

DRUG AND ALCOHOL PRACTITIONERS' ASSOCIATION

1. Thank you for your thoughts and advice re the Association and the NTF proposal for a sector-wide leadership and advocacy body.
2. After this third round of consultation I feel clearly that the Drug and Alcohol Practitioners' Association (DAPA) needs to be got under way and that Cutting Edge provides the appropriate setting and timing.
3. The NTF executive will, I am sure, continue to promote the need for the over-arching body and that will be widely supported. The nature of the relationship between that body and DAPA will evolve over the next year or so and they might well become linked in some way. The clear preference is for DAPA to launch in its own right.
4. DAPA is a treatment worker membership established principally to administer a worker accreditation system using the Alcohol and Drug Competencies, establishing, promoting and managing ethical standards in its membership, and advancing workforce development issues in the drugs and alcohol treatment sector.
5. The Ministry of Health has approved in principle development funding for the treatment worker competency and accreditation.
6. Group (to ALAC) will act as an interim board in the first year leading to elections at Cutting Edge 2003. There is support for adding to the interim board to better reflect alcohol and drug workers.
7. I will shortly begin to encourage the treatment sector's interest in DAPA in advance of its launch at 5.30pm on Thursday, 29th August.

Ian MacEwan (chair)
National Alcohol and Drug Treatment Workforce Development Advisory Group.

UPDATE FROM NATIONAL TREATMENT FORUM (NTF)

At the last National Alcohol and other Drugs (Cutting Edge) Conference in Napier, discussions were started to develop a Peak Body to represent the AOD sector.

The NTF has considered how the proposed Alcohol and Drug Network (a possible name for a Peak Body) might be able to proceed and be representative of the Alcohol and other Drugs Sector. Discussions have been held with the Workforce. These discussions were to sought so as not to hinder the DAPA Group with its independence but work to prevent the

duplication of scarce administrative resources.

A recent report from DAPA highlights their intent to launch the Practitioners Association at Cutting Edge in Nelson. DAPA are keen to work with the NTF and support the establishment of an Alcohol and other Drug Network. DAPA will look at how both groups can work together when each is up and running. It is expected that the Alcohol and other drug Network will be launched at Cutting Edge with the current NTF overseeing its establishment in the 2002/2003 year.

PSYCHODRAMA TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

The CITP (Christchurch Institute for training in Psychodrama) provides a training programme for those who wish to develop and enhance personal and professional functioning, and who may become Psychodrama Practitioners.

Psychodrama often is seen as the 'treatment of choice' for alcoholics and addicted persons.

Please phone (03)365-2687 (voicemail only), to arrange for a 'free of charge - no obligation' chat with one of the trainers about next year's training Programme. You may also visit our website at: www.psychodrama.org.nz

Keen to start this year? There will be a Intensive Residential Training Workshop at Waimate from October 13 - 17. The theme is: 'Integrating Experience

- A Dynamic Approach to Personal and Professional Functioning'. The integration of experience is a primary activity in human life. It brings together all aspects of lived experiences, thereby reducing fragmentation. In this training workshop these concepts will be explored and developed through enactment, discussion and supervised practice. Psychodrama, with its concept of role relationships as well as its method of enactment, provides a powerful vehicle for promoting the integration of all experience, both personal and professional.

The above workshop is suitable for trainees at all levels, including beginners. The trainers are Clare Elizabeth and Paul Baakman, (ex-QMH).

Please call (03) 365-2687 or try www.psychodrama.org.nz for more information.

LIAISON ON ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS (LOAD) FORUMS

Due to National Alcohol and Drugs National Conference in Nelson in late August we decided to hold off LOAD Forums until early September with a follow up of the next meetings in late November and early December.

Invitations will be out to you as you read this but for those who are unaware of these Forums where AOD workers, managers and allied professionals get together to talk about their service, issues and concerns re alcohol and other drugs as well as networking all co-ordinated by ADA.

