



NADA Member Update 16 January 2009

This is a regular fortnightly email update for NADA member services.

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Notice board

Program of Appliances for disabled people : The NSW Legislative Council General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2 yesterday released the final report of their inquiry into the Program of Appliances for Disabled People (PADP). The report is available [here](#). Following on from the release of the report, NCOSS invite you to attend a meeting to discuss the recommendations of the report, consider any collective response to the report, consider any ongoing collective activity or advocacy that the group could take (of course this would not be at the exclusion to the individual activities of organizations). The meeting will be held:

Friday 23rd January, 2009
10am to Midday
With a venue to be advised in Mid January.

Please feel free to contact Kristie Brown at NCOSS on 9211 2599 ext 130 or kristie@ncoss.org.au, or Sean Lomas on (02) 8347 3008 or slomas@scia.org.au if you would like to discuss this further.

NSW Health Comorbidity Guidelines – consultation on draft document : The NSW Health, Mental Health Drug and Alcohol Office engaged Communiogroup to assist develop *Clinical Guidelines for the Assessment and Management of People with a coexisting Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder in Acute Care Settings*. To date the process involved writing a set of topic papers which reviewed the literature and investigated the level of evidence on a specific area of comorbidity. It also included two workshops where experts from both fields developed consensus regarding the best management approach for inclusion in the guidelines. The NSW Health Mental Health and Drug and Alcohol Office would now like to extend an invitation to you and/or your organisation to participate in this important process. A consultation website has been developed to provide the opportunity to give feedback regarding the entire document and/or to each individual chapter. **Comments are required by 30 January 2009.**

The website can be found at:

<http://comorbidity.comuniogroup.com/>

Whilst NADA has been involved in the process to date, we will be providing extensive comment on both the intent and content of the document. If members would like to comment, visit the website provided and select areas to comment on. Alternatively, NADA is happy to collate comments/feedback from the sector as a whole. Forward any comments to tanya@nada.org.au.

Education Centre Against Violence Training Calendar 2009: The ECAV Training Calendar and course information is now available. Visit www.ecav.health.nsw.gov.au for more information.

Do you work with people who use amphetamine type stimulants such as speed? : Free national training provided by Anex will be available in July/August this year throughout NSW . The introductory session will provide an overview of ATS classifications, domestic & international ATS use, identification of social, physical, emotional & psychological impacts and protocols which address screening, assessment, management and referral. The advanced session will highlight the contemporary situation of ATS use, explore the pharmacological impacts and interventions involved in current models, including clinical guidelines and practice principles. Whilst the definition of ATS refers to a group of psychostimulant drugs that are related to the parent compound amphetamine, this training will focus on methamphetamine and methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA). For more information visit the Anex training website www.amphetamines.org.au

Calendar

Launch - 'Guides to dealing with alcohol for teenagers and parents'

Randwick CDAT invites you to the launch of the NSW Health 'Guides to dealing with alcohol for teenagers and parents'.

Help to raise awareness of young people and their parents about the risks associated with binge drinking and provide strategies to promote responsible drinking.

Date & Time: Wednesday 21 January 2009 at 11.00am

Venue: WAYS Bondi Junction

Tiffany Plaza

422 Oxford Street

Bondi Junction

RSVP by 19 January 2009 to Kathleen Ryan on 93652500 or Kathleen@ways.org.au

Youth Substance Abuse and Public Space Forum

This **FREE SEMINAR** is a collaborative initiative between Drug and Alcohol Coordination (DAC) of the NSW Police Force and the Sydney University Institute of Criminology. The Seminar brings together an array of expert speakers to review contemporary issues associated with the policing of young people, substance misuse and public space.

Date: 10 February 2009

Time: 12pm-5.30pm.

