



ADF

Alcohol  
and Drug  
Foundation

# Annual Report 2018-19.





Michael Doery  
& Erin Lalor AM

# A message from our Chair and CEO.

This year, through people and partnerships, we continued to extend our impact, working with communities, government, organisations and individuals to prevent and minimise the harm caused by alcohol and drugs in Australia.

Collaboration is the linchpin of the Alcohol and Drug Foundation and as you can see throughout this report, we are working with a vast and broad spectrum of groups.

As at June 2019, the ADF was supporting over 12,000 community organisations to participate in, and deliver, community programs around the country.

With the support of the Australian Government we were pleased to welcome an additional 72 new Local Drug Action Teams on board this year as we embarked upon the fourth round of the LDAT program.

This brings the total number of LDATs working at the community level to 244. The ADF provides these dedicated teams with advice, resources, funding and support to understand their local alcohol and other drug issues and identify

evidence-based actions to strengthen protective factors to reduce harm.

The Government's commitment in the 2019 Budget to fund this program for a further two years is testimony to the inroads LDATs are making in their communities.

The Good Sports program also continues to go from strength to strength, enjoying another year of record growth and achievements.

We supported 9477 clubs to work to reduce harm, with 1143 strengthening their response to illicit drugs (through the Tackling Illegal Drugs program) and 1029 strengthening their alcohol policies to reduce alcohol-related harm with a focus on their younger members (through Good Sports Junior).

The ADF is committed to further growth and quality moving forward.



We know, through independent research, that the Good Sports program is proven to reduce alcohol-related harms. It was found to reduce risky drinking at participating clubs by 37% and has seen a reduction of alcohol-related accidents among Good Sports club members and supporters by 42%. We also know that it can help strengthen club membership and boost participation.

Potentially every community club in Australia stands to benefit from the Good Sports program and to make the program as accessible as possible, we invested in trialling a new digital model of delivery this year. This work will continue next year.

We ended the financial year with 9477 Good Sports clubs and are poised to celebrate our 10,000th club in 2019/20.

Our collaborative efforts extended beyond the borders of Australia as we forged a relationship with Planet Youth, an internationally renowned, evidence-based program from Iceland that has significantly reduced alcohol and other drug use rates in young people.

Planet Youth has been adopted in over 20 countries including Ireland, Chile, Spain, France, Italy, Russia, Sweden and Norway and we were excited to announce an Australian pilot as part of the LDAT program.

During the trial, the specialist Planet Youth team will work closely with the ADF and selected Local Drug Action Teams to adapt its model to the Australian context and transfer knowledge to strengthen the work of Australia's LDATs.

We were also fortunate to be able to share the Planet Youth model, insights and experiences with a much broader audience at the ADF's inaugural Prevention in Practice conference in Melbourne in June 2019.

Over one-and-a-half days, the conference brought together more than 300 community representatives, alcohol and other drugs professionals, government representatives and local and international experts to showcase inspiring examples of community-led prevention models and case studies that are making a difference.

It was a seamless and highly professional event, that was extremely well received. Our thanks to the many ADF staff who worked tirelessly to make the conference such a success.

Coinciding with the conference, the ADF was privileged to convene the 2019 Alcohol and Other Drug Awards on behalf of the sector. Over 100 award nominations were received, across eight categories, with winners announced on the first evening of the conference.

It was a proud moment for the ADF when our long-term Policy Manager, Geoffrey Munro, was announced as the winner of the National Honour Roll category. This category celebrates individuals who have made a significant contribution, over a considerable period, to the alcohol and other drugs field.

We congratulate Geoff on his achievement and thank him for his unwavering commitment to the ADF as he moves on to retirement.

It is committed, caring, remarkable people – like Geoff – who are the heart and soul of the ADF.

This year, for the first time we brought all our people together for a two-day national team meeting in Melbourne, sharing knowledge, building skills and reinforcing our own internal collaboration. Together we know we can have a significant impact.

