

## Special ACT AOD Sector Project eBulletin: December 2008

The monthly ACT AOD Sector eBulletin is a concise summary of information, important developments, publications, events and other information relevant to AOD workers in the ACT. The eBulletin is an activity of the ACT AOD Sector Project, Youth Coalition of the ACT. To subscribe, submit an item or to provide feedback email [ebulletin@aodsector.org.au](mailto:ebulletin@aodsector.org.au).

### Thank You From the ACT AOD Sector Project

#### Thank You

The ACT AOD Sector Project Team would like to thank workers from the AOD and allied sectors for your hard work over 2008. It has been a very busy year in the sector, and we would like to congratulate everyone for their outstanding contribution to improving the health and wellbeing of the Canberra community, strengthening the AOD sector and supporting the ACT AOD Sector Project. We hope everyone enjoys a well deserved rest over the holiday season and we look forward to working with you all again in 2009.

#### ACT AOD Sector Project, Youth Coalition of the ACT Office Shutdown

The Youth Coalition office will be closed from 25 December 2008 and reopen 5 January 2009.

#### 2009 ACT AOD Sector eBulletin Dates

- **February 2009:**

*Content deadline:* 29 January 2009

*Distribution date:* 2 February 2009

- **March 2009:**

*Content deadline:* 26 February 2009

*Distribution date:* 2 March 2009

- **April 2009:**

*Content deadline:* 26 March 2009

*Distribution date:* 1 April 2009

For more information on the ACT AOD Sector Project contact Amanda on 6247 3540 or [info@aodsector.org.au](mailto:info@aodsector.org.au) or visit [www.aodsector.org.au](http://www.aodsector.org.au)

### AOD Services End of Year Shut Down Periods

#### Alcohol and Drug Foundation ACT (ADFACT)

*Service spokesperson:* Kim Fleming

*Phone:* 6292 2733, *Email:* [kim.f@adfact.org](mailto:kim.f@adfact.org)

*Christmas Shutdown:* ADFACT will remain open over the Christmas period, except for public holidays. Karralika admissions will close 19 December 2008

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and reopen 5 January 2009.

### **Alcohol and Drug Program (ADP), ACT Health**

*Service spokesperson: Kate Gardner*

*Phone: 6207 9977, Email: [kate.gardner@act.gov.au](mailto:kate.gardner@act.gov.au)*

### **Counselling and Treatment Service & Diversion Services:**

*Christmas Shutdown: Services will close 24 December 2008 and reopen 2 January 2009.*

### **Opioid Treatment Service:**

*Christmas Shutdown: The dosing clinic will open for reduced hours on Christmas (25 December 2008), Boxing Day (26 December 2008) and New Years Day (1 January 2009). The clinic will be opened for weekend hours on other public holidays including the ACT Public Service Holiday (29 December 2008). Minimal medical services (one doctor only) will be available between 24 December 2008 and 2 January 2009.*

### **Withdrawal Unit:**

*Christmas Shutdown: The Withdrawal Unit will close 24 December 2008 and reopen 5 January 2009.*

### **Canberra Alliance for Harm Minimisation and Advocacy (CAHMA) & The Connection Program**

*Service spokesperson: Nicole Wiggins*

*Phone: 6279 1670, Email: [nicolew@aivl.org.au](mailto:nicolew@aivl.org.au)*

*Christmas Shutdown: CAHMA and The Connection will close 23 December 2008 and will reopen 5 January 2009.*

### **Canberra Recovery Services, Salvation Army**

*Service spokesperson: Bob O'Heir*

*Phone: 6295 1256, Email: [crs@aue.salvationarmy.org](mailto:crs@aue.salvationarmy.org)*

*Christmas Shutdown: Canberra Recovery Services will be contactable by phone except for 25 & 26 December and 1 January 2009.*

### **DIRECTIONS ACT**

*Service spokesperson: Jo Smith*

*Phone: 6122 8000, Email: [jos@directionsact.com](mailto:jos@directionsact.com)*

### **Woden Office:**

*Christmas Shutdown: Services will close 23 December 2008 and reopen 5 January 2009.*

### **Arcadia House Withdrawal and Detox Centre:**

*Christmas Shutdown: Assessments will be available until 19 December 2008.*

*Services will close 18 December 2008 and reopen 5 January 2009.*

*Admissions will recommence 7 January 2009.*

**Needle & Syringe Program (NSP):**

Civic NSP Primary Outlet, Ground Floor, City Health Building, Cnr Moore and Alinga Sts, Canberra City

Phillip NSP Primary Outlet, Side Entrance, Phillip Health Centre, Cnr Keltie and Corrina Sts, Woden

*Christmas Shutdown:*

24 December 2008: 9am to 5pm

25 December 2008 (Christmas Day): Closed

26 December 2008 (Boxing Day): Closed

27 December 2008: 10am to 2pm

29 December 2008: Closed

30 December 2008: 9am to 5pm

31 December 2008: 9am to 5pm

1 January 2009: (New Years Day): Closed

2 January 2009: 9am to 5pm

**Gugan Gulwan Youth Aboriginal Corporation,  
Toora Women Inc**

*Service spokesperson: Selina Walker*

*Phone: 6231 9555, Email: [selina@gugan-gulwan.com.au](mailto:selina@gugan-gulwan.com.au)*

*Christmas Shutdown:* Gugan Gulwan Youth Aboriginal Corporation will close 22 December 2008 and reopen 5 January 2009.