Venue: Sydney University EDULT351, Education Building, Manning Road, Camperdown

To register, please contact Emma Farag on Email: fara1eym@police.nsw.gov.au or 02 8835 8652

Free workshop on Co-morbidity and Student Supervision (Sydney & Parramatta)

The Australian Association of Social Workers (AASW) co-morbidity project is conducting training related to social work student supervision & working in the area of co-morbidity (mental health & alcohol / drug concerns). The training is primarily geared towards social work student supervisors of students undertaking placements in AOD (Alcohol and Other Drugs Services), task supervisors and other AOD staff.

Date: Tuesday 10th February 2009

Venue: Room 436, Old Teacher's College, Manning Road, University of Sydney
and

Date: Wednesday 11th February 2009

Venue: Western Sydney Community Forum (WSCF) training room, Suite 4002, Level 4,
146 Marsden Street, Parramatta 2124.

Time: 9.00 for 9.30 am start – 4.30 pm

Cost: Free of charge (including morning tea, lunch & afternoon tea)

For further information or to register your attendance, please contact:

Kerril Williams (03) 9326 2388 MHAdmin@asw.asn.au

PsyCheck Train the Trainer Workshop – 10 & 11 February 2009

The PsyCheck Screening Tool is a mental health screening instrument designed for use by clinicians who are not mental health specialists. It is designed to detect potential mental health problems that may be missed if not specifically investigated by the clinician or raised by the client. Turning Point will be providing eight 2-day train the trainer courses. The two-day courses will provide participants with an orientation to the PsyCheck resources. These courses are aimed at senior alcohol and drug, mental health and dual diagnosis clinicians and trainers. NADA will be hosting the NSW workshop on 10 & 11 February 2009 (9:30 am – 4:30 pm each day). If you would like an application form, please email Jo Khoo, jo@nada.org.au. Further enquiries can be directed to Kieran Connolly on (03) 8413 8704 or kieranc@turningpoint.org.au. Please note that Kieran is on annual leave until 27th January 2009 and can answer your queries when he returns to the office. Full information on the content of the Psycheck resource is available at www.psycheck.org.au.

NSW Institute of Psychiatry workshop – 19 February 2009

Early Bird Fee: **\$225.00** if payment is made by 5 Feb 2009 Full Fee: **\$255.00**

Psychopharmacology for Mental Health Professionals with Professor Iain McGregor. This workshop will assist non-medical mental health providers to better understand the current range of medications being used in Australia today for the treatment of anxiety disorders, depression, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, ADHD and substance abuse. Workshop participants will learn about the various classes of psychiatric medications, their influence on brain function, their effectiveness, and their impact on a person's wellbeing. The effects of drugs of abuse (e.g. cannabis, ecstasy, methamphetamine, alcohol and nicotine) and their role in predisposing to mental illness will also be considered.

If you need further information, please contact Natasa Petrovic on 02 9840 3833, or email: natasa.petrovic@nswiop.nsw.edu.au

University of Sydney Inter-departmental Substance Abuse Research Group (ISARG) symposium – 30 March 2009 The University of Sydney Inter-departmental Substance Abuse Research Group (ISARG) symposium is an annual event featuring leading drug and alcohol research conducted within the Discipline of Addiction Medicine at the University of Sydney. The discipline's research includes basic science, clinical science, epidemiology and public health.

Date: Monday, 30 March 2009.

Time: 9:00am – 5:00pm

Venue: The Darlington Centre, University of Sydney

To register and for further information including program, please visit the Addiction Medicine website: www.addiction.med.usyd.edu.au/conference.

Advocacy and Policy

The latest updates are available from our web site [here](#).

Media

NADA Advocate: The latest NADA Advocate (and last edition for 2008) is now available from the NADA web site [here](#).

Project Updates

NGO Drug and Alcohol and Mental Health Information Management Project: A Background Paper has been finalised that outlines the rationale for this project and how the project will be implemented. Visit the NADA website under 'Special Projects' for more information or contact tanya@nada.org.au

Resources

New Governance and Management Resource : It's Your Business is a resource developed by the Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care for non-government organisations designed to support the development of governance knowledge and board management skills. The six chapters of It's Your Business are available for download [here](#)

Positions Vacant

C.A.R.E. Research Coordinator C.A.R.E. Employment has received funding under the NGO Mental Health and Drug and Alcohol Research Grants Program for a two-year research project investigating the experiences of jobseekers with mental health and drug and alcohol issues. We are currently recruiting for a Research Coordinator to work on this project. Please contact Alison Jaworski at C.A.R.E. on (02) 9745 1529 for more information regarding this position.

