

CONFERENCES OF INTEREST

PARENT DRUG EDUCATION

CONFERENCES OF INTEREST CONTINUED

Conference Title: NZAAHD Conference About Youth Development
Date: 2-4 July 2002
Venue: Victoria University, Wellington
Details: **Key Themes**
 Connection Ideas – what is youth development?
 Connecting People- development and participation
 Connecting Communities – making it happen
 For more information
Telephone: (04) 471 2158
Fax: (04) 384 3301
Website: www.involve2002.org.nz

Reminder: Short Course Certificate in Health Promotion 2002

The Health Promotion Forum is offering this part-time study in two blocks of four days in three major centres in 2002. Dunedin 12th - 15th February and 12th - 15th March; Nelson 30th April- 3rd May and 21st - 24th May; Christchurch 18th - 21st June and 9th - 12th July. Cost is \$326. For more information contact: The Programme Administrator at Manukau Institute of Technology Telephone (09) 274 6009 Ext.7151

ADA's National Directory of Treatment Services 2002

Alcohol Drug Association's 2002 Directory of Treatment Services in New Zealand will be available for purchase from February 11 2002. Please send order form (enclosed with the ADA Connection) with cheque addressed to ADA PO Box 13 496 Christchurch.

Revamped The Alcohol: Facts and Effects booklet

This booklet is now available from your local ALAC office or ring 0800 797 797 10am to 10pm daily. ALAC has added 'Standard Drink Guidelines' in English and Te Reo to its website - check out "Info and Advice" on www.alcohol.org.nz

FAMILY MEMBER SERVICES UPDATE

Familial Trust is a new regional service for the families of problem gamblers, drinkers and drug users. Our new premises at 6 Wilsons Road, St Martins, offers a bright and friendly environment where family members can come separate from the problem user to discuss and clarify issues that may be arising in their lives. Our services range from one on one counselling, support/therapy groups, education programmes and a unique intensive four-week outpatients treatment programme.

We are able to assist other agencies in a variety of ways, these being educational programs for both staff and clients, through to public speaking for conferences etc. Our aim is to work alongside other alcohol and drug agencies to include recovery for the entire family unit.

Referrals can be made through agencies or by self referrals.

Familial Trust hours are 9am to 3pm Monday through Friday.



FROM THE CONSUMER DESK

With the closure of Kennedy Detox Unit at Hillmorton, Christchurch, people needing medical detox – complex cases such as opiate users, dual diagnosis service users, and those on alcohol and other drugs who are liable to have seizures - have not been able to access specialist detox beds for about five months.

This is of real concern for consumers and we now wonder what the DHBs future plans for Kennedy are.

Lack of detox beds has been identified in the 'Blueprint for Mental Health Services', I nevertheless wonder if this present closure will become a justification for the permanent closure of Kennedy.

Social detox facilities and people who detox at home - under GP or family care -are eminently suitable for people who can be safely detoxed without medical intervention -however there is often a waiting list for social detox too.

The other option, private detox, is available but at a cost that is beyond most.

Another Blueprint benchmark that causes consumers/tangata whai ora concern is the inclusion of halfway houses (and other post or pre-treatment safe houses) in the figures for residential treatment beds.

We believe this distorts the figures around treatment bed numbers and the perceived need for them to be reduced.

As we have said in other forums, we are also concerned about the lack of any assurance that money taken from residential beds will be kept within the A & D sector.

The South Island has an effective network of alcohol and drug consumer/tangata whai ora (also called service users) who, by using their personal experiences, meet to discuss consumer needs and concerns.

The term consumer (etc) describes people who have or are currently using the various community and residential alcohol and drug services around the South Island.

One of the difficulties in presenting a consumer voice is compounded by the fact that those who are seeking help are too busy just surviving life. The struggles life presents them means they often don't have the energy to complain about the lack of detox beds or the time it takes to have an assessment.

Conversely, consumers who have used A & D services in the past are often living productive lives, too busy contributing to society in other ways to be involved in

evaluating Government policies or the very services that they hope never to need again.

Another concern is the stigma felt by consumers when they identify as having had treatment for an A & D issue. This is a huge factor in consumers, especially those in public positions, not being willing to voice their concerns or be involved. Unfortunately they are the very people who would have a real contribution to make to the various debates and also help reduce the stigmatisation of A & D consumers.

Nevertheless, consumers are particularly pleased that the field is working towards implementing the National Mental Health standards, the Practitioner Competencies for A & D Workers as well as the Recovery Competencies for Mental Health Workers. These will raise and maintain the standard of treatment and care available to all consumers

Together services and consumers are working to improve the dialogue between them and to ensure that Standard Nine of the Mental Health Sector Standards are implemented. As one Westcoast consumer said 'together we could be an unbeatable team.'

