



Alcohol, Tobacco and other
Drugs Council Tasmania Inc.

MEDIA RELEASE

May 26, 2017

Media opportunity: Tuesday, May 30

ATDC North-West Bus Tour showcases alcohol and other drugs services

Guests of a unique North-West bus tour will gain useful insight into the North-West's alcohol and other drugs (AOD) services on Tuesday, May 30.

The Alcohol, Tobacco and other Drugs Council will hold its annual North-West bus tour on Tuesday, May 30.

A booked-out bus will visit eight services across Devonport, Ulverstone, Burnie and Sulphur Creek and hear presentations from representatives from 10 different services in one day.

Representatives run through the scope of their service, and the information comes in handy for the tour guests, who come from sectors such as mental health and justice, which intersect with AOD services often.

"Regional communities experience a range of harms from drug use, for example, we have heard anecdotal reports over the last few years of increases in harms related to crystal methamphetamine use," ATDC Policy and Research Officer Dr Jackie Hallam said.

"Of course alcohol and tobacco continue to be the main driver of health harms across all drug types," Dr Hallam said.

"It is critical that health and welfare workers understand how to access help for clients with these issues. Our AOD sector is ready to respond."

Clients often utilise services from a variety of sectors, so increasing the knowledge of tour guests helps them know when and how to connect with services in the North-West.

Resultantly, the coordination of care for clients dealing with comorbid issues can be improved.

Tour guests will be exposed to a range of AOD service providers, ranging from time-out facility Serenity House to the Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre.

The bus tours take place annually in each of the three regions. The ATDC is the peak body representing the interests of Tasmania's community service organisations that provide people with substance misuse issues services.

MEDIA OPPORTUNITY

WHO: ATDC Policy and Research Officer Dr Jackie Hallam for photograph and interview

WHEN: 10am, Tuesday, May 30 (Please be on time, the bus tour operates on a tight schedule)

WHERE: Outside the YFCC Junction Hub, 64 Stewart Street, Devonport

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