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Alcohol, Tobacco & other  
Drugs Council Tas Inc.

Latest news from the ATDC

September Bulletin

1 September 2014

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## From the CEO's Desk

### From the CEO - September 2014

**The long awaited State Budget was delivered on 28 August and I suspect it will generate a mixed response from our sector once we fully understand the implications of the decisions made.**

In the first instance, the retention of a 2.25% indexation rate is better than no indexation, but this lower rate unfortunately continues to perpetuate the notion that community sector organisations can somehow absorb the real world costs associated with CPI increases to our rent, electricity, fuel and other supplies.

As community sector organisations, ATDC members will benefit from the government's commitment of \$9 million in funding to help improve sustainability. With \$2 million earmarked for distribution in 2014-15 by way of a pro-rata payment to funded organisations, I am concerned that the amount of funding made available will not match the Government's expectations of small organisations to build capacity in a more competitive service environment. With the intended sector reform agenda gaining momentum, I am hoping the Government has recognised that supporting effective change management and reform comes at a price.

My greatest disappointment in this Budget however is the apparent 15% reduction in funding to the Statewide and Mental Health Services, which includes Alcohol and Drugs. The budget papers indicate a reduction of \$15.5 million overall so whilst I am yet to find out what impact this will have on our community sector AOD services, I am astounded to note the static performance measures for alcohol and drug episodes of care and pharmacotherapy participants. At a time when our members and community are reporting considerable harm caused by substance use, and when the Government has told us repeatedly that investment will be made in frontline services and supporting vulnerable people, I struggle to understand how this can be achieved without growth in service provision.

As the weeks and months unfold post-budget, I am hopeful the Government, and in particular the Minister for Health and his Agency staff will be able to work with our sector to support improved access to treatment, greater understanding of prevention and health promotion in our field and progression to genuine partnership in delivering the very best AOD services possible in Tasmania.

'Til next time.

Jann

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## Sector Update

### ATDC AGM Friday 26 September

**ATDC members are invited to the 2014 Annual General Meeting to be held on Friday 26 September 11.30 am in the Wombat Room, Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources, 181 Macquarie Street, Hobart.**

Please RSVP no later than 19 September to [nancyh@atdc.org.au](mailto:nancyh@atdc.org.au)

Immediately preceding the AGM an info session will be hosted on Suicide among people with co-occurring substance misuse and mental illness diagnosis; early insights from the Victorian Suicide Register. This session is open to all and requires a separate registration. [Click here](#) for more information and to register.

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## Promotion, Prevention and Early Intervention

**In March 2013 the State Government released *Everybody's Business: A Strategic Framework for Implementing Promotion, Prevention and Early Intervention (PPEI) Approaches in Averting Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs Use*. Following the release of the Strategic Framework the Tasmanian Department of Health and Human Services:**

- convened two workshops of interested ATOD stakeholders to confirm priority areas of action, and
- assigned the Drug Education Network (DEN) as the lead body to develop an implementation plan and coordinate PPEI activity within the State.

In April 2014 the ATDC convened the first meeting of the Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Sector Promotion, Prevention and Early Intervention (PPEI) Implementation Advisory Group. The principal role of the Advisory Group is to progress the Strategic Framework by guiding the development of a Tasmanian PPEI Implementation Plan.

In late-June 2014 the Department of Health and Human Services funded the appointment of a PPEI Project Officer within the ATDC. The role of the Project Officer is to support the implementation of the Strategic Framework by:

- working closely with the DEN
- developing and maintaining relationships with key stakeholders
- analysing key issues and trends
- supporting project governance arrangements
- compiling meeting documentation and providing executive support to the Implementation Advisory Group.

In late August 2014, Olivia Mitchell was appointed to the position of PPEI Project Officer. Olivia is contracted to the position for 12 months and will work 3 days a week. Olivia joins the ATDC with a diverse professional background having practiced law for a number of years before working for different agencies within the Department of Justice. Olivia has a strong commitment both professionally and personally to social justice issues and looks forward to working on the implementation of the PPEI Strategic Framework.

