

Liaison on Alcohol and Other Drugs LOAD

Ashburton

Meeting Record Tuesday 12 May 2009

Welcome: Char Macpherson, ADANZ

Attendance: See at end of record

Service News

- *ASHCOSS*: Council submissions on liquor licensing and closing earlier.
- *Needle Exchange*: Good returns of used (fits) needles. Staff pressure to open out of hours but sorted now.
- *ACADS*: Busy first quarter but quieter now. Health day in November.

Discussion re Submission writing

Sale of Liquor Act and the local situation re licensed premises and the aim to change opening hours.

Presentation

➤ Work and Income

Fiona Frew, Regional Health Advisor

Approach to working with people on Health and Disability benefits

Two major parts to the job:

1. Advice Support – help from
2. Work with health providers in country

Some people have difficulty approaching WINZ
The services aim to help clients to access WINZ.

Discussion / Questions and Answers

Connections to Mental Health services good but developing roles with AOD services; becoming involved through LOAD meetings. An issue for residential support. Transitions between entering treatment, finishing work and accessing a new benefit (stand down periods). Married couples issues when one enters treatment they don't qualify for any benefits. Usually income tested. Changes re the Recession.

Also have Employment coordinators attached with all sites.

Clients come with medical certificates may indicate part time work only, or who have specific abilities.

Health barriers can be helped with PARS.

PHO → GP often clients can't afford visits - can access special grants for bills/debts to avoid paying upfront.

National Updates

Moana House Training Institute Courses: 2009 August - Family Inclusive Practice; September: Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Fafafine and Transgender; for further details see www.moanahouse.org.nz.

Attendance: 10. Meeting dates available on www.adanz.org.nz. Suggestions for agenda to Char Macpherson email: char.macpherson@adanz.org.nz. Please note: These notes are a summary of opinions expressed by meeting attendees. If anyone would like further information please email reception@adanz.org.nz