Association of Alcohol and other Drug Agencies NT Incorporated

# Annual Report 2016-2017



Together we make a difference

aadant.org.au

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### Introduction

The Association of Alcohol and other Drug Agencies NT Incorporated is the peak body for Alcohol and Other Drugs in the Northern Territory.

As an independent, membership-driven, not-for-profit association, we work with our members to support and strengthen AOD service delivery for people who experience harmful substance use in the NT.

Our mission is to build and maintain a strong, sustainable and culturally diverse Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) sector that works together to reduce alcohol and other drug related harm across the Northern Territory.

How do we do it?

Representation and Advocacy. We understand the challenges of service delivery. We will represent the AOD sector to ensure the needs and interests are heard through a collective, unified voice. We'll work with our membership to ensure our advocacy is well-informed and reflective of current issues. We will seek your views and submissions in relation to issues impacting on AOD service delivery in the NT.

Capacity Building & Workforce Development. We deliver, facilitate or scope a range of activities to support our workforce's capacity to provide effective, meaningful and evidenced-based services to clients. We listen to our membership and work hard to ensure every opportunity is provided to strengthen AOD service delivery in the NT.

AADANT acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the Land on which we live, work and walk.

## ASSOCIATION OF ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG AGENCIES NT

Together we make a difference

## **Staff Members**

Executive Officer Richard Michell

Project Worker Katie Flynn (From November 2017)

Xenia Girdler (to June 2017)

Administration Officer Katie Flynn (From June 2017)

Maryanne Sharp (to June 2017)

## **Board Members**

Chairperson Jillian Smith

Vice Chairperson Nicola Coalter

Secretary Natalie Sarsfield

Treasurer Carole Taylor

Public Officer Mark Smalley

Committee Member Andy Blaney

Committee Member Pauline Reynolds

Committee Member Casey Bishop

Committee Member Christine Knight

Committee Member Brett Hayes (to March 2017)

## Chair's Report

As we reflect on our achievements this year and look back over the challenges we have faced in the Northern Territory, it has certainly been a year of change. We entered a new phase of leadership with Gunner's government. We experienced changes to policy and machinery of government with a direct impact on our members in the Alcohol and Other Drug sector, and on AADANT itself as a peak body. We have seen the demise of the Mandatory Alcohol Treatment programs and the planned resurgence of the Banned Drinkers Register this year.

While many changes have been met with mixed responses, it would appear this government is attempting to keep pre-election promises. They opened the door to discussion and consultation allowing peaks across many jurisdictions to voice their collective views on behalf of their membership. The AADANT Board and Executive Officer were granted access to Senior Ministers and heads of departments. This allowed us to advocate for a fairer system of evidence-informed alcohol policy reform programs in prevention, intervention and protection work to minimise the risk and harm from alcohol across the Territory community.

Our Executive Officer has kept AADANT on the agenda at a Territory and Federal level, which resulted in the redistribution of funding and additional security for the peak body moving forward. We acknowledge the funding from NT PHN and NTG Department of Health. We would like to thank Richard Michell for his persistence and tenacity in navigating through this while maintaining relationships with community partners such as NTCOSS, NT Shelter and NTMHC.

As ADAANT expanded their very small staff from 1.5 by attracting new funding for project work, AADANT Board have also expanded their thinking and flexibility about future governance of the peak. As a result of an internal self-report review of Board members' performance and areas of expertise, this piece of work was undertaken to enhance the governance structure and ability to manage risk while strengthening decision making capacity. The result is several suggested changes to the composition of the Board. Many of you will have received a copy of the draft changes proposed for the Constitution. These suggested changes will soon go before membership to be considered at a Special General Meeting.

We would like to thank Nicola Coalter for her outstanding contribution to the Board over the past four years holding Executive positions as Secretary and Deputy Chairperson. We would also like to acknowledge Brett Hayes who stepped down earlier in the year.

We look forward to a year of promise with a committed Board of management and a great staff to carry the work of AADANT through the year, commencing with a sector forum scheduled early 2018.

Chairperson on behalf of the AADANT Board

## Treasurer's Report

I am pleased to be writing this brief report in this my second year as Treasurer of AADANT.

Last year I reported that the organisation had gone through some trying times with staff shortages and the like but had managed to not only stay on track but to advance well under the guidance of the then new EO Richard Michell.

This year, of course, AADANT is travelling well. Finances are on track and in order while the now not-so-new EO is pushing the organisation forward and delivering on some of the expectations of both our funders and the members.

AADANT is now extending it's member support arm by offering invaluable training for the sector and is available for advice for those who need it.

We must keep in mind, however, there are only two people at AADANT and for them to do all we as a sector would like, would be quite impossible.