Odyssey House McGrath Foundation, Full time position
AFTER CARE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR

Odyssey House McGrath Foundation is a charitable organisation that provides rehabilitation services to individuals with alcohol and other drug dependencies.

We are seeking an Administrator for the Odyssey House After Care Program situated in Campbelltown. The After Care Program provides group and individual counselling; social and personal development education to individuals, seeking ongoing support with their recovery from alcohol and other drug dependency issues.

Duties include:

The After Care Program Administrator will facilitate and oversee all aspects of the Odyssey House After Care Program. The successful candidate will be proficient in counselling and group facilitation skills in the area of recovery from alcohol and other drug dependencies. They will also be able to provide general supervision to the After Care Program Counsellor position (not clinical supervision) and be responsible for reporting on Program activities to the Community Services Manager.

Remuneration: Social and Community Services Award (State) Grade 4 Year 1.
Salary Sacrifice available after the 3 month probation period.

Applications: The closing date for applications is 6th February 2009

All applications must address the selection criteria and are to be forwarded by mail/email or fax to:

Michelle Tziarkas

Community Services Manager
Odyssey House
1st Floor 431 Elizabeth Street
Surry Hills NSW 2010
Fax: 9281 5146. PH: 9281 5144
email: admissions@odysseyhouse.com.au

Selection Criteria (must be addressed in all applications):

Qualifications

Tertiary qualifications in Counselling &/or Addictions studies.

Experience working with/and counselling clients who are recovering from alcohol and other drug dependency issues.

Other Criteria

Counselling and group facilitation skills Understanding of issues relating to dual diagnosis.

Willing to work on Saturday mornings and monthly attendance at client social activities outside of work hours.(time in lieu) Computer literate.

Administrative experience in the area of staff supervision, and program reporting requirements.

Good communication skills both written and oral.

Understanding of the ethics and issues related to client confidentiality.

Proven ability to work as part of a team.

Able to utilise and support the use of, all process and procedures consistent with the therapeutic community philosophy and that of the Odyssey House McGrath Foundation.

The successful applicant will be subject to a criminal record check.

Position Description

General Duties:

To provide counselling, support and education for clients of the Odyssey House Aftercare Program. To supervise and oversee the Aftercare counsellor position and be responsible for the administrative tasks of the Aftercare Program. Responsibilities of this position include advocacy; organising and participating in social development activities with the clients of the program; program development; networking and marketing activities.

Specific Duties:

Provide individual counselling to program participants.

Facilitate educational and support groups for clients.

Organise and follow up on results of urinalysis of clients.

Report writing as required.

Participate and contribute to ongoing program development and capacity building.

Develop resources appropriate to the program needs.

Provide supervision to the Aftercare Counsellor.

Responsible for managing financial components of the Aftercare Program.

Oversee all operating activities of the Aftercare Program.

Collect, input, and collate quantitative and qualitative data on all activities undertaken by the Aftercare program.

Maintain client sessional notes.

Undertake regular clinical supervision at in house group supervision sessions and with external clinician.

Liaise and develop networks with support agencies and other stakeholders.

Develop and implement appropriate recreational and social development outings.

Attend Odyssey House Compulsory Staff Meetings and other Odyssey House staff activities as required.

Pursue training relevant to the position of Aftercare Administrator/Counsellor and as agreed upon by Community Services Manager.

It is expected that the Aftercare Counsellor will be able to provide out of hours services to the client population where there is a recognised need as determined by the Community Services Manager.

Utilise and support the use of all processes and procedures consistent with the therapeutic community philosophy and that of the Odyssey House McGrath Foundation.