Next meetings:

September 5	10am to 12.30pm	Christchurch at Odyssey House
September 6	10am to 1pm	West Coast Karoro Learning Centre
September 11	9am to 11am	Ashburton at Rakaia Room (ACADS)
September 11	12pm to 2.15pm	Timaru at Kensington Centre
September 12	10am to 12.30pm	Nelson in Seminar Room Franklyn Hall
September 13	9am to 11am	Gore at Community Connection Centre
September 13	2am to 4pm	Dunedin at Skeggs Galley Room

LAG (LOAD ACTION GROUP) ON THE COAST

This initiative has come from the LOAD Forum on the Coast. It was felt that over the year lots of opportunities are given via LOAD to raise and discuss significant issues around alcohol and other drugs. However, it is the follow up where things were not happening.

Discussion over the past few months at LOAD This group is endeavouring to pick up projects and follow

through on alcohol and other drug issues and concerns relevant to the Coast communities. This group will utilise the ADA Policy Projects Officer to support them with assistance re submissions and media releases.

We on the Coast are excited with this development and see that it will also contribute to our planning and events leading up to Treatment Work Week 2003.

FROM THE CONSUMER DESK



Hi my name is Lynn Iti, for those of you who don't already know me. I am a Consumer Advisor with ADA. My role has recently changed with my hours being increased. I have gone from a 20-hour position to a 30-hour position, which enables me to broaden the scope of the role.

I have special interests in Methadone and have recently formed a Methadone advisory group. I am also involved with A & D consumer network and groups. I hold regular meetings for both groups, these meetings are well attended and informative, providing a positive forum for alcohol and other

drug issues. I am looking forward to building and maintaining positive working relationships with all Service Providers in the field. Please feel free to utilize my experience, as I am a firm believer in the better we work together and the more we support each other, the better results we will achieve.

Please contact me,

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The ADA CONNECTION is the official newsletter of the Alcohol Drug Association New Zealand.

Contributions including letters are welcomed. Submission does not guarantee publication. Contributors enjoy all reasonable liberty in the expression of their views. Views so expressed do not necessarily represent those of the ADA.

Articles from Connections can be reprinted as long as acknowledgment of the source is given.

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EDITORIAL:

The year is racing along and with the elections out of the way we now sit and wait to hear how the new cabinet will be arranged. By the time you receive this newsletter that will be old news.

Treatment Works Week went very well and on behalf of the National Treatment Forum thank you to the individuals and services who worked so hard to make it a success. As we look around, the one constant that accompanies us is "change" and it is here to stay. We face challenges in what we do as well as how we deliver our services. We are required to implement the principles of best practice and adhere to developing standards. All this puts more pressure on services to maximise their resources with minimum funding. Some residential services have not seen a rise in payments in five years so what happened to keeping up with inflation.

The challenges of Health continue to be in conflict with idealism and often the human realities are not in the management mind. We have seen a system that had more of a global vision in Mental Health and Alcohol and other Drugs to an insular view of what is happening in each local region. There are

benefits in both systems. However, DHB's currently seem to have difficulty with a regional focus as in what can we work for the South Island.

We know there are major difficulties with budgets and escalating debt within the DHB's. Again, the most immediate response seems to be how can we reconfigure the not-for-profit sector. Little wonder why the Third World countries remain where they are.

It seems the eyes need to come up and view over the terrain so that our planning is realistic, our management is self-effacing in what we need to provide and what we don't need to provide. We do need to work together to meet the needs of our communities, both in the city and rural areas. We need a common vision and purpose, not six plans and strategies, so that whatever funding flows down is used to proceed the health of our South Island services.

*"To live is to grow,
To grow is to change
To become perfect is to have
changed often."*

Cardinal Newman

The Alcohol Helpline
0800 787 797

EAS, LTD. EXPANDS AND MOVES

Evaluation & Auditing Services Ltd is entering its fifth year of independent operations, adding to its services and expanding into new office spaces on Level 14 of the Clarendon Towers, 78 Worcester St Christchurch.

EAS Ltd has been focused on two major functions: Quality Assurance and Evaluations. In these activities, EAS is not a newcomer to the business, with ten years working in the field in New Zealand. But, most importantly, EAS's current staff brings to any organisation a wealth of experience with both Lead Auditing and Quality Assurance Management.

EAS has been involved in improving these services, plus organisational development activities, to a number of international clients. This has included being part of a faculty of thirty professionals from around the world, providing training at the first International Addiction Medicine Conference to be held in Beijing, China later this year.