A reminder . . . Standard Nine states: "Consumers are involved in the planning, implementation and evaluation at every level of the mental health service to ensure services are responsive to the needs of individuals."

The standard has six criteria that services are slowly implementing.

If we as consumer advisors can be of help to you as you work through the standard please write, e-mail or call us.



Heather Hapeta
South Island A & D
Consumer Advisor



Lynn Iti
A & D Consumer Advisor
Alcohol Drug Association

Telephone 03 3794640

The ADA CONNECTION is the official newsletter of the Alcohol Drug Association New Zealand.

Contributions including letters are welcomed. Submission does not guarantee publication. Contributors enjoy all reasonable liberty in the expression of their views. Views so expressed do not necessarily represent those of the ADA.

Articles from Connections can be reprinted as long as acknowledgment of the source is given.

All correspondence, inquiries, address changes and ADA membership subscriptions should be made to:

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25 Latimer Square, Christchurch.

www.adanz.org.nz



EDITORIAL:

What a start to the year!! The news hit here in Canterbury that Hillmorton Hospital would close, as would the Youth Programme in Hanmer. It has and is a time for us to look either in despair or expectation of what could be! I think it has provided an opportunity for the alcohol and drug sector to start looking at our future and in what ways we could develop and plan our services in Canterbury and beyond.

Recently while relaxing in the hot pools at Hanmer, I overheard a conversation of a young person talking to a female friend discussing his father and his expectations of him. This lad it seemed has done well at school most of his life and last year became dux! (I was secretly impressed) but then when he came to tell his father of his achievement he was stunned by his response and obviously hurt. His father said "there are plenty of people smarter than you in the real world and you need to realise that!" His friend asked why did he not just say "wow, what an achievement?", "I don't know" was the reply with the non-verbal cues of a confused and disappointed young person. My heart went out to him.

I wonder whether in this climate we could look at our expectation in a more positive and challenging light as we prepare to respond to the Canterbury DHB plan and the South Island Regional Plan. Can you

imagine (dream if you like) if we in Canterbury and the South Island were able to plan alcohol and drug services with a clean slate. We obviously would be charged to consider 'continuity of care' in services, as well as services that promoted and operated along 'best practice' guidelines.

Imagine what those services would look like?

How could we work together to provide a new vision and service delivery?

This new health climate will be fraught with difficulties but also offers a wonderful opportunity to do things differently! We have been doing some good things here in Canterbury and in other areas of the South Island and working together is our strength and way forward. I believe this is a time to accept the challenges that come from people committed to the task of helping those who are in our charge. To start working with our differences and building with combined effort a better community with effective, strong, compassionate and well balanced services.

Are you willing to build and have a different vision for A & D service delivery?

Paul Traynor

HAPPY NEW YEAR AND BEST WISHES FOR YOU IN 2002! FROM ADA

HAPPY NEW YEAR

STAFF UPDATE

ADA FAREWELLS MARILYN LINDSAY
OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR



Sadly, we say farewell to our longest serving staff member at ADA. Marilyn has been one of our most dedicated and loyal members of staff and has been through most of the ups and downs of ADA formerly CCCAD over the past six and half years. She was there when the Helpline was in its infancy and through her administration has supported the service and adapted as it has changed and grown.

There are many volunteers who have found great support and a good listening ear from Marilyn and who will miss her from our ranks. Growth brings change and it seems in ADA we are forever adapting and changing and now we have a new set of challenges much like our DHB's.

Our Best Wishes to Marilyn and Thankyou!!

CHARLES HENDERSON APPOINTED NATIONAL CO-ORDINATOR OF NEEDLE EXCHANGE PROGRAMME.

The Needle Exchange Programme (NEP) is designed to reduce the spread of blood borne communicable diseases such as HIV/ Aids and Hepatitis C (HCV), as well as reducing the harm that results from the injection of drugs.

There are 3 components to this scheme

- The physical sale of injection equipment to drug users.
- The safe return and disposal of used needles and syringes.
- The promotion of safer drug use and safer sex behaviours to people who inject drugs through the provision of printed materials and the availability of information, education and advice.

Some other points of note

- providing access to needle exchange programme (NEP) and dedicated needle exchanges (NEX) and therefore access to sterile equipment for IDU's is an important part of preventing HIV/ Aids & Hepatitis C (HCV)
- the dual objective of sterile injection equipment and removal of used and potentially contaminated equipment from circulation has seen a reduction in NZ (within IDU populations) of HIV to less than 1%, and HCV to 45% (from 70 to 80%). HCV is endemic within this population (HIV was not endemic in the IDU population) which has meant it has been much more difficult to contain. The HIV figure is the lowest in the world.
- Unheralded success story has been the reduction of HBV from 8% in 1988 (the start of NEP in NZ) to 1.5%.