We also acknowledge and are grateful for the guidance and work of our Board. This year, we farewelled Board member of eight years, Phillipa Kelly, and we welcomed new Directors: Steve Allsop and Josh Chalmers. They contribute a wealth of alcohol and other drug (AOD) sector knowledge and extensive governance experience, respectively.

It is a strong skills-based Board, that has embarked on a comprehensive review of our strategic direction over recent months, in preparation for the development of a new strategic plan that will be introduced in the coming financial year.

As we move into our 60th year of operation we are excited and optimistic for our future.

**Michael Doery**

- *Chair*

**Dr Erin Lalor AM**

- *Chief Executive Officer*

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**As we move into our 60th year of operation we are excited and optimistic for our future.**

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We prioritise partnerships,  
collaboration and **long-term impact.**


We build **strong alliances** that help  
deliver positive outcomes and  
strengthen our **collective impact.**

Our approach is reflected in an  
organisational culture of  
**collaboration** and **innovation.**





# 2018-19 Year in Review.




## Our Reach

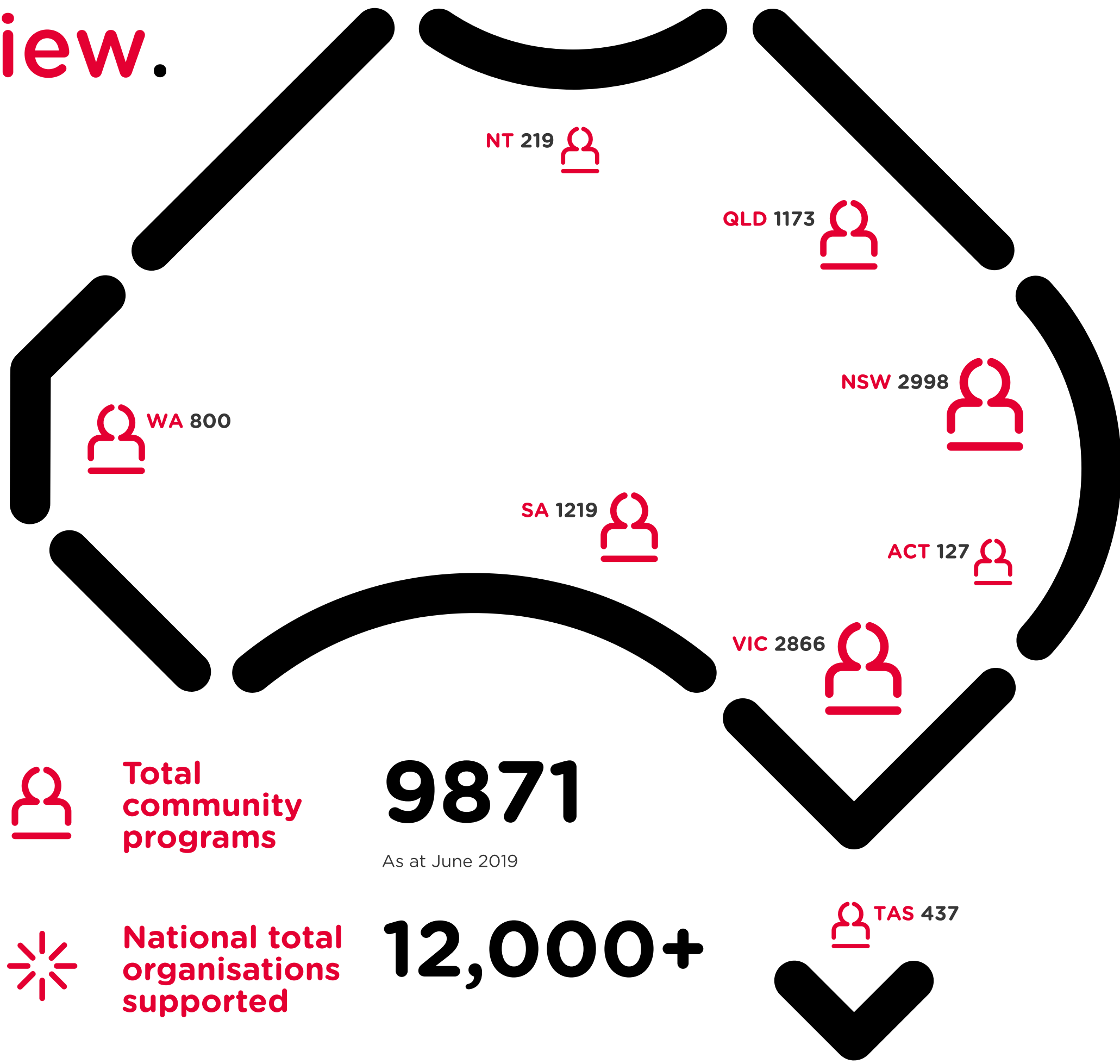
- **www.adin.com.au**


The Australian Drug Information Network (ADIN) is Australia’s leading alcohol and other drug search directory.

  - 80,393 visits (up from 68,526 in 2018)
- **Text the Effects**
  - SMS service accessed 12,271 times (up from 9323 in 2018)
- **DrugInfo**

DrugInfo is the primary alcohol and other drug information service for Victoria.

  - DrugInfo online resources were accessed 4,083,689 times
  - 3,724 calls and emails answered by an Information Officer, up from 2863 in 2018
  - Families or friends made up a third of DrugInfo callers
- **ADF Library**
  - ADF SEARCH full text downloads up 8%
  - 2908 people have active library memberships
  - 431 people joined, compared to 174 in FY17-18
  - Health and welfare workers were the most common library users
- **Social Media engagement**
  - 4,370,239 people reached by our social media
  - 236,612 people engaged with our social media
- **Online engagement**
  - 4,398,909 sessions across all ADF websites
  - Up 220% this financial year