An additional development for EAS is providing assistance to companies in developing their own internal full service Employee Assistance Programmes. While the management of these programmes remain within the organisation itself, clinical services will be provided independent of the company, either directly by one of EAS's own staff or by one of its associates. Developed along international standards that are identified by the terms "broad brush" and "core technology", the focus will be on a full range of personnel problems that any employee (or their family member) may experience, if left unresolved, could lead to performance difficulties. Expert guidance regarding drug testing and wellness is also available.

With the introduction of the National Mental Health and the Health and Disability Sector Standards, organisations are working hard to develop quality systems. EAS has assisted a number of facilities in this effort and continues to provide ongoing auditing services. Many groups, while having the skills and knowledge to develop these functions, rarely have the necessary time to devote to the extensive work required for the creation and implementation of comprehensive policies and procedures. EAS works with each organisation,

whereby the decisions in creating their own programmes remain with them, while EAS Ltd ensures all requirements of a Quality System are executed. In simple terms - "you make the decisions and leave the application to us".

Jere Bunn, MA, CEAP, is the Managing Director of EAS Ltd. Jere has decades of experience with Organisational Development, Leadership and as a Total Quality Management (TQM) Trainer. Jere's experience includes both military and civilian environments.

Claire Worsfold, MA (Psyc), is EAS Ltd's Senior Research Analyst. She specialises in psychological research and is a trained Lead Auditor. She came to EAS from the Christchurch School of Medicine.

Helen Clyde-Smith is EAS Ltd's Quality Auditor. Helen is a Registered Comprehensive Nurse, a trained Lead Auditor and Quality Assurance Manager. Her "coal face" experience within the A&D sector spans nearly thirty years.

Breandan Roche has joined EAS Ltd as its EAP Clinical Consultant and brings to the organisation over thirty years of experience across a number of disciplines. He holds the following credentials: Dip. M.H., (Otago), Dip.A.C., S.R.G.N, C.C.P.C. (Otago) and C.C.G.C.

Faye Hawtin, MA (Socio) is EAS Ltd's Assistant Analyst. Faye is a Registered Comprehensive Nurse and has a special interest in qualitative research and family issues.

Deb Bunn, who functions as Financial Manager and Marketing Director, rounds out the team.

Together, the team has over 60 years of hands-on experience in the health field.

You contact any member of the team on **Phone (03) 366 7327 or Fax (03) 366 7357.**

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Treatment Works Week

Report on Treatment Works Week 2002

This was the third year that the National Treatment Forum oversaw the profiling of this important week. We again saw interest from the sector and appreciated that many services took the opportunity to conduct activities that would allow community participation. The events held throughout the country highlighted the value of treatment and the workers involved in it.

The Alcohol Drug Association New Zealand (ADA) coordinated the effort this year utilising its website to list activities and events along with the advertising of the Treatment Works Kit, also available on their website. This proved to be an informative and cost-effective way of providing information on the week.

One of the highlights of the week was the launch of the Week by the Associate Minister of Health Tariana Turia MP. It is encouraging having a Minister who is committed to the alcohol and other drugs area.

24 June 2002 Tariana Turia

Launch of Treatment Works Week

"E nga iwi, e nga reo, huri noa i te whare nei, tena koutou katoa.

Members and supporters of the various alcohol and other drug treatment agencies, fellow MPs, our honoured guests, greetings.

We are here to support all those people who are grappling with alcohol and other drug problems, their families and loved ones, and the professionals and community workers who are involved in drug and alcohol treatment.

We live in a diverse society that uses all sorts of drugs in various ways, with a range of effects. Each person's drug and alcohol use may have many causes, and recovery requires skilled and patient support.

Treatment may take many forms, from intensive therapy for severe addictions, to advice and counselling from professionals or trusted members of the whanau, and community support and self-help groups.

Treatment programmes do save lives, they do help to cut crime and illness, and they are cost-effective. That's why I am pleased to launch this week - Treatment Works Week.

There is a paradox underlying the celebration of this week. The very success of treatment programmes may be a non-event? A gruesome headline that is not published, a budget that's not blown out, a life not spent behind bars, a family that does not fall apart.

So the successes of treatment programmes are not widely recognised.

