

ACT Alcohol and Other Drug Sector Forum

November 2009

About the Forum

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 ACT AOD 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

Date:	Thursday 26 November 2009
Time:	9.15am: Arrival and coffee 9.30 – 11.30am: Forum
Host service:	Ted Noffs Foundation ACT
Address:	Ted Noffs Foundation, 350 Antill St, Watson
Food:	Morning tea will be provided
Cost:	Free
RSVP:	By Tuesday 24 November 2009. Contact Amanda on 6247 3540 or info@aodsector.org.au

Guest Speakers: ACT AOD Sector and Prisons Project

Ben Frommel, Student Placement from University of Canberra, ACT Alcohol and Other Drug Sector Project

Carrie Fowlie, Director, ACT Alcohol and Other Drug Sector Project

The ACT AOD Sector and Prisons Project was undertaken throughout 2009 and examined the relationship between the ACT AOD Sector and the ACT's new correctional facility, the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC). Given the link between AOD use and incarceration, the Project sought to explore the implications that the opening of the AMC would have for the AOD Sector in the ACT. Ben Frommel and Carrie Fowlie will present the key Project findings, focusing on service delivery in, and post release from the AMC, training and professional development, the relationship between the AOD Sector and the AMC. Information from the presentation will help form a basis from which the Sector can be proactive about identifying and addressing the issues that have arisen from the opening of the AMC.

Forum agenda

9.15	Arrival & tea and coffee
9.30	Acknowledgement of Country, Welcome and Introductions
9.40	Update from the AOD Sector Project
9.45	Guest Speakers
10.15	Information sharing (what each service does, changes to service/programs, current issues)
11.00	Host service presentation.

Tips on sharing information with the sector

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

- 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?

The AOD Sector Forums are an initiative of the ACT AOD Sector Project which is auspiced Youth Coalition of the ACT. For more information contact Amanda Bode on info@aodsector.org.au or 6247 3540 or visit www.aodsector.org.au.