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Alcohol, Tobacco & other
Drugs Council Tas Inc.

Latest news from the ATDC

September Bulletin

6 September 2013

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From the CEO's Desk

July 2013

This Saturday's big ticket event, (no not the Richmond v. Carlton game) the Federal election, looks like one where there may be few surprises, and from the perspective of our sector could we expect anything different.

Three weeks before the election I **wrote** to Tasmanian candidates in every electorate, from each of the major parties, plus a few of the independents. I raised some of the priority issues we have an interest in and asked that they provide us with their views so we could disseminate their responses to our stakeholders. As I write this, we have had a party response from the Greens and a reply from The Hon Andrew Wilkie. Their responses are on our website at www.atdc.org.au

Is it a surprise or a disappointment that neither the Australian Labor Party or the Liberal Party considered the need to comment on alcohol and drug policy? All I can assume is we have no 'sector champions' within this group.

With such a lack of political interest in the alcohol and drug sector it is incumbent upon us to increase the volume of our voices and let those who emerge on Saturday know that, as our representatives, we want them to be informed about the issues that affect us. We expect them to use sound evidence to guide them for good policy and legislative decision making.

Staying on the national scene we have a very busy period coming up for reviews and projects. With the National Review of AOD Prevention and Treatment underway, and the Development of an ATOD Quality Framework in the pipeline, I will be following up with members in the coming weeks to assist in facilitating the most effective way to ensure your views and expertise are incorporated in these important National initiatives.

To our members, I would like to remind you that the AGM is scheduled for Wednesday 2nd October in Hobart, at 2.30pm. Please save the date and time in your diary now and you will be receiving the agenda and other details within the coming few weeks.

Adieu,
Jann

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Position Vacant - Corporate Services Coordinator - The Hobart Clinic

Applications are invited for a dynamic and energetic individual to coordinate our administration and hospital support services.

To be successful in this full-time role you will have:

- The ability to manage a team to achieve results and meet competing deadlines
- Experience with patient management systems or similar
- High level interpersonal skills to liaise with key personnel and stakeholders
- Knowledge and/or experience in the private health insurance sector or finance, would be an advantage

For a position description please go to: www.thehobartclinic.com.au

Applications, including an address to the key competencies, close on Monday 9th September and can be forwarded via e-mail to: The Corporate Services Manager agarrett@thehobartclinic.com.au

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Consumer Engagement

Consumer input needed for Pharmacotherapy Survey

We are currently conducting an independent telephone survey which aims to give consumers a voice about the implementation of the Tasmanian Opiate Pharmacotherapy Program (TOPP)

Clinical Guidelines (2012) and its effect on people who are receiving the treatment.

We ask that service providers please support interested clients to participate in this important research.

A flyer can be downloaded by [clicking here](#).

Please call Tanya on 6224 2240 for more information.

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Community consultation: Have your say on local health needs

Tasmanians are encouraged to have their say on what they need to stay well and out of hospital.

Tasmania Medicare Local has released its latest community survey to increase understanding of Tasmanians' access to community-based health care services and their health-related needs outside the hospital system.

The survey includes questions about how people rate their health; lifestyle factors that may affect their health; and availability of local health, transport and other services.

[Click here to access the survey.](#)

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Sector Update

Using and reducing use of bush, hydro and synthetics

Have you been a regular user of cannabis (yarni, gunja, pot, marijuana, hydro, skunk, etc.), or synthetic cannabis (such as Thai High, iBlaze, Tropic Thunder, Kronik, Spice, Cloud 9, Black Widow, etc.)?

If you are currently over the age of 18, we are interested in knowing about your experiences. The survey has questions about your use of cannabis, your experiences of 'hanging out' or withdrawing from cannabis, sleep, and some questions about you and your general health. The survey should take about 10 minutes to complete.

It is hoped that this study will provide relevant information to guide the development of resources to assist people who choose to reduce or quit their use of cannabis. No identifying information is being collected, so your views will be anonymous.

NCPIC has provided a poster advertising the survey and this is available for download by [clicking here](#) and the survey can be found by [clicking here](#).

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Scholarships available for the Tasmanian Leaders Program

Would you like to complete the Tasmanian Leaders Program but find the cost too prohibitive?

There are a number of \$5000 scholarships available; for more details [please click here](#).

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David Hunt to deliver 2013 Dorothy Pearce Address, 30 September

Internationally renowned community development strategist and organiser, and gifted storyteller

David Hunt will deliver the 2013 Dorothy Pearce Address at the Stanley Burbury Theatre, University of Tasmania, Sandy Bay, 5pm-7pm, on Monday 30 September.

David is the founder of the Washington, DC, based David Hunt and Associates, an institution dedicated to citizen empowerment and community development. He also founded the Community Building Storytelling Project. The Dorothy Pearce Address is a public event held annually to honour TasCOSS Honorary Life Member Dorothy Pearce.

Cost \$10 TasCOSS members/concessions and \$20 Non-members, includes light food and refreshments.

Click here to register online. RSVP essential for catering purposes. For more information **click here to download a flyer** or call 6231 0755, or email **admin@tascoss.org.au**

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Partnership Agreement Scorecard Survey Open Until 30 September

A Partnership Agreement between the Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Premier and Cabinet and the Tasmanian community sector was signed in October 2012.