Our task this week, and every week, is to bring a balance to the picture by acknowledging and celebrating everyday achievements. Success breeds success, people say. That is the aim of this week.

By celebrating success, we promote successful programmes. The more people know about them, the more likely they are to participate and support them. There have been rapid developments in our knowledge of physiology, bio-chemistry and genetics, which give us a wider range of treatments for severe addictions.

We must provide supportive networks around the people at the heart of the problem, and those close to them who are carrying the greatest burden. I commend the approach taken by the network of agencies here today, and I am pleased to be able to help, by launching Treatment Works Week."

This speech highlights the message we have been trying to communicate at all levels of the Health sector and we know there is much to do in raising not only the profile of this week but also the work and commitment of the alcohol and other drug sector itself. This week leads us to start developing a process of working together and presenting issues in a common voice and through a shared network. The NTF has been addressing some of these concerns and will be advocating for a peak body concept at the National Alcohol and other Drugs Conference in August this year.

Treatment Works Week while important cannot be seen as the only time we raise our voices or promote what we do. There is an awareness week on every week of the year and media are tiring of them so much that they encourage services to set up their own advertising for their week. Local papers still pick these stories up and will generously promote the week. In the South Island and parts of the North there was evidence of this pattern of support. (Continued)

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The announcement of the election was a disappointment for us in that we lost media coverage. However, over the week it did pick up steadily. There are plenty of reasons for not putting in an effort or not continuing with this week. However, the response in the capital to the launch was positive and with sixty plus attendees it was not a waste of time. Small steps and take one at a time.

The week was a mixed success and there is much we can all do for 2003. Firstly, plan early and work with the Health Promotion people whose innovation and community knowledge is invaluable. Second, do one thing and do it in the best possible way. Third, give plenty of time for media to respond and get to know your media person. Fourth, plan a mid year event such as in the late summer and get the community involved. Fifth, invite other services to assist and share resources so you can promote your event more widely and effectively.

There is no one way to do this promotion just as we know "one size does not fit all" in treatment. So, like the good scout "be prepared" and start thinking about Treatment Works Week 2003 now and set timelines to start your action phase later this year. On behalf of the NTF our thanks to the alcohol and other drug sector and our allied professional colleagues for your support and assistance in 2002.



ALCOHOL DRUG HELPLINE TO BE LAUNCHED BEFORE CHRISTMAS

In her Launch of Treatment Works Week speech on 24 June 2002, Associate Minister of Health Tariana Turia informed New Zealanders that drugs would be included on the ADA Alcohol Helpline.

"We also need strategies for reducing the risks of drug use and the harm it does, through early interventions. And perhaps first and foremost, measures to prevent or minimise drug use in the first place."

"This initiative has been advocated for over the past four years and we are excited for New Zealand," says Paul Traynor Executive Director.

"It is an acknowledgment at long last that drugs along with alcohol are of major concern and we need to provide quality information, support and referral so people can access the help they need," says Paul.

The Minister said, "The Ministry of Health is working with the Alcohol Drug Association to offer a Drug Helpline, similar to the existing Alcohol Helpline. This is a free nationwide telephone service, offering confidential information, advice and referrals for people with questions about their own drinking, or someone else's.

Early access to advice and support is basic to early intervention, which research tells us is effective. The improved service makes sense. Many callers want information about drugs other than alcohol, and the resources and interventions used by the brief intervention counsellors and Helpliners are generic to substance use.

Drug use is a community problem, a whanau problem. All of us share considerable costs already, whether we know it or not. If we can turn our effort into positive recognition and support for treatment, education and prevention programmes, we will all be much better off."

ADA is working with Chris Alleyne, Team Leader, and Counsellor Alasdair Kerr of the DHB CADS Christchurch team to assist with upskilling and training for this new addition to the Helpline service. This partnership is exciting as we work toward a launch date in November/December. The line is co-funded between ALAC and Ministry of Health. The Ministry have given ADA a four to five month lead in time to bring the service up to speed and have resources in place.

The service will be listed in the white pages as the Alcohol Helpline and also as Drug line with the same number, 0800 787 797, 10am to 10pm daily. Callers will hear "Alcohol Drug Helpline, how can I help you?," when they call.

