

Drug and Alcohol Treatment

Activity Work Plan

2020-2022

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AOD (Alcohol and Other Drugs) Sector Improvement Initiatives

Aim of Activity

The aim of the activity is to implement improvement initiatives identified within the Tasmanian AOD Reform Agenda resulting in improved integration of community based AOD services and improved consumer access and service experience.

Description of Activity

Activities implemented in 2020-22 include:

1. AOD Reform Agenda Implementation

Throughout 2018/19 and 2019/20 Primary Health Tasmania partnered with a range of key stakeholders to develop the Reform Agenda for Alcohol and Other Drug Services in Tasmania. Following extensive consumer and provider consultation in late 2018, this document was accepted by the Reform Agenda Writing Group as final in 2019 and provides a high-level strategic direction for future AOD service commissioning in Tasmania.

AOD Reform Agenda was signed by Tasmanian Minister for Mental Health and Wellbeing in December 2020. Primary Health Tasmania is a member of the Implementation Plan Writing Group and it is through this partnership that a range of relevant improvement initiatives that align to the Federal Department of Health Alcohol and Other Drug Program Guidance will be identified and planned for implementation during the period until 30 June 2022. While the implementation planning process has been delayed due to the extended timeframes for Ministerial sign off of the overarching AOD Reform Agenda, Primary Health Tasmania has identified some of the recommendations from the Reform Agenda that are able to be progressed preceding the development of an implementation plan. Working with the Tasmanian Department of Health and the ATDC work is to be progressed in the areas of stigma reduction, provider consumer engagement, and sector data sharing.

Primary Health Tasmania will work with the Tasmanian Department of Health and Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs Council Tasmania to prioritise activities and key milestones in the implementation of the Tasmanian AOD Reform Agenda.

2. AOD Sector Data Sharing

A key element of the Reform Agenda is the improvement of data sharing across the AOD service sector. Primary Health Tasmania will work with the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs Council (ATDC), and the Tasmanian Department of Health to develop a project proposal to deliver an options paper that researches, describes, and recommends data sharing platforms that can facilitate real-time treatment service data (de-identified) between and within the government and non-government AOD organisations. The final options paper will need to include and consider, at a minimum: the estimated costings for each of the identified options; an outline of processes to ensure client information and confidentiality; data security requirements; and existing funder reporting requirements.

3. Addressing ongoing COVID-19 related sector capacity

- Review COVID-19 AOD sector needs assessment
- Consider and identify sector capacity support to address sector need
- Identify funding opportunities

- Implement sector building activities in alignment with the AOD Reform Agenda

Mainstream Treatment Services

Aim of Activity

The aim of the activity is to address identified gaps and local needs in community-based alcohol and other drug treatment interventions by commissioning a range of appropriate treatment services.

Description of Activity

Primary Health Tasmania commissions two providers to deliver AOD treatment services.

Activities implemented in 2020-22 include:

- Undertake a structured program review to ascertain that the program outputs and outcomes are being realised.
- Understand community needs and co-development of service modalities.
- Continue collection and analysis of data.
- Undertake program redesign informed by the AOD Reform Agenda.
- Implement recommissioning approach for AOD mainstream treatment services.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Treatment Services

Aim of Activity

The aim of the activity is to address identified gaps and local needs in community-based alcohol and other drug treatment interventions for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people across Tasmania by commissioning a range of appropriate treatment services.

Description of Activity

Primary Health Tasmania commissions one provider to deliver AOD treatment services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Activities implemented in 2020-22 include:

- Undertake a structured program review to ascertain that the program outputs and outcomes are being realised.
- Understand community needs and co-development of service modalities.
- Continue collection and analysis of data.
- Undertake program redesign informed by the AOD Reform Agenda.
- Implement recommissioning approach for AOD mainstream treatment services.

AOD Sector COVID-19 Capacity Building Package

Aim of Activity

The aim of this activity is to facilitate a small grants program to support the sector to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Description of Activity

Primary Health Tasmania have been working in consultation with the Tasmanian Alcohol, Tobacco and Drugs Council (ATDC) to progress ideas about relevant sector wide improvement opportunities.

Primary Health Tasmania will collaborate with the Tasmanian Department of Health - Mental Health and Alcohol and Other Drug (MHAOD) branch to contract Tasmania Alcohol and Other Drugs Peak Body, ATDC, to operate a small grant program for the AOD sector to respond to emerging needs as a result of COVID-19.

The grants will support community sector organisations delivering alcohol, tobacco and other drug programs and services to invest in necessary modifications or initiatives to ensure service continuity during the COVID-19 impact period.

General Practice Support for Drug and Alcohol Addiction

Aim of Activity

The aim of the activity is to provide support to GPs and other health professionals to build the capacity of the health workforce to deliver high quality care for clients with drug and alcohol issues.

