



DASA

Drug and Alcohol Services Australia

Jan

2021

Outreach Newsletter





A Note from the D/CEO

Welcome to the first edition of the Aboriginal Outreach team's newsletter for 2021. Last year has proven to be a challenging year for the world and we had to get used to living with Covid-19. This pandemic has affected so many people in so many ways, families unable to return home for long periods of time, the loss of losing loved ones to this terrible virus and changing our everyday lives to learning. We have been very fortunate here in the Northern Territory and are grateful we are able to work and live a normal life as much as we can. Although the toilet paper business was a bit funny and I still have a giggle when I think about it. I wonder what the rest of the world thought of us...

Last year we were happy to announce the beginning of a new position with Outreach and employed Jordan Lockerbie as the new Aboriginal Youth Engagement Officer. Craig Thorogood then came across from the Commit2Change Program to take up the mantle from Jordan. This program has kept Craig busy with delivering targeted AOD programs to aboriginal youth. Jordan stayed on with the Indigenous Outreach team and is now a valuable member of our team, alongside Brian McDonald and Brenton Forrester.

Last year also saw DASA take over the "Alternative to Custody program", aimed at aboriginal women. The ATC Life Skills Camp facility is a community operated residential facility. Clients have access to tailored rehabilitation services that target their underlying causes of offending behaviours. Since the launch of this program we are proud to announce it is up and running and doing very well. Well done to Kristy, Amanda and the team.

The Methamphetamine Through-Care Team and Commit2Change team have both been extremely busy and are always inundated with referrals. They work incredibly hard and are a great conduit to the Indigenous Outreach team. The DASA Outreach teams are in a better position to meet the needs of our clients and are now able to offer our clientele more options as ever before.

As the Outreach teams get ready for another busy year with the Safe and Smart program kicking off this week and many enquiries from remote communities for the drink driver course. We will also kick off the year with our first BBQ at the end of the month. If you're interested stay posted, we always advertise our BBQ's on DASA's Facebook page.

So as usual we are straight back into it, ready to make a difference and help those people who are in need of support with their addictions. We are just a ripple in the ocean, all we can do is plant a seed and help it grow. We are a passionate team who are about making a difference, we learn from our clients as much as they learn from us.

I hope this new year brings joy, happiness and good health.

Jocelyn Dhu

QIP Accreditation

On 3-5 November 2020, DASA underwent another accreditation with Quality Improvement Performance (QIP) Council for Health and Community Services. QIP has more than 25 years experience in accreditation and quality improvement services and currently accredits over 8,000 health, community and human services organisations around Australia, across multiple accreditation frameworks.

DASA had reason to celebrate, we passed accreditation with flying colours. QIP interviewed Board members, over 20 staff and a number of residents. We would like to say a huge thank you to all our staff especially Sarah Ford (Quality and Compliance Manager) for all her hard work. Accreditation is an arduous process with the collection of data, information, arranging interviews etc.....We are proud to be accredited.



Looking Back on 2020



Left: DASA first BBQ for the year kicked off.

Right: DASA residents and staff participated in the Imparja Cup Event. Yasi was awarded best player and Robert Naylor won "Player of the Match".



Left: Danny and a former client travelled to Sydney to present at a conference.

Right: Jocelyn and Jordan attended the National Indigenous Youth Empowerment Summit in Cairns.



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Left: Methamphetamines Outreach team, put on a BBQ and movie night for the residents at Aranda House.

Right: The Official Opening of our new women's facility - Alternative to Custody program for Aboriginal women.



Left: Richard and Jeremy travelled to Katherine and Darwin to visit the Sobering Up Shelters and to see how they compare to our Shelter.

Right: The Indigenous Outreach team held a BBQ and information stall at the Town Council Lawns to raise awareness for Suicide Awareness week. We teamed up with MHACA and several other organisations to host this event.



National Road Safety Week

TOWARDS
ZERO

National Road Safety Week 2020 was held from 15 to 20 November. On average 43 people are killed and around 500 seriously injured on Territory road each year. Every serious road crash has ongoing and devastating effects for families and communities.

Towards Zero goals are:

- Taking the pledge to Drive So Others Survive.
- Display a yellow ribbon or sticker on your car, motorbike, truck or bicycle.
- Share your support on your social networks using the #NRSW or #DriveSOS hashtags.
- Talk to your family, friends and colleagues about your intention to drive safely and why it's important.

DASA has been delivering the Back on Track Drink Drug Driver Program in Alice Springs and surrounding communities. We are a passionate team who are proud to be apart of the Towards Zero campaign. Delivering this vital program we hope to reduce the rates of drink or drug driving, to educate and reduce the rates of death's on Northern Territory roads.