**Lesleys Place, Toora Women Inc**

*Service spokesperson: Yasmin Elferkh*

*Phone: 6241 7233, Email: [lesleys@toora.org.au](mailto:lesleys@toora.org.au)*

*Christmas Shutdown:* Lesleys Place will continue to operate at normal hours.

**Oasis Bridge Program, Salvation Army**

*Service spokesperson: Marie Scoullar*

*Phone: 6248 7191, Email: [marie.scoullar@ae.salvationarmy.org](mailto:marie.scoullar@ae.salvationarmy.org)*

*Christmas Shutdown:* The Oasis Bridge Program will close 22 December 2008 and reopen 19 January 2009.

**Sobering Up Shelter, Centacare Canberra**

*Service spokesperson: Juleen Schiefelbein*

*Phone: 6162 6836, Email: [juleen.schiefelbein@centacare-canberra.org](mailto:juleen.schiefelbein@centacare-canberra.org)*

*Christmas Shutdown:* The Sobering Up Shelter will continue to operate at normal hours and will be open on New Years Eve.

**Ted Noffs Foundation ACT**

*Service spokesperson: Brett Pridmore*

*Phone: 6123 2400, Email: [tnfact@noffs.org.au](mailto:tnfact@noffs.org.au)*

*Christmas Shutdown:* The Ted Noffs Foundation will be contactable by phone during normal hours.

## **Winnunga Nimmitjiah Aboriginal Health Services**

Phone: 6284 6222

*Christmas Shutdown:* Winnunga Nimmitjiah will close at 12pm on 24 December 2008 and reopen for reduced hours (until 1pm) on 29 , 30 & 31 December 2008. There will be no services available on 1 & 2 January 2009 and normal hours will resume on 5 January 2009.

## **Womens Information, Resources and Education on Drugs and Dependency (WIREDDD), Toora Women Inc**

Service spokesperson: Paulina Hellec

Phone: 6248 8600, Email: [wiredddcoord@toora.org.au](mailto:wiredddcoord@toora.org.au)

*Christmas Shutdown:* WIREDDD will close 24 December 2008 and reopen 5 January 2009.

### **Crisis Services**

#### **Emergency Relief & Community Service Providers Christmas Hours**

*Citizens Advice Bureau*

The Citizens Advice Bureau ACT puts out a list of opening and closing times for emergency relief providers and community services.

[Click here](#) to download the guide or visit [www.citizensadvice.org.au](http://www.citizensadvice.org.au)

#### **Free Meal Guide for Holiday Season**

*Citizens Advice Bureau*

The Citizens Advice Bureau ACT puts out a free meal guide for the holiday period.

[Click here](#) to download the guide or visit [www.citizensadvice.org.au](http://www.citizensadvice.org.au)

### **News from the Executive Directors Group**

The following information outlines key activities and progress made by the Executive Directors Group in 2008:

In February 2008 a Clinical Review of ACT Adult Detoxification Services was undertaken by Dr Adam Winstock. The review recommended the two ten bed units be retained (one at the Canberra Hospital (TCH) and Arcadia House, DIRECTIONS ACT). It suggested changes to the operation of both units that could improve the utilisation of these units including:

- The ten bed unit on TCH site be expanded to cater for people admitted to TCH with complex alcohol and other drug problems (eg. overdose), freeing up acute inpatient beds.

- Some patients transition from the ten bed unit at TCH to Arcadia House
- Increasing length of stay at Arcadia House

Additionally, DIRECTIONS ACT and the Alcohol and Drug Program (ADP) have led the development of a common assessment tool. 'In principle' agreement has been reached to utilise this tool across the ACT AOD sector. Work has also been undertaken on the development of common client pathways across the sector.

Ted Noffs and the ADP have also developed clearer protocols for working together which will improve services for young people withdrawing from drugs. The ADP are reviewing their core target group to consider services they could provide to assist those under 18 years requiring AOD counselling.

Centacare's Sobering-up Shelter staff, Gugan Gulwan Youth Aboriginal Corporation and ACT Policing have also met to consider opportunities for working more closely together in relation to people being detained or at risk of being detained in the watchhouse because they are intoxicated.