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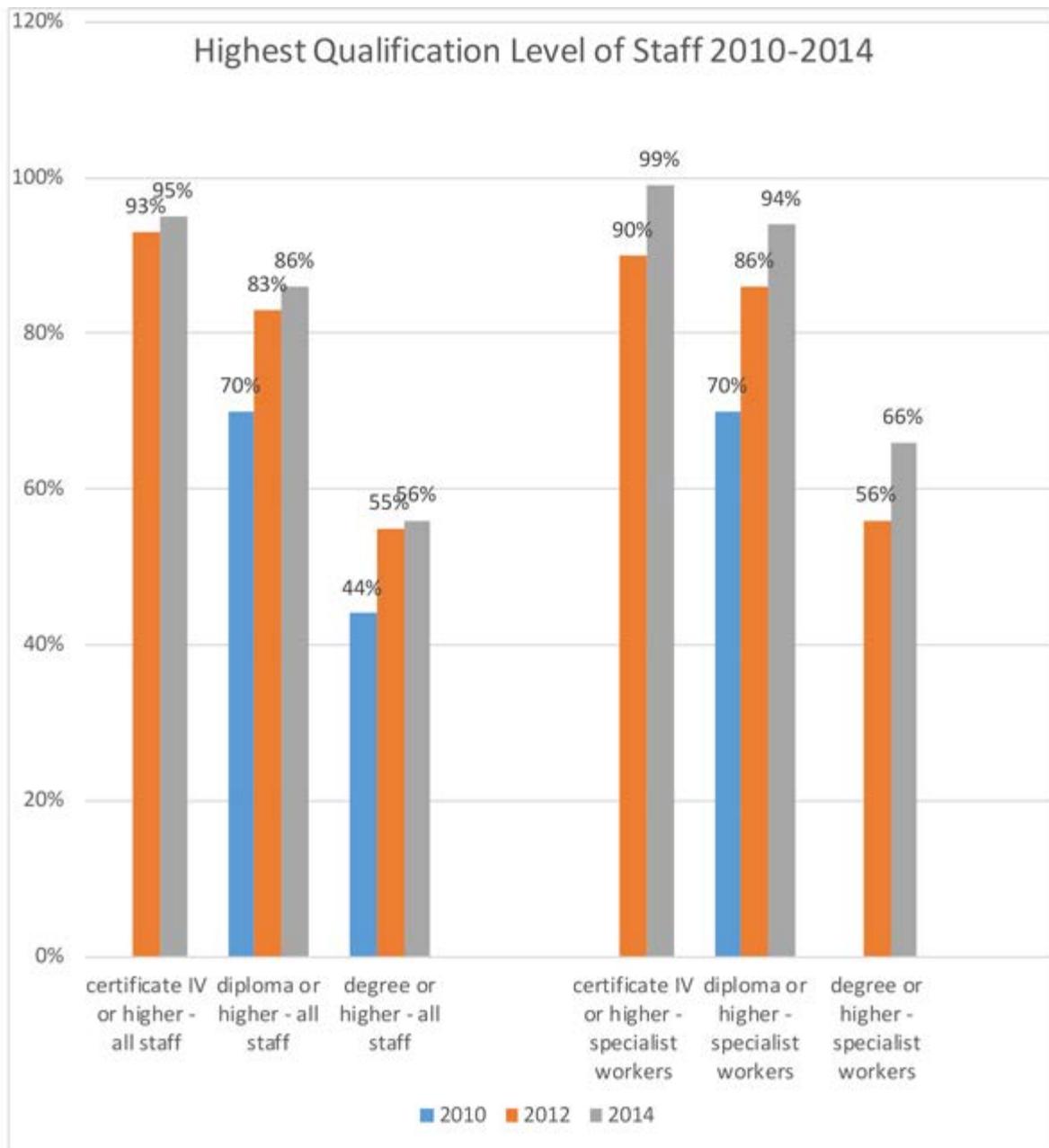
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## ATDC Workforce Survey 2014: Some Fast Facts About Staff Qualifications

