

QNADA ANNUAL REPORT 2010

Presented at the Annual General Meeting 16th November 2010

QUEENSLAND NETWORK OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG AGENCIES

2010

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Objectives

The primary objects for which QNADA is established are:

- to promote, assist and represent at the State level, the interests of alcohol and other drug services in the provision of beneficial and cost effective services to the community, with special emphasis on the contribution of the non-government sector to the achievement of state and national policy objectives, including prevention, health promotion and education, treatment and rehabilitation of alcohol and other drug users;
- to develop policy and respond to policy formulated by the non-government sector, community groups, government agencies and departments on issues concerning the adverse health, economic and social consequences of the use of alcohol and other drugs;
- To promote:
 - *Adequate resource levels for prevention of alcohol and other drug related problems;*
 - *New services to fill identified gaps;*
 - *recognition of the need to design and adequately resource programs, services and innovation in approaches developed by or for special population groups, including Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders, women, youth, non-English speaking background communities and homeless people, and having regard to their specific cultural, economic and other characteristics;*
 - *Application in all sectors and jurisdictions of high quality management and personnel practices;*
 - *Adequate resource levels for quality educational and treatment service provision*
- To promote the rights and improvements in the quality of life for clients in alcohol and other drugs services provided by both government and non-government sectors;
- To assist in monitoring and evaluating quality of educational and treatment service provision by the delineation of basic standards for service and methods for evaluation of service provision;

- To facilitate at a State level, intersect oral and multidisciplinary cooperation in response to alcohol and other drug issues;
- to promote the development and implementation of education and training courses relevant to the alcohol and other drugs field which will assist workers, appropriate intervention for, and treatment and rehabilitation of, substance affected people;
- to facilitate provision of information and advisory services to alcohol and other drug organisations with special emphasis on the non-government sector, community groups — including those within special populations — government agencies and departments;
- To choose a structure which:
 - *maximises achievement of the organisation’s aims and objectives through efficient management strategies at staff and board levels and which incorporates expertise at all levels of decision making through intersect oral cooperation and working parties;*
 - *Closely reflects the range of views of its membership;*
 - *Reflects the variety of needs of geographic areas and special populations of clients;*
 - *Provides a forum for intersect oral and inter-disciplinary communication and collaboration;*
 - *Liaises appropriately with a national peak networking body and similar associations representing the needs of the drug and alcohol sector*



President's Report

This has been a period of change and consolidation for QNADA. Toward the end of the first half of the year our CEO resigned and before she could be replaced each of our other staff resigned. I would like to thank Helen Jentz and her team for their work and also Ivor Shaw who stepped into the breach and held the fort until the CEO position could be filled. Ivor, a psychologist with one of our member organisations and their project manager for one of the program's QNADA supports, was familiar with the work and philosophy of QNADA and so was well placed to continue to deliver membership services and project management. I would like to acknowledge his valuable contribution to the organisation at this time.

The IT program that supports members' collections for the National Minimum Data Set also continued without interruption thanks to a contract with AMTAC computer services. To manage the day to day business we contracted Peter Prendergast who proved so competent that we managed to convince him to stay and take up the position of Business Manager.

In the beginning of the year our focus was on restaffing the organisation and fulfilling our contractual obligations and we are grateful for the support and patience of our members during this time. Margi O'Connell Hood was appointed CEO in April and by May we had appointed Lauren Trask, our Research Officer, and Gunnar Kristiansen, our IT worker and were able to resume our full program of service. More recently Samantha Murray joined us as an Office Trainee completing our staff.

The other major business for the Board during this time has been the transition of the organisation from an Association to a Company-limited-by-guarantee. This was necessary to improve our capacity to capture tax incentives to maximise the value of our grants and contributions.

For the Board, the additional duties associated with such significant staff and organisational changes has required considerable extra work and the success of

the transition is an indicator of the commitment of all the directors. It is gratifying to see that all the directors have agreed to continue on the Board for the next 12 months with the three who have stood down, as a part of the cycle of election set in the constitution, choosing to renominate.

Looking forward to 2010-2011 we anticipate a very eventful year for the alcohol and drug sector and our members in particular. The National Health Reform will change the landscape of health services including our sector and will place a new emphasis on regional planning. In response to this the Queensland Health Department has disbanded their Alcohol Tobacco and Other Drugs Service Unit placing responsibility across three separate areas. We are yet to see how this will impact us but it will required QNADA and many of our members to develop a wider range of relationships within the department.

Drug and alcohol prevention strategies have been placed, nationally and at state level, into a preventative health framework, a move we welcome for the potential for extra funding and the capacity to leverage the lifestyle-choice message that is central to our population-wide messages. The implication of the change for members providing community-specific prevention is yet to be understood.