The Agreement is a pledge to work together in relationships built on mutual understanding, respect and co-operation.

A short online survey is now being undertaken to gauge where your organisation feels your current State partnerships are working well, and where you would like some support to work with your partner(s) more within the Partnership Agreement principles.

Please complete the **Partnership Agreement Scorecard survey** by 30 September 2013. Responses are welcome from community sector organisations (as many people per organisation can complete it as you want) or from government agencies providing funding services.

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Upcoming Training, Events & Conferences

Save The Date! Workshops: Seriously Smashed: A web based resource for youth workers

Launceston: 21st October, afternoon

Burnie: 22nd October, morning

Hobart: 23rd October, morning

Seriously Smashed is a resource developed by the Glenorchy City Council, with funding from the National Binge Drinking Strategy, to educate young people about the harms of binge drinking and promote a change in this damaging culture.

Why attend?

- Learn more about best practice and the existing research about education of young people in respect of alcohol
- Increase your awareness of all aspects of the resource
- Develop a range of best practice approaches to using components of the resource in your work with young people
- Increase your capacity to work with young people to increase their awareness of choice and consequence

More information coming soon

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Free Event: Why do people stay? Building trust, pride and enjoyment in Tasmanian workplaces

Employer of Choice Breakfast

Thursday 12 September 2013, 7.15am - 9.00am

The Old Woolstore, 1 Macquarie St, Hobart

Interactive Panel Discussion (7.45am - 8.45am)

Tasmania's recognised Employers of Choice share their experiences and strategies for retaining valuable staff.

Launch of 2013 Employer of Choice Awards (8.50am - 9.00am)

The Hon Nick McKim MP, Minister for Education and Skills, will launch the 2013 Awards. Entries open until 12 December. For more information on the Awards, visit <http://www.skills.tas.gov.au/eocawards>

All business, community and government sector representatives are welcome to attend.

Breakfast will be served from 7.15am to 7.45am

RSVP to Business Tasmania by 6 September

Phone 1800 440 026 or Email ask@business.tas.gov.au

This is a free event, brought to you by Skills Tasmania, Department of Education, AHRI, AIM and TCCI.

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Worksafe Tasmania Month 30 September - 1 November: Free seminars and workshops around the state

There is a wide variety of seminars and workshops on offer to our members.

For more information [please click here](#).

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Stress Less Seminar

By popular demand, motivational speaker Fay Jackson is returning to Kingston for Mental Health Week 2013, this time for a full day seminar.

Don't miss out on this invaluable opportunity to attend a fun, informative day on all things mental health!

There will be plenty of time for Q&A and lunch will be provided.

This is a free community event

WHEN: Friday 11 October 2013, 10am - 4pm

WHERE: The Centre, 100 Beach Rd Kingston

Please RSVP by 30 September growaspire@gmail.com or by phone - 6231 0635

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Workshop - Dr Tim Feeney - 'There's Always Something that Works'

The Brain Injury Association of Tasmania in conjunction with Brain Injury Australia presents Dr Tim Feeney - '*There's Always Something that Works*'.

When: Monday 23rd September 2013 9:30am - 4:30pm

Where: Aspect Tamar Valley Resort, 7 Waldhorn Drive, Grindelwald, Launceston

Evidence for the importance of optimism, hope and a sense of humour when supporting individuals with difficult behaviours

This workshop will prove a framework for the development of positive, personal, and meaningful supports for individuals with complex needs.

This framework includes methods for developing executive functions and creating positive personal identities, as well as providing scripts for positive interaction.

Participants will be able to discuss their interactions with others and contemplate the benefits of encouraging humour and fun to help achieve serious goals.

This workshop is interactive - bring along real (de-identified) cases for discussion.

[Click here to register.](#)

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Australasian Therapeutic Communities National Conference

Mercure Gold Coast, 14 - 18 October 2013

The theme for our 2013 ATCA Conference: Building Communities, invites and challenges us to engage in a wide ranging dialogue around the phenomenon of community, one that courageously explores the options and implications of moving beyond a restricted and limiting conceptualisation of the term. Keynote speakers including Rowdy Yates, Senior Research Fellow, University of Stirling, A/Prof David Best, Turning Point Alcohol & Drug Centre and Kate Carnell, CEO, beyondblue.

Register now **<http://events.atca.com.au/>**

If you have any further questions, please call Michelle Bordignon on 07 3834 3333.

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National Justice Symposium - September 18 and 19

The theme for the 2013 Symposium is 'Pushing the boundaries: rethinking the extent of children's involvement in the criminal justice system'. The need for the Symposium is clear, with renewed public and media attention being directed towards youth justice systems throughout Australia around issues such as Aboriginal over-representation, children being transferred to adult prisons, and 'tough on crime' policies and legislation. **New research** released today confirms the findings from Jesuit Social Services' report, **Thinking Outside**, that vulnerable children who enter the justice system often get stuck in cycles of offending.

For more information and to book **[click here](#)**.

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Did You See That Report?

September Update

'*Did you see that report?*' is a monthly listing of recently released Australian reports, research and other items of interest to the AOD sector which are available online. This is a service provided by the Alcohol and other Drugs Council of Australia (ADCA).

To view the latest reports you may have missed please [click here](#).



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