Given the lack of resources and the time needed to undertake the advocacy, training and support we need as a sector, they do a fantastic job. I thank them for their effort and dedication.

I would also like to thank my fellow Board members once again. This is a very active and passionate group of people who work very hard to ensure both the good Governance of the organisation and support for the staff. This year as a board we have achieved a great deal; not the least being the development of a more up to date and relevant constitution. I recommend this new constitution to all our members and seek your support to have the document adopted, so that we can move forward with something that reflects the sector we are working in and those we represent.

I still feel fairly new at the job I have undertaken, members who have been on the AADANT Board for much longer continue to make me feel a part of the team. We work together to ensure we offer the best possible service to AADANT.

It's a great organisation and it's your organisation. Richard and Katie do a great job keeping everything on track. From a financial perspective, I am confident we are in excellent shape and can reasonably assume we will continue to pay our debts as and when they arise.

Thank you,

Carole Taylor Treasurer

## **Executive Officer's Report**

The 2016-17 year has been a year of contrasts; AADANT's changing position and finances are in response to the need to adapt and seek out alternative funding streams. Starting with initial staff reduction and less funding available to the organisation, improving over time through Northern Territory Primary Health Network (NT PHN) funding and support. This allowed us to undertake several projects in the last financial year while continuing to support to our membership. The year ended with new funding and bright prospects for the next few years through a mixture of Commonwealth and Territory Government commitments. We achieved this through agreements with NT PHN and support from Northern Territory Council of Social Services (NTCOSS).

A reduction in our capacity to support the AOD sector over the last 12 months (due to less funding) was resolved after a long process of lobbying and discussions with Federal Ministers and the Drug Strategy Branch in Canberra. We have been successful in negotiating a 2-year contract to support AADANT in capacity building and administration. This was welcome news and something the current and previous staff and Board have lobbied long and hard to achieve. Our endeavour to support development and capacity building activities (to increase opportunities for the AOD workforce) relied heavily on securing funding.

Now we look to the next 2 years with confidence to continue to represent the Alcohol and other Drug sector both at a Territory and Commonwealth level. We have made some positive gains with the Territory and Commonwealth Governments and will continue to advocate for the NGO AOD sector both in Canberra and at home in the NT. The new Commonwealth funding will allow us to continue to work closely with the NT PHN in their new role, and provide greater support to this sector and AADANT members.

At a Territory level, we continue to visit and meet with our member agencies - which remains a priority for AADANT - maintaining our strong relationships and commitment with the AOD sector. The AOD NGO sector is an ongoing subscriber to our service with several new members joining this year. We look forward to expanding relationships with other peak bodies such as the Mental Health Coalition NT and NTCOSS, with whom we have formed and strengthened alliances.

AADANT will work toward a strong, sustainable and culturally diverse AOD sector offering opportunities to learn and share knowledge. We will provide best practice information and knowledge, and work with agencies to support innovative practice and partnerships that will aid the development of new services or programs. Advocacy for the sector when negotiating with government remains a priority, as does encouraging the development of evidence-informed policy to reflect the needs of people with substance use issues.

We Look forward to providing our two-day Alcohol and Other Drug Conference in early 2018 which will support the work and development of the NT AOD sector. We will focus on skill development and sector capacity building initiatives.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the NT Government for their support and funding of AADANT as the Peak body for AOD NGO services in the Northern Territory. I would also like to thank the NT PHN for their ongoing support and commitment to AADANT over the last 12 months. I would also like to once again thank NTCOSS for the ongoing support and selfless advocacy they displayed with the Commonwealth Government that helped us secure funding. A special thanks to Xenia Girdler who has contributed to our work with the sector over the last 12 months, and Maryanne Sharp and Katie Flynn for their administrative work and support.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the work and support of the members of our Board over the last 12 months and thank the agencies and workers in the alcohol and drug sector for providing me with information and support throughout this year.

Richard Michell, Executive Officer

## Financial Reports:

Committee's Report

**Income Statement** 

**Balance Sheet** 

Statement of Changes in Members Funds

Independent Auditor's Report

#### COMMITTEE'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

Your Committee members submit the financial report of Association of Alcohol and Other Drug Agencies NT Incorporated (the Association) for the financial year ended 30 June 2017.