This year has been particularly trying for members providing drug and alcohol treatment services. The issue of overall funding and management responsibility for the sector has not yet been announced in the National Health Reform. The sector's two national organisations, the Australian National Council on Drugs and the Alcohol and Drug Council of Australia are being reviewed as part of a wider review of advisory services and peak bodies at the national level, creating leadership uncertainties. In addition the final draft of our key guiding document, the National Drug Strategy has yet to be released. This document is the key planning tool for the sector.

Most members providing treatment services receive core funding from the federal Department of Health and Aging and these funding programs are currently being reviewed creating further uncertainty about future funding from this source. This is exacerbated by elements of the National Health Reform which emphasis

population-based and cost-based funding. As the alcohol and drug sector has not yet been addressed in the Reform announcements, this further complicates financial planning for our members.

In addition, The Department of Health and Ageing's successful Improved Services for People with Drug and Alcohol Problems and Mental Health Issues program, in which QNADA has played a key support in Queensland, has highlighted the extent of mental health comorbidity in clients of treatment services. During the election, in response to the excellent lobbying campaign of the Alcohol and Drug Council of Australia, the labor party released a statement saying that... "The Gillard Labor Government's approach to these issues will be to support better integration and links between the alcohol and other drug(s) prevention sectors and other sources, including primary health care services, community-based and specialised mental health services, and social and welfare services." This indicates that the lessons learned from the Improved Services program may shape contractual requirement in the next funding agreement and treatment practices generally. This assumption is strengthened by the merger, at the state level, of the AOD treatment services unit into the mental health directorate. Again the implications of these changes are yet to be understood.

This year it is likely that much of this uncertainty will be resolved and the future of the sector becomes clear. QNADA, fully staffed and directed by an experienced and stable Board is well placed to keep you informed, gather and communicate your concerns and ideas, and advocate on your behalf.

2009-2010 SPONSORS



QNADA Board

Dennis Young - President



Dr Dennis Young is one of Australia's leading advocates for the Alcohol and Drug Service Sector in Queensland.

As The Executive Director of Drug Arm Australasia for the past 20 years, Dennis has been at the forefront of the awareness, prevention and rehabilitation agenda Australia wide. Dennis, a former Police Officer, has delivered leadership and management to the expansive Drug Arm network throughout Australia.

Drug Arm delivers programs such as counselling, youth outreach, home visitation and support programs, family and personal support programs, court diversion programs, early intervention programs and youth programs for both schools and community. Under Dennis' stewardship,

DRUG ARM has created a Centre for Addiction Research and Education (CARE) that provides education, training, research, program evaluation and information dissemination programs .A stalwart in the A&D field since 1988, Dennis has over 20 years experience, nationally in the sector. Dennis's commitment and involvement with the A&D sector is exemplified through his on-going contributions to a range of state and national organisations including: QNADA, ANCD, and Mental Health Association of Queensland.

Mr Trevor Hallewell – Vice President



Trevor has over 20 years involvement with community based Not for Profit Organisations. He has had extensive experience in the corporate sector, this business experience has equipped him with the expertise to be able to understand and implement corporate infrastructure and develop risk management policies and procedures.

Trevor has helped established Incorporated Associations and has extensive experience in governance issues. In 2005, Trevor was instrumental in the set up, establishment and running of a new 20 bed therapeutic community on the Sunshine Coast.

Mr Mitchell Giles – Treasurer



Mitchell Giles is the Chief Executive Officer of the Alcohol and Drug Foundation Queensland (ADFQ), a position he has held for three years. Mitchell is a Registered Nurse, holds a Bachelor of Business and a Master of Health Science (majoring in Mental Health).

It was, as a nurse in 1988 he commenced work in the AOD sector within an inpatient Detox Unit; he later went on to manage another hospital based Drug and Alcohol Service for 12 years. Mitchell has worked in a variety of other positions including as the Deputy Director of Clinical Services and as a State Manager for a HIV services program.

Currently Mitchell is supporting significant changes to Logan House, as part of ADFQ, which will bring it in closer alignment with the principles of a Therapeutic Community; as well Mitchell is overseeing the implementation of 13 AOD community based positions throughout Queensland

Mr Geoff Manu - Director



Mr Geoff Manu is the General Manager of QuIHN, is originally from a non-English speaking background, and values his connections to his family and cultural heritage as a South Pacific Islander. Geoff has a professional and personal commitment to the development of communities and improvement of social inclusion for such communities

Through previous employment, largely acquired in roles for government departments and within the not for profit community sector, Geoff has acquired a vast amount of experience working to address health, and social inclusion and equity issues among a diverse range of populations. Areas of interest include prisoners, drug users, people with mental health related issues, and people with intellectual impairment, homelessness, indigenous communities, young people, the ageing, and a diverse range of other socially marginalised groups.

