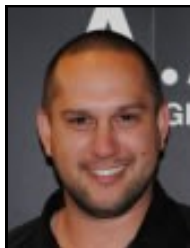
Oriel was Aboriginal of the Year (1993), won the Reconciliation Award (1999/2000), the Aboriginal Education and Training Hall of Fame Award of Excellence for Outstanding Achievement (Education), a Centenary Medal and most recently during NAIDOC 2010 was acknowledged as an "Unsung Hero" for her dedication and commitment to improve the lives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in their community and beyond.

Interest in the role as a Board member

I am interested in AADS delivering a good service to the Aboriginal community and in particular helping young people to identify and address their issues. I believe in good governance and contribute to and work towards excellence for the organisation.

Charmaine Bartlett
A/Education and Promotions Coordinator

AADS faces



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Northbridge Project

AADS has joined forces with the Department of Sport and Recreation and the Midland PCYC. These two parties have agreed on a 12 month pilot program in the City of Swan to divert young people from venues like Northbridge, to a range of sport, recreational, art, cultural activities and a number of educational and preventative workshops (such as Drug and Alcohol awareness) on Friday and Saturday nights in their local area.

The target group is unsupervised children and youth aged between 10-16 years of age in Northbridge, who originate from the North East Metropolitan area (Midland and surrounding areas). According to Mission Australia, approximately 90% of the youths referred to them are from Indigenous backgrounds.

Activities at Midland PCYC take place on both Friday and Saturday nights with Hip Hop, music, basketball, pool competitions and Xbox games. Friday and Saturday night activities at Midland PCYC are attracting between 50 and 90 young people every evening.



(Back) Mark Hardwick, Des Headland, Glenn Moore
(front) John Mogridge, Jodie Hayden

Black Chat

7 questions with DANNY



1 Favourite Bush tucker?

Damper and roo

2 Favourite Sport

AFL

3 Favourite music?

Rock and roll, ACDC

4 What do you like in life?

My kids and spending time with them

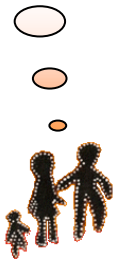
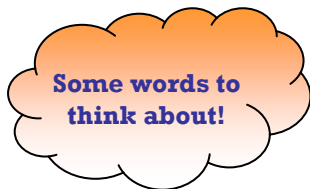
5 What 6 people would you like to invite around the camp fire?

Tony Walley, Brett Walley, David Gupalil, Adam Goodes, Damien Oliver, Colin Webster. Can talk about AFL and the horses!

6 Like: meeting people Dislike: rude people

7 What would you do to better the situation for Aboriginal people?

Appropriate housing for Aboriginal people. Aboriginal people should have a home of their own, and then they can focus on their health, education, and employment opportunities.



- | | |
|-------------|----------------|
| Community | Health |
| Healing | Sports |
| action | beatbox |
| Outcare | school |
| essence | education |
| Culture | Wungening |
| NAIDOC | Get on move on |
| partnership | Counsellor |
| activities | flower |
| Kungyah | Spirit |

S	P	I	R	I	T	P	Q	R	T	Q	U	H	F	F	E	G	E
Q	I	I	S	J	C	H	A	I	M	E	R	U	T	L	U	C	O
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F	S	U	B	E	Q	F	O	I	Y	W	T	O	E	A	U	O	E

Calendar of Events

August

- AADS Workshop (18th Aug)
- 17th Western Australian Drug and Alcohol Symposium

September

- AADS Workshop (15th Sep)
- Drug and Alcohol Conference

October

- AADS 21st Birthday
- Launch of New AADS Strategic Plan 2010-2015
- AADS Annual General Meeting



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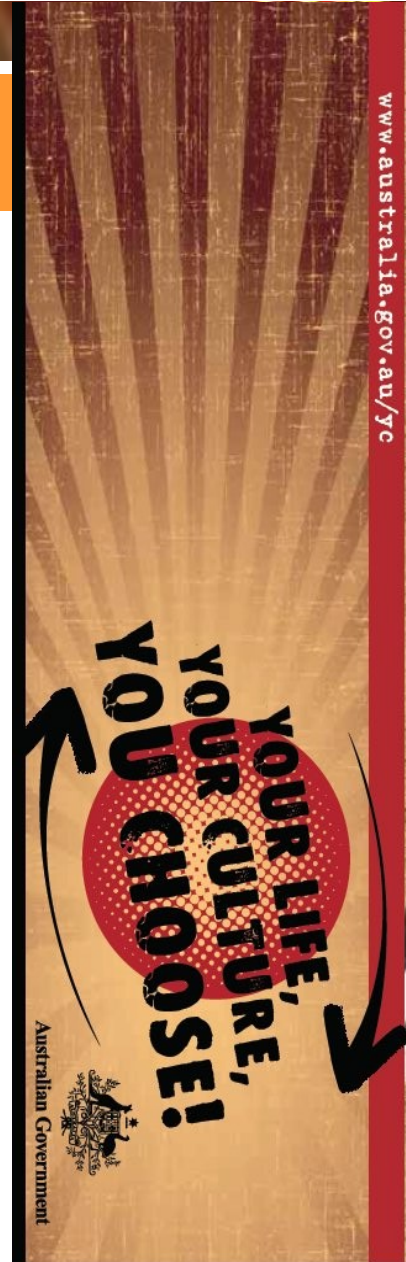
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www. WEBSITE SPOT LIGHT

- vibe.com.au
- wanada.org.au
- dao.health.wa.gov.au
- snaicc.asn.au
- koorimail.com.au



Membership Form

A Membership fee of \$5.00 is required with this application and is valid for a 12 month period as receipted. A receipt and letter will be sent to the applicant upon the application being presented and assessed by the AADS Board. In the case where the application has not been accepted the membership fee and a reason for the non-acceptance will be returned to you. Thankyou.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: ____ / ____ / ____

Name of person nominating prospective member (must be a financial member of AADS):

NAME: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

DATE NOMINATED: _____

LENGTH OF TIME YOU HAVE KNOWN THE APPLICANT: _____

AADS ONLY

Seconded: to be completed at the AADS Board Meeting:

NAME: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

DATE SECONDED: _____

To be completed at the AADS Board Meeting:

At the AADS Board Meeting of _____ the application was approved by the AADS Board. (Receipt Number.....)

REASON FOR THE NON APPROVAL: _____

MEMBERSHIP FEE PAID: \$ _____

AADS CHAIRPERSON (SIGNATURE) _____