#### Committee Members:

The names of Committee members during the financial year and at the date of this report were:

Jillian Smith - Chairperson Nicola Coalter - Vice Chairperson

Carole Taylor - Treasurer Natalie Sarsfield - Secretary

Mark Smalley - Committee member / Public Officer

Andy Blaney - Committee member
Pauline Reynolds - Committee member
Casey Bishop - Committee member
Christine Knight - Committee member

Brett Hayes - Committee member (resigned 19 April 2017)

#### Objects and Purposes

The objects and purposes of the Association are as follows:

- To build and maintain a strong, sustainable and culturally diverse Alcohol and Other Drugs ("AOD") sector to reduce alcohol and other drug related harm across the Northern Territory community
- b) To be a Peak Body for the Non-Government Alcohol and Other Drugs Sector in the Northern Territory through:
  - Advocacy and representation of a sector perspective on policy and other issues that relate to substance misuse issues;
  - ii. Promoting a range of effective strategies that minimise related harms;
  - iii. Sector capacity building including workforce development;
  - Increasing public awareness of AOD issues and strategies to minimise related harms;
  - v. Encouraging and/or facilitating networking and other communication in the sector.

#### Significant Changes:

No significant changes in the nature of these objectives occurred during the year.

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COMMITTEE'S REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

#### **Operating Result**

The net (loss) / profit of the Association for the year amounted to \$(4,149); 2016: \$44,543

#### **Operating Report:**

In our opinion: -

- (a) The accompanying Income Statement is drawn up so as to present fairly the results of the Association for the financial year ended 30 June 2017;
- (b) The accompanying Balance Sheet is drawn up so as to present fairly the state of affairs of the Association as at the end of that financial year;
- (c) The Association is able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Committee.

Chairperson

Date: 28 September 2017

#### INCOME STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

	Note	2017	2016
		\$	\$
Revenue			
Grants	2A	335,362	277,653
Interest	2B	657	766
Other income	20	8,228	48,424
Total Revenue	_	344,247	326,843
Expenses			
Depreciation	3A	4,038	4,602
Employee expense	38	149,690	174,880
Other expenses	30	194,668	102,818
Total Expenses		348,396	282,300
Net (Loss)/Profit from operations		(4,149)	44,543

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 JUNE 2017

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
ASSETS		*	*
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	79,211	58,441
Accounts receivable and other debtors	5	1,800	5,130
Other current assets	6	4,362	-
Total current assets		85,373	63,571
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	7 _	13,501	16,404
Total non-current assets	_	13,501	16,404
Total Assets	_	98,874	79,975
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Accounts payable and other payables	8	38,918	14,339
Employee provisions	9	20,898	10,631
Unexpended grant	_	6,371	18,169
Total current liabilities	-	66,187	43,139
Total non-current liabilities	=		
Total Liabilities	_	66,187	43,139
Net Assets	_	32,687	36,836
Total Members Fund		32,687	36,836

#### STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN MEMBERS FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

	Contributed Funds	Retained Earnings	Total Equity
MEMBERS FUNDS	\$	\$	\$
Balance at 1 July 2015	15,000	(22,707)	(7,707)
Profit for the year		44,543	44,543
Closing Balance at 30 June 2016	15,000	21,836	36,836
Balance at 1 July 2016	15,000	21,836	36,836
Loss for the year		(4,149)	(4,149)
Closing Balance at 30 June 2017	15,000	17,687	32,687



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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the members of Association of Alcohol and Other Drug Agencies NT Incorporated

We have audited the accompanying financial report of Association of Alcohol and Other Drug Agencies NT Incorporated which comprises the balance sheet at 30 June 2017, the income statement for the year then ended, the statement of members funds, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information and the committee's report.

#### Committee's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The Committee are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and have determined that the accounting policies used and described in Note 1 to the financial statements are consistent with the financial reporting requirements of the Northern Territory of Australia Associations Act, and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The Committee's responsibilities also include such internal control as the Committee determine is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

#### Independence

In conducting our audit, we complied with the independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

#### **Audit Opinion**

In our opinion, the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Association of Alcohol and Other Drug Agencies NT Incorporated as at 30 June 2017 and its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements and the financial reporting requirements of the Northern Territory of Australia Associations Act.

#### **Emphasis on Matter**

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to the following matters:

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation



#### Dependency on Government Funding

The Association relies on funding from the government. The financial report has been prepared on a going concern basis on the expectation that government funding will continue. Without such sources of revenue there is significant uncertainty whether the Association will be able to continue as a going concern and therefore whether it will realise its assets and extinguish its liabilities in the normal course of business and at the amounts stated in the financial report.

#### Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution

The Note 1 to the financial statements describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist the Association of Alcohol and Other Drug Agencies NT Incorporated to meet the reporting requirements of the Northern Territory of Australia Associations Act. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose

#### Comparative Figures

The financial report of the Association of Alcohol and Other Drug Agencies NT Incorporated for the year ended 30 June 2016, which were presented for comparative purposes, were audited by other auditors whose report thereon, dated 22 September 2016, expressed a qualified auditor's opinion.

LOWRYS ACCOUNTANTS

Colin James, FCA Registered Company Auditor

Date: 28 September 2017

Darwin