Ms Mary Alcorn - Director



Mary is a registered nurse with experience in operating theatres and acute care. Mary has been a community worker for the past 30 years and Director of the Gold Coast Drug Council for the past 20 years. Mary is the mother of three sons, lives alone and has devoted her life to improving drug and alcohol treatment, with particular emphasis on addressing associated mental health disorders.

Mr John Bartlett – Director



Since 1999, John has been the Co-Director/co-Founder of Fresh Hope. Fresh Hope' is a non-profit community based organisation with a family-orientated rehabilitation program designed for mothers and their children who have become dependent on the use of drugs and alcohol as a coping mechanism in response to crises in their lives. In 1993 he decided to do a Degree in Ministry and so for the next three years studied he also in a Justice of the Peace (Qualified) and is a Civil Marriage Celebrant.

Mr Gerard Byrne - Director



Gerard has spent the past 19 years working within The Salvation Army, Recovery Services, initially in a counselling role and then as Program Director at William Booth House, a residential detoxification and rehabilitation service, for 5 years.

He is currently the Social Program Secretary for Recovery Services, which is comprised of 8 Residential Therapeutic Communities, 4 Detoxification Services and 3 Outclient Services.

Gerard has also worked in the private and government sectors in a contractual basis for a period of 11 years, providing a range of alcohol, gambling and other drug services.

Gerard holds qualifications in Social Sciences, Alcohol and Other Drug Work, Psychotherapy, Clinical Supervision and Business Management.

QNADA Members

Boys Town
Brisbane Youth Service
Gold Coast Drug Council Inc
Fresh Hope Association Inc
Goldbridge Rehabilitation Services Inc.
The Salvation Army
Goori Original Limited
Queensland Intravenous and AIDS Association
Life Education Queensland
Hepatitis Council of Queensland
ADFQ
We Help Ourselves (WHOS)
Indigenous Wellbeing Centre
The Salvation Army
Teen Challenge
Gillies House St Vincent de Paul
Queensland Injectors Health Network Ltd
Queensland Association for Healthy Communities (QAHC)
Royal Flying Doctor Service of Australia (Qld. Section)
Lyons House Inc
Bridges Aligned Service Inc
Youth Empowered Towards Independence
NPA Women's Shelter ATSI Corporation
DRUG ARM Australasia
Wuchopperen

QNADA Network participation

Alcohol and Drug Council Australia
Alcohol Education & Rehabilitation Foundation
Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
Australian National Council on Drugs
National Alliance for Action on Alcohol
National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre
Qhealth Service Improvement Group
Qld Aboriginal and Islander Health Council
Health Consumers Queensland

Queensland Primary Health Care Network
Community Health Services Network
Qld Council of Social Services Alliance
Shelter
Homeless to Home Healthcare Network
Queensland Self Management Alliance
Health Consumers Queensland
Qld Transcultural Mental Health Centre
MICAH

QNADA Staff

Margi O'Connell Hood - CEO



Margi is a community development worker with a Masters in Business specialising in Philanthropic and Non-profit Management. Relevant past work includes establishing and managing an Enterprise Development Agency; managing a Queensland peak organisation in the community housing sector and Program Manager for the Improved Services program with the Department of Health and Ageing .

Margi was also active in the community cooperative sector in Maleny, an experience that shaped her commitment to member-based organisations.

My passion is for social justice and, as the QNADA CEO, this translates to assisting member organisations and the AOD Sector to provide equitable access and quality treatment for people with drug and alcohol issues.

Peter Prendergast - Business Manager



Peter, a qualified accountant, is QNADA's Business Manager. Peter has over twenty years experience, in the position of Business Manager/Accountant/Company Secretary, in educational institutions, two electricity companies, and a public sector health organisation. This experience has given him sound knowledge and skills to handle QNADA's finance and business functions.

My passion is to help QNADA and the sector to use their resources efficiently and effectively in the achievement of their goals and purposes and thereby effecting change in our society.

Gunnar Kristiansen - ICT Officer



Gunnar Kristiansen joined QNADA in May 2010. Current responsibilities include the coordination of the NMDS data collection database and support, in addition to Web, media and internal ICT development. Gunnar's formal education is through a Bachelor of Communication as an ICT system operator. He also sits on QNADA's ICT committee.

My passion is to develop sustainable solutions involving sector and staff by using my strength in creativity, new media and information technology development.

Samara Murray - Administration Officer



Samara Murray is QNADA's Administration Officer. Sam comes to QNADA on a traineeship doing her Cert III in Business Administration from the disability sector and is very interested in social justice issues for minority populations. Sam provides administrative support to the QNADA team.

My passion is to become a Youth Worker for youth at risk and make a difference in their lives.