CONGRATULATIONS TO
ANDREW HORNBLow AND SUE BAGSHAW

We extend congratulations to Andrew Hornblow, outgoing Dean of the Christchurch School of Medicine and currently Chairperson of Alcohol Advisory Council New Zealand (ALAC). Andrew was made a Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to medicine and health services. Also to Sue Bagshaw, senior medical officer and Chairperson of 198 Youth Health Centre. Sue was also made a Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to youth health. Well done to the both of you!

CANTERBURY DISTRICT HEALTH BOARD UPDATE

- Next public meeting is March 1, 2002
- Minister of Health Hon Annette King MP has appointed Graham Heenan to the Canterbury District Health Board. Graham is an accountant and professional director and was a member of the previous board. Tuari Potiki has been appointed and is well known in the A & D sector. Currently he is a Maori health consultant and is a manager with the Ngai Tahu Development Corporation.
- Paul White, has been appointed. Paul is an architect and a director of Housing New Zealand Ltd. He also served on the previous board.

These newly appointed board members join Chairperson Syd Bradley, and other members Randall Allardyce, Philip Bagshaw, Robin Booth, David Morrell, Olive Webb and Alison Wilke.



The primary objectives of this position include the managing of the operation of NENZ and in doing so strengthen and improve the effectiveness of the Needle Exchange Programme (NEP). This is achieved by provision of safe, economical and efficient hazardous waste disposal, ensuring communication & dissemination of information between stakeholders and parties involved with NEP, and the building and maintaining of positive working relationships with NEP outlets, stakeholders, government purchasers and commercial clients.

ALCOHOL HELPLINE

HELPLINE CALLS INCREASE 15.8% IN 2001

The Helpline continues to go from strength to strength due to a combination of our quality of service, the effectiveness of our volunteers and brief intervention counsellors (BICs), advertising and the training and management of the service. The *Had Enough* campaign under the guidance of Ian MacEwan and Michael Bird has been a constant source of encouragement for callers to access the Helpline. We have appreciated their commitment to this service and the increase of exposure in the last month.

Our calls for 2000 were 9902, rising to 11792 for the year 2001. A great effort! The early signs from ALAC, Ministry of Health and DHB's is the desire to work on early intervention strategies and therefore the primary end of health. The Helpline is a valuable tool for accessing people to alcohol and drug services, information, support and publications. It provides a cost-effective way to move people to where they will get the best help and support, as well as providing a caring and listening ear. This service is provided by ADA and is funded by ALAC. The Alcohol Helpline 0800 787 797 10am to 10pm daily.

NEED FOR DRUG ADVISE TO BE INCLUDED ON HELPLINE IN 2002!!

Over the past year there has been an increase in callers to the Helpline for information and advice on "other drugs". ADA Manger Paul Traynor says, "for the past three and a half years, we have argued the case for this and in 2000 were invited to submit a proposal to the Minister of Health". There was much excitement with plenty of support from the A & D sector and LOAD forums in the South Island for this initiative to come about. But, to date it is still all promises and officials wrangling out of which purse it should come from. It should be a given, as the evidence continues to mount in terms of increased drug use in New Zealand.

Schools, workplaces, police, customs and communities have all witnessed an increase in usage of other drugs. The IACD (Inter Agency Committee on Drugs) is still musing over its intersectorial responsibilities as it faces drug issues from every sector. They have been extremely silent on this issue even though concerns and requests have been made to them. The Australian Inter Governmental Committee on Drugs meets in Wellington in late February 2002 and we still have no dedicated drug line service for our services, schools, communities and population. It is time there was action and that the Ministry just got on with finding a way forward so that all New Zealanders can access accurate and consistent information on other drugs. ADA proposed to extend its Helpline to include this service, and we hope that by July 1 it will be funded adequately and running. Lend your support to this initiative.

ALCOHOL AND DRUG TRAINING FOR ALLIED PROFESSIONALS 2002

The Ministry of Health has provided funding to ADA (Alcohol Drug Association New Zealand) to research and develop workplace training for allied professionals.

An allied professional is anyone *not* working in an Alcohol/Drug service but whose client group may misuse alcohol and/or drugs.

ADA distributed a South Island wide training needs survey late last year. Surveys were sent to offices from WINZ, Police, CYFs and a variety of other government and non-government organisations. The workshop content is based on the training needs expressed through this survey.

