



## IMPROVED SERVICES INITIATIVE EMAIL UPDATE

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

Contact [Sarah](#) 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.

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## NOTICE BOARD

### ► National Comorbidity Guidelines Supporting Seminar

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February at NDARC, University of NSW, Randwick Campus, 22 – 32 King Street, Randwick**

The seminar presented by Alison Bell will provide an overview of the National Comorbidity Guidelines focusing on the implications for clinical practice. The seminar will be of particular relevance to service managers, team leaders, educators, comorbidity project officers from government and non government services. For more information or to register for the seminar, contact [Alison Bell](#).

### ► Aboriginal Scholarship: Diploma of Counselling and Group Work (Process Psychology)

Pathways Psychology Institute are offering two full Aboriginal Scholarship places for both years of the two year Diploma of Counselling and Group Work (Process Psychology) which is fully accredited with the Australian Counselling Association. For more information see the Pathways [website](#).

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## CALENDAR

### NADA events

#### ► FREE Research & Recommendations Forum - Bridges and Barriers: Addressing Indigenous Incarceration & Health

**Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> February 10.30 am – 12.30 pm, Platform 10 Conference Centre, 1 Lawson Square, Redfern**

Associate Professor Ted Wilkes & Professor Dennis Gray offer the opportunity to discuss the issues in addressing Indigenous substance related harm and access to services. [Click here](#) for more information.

#### ► Prevention Seminar

**Tuesday 23 March 2010 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.

#### ► Improved Services Initiative Grant Recipient Forum

**Thursday 18 March at Australian Technology Park**

Contact [Robert](#) or [Sarah](#) for more information

### Conferences and Other Related Events

#### ► (The Mental Health Services) 12<sup>th</sup> Summer Forum The Right to Care that Works

**18 & 19 February 2010, Crowne Plaza Darling Harbour Sydney**

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

► **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](#).

► **Improving Social Determinants of Indigenous Health Conference**

**30 & 31 March 2010, Brisbane**

[Click here](#) for more information

► **Building Bridges National Community Mental Health and Addictions Conference**

**14-16 April 2010, Wellington New Zealand**

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

► **International Mental Health Conference: Unfinished Pathways to Social Inclusion**

**29- 30 April, Melbourne Cricket Ground**

[Click here](#) for more information

► **5<sup>th</sup> Annual Happiness & Its Causes Conference 2010**

**5-6 May, Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre, Darling Harbour**

Early bird registration is available until 13 March - [click here](#) for more information

**Conference Abstracts**

► **TheMHS (The Mental Health Services) 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.

► **11<sup>th</sup> International Mental Health Conference – Anxiety and Depression**

**18 – 20 August, Surfers Paradise, QLD**

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

► **Australian Winter School 2010**

**21-23 June, Brisbane, QLD**

[Abstract submissions](#) are open until 12 February.

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**TRAINING**

► **Dialectical Behaviour Therapy: An Introduction to Skills Training**

**15 - 17 February 2010, 9:30am - 4:00pm**

Triple Care Farm, 188 Knights Hill Rd, Robertson NSW 2577

[Click here](#) for more information, register by 8<sup>th</sup> February.

► **Introduction to Acceptance and Commitment Therapy**

**16 – 17 February at the James Fletcher Hospital, Newcastle**

Participants will experience a wide variety of ACT exercises and be encouraged to work with their own personal issues. This two day workshop is largely experiential and extensive support materials will be provided. [Click here](#) to register.

▶ **Solution Focused Brief Therapy: A Comprehensive Introduction**

**22 & 23 February or 6 & 7 May, Parramatta**

This course presented by Michael Durrant provides a comprehensive introduction to the theory and practice of Solution Focused Brief Therapy (SFBT) and its application to a range of counselling settings. Participants are introduced to the skills and tools of SFBT.

▶ **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](#).

▶ **Introduction to Counselling Skills**

**8 March – 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 4<sup>th</sup> March. [Click here](#) for information.

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

**8 – 12 March (Part 1) and 20<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> September (Part 2), Newcastle**

[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.

▶ **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. Anyone working to prevent suicide in Australia who would like to learn about evaluating projects or improving their current evaluation systems is eligible to attend. [Click here](#) for more information.

▶ **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.

▶ **NADA Online Training Directory**

Looking for information about a training organisation or course? [Click here](#) to view the NADA 2010 Online Training Directory.

▶ **NADA Workforce Development Training Grants Jan – Jun 2010**

**Applications now open until 12 Feb 2010**

For details on how you and staff members can apply for a training grant [click here](#).

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## NADA PROJECT UPDATE

### ► ISI Grant Recipient Web Profiles

The Buttery, Oolong House and ACON project profiles have been uploaded on the NADA ISI page. Profiles for the Haymarket Foundation and the Watershed will be available soon. We would like to get another five grant recipient profiles online. Please contact [Sarah](#) if you are able to provide a profile this time around.

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## RESOURCES

### ► National Comorbidity Guidelines

If you have not yet received a copy of the guidelines please contact Dr Katherine Mills at National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre, email [kmills@unsw.edu.au](mailto:kmills@unsw.edu.au) or phone (02) 9385 0333. Copies of the resource are limited.

### ► Mental Health, Abuse, Drug Use and Crime: Does Gender Matter?

The Australian Institute of Criminology, examines the direct relationship, mediated by gender between mental health, prior experiences of child abuse, drug use and offending among a sample of police detainees. [Download the report.](#)

### ► Men and Suicide Prevention – Professor Ian Webster

Professor Webster AO, who is currently Chair of the Australian Suicide Prevention Advisory Council, responded to a range of questions about men and suicide prevention in Australia, including questions concerning rural and remote communities, alcohol and other drug use and psychological and emotional pain. [Read the transcript of LIFE's live chat session with Professor Ian Webster.](#)

### ► Protocols for the Delivery of Social and Emotional Well Being and Mental Health Services in Indigenous Communities - Guidelines for health workers, clinicians, consumers and carers

*University of Queensland and Queensland Health*

The manual provides a set of protocols for the delivery of social and emotional wellbeing and mental health services in Indigenous communities. This version of the document is oriented towards communities in Queensland. [Click here](#) to download a copy of the manual.

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