

# ACT Alcohol and Other Drug Sector Forum April 2009

## About the Forum

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The ACT Alcohol and Other Drug Sector Forum is for ACT AOD workers and is hosted by a different AOD service each month. The forum aims to:

- Provide an opportunity for ACT AOD Workers to network and share information such as referring clients, service vacancies and waiting lists, and the impact of changes to services;
- Learn about developments in, and relevant to, the Sector;
- Access professional development opportunities, information and resources;
- Support professional peer networks;
- Improve referrals, service knowledge and visit other AOD services, and;
- Provide information about, and give workers an opportunity to have input into the ACT AOD Sector Project.

## Forum Details

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**When:** Thursday 23 April, 2009  
**Time:** 9.15am: Arrival and coffee  
9.30am – 11.30am: Forum  
**Host service:** DIRECTIONS ACT  
**Address:** 1 Bradley St, Woden  
**Food:** Morning tea will be provided  
**Cost:** Free  
**RSVP:** By Tuesday 21 April 2009. Contact Amanda on 6247 3540 or [amanda@aodsector.org.au](mailto:amanda@aodsector.org.au)

The AOD Sector Forums are an initiative of the ACT AOD Sector Project, Youth Coalition of the ACT. For more information contact Amanda Bode on [amanda@aodsector.org.au](mailto:amanda@aodsector.org.au) or 6247 3540 or visit [www.aodsector.org.au](http://www.aodsector.org.au).

## Guest Speaker

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### **Justin Barker, Australian National University (ANU)**

The AOD Education Project, conducted at the Youth Coalition of the ACT, and funded by ACT Health was a one off Project that began in January 2008 that aimed to increase the knowledge and skills of young people regarding AOD related issues. The Project delivered education sessions to young people from diverse social groups, particularly those who would not otherwise have credible evidence based AOD resources readily available to them. Information on the process, methodology and findings from the Project will be provided.

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## **Forum agenda**

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9.15	Arrival & tea and coffee
9:30	Acknowledgement of Country, Welcome and Introductions
9:40	Update from the AOD Sector Project
9:50	Guest Speaker: Youth Coalition of the ACT (see above for details)
10:35	Information sharing (what each service does, changes to service/programs, current issues)
11.05	Host service information / tour / networking

## **Tips on sharing information with the sector**

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When it is your turn to share information with the sector at the forum you might want to consider the following:

- You will have a limited time to share your information (approximately 4 minutes) so it is important that you are concise.
- You will need to fill out an information sharing form so that your information goes to the sector via the AOD Sector ebulletin.
- You can bring relevant pamphlets or promotional material to share with the sector.
- Don't forget to introduce yourself, your position and your organisation.

## **Some questions you may want to consider when sharing your information**

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- What new programs are you running?
- Have there been any changes to your existing programs?
- What is the major issue for your client group at the moment?
- How long is your waiting list?
- Have you had any significant staffing changes?