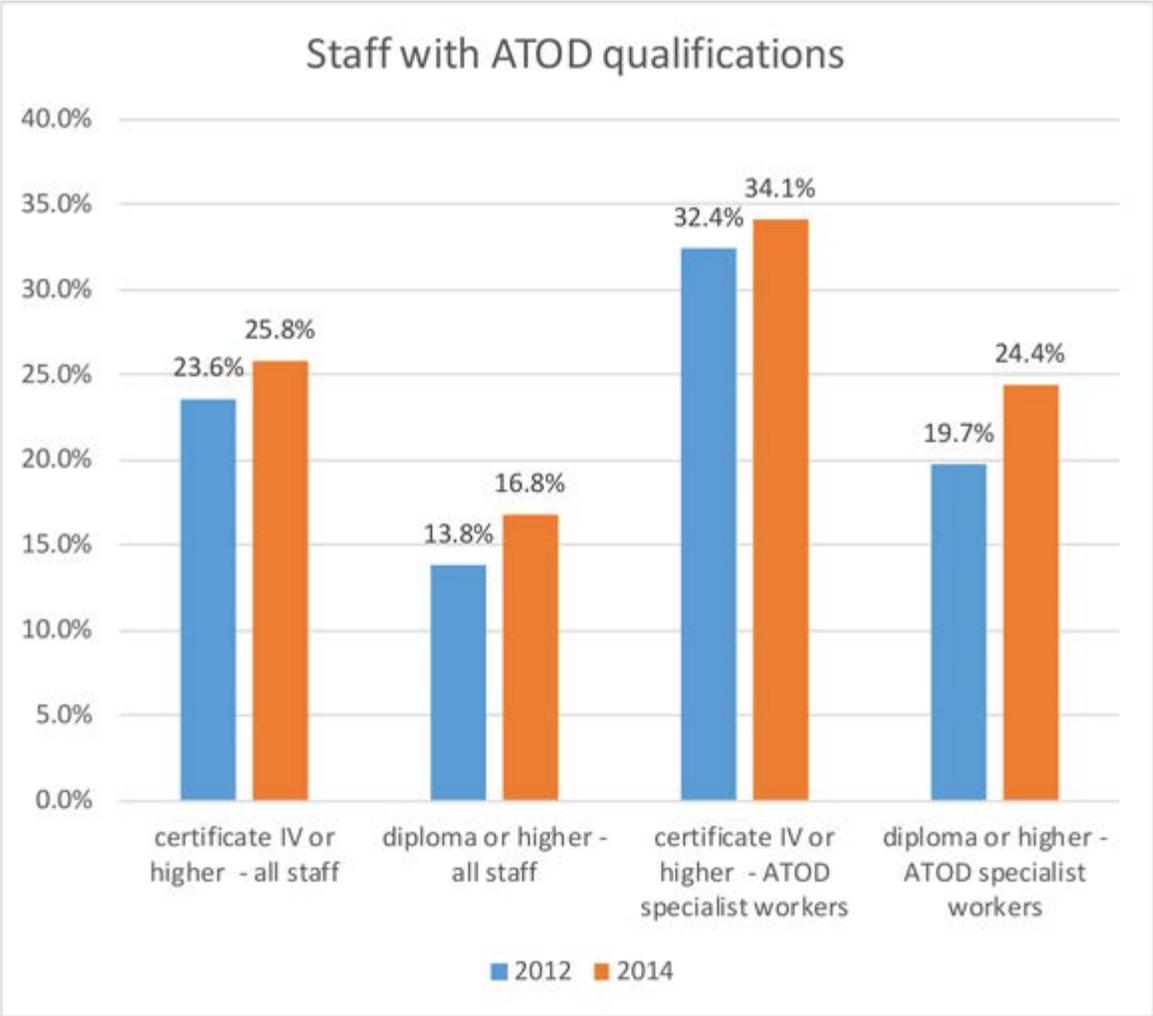
**A big thank you to the individuals from ATDC member organisations who completed the ATDC 2014 workforce survey. We can compare the data from this with previous years and identify discernable trends in some areas.**

There are some trends to note with the qualifications of staff.

