

**POLICY, ADVOCACY AND REPRESENTATION REPORT  
JULY – AUGUST 2010**

<b>Current Policy Priorities</b>	<b>Activities</b>
<p><b>1 Sustainability and development of the non government drug and alcohol service system</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The NADA Board of Directors and staff held a Strategy Day on 16 July 2010 to discuss the sector’s position in relation to health reform and the upcoming NSW election.</li> <li>○ Attended NSW Drug and Alcohol Program Council on 26 and 27 August 2010</li> <li>○ NADA provided a submission to the NSW Government discussion paper, <i>Health Reform in NSW</i>. The submission articulated key concerns for the non government drug and alcohol services sector in relation to the proposed role, boundaries and governance of Local Health Networks. To view the submission, click <a href="#">here</a>.</li> </ul>
<p><b>2 Consumer/service user participation</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ NADA has provided further comment to NSW Health on the development of a NSW Health Consumer Advisory Group.</li> </ul>
<p><b>3 Health promotion, prevention and early intervention</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Letter to Hon Carmel Tebbutt, Minister for Health, supporting transition of Community Engagement &amp; Action Program to the NGO sector.</li> </ul>
<p><b>4 Aboriginal health</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Attendance at the National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee (NIDAC) NSW Drug and Alcohol Consultation 5 August 2010.</li> <li>○ Presentation at the NIDAC Council Meeting on 6 August 2010. NADA and the State Wide Coordinator of the Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Traineeship Program (ADATP) presented the NSW Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Traineeship Program and received endorsement of ADATP under <a href="#">NIDAC Conference Resolution 3</a> and <a href="#">Conference Resolution 4</a>. Further to the aim of the meeting, NIDAC has requested further information to consider the ADATP model under a national framework for aboriginal drug and alcohol workforce development.</li> <li>○ NADA also presented the committee with an overview of its current work with our Aboriginal member organisations; in particular the OATSIH funded Residential Rehabilitation Services project.</li> </ul>

<p><b>5 Mental health</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Sustainability Forum for Improved Services Initiative grant recipients facilitated by John Mendoza on 15 July 2010.</li> <li>○ Participation in National ISI Forum Program Steering Committee with NCETA, state and territory AOD peaks and Department of Health and Ageing (DoHA).</li> <li>○ Participation in NGO Mental Health and Drug and Alcohol Collaboration Group on 4 August to explore opportunities for collaboration with the Mental Health Coordinating Council.</li> <li>○ Memorandum of Understanding signed with Mental Health Coordinating Council.</li> <li>○ Planning for and participation in the NADA/MHCC Research into Practice Conference Working Group.</li> </ul>
<p><b>6 Child protection</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Keep Them Safe NGO Roundtable on 21 July 2010 (organised by the Department of Premier and Cabinet). The audience included non government community services, schools, Government Child Wellbeing Units and Community Services. Topics of discussion included the NGO support line and Keep Them Safe training.</li> </ul>
<p><b>7 NGO reporting and compliance</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ NSW Health and NADA Advisory Group for review of NGO performance management has met to progress this issue</li> </ul>
<p><b>8 Other representation and events</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ NADA attended ANEX harm reduction forum on 20 July 2010 with a range of speakers providing a report back from the 2010 International Harm Reduction Conference in England.</li> <li>○ NADA attended the NCOSS Health Policy Advice Group on 22 July 2010 and a one day HPAG workshop on 25 August 2010 allowing a forum for discussing NGO advocacy in relation to health reform.</li> <li>○ Presentation at NCOSS Conference 5 August on NADA and NGO sector development and quality improvement programs</li> <li>○ NSW representation at ADCA Policy Forum meeting 13 July</li> </ul>