Description of Activity

Activities implemented in 2020-22 include:

- Implementation of Communications and Engagement Plan
- Mapping of training programs
- Engagement and consultation with Tasmanian General Practice
- Recruitment of GPs to participate in training program
- Training grant program design and development of implementation plan
- Delivery of training program
- Training grant program evaluation

Increasing Access to Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services in Regional, Rural and Remote Areas

Aim of Activity

The aim of this activity is to:

- increase the direct treatment service delivery of the drug and alcohol treatment sector in remote, rural and regional areas by increasing access to services targeting areas of need; and
- improve access and effectiveness of drug and alcohol treatment services for people requiring support and treatment by increasing coordination between various sectors and improving sector efficiency.

Description of Activity

In June 2020 Primary Health Tasmania commenced commissioning activities to increase treatment service capacity within the AOD sector.

This activity is required to build on existing resources to provide additional drug and alcohol specialist services to remote, rural and regional areas of need, allowing for the delivery of two-day specialist outreach services to locations which do not currently have access to drug and alcohol services.

To reflect the recognised need to address the regional/rural imbalance with respect to availability of AOD services, treatment services will be split with 60% directed toward rural and regional areas and 40% directed toward urban areas.

Activities implemented in 2020-22 include:

- Understanding community needs/co-development of service modalities
- Data collection and analysis of outputs and outcomes (Assessment of Value)
- Review and evaluation of program activity

Addressing Stigma

Aim of Activity

The aim of the activity is to address AOD stigma in Tasmania.

Description of Activity

Primary Health Tasmania has commissioned the Alcohol, Tobacco and other Drugs Council Tasmania (ATDC) to deliver the following activities during 2020-21 and 2021-22:

- Deliver anti-stigma training to housing and homelessness service providers, emergency response personnel, and non-AOD workers within community service organisations across the Tasmanian allied health workforce.
- Develop a Tasmanian anti-stigma Communications Charter in partnership with Primary Health Tasmania, alongside the Tasmanian Government, and key Tasmanian media organisations.

The Communications Charter will set out the shared commitment to non-stigmatising language when reporting, communicating, or publishing materials in relation to AOD subject-matter.

- Modify and distribution of AOD anti-stigma materials and resources to better reflect the Tasmanian context; and develop appropriate collateral and assets that can be used and distributed by ATDC member organisations.

Improving Consumer Engagement

Aim of Activity

The aim of the activity is to improve provider capability to engage with consumers, and improve consumer participation in the AOD sector.

Description of Activity

Primary Health Tasmania has commissioned the Alcohol, Tobacco and other Drugs Council Tasmania (ATDC) to deliver the following activities during 2020-21 and 2021-22:

- Develop tools and resources relevant for Tasmanian AOD community sector organisations (CSOs) to assess their existing consumer engagement strategies, including:
 - A self-assessment audit tool for CSOs to measure current consumer engagement activities,
 - Templates for consumer engagement policies and procedures that reflect best practice,
 - All resources developed would be made publicly available, and CSOs would be able to retain copies of the template policies and procedures, and action plans developed.
- Provide targeted consultations and training to Tasmanian AOD community sector organisations to implement improvement initiatives to drive meaningful consumer engagement within their organisations, including:
 - One-on-one support and consultation to develop consumer engagement action plans with each CSO,
 - Provision of workforce training delivered by people with lived experience,
 - An annual AOD sector forum focused on consumer representation.
- Coordinate training in consumer leadership and participation for people with lived experience.

Increasing Uptake of 715 Aboriginal Health Checks

Aim of Activity

The aim of this activity is to empower Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to make healthy choices for themselves and their families, focussing on chronic disease and their risk factors such as nutrition, physical activity, smoking and use of harmful substances.

Description of Activity

The Deadly Choices Initiative delivered state-wide over a period until 30 June 2022 aims to empower Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to make healthy choices for themselves and

their families, focussing on chronic disease and their risk factors such as nutrition, physical activity, smoking and use of harmful substances. The Deadly Choices Initiative encourages participants to access their local health service and complete an annual '715' health assessment.

Increased Sector Capacity

Aim of Activity

The aim of this activity is to increase the direct treatment service delivery of the AOD sector by increasing access to services targeting areas of need, and improving coordination and sector efficiency.

Description of Activity

In June 2020 Primary Health Tasmania commenced commissioning activities to increase treatment service capacity within the AOD sector.

This activity is required to build on existing resources to provide additional drug and alcohol specialist services to remote, rural and regional areas of need, allowing for the delivery of two-day specialist outreach services to locations which do not currently have access to drug and alcohol services.

Increased service capacity will be developed and delivered on an outreach basis through a collaboration between mainstream AOD service providers, Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations and non-health sectors.