



IMPROVED SERVICES INITIATIVE EMAIL UPDATE

This is an email update for Improved Services Initiative grant recipients.

Contact [Sarah Morrison](#) if you have problems viewing this update, would like to be added or removed from the distribution list or have items to include in the next edition.

NOTICE BOARD

► NADA Single Session Work with Families Training EOI Open

Closing date for applications Friday 12th March

NADA & the Bouverie Centre, Family Institute, Victoria are working in partnership to offer NADA members the opportunity to complete frontline training in Single Session Work with a Family Focus with further support post training to facilitate implementation into frontline practice. An information pack and application form can be downloaded from [Families and Carer Project page](#).

► Funding Opportunity

NHMRC Project Grants 2010 Funding Grants

The National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) call for applications for the 2010 funding round of NHMRC Project Grants. Applications close on **17th March 2010**. [Click here](#) for more information.

► Subsidy Grants to attend National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Conference

The National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee have grants available to support workers from rural and remote areas to attend the NIDAC Conference (16 -18 June in Adelaide). The closing date for applications is 15th March. [Click here](#) for more information.

CALENDAR

NADA events

► Improved Services Initiative Grant Recipient Forum

Thursday 18 March at Australian Technology Park

We are currently finalising the program for the day and will be providing you with more information shortly. To register to attend the ISI Grant Recipient networking forum contact [Robert](#) or [Sarah](#).

► Drug & Alcohol Workforce Development Seminar

Tuesday 23 March at NSW Health, 73 Miller Street, North Sydney

NADA is working in collaboration with the Mental Health and Drug and Alcohol Office (MHDAO) and the Australian Drug Foundation (ADF) to develop a worker resource and seminar that focuses on the role of families in preventing alcohol related harm among young people. [Click here](#) for more information.

► FREE Australian Integrated Mental Health Initiative (AIMHI) Training – Yarning About Mental Health

Thursday 8th and Friday 9th April OR

Thursday 13th and Friday 14th May at Australian Technology Park, Henderson Road, Eveleigh

The two day training workshop will be provided by Healing & Resilience Unit, Menzies School of Health Research. Day one will introduce participants to the AIMhi approach, assessment and care planning. Day two will be a Train the Trainer workshop. [Click here](#) to download a registration form.

Other events

▶ AUSEINET Understanding Mental Health and Wellbeing Workshop

5 March, East Sydney 9.30am – 3pm or 25 June, Parramatta 10am – 3pm

The workshop explains the concepts underpinning mental health promotion, the prevention of mental ill-health and early intervention. The Institute of Psychiatry in partnership with the NSW Mental Health Association are rolling out the workshops. To register to attend the workshop, contact [Cherie Carlton](#).

▶ EQuIP Workshop for Drug and Alcohol Services

Wednesday 24 March, 2010, 8.45am – 3.30pm (Sydney, NSW)

This is a practical program designed for those involved in quality improvement in drug and alcohol programs, and who wish to become more familiar with the use of EQuIP. [Click here](#) to download the workshop program.

▶ LIFE Professional Development: Evaluating suicide prevention projects

30 March, Sydney

The workshop will introduce and explain the key concepts of evaluation and leave participants with a take home plan. [Click here](#) for more information and a registration form.

Conferences

▶ Improving Social Determinants of Indigenous Health Conference

30-31 March, Brisbane

www.improvingindigenoushealth.com

▶ Consumer Centred Health Care: Policy, Innovation and Empowerment

22-23 March, Angliss Conference Centre, Melbourne

A national conference exploring the emerging agenda of consumer centred care. Key themes include: consumer centred innovation in drug and alcohol rehabilitation, consumer centred innovation in mental health and partnerships between practitioners and consumers. For more information, [click here](#).

▶ E health - National Coordination & Alignment Conference

14-15 April, Bayview Boulevard, Sydney

This conference will give a strategic overview of e-health developments in Australia and examine current systems in the context of the four strategic work streams identified in the National e-Health Strategy. For more information, [click here](#).

▶ Building Bridges National Community Mental Health and Addictions Conference

14-16 April, Wellington, New Zealand

[Click here](#) to download the conference program.

▶ MHA Conference Building Resilience: From Surviving to Thriving

15-16 April, Masonic Centre, Sydney

Early registration must be received by 14 March 2010 and standard registration will end 10 April 2010. [Click here](#) for more details.

▶ Unfinished Pathways to Social Inclusion - VICSERV's International Mental Health Conference

29- 30 April, Melbourne Cricket Ground

[Click here](#) for more information.

▶ Reconnexion's 5th National Anxiety and Depression Conference

17-18 May, Melbourne

[Click here](#) for details about the conference program.

▶ 6th Australian Women's Health Conference

18-21 May, Hotel Grand Chancellor, Tasmania

[Click here](#) for more information.

► **Diversity in Health**

7- 9 June 2010, Convention and Exhibition Centre Melbourne

Conference will include a mental health stream.

[Click here](#) to find out more.

► **National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Conference 2010: Listening, Learning and Leading**

16 -18 June, Adelaide, SA

Go to www.nidaconference.com.au for registration and information.

Conference Abstracts

► **The Mental Health Services (TheMHS) 20th Annual Conference '20 years strong and now a renaissance'**

14 -17 September 2010 at the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre Darling Harbour Sydney

TheMHS is collaborating with two other conferences which will be held concurrently with TheMHS event:

1) [Mental Wellbeing Conference 2010 - Innovative Integration: roadmap for mental wellbeing](#)

2) Transcultural Mental Health (NSW)

Abstract submissions are open until 11 March, [click here](#) for details.

