

LOAD

WEST COAST

Friday 10th August 2007 Summary of Meeting

Welcome: Char Macpherson, ADANZ

Apologies: Hecta Williams, Jill Wilson, Cate Kearney

Meeting opened 10:15

Introductions and overview of recent service activities

Char Macpherson, ADANZ; Jennifer Rowling, NMIT student nurse; Joe Hall, WCDHB; Marty Roughan, GA, ADA rep; Diana Hay, WCDHB; Paul Eathorne, WCDHB; Vivienne Wright, CYF; Tara Coates, Community and Public Health; Bob McAuliffe, CYF; Carole Rodden, Greymouth High School, Margaret Adams, AOD WCDHB; Jan Pupich, Community and Public Health, Ann Smith, WCDHB Mental Health

Community and Public Health work in the community included successful Smoke Free Day Campaign, liaison with premises owners and enforcement of alcohol laws is ongoing; highlighting sexual health, free checks available on the West Coast through GPs with free prescription.

AOD issues regarding understaffing and staff illness impacting on appointment delays; 53 on methadone programme, 8-9 on the waiting list

CYFs shortage of social workers problematic; alcohol and drug featuring in abuse and neglects cases and youth issues. New Youth Justice worker notes increase in cannabis use and truancy.

Recovery

Intro and background - deinstitutionalisation, Mason Report - MHC, Recovery concept and definition

MH health comment that most MH services are accessed in the community rather than being residential – discussion around this topic and the differences for AOD and MH

Consumer view – Joe and Marty talked about historical issues around stigma and misrepresentation in the media, (general response and agreement), continues now but different. Changes include consumer acknowledgement and inclusion in service planning and policy/government level, slow but gathering momentum. Discussion on the value of the consumer input into the AOD sector

AOD/Methadone service view – acknowledged that the next 15 years important for consumers on methadone. Differences noted between other types of recovery and ongoing nature of some treatment. Noted issues with stigma and getting people into recovery especially for women with children. Stigma makes respect difficult in the community. Fear of authorities also identified as a major problem in the recovery process. CYFs and Police seen as the enemy

Relationships with services like CYFs vital and getting the message out to parents considering recovery that CYFs are more likely to support this move rather than being a threat, will assist to make it successful where they can help. Also important to find ways to develop effective and supportive relationships with Police and other government departments. Not just between sectors but between services.

Question how to do this – communication, between services and departments and sectors; open discussion in forums like this (LOAD) good identify issues and work on improving them - when consumers can see it happening they pass the information by word of mouth.

Closing Discussion identified the following as main points:

- Expectations — WE are responsible, LOAD meetings are so important
- Assumptions - that someone else will fix it
- Communication – services, sectors, consumers, AOD & MH
- Relationships – AOD & MH resources for improving pathways of care
- Education / information sharing
- Community

- Practical solutions- housing, medical/dental access/costs – thinking outside the square
- Rehabilitation when many need Habilitation

Meeting closed for lunch at 12 noon

Attendees: 13

Next Meeting 2nd November 2007.

Further information and agendas available on www.adanz.org.nz. Suggestions for agenda to Char Macpherson char.macpherson@adanz.org.nz
Please note: These minutes are a summary of opinions expressed by meeting attendees. If anyone would like further information please contact Cate Kearney at cate.kearney@adanz.org.nz.

Attendance List

Ann Smith	WCDHB Mental Health	PO Box 387, Greymouth	Ann.smith@westcoastdhb.org.nz
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Diana Hay	WCDHB (Psychiatric Needs Assessor)	PO Box 387, Greymouth Hospital	diana.hay@westcoastdhb.org.nz
Gem Pupich	C & PH	PO Box 387, Greymouth	
Jennifer Rowling	NMIT – Student Nurse		Jennifer.rowling@hotmail.com
Joe Hall	WCDHB	43a Seven Mile Rd, Runanga, 03 768 2805	Joe.hall@westcoastdhb.org.nz
Margaret Adams	AOD WCDHB	PO Box 387, Greymouth, 03 768 2805	
Marty Roughan	GA, ADA rep	167B Ward St, Coloden, 03 768 6796	
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