We work in partnership with others to support and create evidence-based policies and practice that prevent and minimise the harm caused by alcohol and other drugs.



# Goal 1 – Strong Communities.

Outcome: A measurable reduction in alcohol and other drug harms in the community.

The Local Drug Action Team (LDAT) program, which is delivered by community-based teams with support and guidance from the ADF, is a significant element of the Australian Government’s National Ice Action Strategy.

The program works to prevent alcohol and drug issues forming in the first place by building ‘protective factors’ in the community.

These factors include: connection to community, school and local sport/recreational clubs; creating a sense of connection, belonging and empowerment; developing skills and creating employment opportunities; enabling early engagement into support services when required; and, building resilience in individuals and communities.

In late 2018, the LDAT program’s fourth round of recruitment for new LDATs saw a strong focus on partnerships, local need and consultation, generating 123 applications. Applications received were of a high calibre however, not all could be accepted into the program. In early 2019, 72 new LDATs joined the program, which was 12 above target.

There are now 244 LDATs nationally, delivering more than 250 Community Action Plans to create stronger and healthier communities.

The LDATs partner with more than 1350 locally based organisations across the country, including schools, educational institutions, health workers, police, community organisations, businesses and local government, who unite to drive a community-led and evidence-based response.

Of the 244 LDATs currently in the program, more than half are delivering activity in regional, remote or very remote communities; almost one in four is working specifically with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders (with an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander controlled lead and/or partners); and, more than one in ten are focusing on Culturally and Linguistically Diverse communities.

Early indicators of success reported by LDATs during 2018-19 include increased engagement and participation, increased social connection and inclusion, increases in knowledge, shifts in reported confidence, and intentions to continue involvement in activities designed to create stronger and healthier communities.