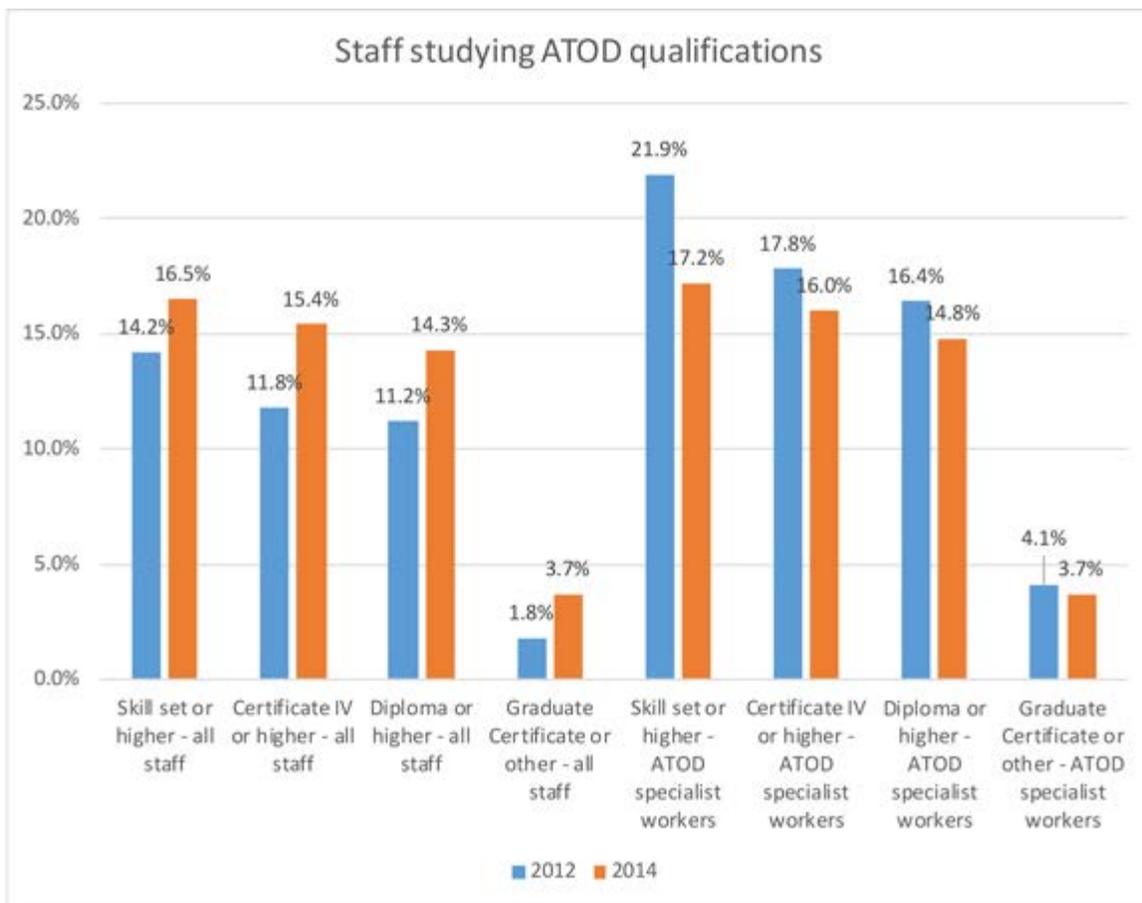
Overall, staff in ATDC member organisations are better qualified than ever before.



There is a small increase in the proportion of staff with ATOD Specialist qualifications.



There is a general increase in staff studying ATOD qualifications, but some decrease in ATOD specialist workers studying ATOD qualifications.



*In this context, ATOD specialist workforce refers to those who identify they work in an organisation that provides only ATOD services or in an ATOD program within an organisation providing a broader range of services and whose primary role is not manager or team leader or administrative roles (2014) for earlier data it is those who identify they do not have management responsibilities.*

Tabular versions of these results may be found online at the ATDC web site by [clicking here](#).

