



FORUM PROGRAM - Enhancing partnerships between non-government (NGO) alcohol and other drug (AOD) services & Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) child protection services

When: 10-4.15pm Wednesday 16 June 2021 **Where:** Wesley Conference Centre, Sydney or via zoom online

09:30-10:00	<u>Registration and morning tea.</u> The registration desk will open at 9.30am and morning tea will be available then before the forum starts.
10:00-10:10	<u>Welcome to Country</u> Uncle Allan Murray, Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council
10:10-10:20	<u>Forum welcome</u> Robert Stirling (CEO, NADA) and Simone Walker (Deputy Secretary, Department of Communities and Justice) will open the forum and give an overview on the importance of cross sector collaboration for improving outcomes for the people we serve.
10:20-10:25	<u>Enhancing partnerships forum – setting the scene for the day</u> Michelle Ridley (Clinical Program Manager, NADA) will provide a brief overview of the work between NADA and DCJ that led to the forum today and set the scene for the day. Michelle has worked across the health and human sectors for over 20 years. She has primarily worked in NGO AOD services but also has done senior clinical project work with the Clinical Issues Team at DCJ for seven years. After working across different sectors, Michelle is passionate about building cross sector partnerships, as she has seen firsthand how working in collaboration better supports people accessing services.
10:25-11:10 Panel introduction and facilitator Dr Suzie Hudson (Clinical Director, NADA)	<p><u>Providing AOD treatment and support to women, children, and parents.</u></p> <p>Kate Dodd (Manager, Phoebe House), Margherita Basile (Manager, Sydney Women's Counselling Centre), Sarah Etter (Special Project Officer, Odyssey House NSW) and Liz Gale (Consumer Engagement Coordinator, NADA) will discuss alcohol and other drug treatment and support for women, children, and families, from the perspectives of their experiences delivering services and more broadly across the NGO AOD sector, and how this intersects with child protection.</p> <p><i>About the presenters:</i> Kate is the manager at Phoebe House, a residential rehabilitation program for women and babies. She has worked in the NGO AOD sector for over a decade and has a background in social work and forensic mental health. In her current role, she is an avid promoter for building healthy attachment between families by keeping them together, especially mums and their newborns. Kate is a member of the Women Executive Leaders AOD Specialist Treatment (WELAST).</p> <p>Margherita is the manager at Sydney Women's Counselling Centre, which provides specialist counselling services to marginalized women presenting with complex trauma and other co-occurring issues. Margherita has a firm commitment in promoting holistic and trauma informed care practice and integrated collaboration with both Health and Community health services, and is currently the Chair of Women's Health NSW.</p>



	<p>Sarah graduated from Fordham (NY, USA) with a Master’s in Social Work and she is currently an Accredited Mental Health Social Worker with extensive experience in the AOD sector, specifically working with women and women with their children. Sarah is currently working for Odyssey House, and part of this role, is working directly with the Parents and Childrens program.</p> <p>Liz is the Consumer Engagement Coordinator at NADA. Liz has worked in peer support in the homelessness space. Liz has lived experience of accessing alcohol and other drug services and is passionate about reducing stigma for people who use drugs.</p>
<p>11:10-11:40 Presentation introduction Dr Suzie Hudson (NADA)</p>	<p><u>DCJ Practice Framework</u> Elaine Thomson (Director Practice Quality, Office of the Senior Practitioner, DCJ) will provide an overview of DCJ practice framework that will include how the framework guides DCJ work with children and families in NSW.</p> <p><i>About the presenter:</i> Elaine has been the Director of Practice Quality with the Office of Senior Practitioner, DCJ since 2014. Before this she was a District Officer with DCJ, working in child protection for over 20 years.</p>
<p>11:40-12:10 Panel introduction and facilitator Dr Suzie Hudson (NADA)</p>	<p><u>Culturally appropriate practice alongside Aboriginal people in AOD treatment</u> Raechell Wallace (NADA Aboriginal Program Manager & Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Network (ADAN) Director), Lee Lawrence (ADAN Director & Team Leader, Nana Muru Project, Lives Lived Well NSW) and Clifford Cutmore (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Engagement Worker, WHOS) will discuss engaging with Aboriginal people in AOD treatment and culturally appropriate practice and services including providing an overview of the ‘AOD treatment guidelines for working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people’. For more details click here for the resource</p> <p><i>About the presenters:</i> Raechel’s mob is the Wandi Wandian people of the Yuin nation. Raechel has worked in the AOD sector for the past 15 years and her current role at NADA is to provide its members with advice and guidance regarding culturally appropriate practice alongside Aboriginal people who work in, or are seeking assistance from, AOD treatment.</p> <p>Lee is a proud Aboriginal woman, with a strong connection with the Wodi Wodi people of the Illawarra. Her family originated from the Jerrinja people on NSW’s south coast. Lee has been working in the AOD sector for over 20 years and her current role is at Nana Muru, Lives Lived Well in Nowra. Lee led the first Alcohol Ambulatory Withdrawal Treatment Program out of the IAMS which received awards for innovation. She is on the Board of Directors for ADAN and is member of the National Congress of Australia’s First Peoples, and ACON’s Safety and Inclusion. Lee assisted with the implementation of the Your Boori project across NSW. Her passion is working in residential rehabs, and she hopes to work in an Aboriginal Women’s and Children’s Program before she retires.</p> <p>Clifford is a proud Gomeri man from Moree with an extensive background working with Aboriginal Community Services across the Education, Disability and Youth sectors. Clifford has been the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Engagement worker at WHOS (We Help Ourselves) since 2019 and is passionate</p>



