



Picture L-R: Brian McDonald, Nardia Bray, Brenton Forrester and Jocelyn Dhu

OUTREACH NEWSLETTER

March 2017

Outreach Co-ordinator / Jocelyn Dhu

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Outreach Worker / Brenton Forrester



A Note from the CEO

Once again I have been asked to write something for the Outreach newsletter and as usual I am happy to do so. This has already been a very busy year for DASA and Outreach has been a large part of that. DASA has almost finished changing its incorporation, as we have been asked and what this means is that the organisation has taken the opportunity to totally rebrand.

This newsletter is one small part of that but we have decided to lose our fairly gloomy logo and colours and go for a bright new look that reflects the positivity of our message and our hope for the future. Like the rest of us, Outreach has been particularly busy this year, with an increase in clients and a large number of DDE courses being held both in town and out bush.

Just recently they were involved in a fundraising BBQ for a young lad who is fighting off Leukaemia down in Adelaide and their efforts helped ensure the success of the day. The family were thrilled with the turn-out and they are close to reaching their goal amount. Outreach have also been going into our sobering up shelter in the early mornings and this has been a wonderful boost to the staff and clients there.

In the next few weeks, DASA will be starting up a new program which will see a team with a focus specifically on Meth and Ice users. This will not be directly run by the Outreach team but will certainly have a great deal of input from that team as they will from Aranda House. We are very excited to be able to deliver a program of this nature as the need for this is extremely obvious and expanding.

Outreach is a team, as I have said before, that is a conduit for every facet of our organisation and there is not one part of DASA that they are not involved in. So as well as their own client group, Outreach works to broaden the pathways between every area in which we work.

This is a group of quiet achievers but one that is a vital part of the DASA journey.

Well done guys and keep up the good work.

Carole Taylor

Good News Story



Russell Raggatt, CFO of Drug and Alcohol Services Alice Springs, has recently been admitted as a Fellow of the Institute of Public Accountants and Fellow of the Institute of Financial Accountants.

After attending a GST seminar in March 2000 Russell decided, at the age of 48, to retrain himself, having the modest ambition of becoming a bookkeeper. Russell had spent many years on his feet in the baking and food service industry and needed a change of career.

He also had an uncle that continued to work part time as an accountant well into his eighties and could not see himself ever fully retiring - time will tell.

After four years of evening and weekend study he started work as an accountant at Tangentyere Council. A further five years of study enabled Russell to attain his Master's Degree of Commerce – Professional Accounting.

Russell has been working with the team at DASA for more than two years after a very enjoyable and interesting time at Ninti One and the CRC for Remote Economic Participation.

The team at DASA would like to congratulate Russell on such a significant achievement and a valuable member of our Leadership team.

Closing The Gap

National Close the Gap Day is a way for all Australians to join together and commit to closing the life expectancy gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people can expect to live 10–16 years less than other Australians on average. Babies born to Aboriginal mothers here in the NT die at more than three times the rate of other Australian babies, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people experience much higher rates of preventable illness such as heart disease, kidney disease and diabetes.

Close the Gap Day is a chance to celebrate the continued progress made in health, and to highlight areas of need to encourage a continued focus by government and community on closing the gap in life expectancy and improving the quality of life for Aboriginal people. Central Australian Aboriginal Congress (CAAC), in partnership with other local organisations, hosted a community event on 17 March 2017 at the Town Council Lawns.

The Outreach team in collaboration with Aranda House decided to do something differently. Instead of our usual BBQ's we opted for a "Fruit Stall". This was very popular amongst community members. Approximately 250 people attended the Event.



Ryan's Fundraiser



On Sunday, 9th April 2017 a Fundraiser Event was held for the McDonald and Kerin Families for a young man who has a rare type of Leukaemia. Each year in Australia more than 300 people are diagnosed with leukaemia however the form of leukaemia Ryan has is very rare and accounts for only 0/3% of all cancers diagnosed.

The Outreach Team joined up with other Agencies and community members to raise much needed funds for the family. The response was overwhelming, it was a fantastic opportunity not only to be apart of this Event but to see the community come together in a time of need.



The total amount raised was \$5,875.50, this exceeded the expectations. The family thanks' everyone who was involved in raising the money. If you would like to donate please click on the link below

<https://www.gofundme.com/ryan-mcdonald-battling-leukemia>

Press Release

REPEAT drink-drivers will be among a list of 1000 drinkers forbidden from buying booze when the Banned Drinkers Register is launched on -September 1.

Today Health Minister Natasha Fyles will announce offenders with two low-range drink-driving offences or a -single mid-range or high-range drink-driving offence will be banned from buying takeaway alcohol.

Initial bans for drink-driving will be three months but will increase to six months, then a year, for breaches of the policy. The list will have 1000 problem drinkers when it is reintroduced with new banned drinkers to be added from -September.

Offenders with alcohol- -related domestic violence -orders, a combination of three protective custodies or alcohol infringement notices in two years will also be black-listed. Anyone with an alcohol prohibition condition in a child protection order or while on bail or parole will also be added to the list.

Ms Fyles said the list of banned drinkers was predicted to grow by 500 per month. When the BDR was scrapped by the former Giles government in 2012 there were 2500 problem drinkers on the list. "The rates of crime, violence and harm associated with takeaway alcohol and problem drinking are staggering. It has to stop," Ms Fyles said. "We've listened to concerns from the community and frontline services and we're taking action. "The new BDR will cut off supply to problem drinkers, making our community safer.

"The CLP scrapped it in 2012 when they came to government and we made an election promise to bring NT back to turn off the takeaway alcohol tap to problem drinkers."

Draft legislation will be introduced to Parliament next month, with the Bill expected to be passed in August. The BDR is the Gunner Government's flagship policy for alcohol management.

Contact Us

Give us a call for more information about our services.

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