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## Review of the Liquor Licensing Act 1990

The Department of Treasury and Finance is undertaking a review of the Liquor Licensing Act 1990. This commenced in 2013, with the aim of assessing how well the Act and the associated administrative functions align with the aims of the Tasmanian Alcohol Action Framework and to identify area of change for Government consideration.

Submissions have been called in response to a [proposals paper](#), (the third paper of the review) with a closing date of 12 September 2014.

The ATDC represents its membership in this policy area through the Interagency Working Group on Drugs and the Alcohol Advisory Group and will be providing input to the review. Members are invited to contact the ATDC CEO via email [janns@atdc.org.au](mailto:janns@atdc.org.au), if they have comment or input to the review that they would like to make.

The Proposals Paper and submission details can be found on the Department's website by [clicking here](#).

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## The Link Information Sessions

**The Link Youth Health Service is running tours of their building in Liverpool Street, Hobart on Mondays and Tuesdays between 9:30am and 11:30am on a weekly basis.**

You will receive information on the services, facilities and programs they offer and meet some of their friendly staff.

Information sessions can be arranged for groups or individuals from community service providers as well as groups of young people.

**Booking are essential.** Contact BJ or Steve on 6231 2927 or email [tania@thelink.org.au](mailto:tania@thelink.org.au)

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## Review of AOD Certificate IV and Diploma Qualifications

**The third round of consultations about the changes to the AOD Certificate IV and Diploma qualifications is now open.**

All stakeholders are encouraged to give feedback on the current drafts of the qualifications, units and skill sets. Once endorsed, these qualifications will be set for the next 4-5 years, so consider whether they will meet the sector needs from next year until nearly 2020.

To provide feedback, please download the draft documents from the CS&HISC website. [Click here](#) to access draft documents and to submit your feedback.

Consultation runs from Monday 18 August to COB Friday 12 September 2014.

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## Seeking Young Person for YFCC Board

**Youth, Family and Community Connections is a not-for-profit organisation providing a range of support to youth and families across the North West of Tasmania. They are seeking a young person aged 18-24 to join their Board of Governance to help guide the organisation in the direction needed to best support young people and families in the community.**

Participation in monthly Board meetings is required. Training and support will be provided. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact Mel on 0488 070 134 or via email: [mel.blake@TL3.com.au](mailto:mel.blake@TL3.com.au).

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## Cultural Competency: Creating Meaningful Connections



Above from left: ATDC CEO JannSmith with Brian Serna and Amanda Street.

**We had an overwhelmingly positive response to the Cultural Competency training held on 31 July. Brian Serna is internationally known trainer in cultural issues and best practices in behavioural healthcare. The training was very broad-ranging and provided us with a toolkit that we could use to understand cultural differences in a wide range of contexts.**

We were encouraged to examine our own cultural background and story. For many of us in Australia this involves being aware of our white privilege and the invisibility of our own culture. We examined colonisation and the negative impact it has on both the coloniser and the colonised.

We participated in a hilarious and engaging exercise where we split into two “tribes”, the loud, elbow rubbing Elbowdians and the reserved and generous Chinigans. We were both given a set of cultural norms and then sent an ambassador from our tribe to go and meet with the other. This was a fun and practical way to show how cultural difference can easily be misinterpreted as rudeness, which leads to negative labelling of the ‘other’.

Amanda did an amazing job providing a fantastic venue, and organising a healthy Wursthau feast of dips, fruit and sandwiches. Food accounts for at least 50% of why I attend workshops and I was not disappointed. It was a great day for learning, eating and meeting new people, we look forward to seeing you at our next workshop!

Article by Tik Curnow, UTAS Social Work Student on Placement.

#### Useful links:

**Brian Serna-**

<http://www.sernasolutionsllc.com/home>  
[briserna@yahoo.com](mailto:briserna@yahoo.com)

**Micro Aggressions-**

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h\\_IQNI9T6vs](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h_IQNI9T6vs)  
[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_85JVcniE\\_M](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_85JVcniE_M)

**#LikeAGirl-**

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## Position Vacant: Integrated Family Support Worker (Team Leader) North West Tasmania

**Youth, Family & Community Connections Inc. is a North-West based Not-For-Profit Community Organisation that facilitates a range of services designed to support and assist youth, families and individuals in need to develop skills and opportunities to enable them to participate within the community.**

The Integrated Family Support Service (IFSS) team works collaboratively with Mission Australia to provide intervention strategies tailored to families with high and complex needs, where there are at risk factors present for children, young people and their families, to minimise involvement with child protection.

