

► FUTURES FORUM
WORKING TOGETHER..... 2

► QUEENSLAND MENTAL
HEALTH COMMISSION 2

► AUSTRALIAN WINTER
SCHOOL 2012..... 2

► HEALTH INDUSTRY SKILLS
UPDATE 2

QNADA *focus*

DELIVERING PROFESSIONAL, QUALITY, AND RELEVANT SERVICES THAT WILL ASSIST
IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH OF THE NON-GOVERNMENT ALCOHOL & OTHER
DRUG SECTOR THROUGHOUT QUEENSLAND.

From the iPEN of the Acting Executive Officer

Already it's late March and for many the hangover of New Year 2012 is long forgotten, however for our alcohol and other drug agencies and service providers, the battle with hangovers is being faced on a daily basis.

Already the year is off to a promising start, though they'll be some challenges ahead as the health system evolves into Local Health and Hospital Networks, Medicare Locals are established across the state and the conversation regarding the establishment of a mental health commission in Queensland and the potential inclusion of the alcohol and other drug treatment sector continues.

Co-morbidity will continue to be a priority for QNADA, with the continuation of the Cross Sectorial Support and Strategic Partnerships (CSSSP) Project - Improved Services Initiative, although, like many of you we await funding confirmation from DoHA for the next three year period (expected this month).

On that note, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Marguerite to our team. Marguerite recently commenced in the Improved Services Co-ordinator role and is a welcome addition to the QNADA team, bringing a range of policy development experience from the Queensland Government, not only in the alcohol and other drug sector, but the health sector more generally.

We hope you find this monthly newsletter useful and we welcome your comments and feedback or items for inclusion in future editions. In future members will receive relevant information updates as they come to hand, including developments affecting the sector as a result of the recent election.

Peter

Date Claimers

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Early April 2012

DoHA confirmation of successful organisations for next funding round of the Improved Services Initiative

5-6 June 2012

2012 Australian Winter School Conference -
Looking Back|Looking Forward

13 June 2012

Launch of Drug Action Week 2012 (Canberra)

17-23 June 2012

Drug Action Week 2012

1 July 2012

Commencement of Local Health and Hospital Networks in Queensland

*Stay tuned for details
of the next
Co-morbidity Seminar
Event*

THE QNADA TEAM

Peter Prendergast - Acting Executive Officer

Gunnar Kristiansen - ICT Officer

Marguerite Lituri - Improved Services
Co-ordinator

Julia Bartram—Administration Officer

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

We'd like to welcome recent new members to QNADA – the Russell Family Fetal Alcohol Disorders Association (Cairns) and the Ted Noffs Foundation (NSW) - and importantly we thank those of you who have been with us for some time.

QNADA provides advocacy and representation with State and Commonwealth agencies in relation to funding, service delivery and policy development. Members also have access to a wide range of resources, information and tools for sector development.

Find out more about [joining QNADA](#).

On 30 January 2012, the independent [First Report of the Queensland Mental Health Commission Advisory Committee](#) was released, presenting 14 recommendations, which the former Premier, Anna Bligh, accepted. One of which was that alcohol and other drug treatment services would be included within the scope of the Commission to ensure that the hard work to date on the integration of services for consumers with co-morbidity was maintained.

Prior to the election, the incoming Government committed to establishing an independent, statutory authority structure for the new Queensland Mental Health Commission with a high level taskforce to be established to determine the best structure and initiate the transition process.

Mental health commissions around the world vary in the inclusion of alcohol and other drug within scope. We know many of you participated in the recent consultations but this conversation will continue.

What should a mental health commission be for our sector?

Be involved in the Future...

Participate in the discussion

As part of the [Futures Forum](#) QCOSS has developed the [Working Together Green Paper](#) as a means of stimulating discussion on how the community services sector can take leadership through collaboration in responding to major shifts in policy, product and purchasing.

Health Industry Skills Update... We'll need your input

The Workforce Council has released the [August 2011 Industry Skills and Workforce Development Report for the Health and Community Services Industries](#).

Each year the Workforce Council produces the report providing industry profiles, training profiles, key drivers impacting on skilling and workforce development and key priorities for future workforce planning.

QNADA will be working with the Workforce Council and other sector peak organisations and industry bodies over the next six months to validate the reports and identify strategic priorities for the next one to five years.

Australian Winter School 2012

LOOKING FORWARD | LOOKING BACK (5-6 June 2012)

Head south for the winter to the Gold Coast to attend the [2012 Australian Winter School Conference](#), Looking Back|Looking Forward. The Alcohol and Drug Foundation Queensland always puts together an informative two days, with this year's program addressing topics such as workforce development, emerging trends in the illicit drug market and engagement strategies for youth and through new technologies.

ADFQ is also looking for sponsors/exhibitors for the event.

Up for a little light reading? Stay up to date with latest developments by checking out -

[QNADA Resources Page](#)

[Building Capacity in Non-government Alcohol and Drug Services – The Queensland Experience: A tough but Perfect Confluence](#)

[New Booze Board Cracks Down on Advertisers](#)

Collaborating with Queensland Health

At the moment it's just a matter of waiting... there are a number of key projects that QNADA is involved with including the [2011-12 Queensland Drug Action Plan](#), the ATODS Treatment Plan (under development) and the Sector Improvement Group. QNADA welcomes QH's commitment to collaboration with the NGO sector and looks forward to the continuing this strong partnership.

Check out the QH presentation: [Key national and state issues facing the AOD treatment sector](#).

What do you think about the vision for the NGO sector (slides 20 and 21)?

NMDS COLLECTION:

Is your data up to date?



The next lot of data is due **October 2012** for the reporting period 1 July 2011–30 June 2012.

Data collection is one of QNADA's functions and is funded by Queensland Health (QH).

Unfortunately due to requirements, some services may be providing the same information to different parts of QH. However, we need good statistics for planning, policy making and funding purposes. Duplication of effort in reporting is something QNADA is looking to address.

Gunnar has travelled across Queensland to deliver training and to promote our National Minimum Data Set database (CADDs) and to ensure that all users are accurately trained in quality data entry to ensure Queensland's true sector representation in the AODTS-NMDS statistics.

QNADA provides ongoing phone, email and remote desktop support to all of our members. This type of support is used by our members, and works as a learning tool where Gunnar and the users share their experiences in best practice NMDS data entry. We aim to improve our database functionality and reporting based on this feedback. Gunnar is happy to assist at any time should you have any questions or require assistance.

Gunnar is currently developing a number of reporting tools to assist each organisation and welcomes your feedback and ideas on improvements for the database.

WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU



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