	about bringing cultural inclusiveness for First Nations people into mainstream AOD services along with his own lived experience. Clifford is a trained facilitator in SMART Recovery, Deadly Thinking and Didirri (da-did-ee) currently undertaking further study in AOD and a proud member of ADAN.
12:10-12:15	Session wrap up Dr Suzie Hudson
12:15-1:00	LUNCH AND NETWORKING During lunch there will be an opportunity to network and ask questions of staff from both sectors, who will be available at tables with information and resources about NGO AOD treatment and DCJ child protection
1:00-1:30 Presentation introduction and facilitator Michelle (NADA)	<u>Family preservation.</u> Daniel Barakate (Director, Strategy, Policy and Commissioning Division, DCJ) will discuss DCJ's family preservation approach . <i>About the presenter:</i> Daniel holds a Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Social Work, Graduate Diploma of Social Inquiry, Masters of Policy Studies and an Executive Masters of Public Administration. Daniel has a passion for program design and project, program and change management and for facilitating meaningful change that empowers and improves outcomes for, and the lives of, vulnerable children, young people, families and communities. Daniel is currently the Director, Child and Family, Design and Stewardship at the NSW Department of Communities and Justice.
1:30-2:00 Panel introduction and facilitator Michelle (NADA)	<u>Providing AOD treatment and services to young people.</u> Dylan Clay (Program Manager, Weave Youth & Community Services), Kellie Lucas (AOD Counsellor, Youth Off the Streets) and Simone Angus (Programs Manager, Tedd Noffs Foundation) will discuss their experiences of working with young people and more broadly across the NGO AOD sector. For more details about NADA's youth network members click here <i>About the presenters:</i> Dylan is the Program Manager of the Speak Out Team at WEAVE . Weave provides a range of services and programs to young people and its Speak Out Dual Diagnosis Program works with adolescents and young adults aged 12-28 years experiencing co-existing mental health, alcohol and other drug challenges to provide practical and therapeutic support. Kellie is an alcohol and other drug counsellor at Dunlea – Youth off the Streets. She has a bachelor's degree in Psychology majoring in child and community and a Masters Degree in Social Work. Kellie has worked with young people for the past 5 years. Simone is the Programs Manager at Tedd Noffs Foundation in Western Sydney. Tedd Noffs specialises in supporting young people with alcohol and other drug problems and in particular those with comorbid mental health issues.
2:00-2:55	<u>Enhancing partnerships – reflections from the day and ideas for ways forward - Q&A</u>



Panel introduction and mediator: Dr Suzie Hudson

Panellists: Mel Stott (Team Leader, Eleura Womens Residential Program, Lives Lived Well), **Dr Latha Nithyanandam** (CEO, Kathleen York House), **Raechel Wallace** (Aboriginal Program Manager, NADA), **Daniel Barakate** (Director, DCJ).

About the panellists: **Mel** is the Team Leader at [Elouera Women's and Children's Program](#), Lives Lived Well. Mel began working in the community services sector in 2003 and has held numerous positions within four residential treatment services. Mel's areas of expertise lie in drug and alcohol, trauma development/treatment, and complex clients.

Latha is the CEO of ADFNSW- [Kathleen York House](#) Kathleen York House, a residential treatment centre for women and their children. She has over 36 years of experience working in a range of mental health services, with a focus on AOD treatment both in Australia and overseas. Her qualifications are in Psychology at graduate, post-graduate, and doctorate levels. She is the Convenor of the Australian Psychological Society, Psychology and Substance Use Interest Group and is a member of the Women Executive Leaders AOD Specialist Treatment (WELAST).

Raechel's mob is the Wandj Wandj people of the Yuin nation. Raechel has worked in the AOD sector for the past 15 years and she is currently the Aboriginal Program Manager at NADA.

Daniel is currently the Director, Child and Family, Design and Stewardship at the NSW Department of Communities and Justice. Daniel has a passion for program design and project, program and change management.

Panel wrap up and forum close for online participants for the day

2:55-3:15

AFTERNOON TEA AND NETWORKING

3:15-4:15

Enhancing partnerships world café style workshop (for in person attendees)

Kt Harvey (Consultant, Harvey Consultancy) will facilitate a world café style workshop that will give people attending in person opportunity to further network, explore themes discussed during the day, and next steps to continue building partnerships.

About the presenter: **Kt** has over 30 years' experience in both health (AOD and mental health) and child protection sectors, initially training as a psychiatric nurse. She has worked extensively within DCJ establishing the Drug and Alcohol Expertise Unit and then, the Clinical Issues Team. Kt worked for 3 years as the sole consultant to Aboriginal Intensive Family Based (IFBS) services and undertook training in HomeBuilders Training Model and Family Group Conferencing. Kt is currently a private consultant and provides support and training to DCJ frontline staff and conducts Foster Carer/Kinship and Guardianship Assessments.

Forum close: Michelle Ridley and Daniel Barakate