They are seeking applications from suitably qualified individuals for the position of IFSS Worker. This position will be based in East Devonport and Devonport and work across the North-West Coast and West Coast.

Further information about the position can be obtained by contacting the CEO, Ros Atkinson or [ros@yfcc.cm.au](mailto:ros@yfcc.cm.au)

Position description can be obtained by emailing Anne Heath [anne@yfcc.com.au](mailto:anne@yfcc.com.au) or telephoning 0418 238 532.

Expressions of Interest will be accepted up until 5.00 pm on Friday 19 September 2014.

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## Comorbidity Workplace Exchange Project 2014

**Would you like to spend up to 5 days working in a Mental Health Service?**

The Comorbidity Workplace Exchange Project (CWEP) commenced in 2013 with the intention of providing drug and alcohol community sector workers with the opportunity to experience a 2 day placement within a Government Mental Health Services team.

The project was piloted in the South with six successful placements happening between April and May in 2013. Amanda has been meeting with staff from Mental Health Services and ATDC member organisations in the North and North West of the State to get the project up and running. The ATDC hopes that placements will be offered for ATDC member workers in November and December this year. Please get in touch with Amanda Street [amandas@atdc.org.au](mailto:amandas@atdc.org.au) or 03 6231 5002 to express your interest in being involved in this project.

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## Upcoming Training, Events & Conferences

### Thriving in the NDIS: The Role of Outcomes Measurement

**Details:** The content of this webinar will be aimed at organisations operating in the NDIS but it will cover generic principles and practices that are applicable to anyone interested in measuring outcomes and understanding key principles underpinning the DHHS Outcomes Framework.

**Venue:** Webinar

**Date:** 8 September 2014

**Further information:** Read more by [clicking here](#)

**Registration:** Complete the registration form as directed by [clicking here](#)

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## Using a Motivational Interviewing Approach to Counselling AOD Clients

**Details:** Nationally recognised training and assessment with Louise Dewis delivering the training and TasTAFE undertaking the assessment.

**Venue:** Hobart

**Date:** 17 September 2014

**Cost:** \$160 (payable to TasTAFE upon receipt of invoice)

**Further information:** Read more by [clicking here](#)

**Registration:** Complete the registration form as directed by [clicking here](#)

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## Suicide Among People with Co-Occurring Substance Misuse and Mental Illness Diagnoses: Early Insights From the Victorian Suicide Register

**Details:** Presented by Jeremy Dwyer, Coroners Prevention Unit, Victorian Coroners Office.  
This information session is offered in conjunction with the ATDC Annual General Meeting

**Venue:** Hobart

**Date:** 26 September 2014

**Cost:** Free

**Further Information** [Click here](#) for more information

**Registration:** Complete the registration form as directed by [clicking here](#)

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## A Trauma Informed Approach To Understanding Grief and Loss & Understanding and Working with Trauma Based Behaviour

**Details:** Presented by the Lighthouse Institute

**Venue:** Mole Creek

**Date:** 26 September 2014

**Cost:** \$375.00

**Further information:** Please [click here](#) for more information

**Registration:** Complete the registration form as directed by [clicking here](#)

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## Brief Interventions for Alcohol

**Details:** Nationally recognised training and assessment with Anna Dimsey delivering the training and TasTAFE undertaking the assessment.