► **11th International Mental Health Conference – Anxiety and Depression**

18 – 20 August, Surfers Paradise, QLD

Abstract submissions are open until 20 April [click here](#) for details.

TRAINING

► **Introduction to Counselling Skills**

8–12 March at James Fletcher Hospital, Newcastle

Topics covered include, individual counselling skills, drug and alcohol counselling, trauma counselling, grief and loss counselling, planning and evaluation. The course is also offered on as 26 weekly sessions, commencing on 4th March. [Click here](#) for information.

► **Dialectical Behaviour Therapy Intensive Training Course (Behavioral Tech)**

8 – 12 March (Part 1) and 20th – 24th September (Part 2), Newcastle

[Click here](#) for more information.

► **Mental Illness and Substance Abuse Training**

15-17 March at NSW Institute of Psychiatry, 5 Fleet St North Parramatta, Sydney

The 3 day workshop presented by Alison Bell addresses understanding and working with clients who experience both drug and alcohol problems plus mental health issues. [Click here](#) for more details.

► **Children, Crisis Trauma and Grief 1 Day Workshop**

Friday 19 March, Mary MacKillop Place, North Sydney

The National Association for Loss and Grief (NALAG) Centre for Loss & Grief Dubbo will be presenting a one day workshop on Children, Crisis, Trauma and Grief. [Click here](#) for more information.

► **Cognitive Behaviour Therapy and Clinical Skills**

18-19 March James Fletcher Hospital, Newcastle

In CT, the main role of the health professional is to educate the client to identify his/her dysfunctional thinking and belief patterns in order to gain more emotional and behavioural flexibility and control. CT can be used as the sole treatment or in combination with other therapies and has had success with depression and anxiety disorders. Click on the following link to register [CT Fundamental Concepts & Clinical Skills](#)

► **Drugs, Alcohol and Mental Illness: Introduction**

Commencing on 22 March at NSW Institute of Psychiatry, 5 Fleet St North Parramatta, Sydney

The NSW Institute of Psychiatry is offering a new workshop series developed for NGO community workers. Foundations of Mental Health Work comprises of 4 introductory one day workshops designed to assist community workers providing services to people with mental health problems. The workshops will address a

range of current issues and critically analyse some key concepts in mental health. [Click here](#) for more information.

► **Dangerous Minds? Working with Mental Illness Workshop**

Wednesday 24 March at James Fletcher Hospital, Newcastle

The one day workshop will explore aspects of forensic mental health, current risk management, relevant legislation and psychopathology. [Click here](#) for more information.

► **Dissociative Identity Disorder: Conceptualisation, Assessment and Treatment**

23 March, VIBE Hotel North Sydney

The workshop deals with diagnosis and treatment of individuals who satisfy diagnostic criteria for a dissociative disorder. [Click here](#) to download the program and information on registration.

► **FREE Mental Health Legislative Framework Training**

Friday 26 March, Friday 16th April at NSW Institute of Psychiatry, 5 Fleet St North Parramatta, Sydney

The NSW Institute of Psychiatry supported by the Mental Health and Drug and Alcohol Office are working on a project to assist mental health workers to better understand the legislative frameworks in which they practice. This project will involve the development of web resources and training and monthly workshops. The one day workshops are aimed at new staff however are also open for workers who would like to update their knowledge. Contact [TL Tran-Tremble](#) for more details.

► **Psychopharmacology Workshop for Non Medical Mental Health Professionals**

30 March, VIBE Hotel North Sydney

The workshop will focus on psychotropic medications, prescribing patterns, therapeutic effects, side effects and potential complications. [Click here](#) to download the program and information on registration for the event.

► **Managing Comorbid Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders Workshop**

23– 26 March, Flinders University, South Australia

The 4 day intensive workshop focuses on four key areas; Introduction to Comorbidity, Assessment of Comorbid Disorders, Motivational Interviewing, Treatment of Comorbid Disorders. There is an optional fifth day of the course where participants can observe and undertake mock comorbidity assessments. [Click here](#) to download the training program.

► **FREE Core Concepts in Working with Survivors of Torture and Trauma Workshops**

Friday 30 April or Thursday 24 June, Carramar

This one day workshop is designed to provide workers with an understanding of what refugees have been through, the impact of these traumatic experiences and the recovery process from trauma. [Click here](#) for more information or contact [Jacqueline Donoso](#), or call 9794 1900.

► **Mental Health Assessment of Aboriginal Clients**

26-27 October, Sydney

Dr Tracy Westerman delivers a workshop on measuring and developing Aboriginal mental health cultural competencies. [Click here](#) for more information.

RESOURCES

► **Dual Diagnosis Resource Kit Reprint**

The Dual Diagnosis Resource Kit that was developed by the NSW Department of Community Services has been reprinted. The resource is free and can be ordered by completing the order form on the DoCS website. [Click here](#) to download the resource.

► **headspace Evaluation Report**

The Social Policy Research Centre (SPRC) was contracted by headspace and the University of Melbourne to conduct the first independent evaluation of headspace. The evaluation is a longitudinal, mixed methods

research project, established to examine the achievements, limitations and future directions of the headspace program. [Click here](#) to download the report.

► **Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment, Vol 38 (2) 2010**

Increasing program capability to provide treatment for co-occurring substance use and mental disorders:
Organizational characteristics (pp 160 – 169)

Gotham, Heather J. - Claus, Ronald E. - Selig, Kim - Homer, Andrew L.