Training will be facilitated by Sheryl Butcher and Karen Gillie. Sheryl is the ADA Parent Drug Education Co-ordinator and Karen is our current Alcohol Helpline Co-ordinator and trainer.

Dates for the workshops are below, so if you have a know of an agency (not an A&D service) that you think will benefit from this training then phone Karen Gillie on (03) 379-8526 or email karen@adanz.org.nz and ADA will send them a registration brochure.

Dates for 2002 are:

- Westport 12th & 13th February
- Greymouth 14th & 15th February
- Timaru 21st & 22nd February
- Invercargill 25th & 26th February
- Nelson 7th & 8th March
- Christchurch 11th & 12th March
- Dunedin 4th & 5th April

Numbers are limited, so early registration would be beneficial. However, if enrolments suffice, then repeat workshops will be run.

Karen Gillie and Sheryl Butcher



Treatment Works Week
June 23 – June 28 2002

2002 heralds the third annual Treatment Works Week in New Zealand from June 23 to 28. This week highlights the value of prevention and treatment in reducing harm arising from the misuse of alcohol and other drugs.

ADA (Alcohol Drug Association New Zealand) has been asked by the National Treatment Forum (NTF) to take on a national co-ordination of this week. ADA has been given a small budget that is for communication, administration, update the Treatment Works Week Kit and the launch of this week, which is proposed to be in Wellington on Sunday 23 June 2002. There will be updates about this via the A and D Netlink.

We appreciate that there are many things on your agendas competing for your attention. All we ask initially is to put the Treatment Works Week dates in your diary and start using your networks to discuss possibilities for the week. To fund initiatives we would be encouraging local monies as there is no national funds. It is suggested that we start small and do whatever you do in the community extremely well. We are urging individuals and services, both A & D and allied professional, to develop local initiatives. To assist, the Treatment Works Kit will be updated and available on the ADA web site www.adanz.org.nz on March 1 2002. If you wish to get ideas before them then just go to the site and click on Treatment Works.

CONFERENCES OF INTEREST

Conference Title: Working Together 2002 (Communities In Action)
Date: 18-20 February 2002
Venue: The TelstraSaturn Centre, Te Papa, Wellington
Registration: Contact Jennifer Harris ALAC
Telephone: (04) 472-0997

Conference Title: The 2002 Australian Indigenous Men's Issues Conference
Date: 20-22 February 2002
Venue: Greenmount Beach Resort Coolangatta, Gold Coast Qld
Details: For more information contact: The Conference Secretariat: ICSA 16 Olden Court, Hydeaway Bay Qld 4800
Telephone: (07) 49457122
Fax: (07) 49457224
Email: icskooori@mackay.net.au

Conference Title: The 2002 Australian Indigenous Health Conference
Date: 18-19 March 2002
Venue: Greenmount Beach Resort Coolangatta, Gold Coast Qld
Details: For more information contact: The Conference Secretariat: ICSA 16 Olden Court, Hydeaway Bay Qld 4800
Telephone: (07) 49457122
Fax: (07) 49457224
Email: icskooori@mackay.net.au

Conference Title: The 2002 Australian Indigenous Children's Health Conference
Date: 21-22 March 2002
Venue: Greenmount Beach Resort Coolangatta, Gold Coast Qld
Details: For more information contact: The Conference Secretariat: ICSA 16 Olden Court, Hydeaway Bay Qld 4800
Telephone: (07) 49457122
Fax: (07) 49457224
Email: icskooori@mackay.net.au

Conference Title: Workforce Development Symposium
Date: 1-3 May 2002
Venue: Adelaide
Contact: Contact NCETA
Email: nceta@flinders.edu.au
Website: www.nceta.flinders.edu.au

Conference Title: Drugs And Young People Conference
Date: 1-3 May 2002
Venue: Adelaide
Contact: ADF
Email: events@adf.org.au
Website: www.adf.org.au

Conference Title: People And Place - Public Health Association NZ National Conference
Date: 26-28 June 2002
Venue: Dunedin
Details: The conference will encompass five major themes: Human health and the environment, Rural public health, Social capital, Social change, Injury prevention. Proposals for papers on the above theme are invited to be sent to:
Pat Johnston, Conference Secretariat, Dunedin Conference Management Service, PO Box 1029 Dunedin.
Email: pat@dcms.co.nz
Website: www.pha.org.nz

Conference Title: Health Promotion Forum- Making The Connections
Date: 9-11 April 2002
Venue: Te Mataranga Maori and Christchurch Polytech
Contact: Helen Rance
Email: hrance@clear.net.nz
Website: www.hpforum.org.nz