**Venue:**North West Devonport

**Date:** 22 October 2014  
**Venue:** South Hobart  
**Date:** 29 October 2014  
**Cost:** \$160 (payable to TasTAFE upon receipt of invoice)  
**Further information:** **Devonport**  
**Hobart**  
**Registration:** Complete the registration form as directed by [clicking here](#)

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## TACT: The Accidental Counsellor

**Details:** Presented by Amovita Consulting  
**Venue:** Hobart  
**Date:** 3 October 2014  
**Cost:** Free  
**Further information:** [Click here](#) for further information  
**Registration:** Complete the registration form as directed by [clicking here](#)

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## Building Resilient Workers Workshop

**Details:** 1-day workshop with Martine Langoulant  
**Venue:** North Launceston  
**Dates:** 23 October 2014  
**Further information:** [Click here](#) for further information

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## TasCOSS Introduction to Governance Series: Roles & Responsibilities

**Details:** 1-day workshop with Michelle Swallow  
**Venue:** North West Burnie  
**Date:** 17 September 2014  
**Venue:** North Launceston  
**Date:** 18 September 2014  
**Venue:** South Hobart  
**Date:** 24 September 2014  
**Further information:** **Burnie**  
**Launceston**  
**Hobart**

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## Life Awards

**Venue:** Launceston  
**Date:** 24 September, 5.30pm - 7:00pm  
**Cost:** Full registration - \$32.50  
**Further information:** [Click here](#) for further information

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## Tasmanian Suicide Prevention Community Network Annual Forum 2014

**Venue:** Launceston  
**Date:** 25 September, 8.30am - 4.30pm  
**Cost:** Full registration - \$78.50  
**Further information:** [Click here](#) for further information

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## Call for Abstract - VAADA Conference 2015 "Evolution: Innovation and Reflection in Victoria's Alcohol and other Drug Sector"

Victoria 19 - 20 February 2015

Abstracts due 20 October 2014

You can find information about submitting an abstract and everything else you need to know about the VAADA conference on this website: <http://conference.vaada.org.au/>.

Or contact Anna Guthrie, conference coordinator via email [conference@vaada.org.au](mailto:conference@vaada.org.au) or on (03) 9412 5605 for further clarification.

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## TasCOSS 2014 Conference

**Details:** Two day Conference  
**Venue:** Hobart  
**Date:** 13 - 14 November 2014  
**Further information:** [Click here](#)  
**Registration:** Complete the registration form as directed by [clicking here](#)

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## Tasmanian Leaders Program

**Are you ready, or do you know someone who is ready, to take the next step in a leadership position?**

Applications for the 2015 Tasmanian Leaders Program are now open and close at midday on 1 October 2014.

For more information: [www.tasmanianleaders.org.au](http://www.tasmanianleaders.org.au).

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## Research and Reports

### Alcohol and Other Drug Treatment Services in Australia 2012-13

The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare's most recent AOD report into treatment in is now available online by [clicking here](#).

Over 700 agencies provided over 160,000 treatment episodes for alcohol and other drug issues to an estimated 108,000 clients in Australia in 2012 - 13. Most episodes were for clients receiving treatment for their own drug use, and these clients tended to be male and in their 20s and 30s. Alcohol was the most common principal drug of concern, accounting for almost half of these closed episodes, and counselling was the most common type of treatment.

In Tasmania, 16 agencies provided data, 10 of which were non-government organisations. The data also shows 2012 clients received 2338 episodes of care.

Other AIHW reports can be found by [clicking here](#).

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### Working with Diversity Resource

The *Working with Diversity in Alcohol and other Drug Settings* resource has been developed by NADA to support non government drug and alcohol organisations in their work with the diversity of clients that access our services and represent the NSW population.

It contains examples of best practice approaches, as well as a range of useful resources for services providers.

The following populations have been included in the resource:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples
- Culturally and Linguistically Diverse communities
- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex people
- Older People

[Click here](#) to download the resource.

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### New ANCD Reports

1. [Medicinal Use of Cannabis Background & Information Paper](#)
2. [National Survey of Young People on Drug & Alcohol Policies](#)
3. [Amphetamine Type Stimulants \(ATS\) Medications Paper](#)
4. [Amphetamine Type Stimulants \(ATS\) Treatment Information Sheet](#)
5. [Family Sensitive Drug and Alcohol Practices Report](#)

In addition a NIDAC & NACCHO Survey of Indigenous health workers on ATS use is available from the NIDAC website, [www.nidac.org.au](http://www.nidac.org.au)

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