Odyssey House, Admissions and Intake Centre, Admissions Coordinator

The Odyssey House McGrath Foundation is a charitable organisation that provides rehabilitation services to individuals with drug, alcohol and gambling dependencies. We are seeking an energetic committed individual to join our staff team at the Admissions and Intake Centre at Surry Hills.

Applications close by close of business 2nd February 2009.

All applications must address the Selection Criteria outlined below and be forwarded by mail/email or fax to:

Michelle Tziarkas

Community Services Manager

Odyssey House

1st floor, 431 Elizabeth Street,

Surry Hills NSW 2010

Phone: 9281 5144 Fax: 9281 5146

admissions@odysseyhouse.com.au

SELECTION CRITERIA

Qualifications

? A tertiary degree in human services , or in the field of addictions or:

? A diploma in alcohol or other drug studies

And/or experience working in the drug and alcohol field.

Other Criteria

Experience in the drug and alcohol field or related services.

Understanding of issues relating to dual diagnosis for clients seeking rehabilitation.

Computer literacy ? demonstrated proficiency in excel, word and data entry.

Administrative experience in the area of client admission/intake or relevant competencies.

Demonstrated skills in office procedure.

Good communication skills both written and oral.

Understanding of the ethics and issues related to client confidentiality.

Proven ability to work as part of a team.

Able to utilise and support the use of, all process and procedures consistent with the therapeutic community philosophy and that of the Odyssey House McGrath Foundation.

The successful applicant will be subject to a criminal record check.

Remuneration:

Salary ?Social and Community Services Award (State) Grade 2 or 3 dependent upon experience and qualifications. Salary Sacrifice available after probationary period.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

General Duties:

The AIC Admissions Coordinator will facilitate and oversee all aspects of the admissions process for new residents entering Odyssey House residential programs. Responsibilities of this position include ensuring that the admission procedures are appropriate, efficient, effective and timely.

Specific Duties:

ADMISSION OF NEW CLIENTS

1. Oversee the admission of clients to Odyssey House residential programs.
 - 1.1. Approve assessment applications for Odyssey House programs, liaising with the Legal Liaison Officer, Assessment Co-ordinator and other staff where necessary.
 - 1.2. Ensure all current policies and procedures are adhered to during the admission process.
 - 1.3. Responsible for overseeing secure receipt of client property upon admission and storage, cataloguing and disposal of client property post discharge.
 - 1.4. Liaise with relevant program managers/coordinators/administrators to maintain appropriate admissions procedures.
 - 1.5. Liaise with the Assessment Coordinator to schedule client admissions.
2. Assist AIC staff with the assessment procedures ? undertake phone assessments with potential clients and assist with follow up on assessment files.

OFFICE DUTIES

3. Undertake general office administration duties:
 - 3.1. Scheduling of interviews and admissions.
 - 3.2. File management: Ensure client files including progress reports, electronic and paper files are appropriately maintained, filed and archived.
 - 3.3. Maintain statistical information relating to current clients in Odyssey House residential programs ? and as directed by the Community Services Manager.
 - 3.4. Monthly, 6monthly and annual reports are produced from data base and are provided to management ? and other reports as directed.
 - 3.5. Ensure receipt of ?Exit Memos? and file appropriately.
 - 3.6. Conduct Phone Assessments for clients seeking admission to Odyssey House residential programs.
 - 3.7. Respond to enquiries and provide appropriate referrals and information to members of the general community.
 - 3.8. Other activities as directed by the Community Services Manager

GENERAL DUTIES

4. Attend weekly departmental meetings with the resident crew and attend Odyssey House Staff Meetings as required.
5. Pursue training relevant to the position of AIC Admission coordinator and as agreed upon by the Community Services Manager.

6. As part of a team process it is expected that all AIC staff will acquire a sound working knowledge of other AIC staff positions and may be required to perform some of the functions of those positions intermittently.

7. Utilise and support the use of, all processes and procedures consistent with the therapeutic community philosophy and that of the Odyssey House McGrath Foundation.