Lauren Trask –Communications and Research Coordinator

Lauren joined the QNADA team in May, 2010. She is responsible for the coordination of the



Improved Services Initiative including the Cross Sectoral Support and Strategic Partnership Project and the strategic communication for QNADA. In addition Lauren sits on and provides secretariat function to the QNADA Board Treatment Subcommittee.

My passion lies with health and education and particularly around access issues. I'm increasingly developing an interest in the workforce development and training issues associated with the AOD sector and look forward to working with you in the coming years.

CEO's Report

As a completely new team, the current staff spent much of their time this year in strengthening our relationships with members and external stakeholders and orientating themselves to the needs of the sector. To achieve the first objective of the company - to promote, assist and represent at the State level - we have participated in a wide range of State meetings and forums ensuring the NGO AOD sector has a voice. At the national level, we have worked to promote the contribution of the non-government sector through membership with national organisations and links with [the](#) other state peaks.

This work has laid the foundation for rapid consultation and communication within the AOD sector at State and National level. It has also established connections across the NGO sector for the broader allegiances needed to address policy issues. One example of this is the response to the request from the Parliamentary Social Committee for submissions on an Independent Member's Bill on Cannabis. We were able to access information from ADCA, NICPIC and state AOD peaks and the support of QCOSS to prepare a sector submission.

For members, our focus has been on ensuring staff have a clear understanding of the sector and its needs. To this end, staff orientation has been an important element of the work. Lauren and I have begun a conference program and a series of site visits to familiarise us with the wide range of services provided in the NGO sector. This program will continue in 2010-2011 when we hope to have visited every NGO AOD service in the State.

While the NGO AOD sector has a long history in Queensland, there is surprisingly little data available. QNADA has addressed this by employing a Research Officer, Lauren Trask, to build links with state and national research bodies and to promote a Queensland research agenda for the sector. Given the importance of evidence-based treatment good statistics for budget submissions and regional needs analysis this will be important work in 2010-2011. This year the focus has been on establishing the organisation as the collector of the National Minimum Data Set for QHealth. This on-line, centralized database has the ability to generate state and regional reports and allow members to survey clients within their organisation, their region and the state. By the end of the 2010-2011, we hope to have all QHealth funded services subscribing to the service.

Another key objective of our work is to assist members to develop quality services to address alcohol and other drug related problems. This year we did this primarily through the Improved Services Initiative (ISI) and the

Winterschool. The ISI involves 11 member services funded by the Department of Health and Ageing to address co-existing AOD and mental health problems. QNADA meets with the services monthly and in May hosted a two-day forum to review and promote an on-line training program to support a national treatment manual that set the standard for comorbidity practice. At the Winterschool, QNADA had a stand with two members of staff available to promote the organisation to members, potential members and key stakeholders across the sector.

Key to assisting members is the provision of information. This year our focus has been on building the website as an interactive tool for members. Our IT professional, Gunnar Kristiansen, has developed the website to allow access to policy documents, training manuals and a sector calendar. The site also has the capacity to enable members to communicate with each other through especially established groups and we see this as playing an important part in research and mobilization in the future.

This has been a challenging program for a completely new team, some of whom are also new to the sector. None of it could have happened without the diligence of our Business Manager, Peter Prendergast, who has overseen the transition of the organisation from an association to a company and managed our finances and reports. Now that Samantha Murray has joined the team as our office worker, we are well prepared, focused, and ready for an exciting new year.



Treasurer's Report

The significant organisational events this financial year - the change in legal structure and the staffing restructure - are reflected as significant variations in fees and staffing and the under-expenditure in project work.

Change of Entity

On the 28 October QNADA changed its legal structure from an Association to a Company limited by guarantee. The assets of QNADA Inc. were transferred to new entity by 'Deed of Gift' the following is a brief summary of the financials from both entities. QNADA Inc financial statements are available upon request.

QNADA Inc.

Total Income (grant, **membership**, sundry) received by QNADA to the 28th October was \$ 276,458 less expenditure of \$235,333 leaving a surplus of \$ 41,125.

QNADA Ltd

For the new entity to the 30th June total income received was \$335,894 less expenditure of \$384,802 leaving a deficit of \$48,908.

The surplus from QNADA Inc. and the deficit from QNADA Ltd leaves an operating deficit of \$7,783.00

Members' equity as at 30 June 2010 is \$114,340

2010/11 Financial Year

With the aim of ensuring QNADA's sustainability, we have constructed our budget for 2010/11 to continue to grow our membership base. Grant income of \$ 488,868 is contained in current funding agreements for 2010/11. We will also make use of unexpended funds from 2009/10 pending approval from the funding bodies.

I commend the 2010/11 accounts to the membership.

Mitchell Giles

Treasurer

Financial Report

**QUEENSLAND NETWORK OF ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS
AGENCIES LTD.**

**GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2010**

Peter M Collins & Associates Pty Ltd

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