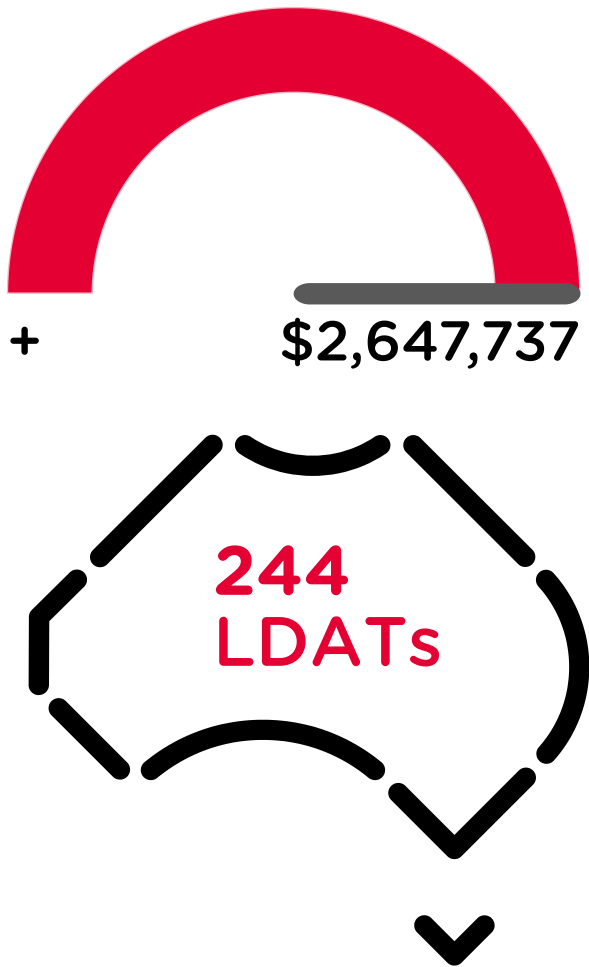
## Local Drug Action Team Program

Building community-led action across Australia

Total number of Community Action Plans being delivered or completed



Grants Provided to LDATs



We co-design our evidence-based programs with communities and support them to build capacity to create change.

## IN THEIR OWN WORDS

# Stef Maciulaitis and Peter Uzande.

### Building knowledge and connection

Stef Maciulaitis, Senior Community Development Officer with the Local Drug Action Team (LDAT) program, and Peter Uzande, Community Development Lead for Northern LDAT, have been working together for the last year building protective factors amongst African-Australian families in the north of Melbourne.

The Northern LDAT has been running a successful homework club, helping young people with their grades but ultimately increasing family and community connections.

### Stef Maciulaitis

“

I have just celebrated my seven-year anniversary at the ADF. I'm also studying, I'm halfway through my Master of Human Services.

What can I say about Peter? He's just so cool! If you meet him and get to chat with him, you would see what I mean. He's the nicest person ever and his passion is amazing. He's involved in so many organisations and projects supporting African communities across Victoria and Australia.

When the LDAT program started, there were only two program delivery staff - my colleague Tapuwa and myself. He's from Zimbabwe and has a lot of contacts in the Melbourne African community. Tapuwa was the one who encouraged Peter to apply for the LDAT program. Good Sports held a Tackling Illegal Drugs forum in Whittlesea mid-2018 and I first met Peter there.

The Northern LDAT is the first intercultural LDAT I have worked with. I feel like I am learning more from them, than they are from me!

Getting to meet people like Peter is what I love about my job. There are many 'Peters' across many LDATs, who really care and dedicate themselves to the work. The Northern LDAT is great because it's community led, which I think makes it special and more impactful. We are there for the journey with the community.

Peter believes there is hope and opportunities for all African people in Australia, acknowledging the challenges that come from migrating. There's stigma that African people face in Australia, often perpetuated by media. For Peter, the LDAT is an opportunity to address that.

What schools offer in Australia is not the same as the Horn of Africa region where all sport and recreation is included. Extra curriculums in Australia must be paid for by parents, creating financial barriers for families.

The Fundi Homework Club adopts a whole-of-family approach to boosting student school performance, increasing family connections and building social connections for African families in Whittlesea, which are known protective factors.

This is done by providing a safe space for a group of African students and their parents/carers; linking students and parents/carers with African tutors and local volunteer teachers from La Trobe University; increasing social connections for families and giving them an understanding of the other local services and programs available to them.

Fundi particularly aims to address disconnection between parents and children. These kids are being raised in Australia and the parents have had completely different experiences growing up. Fundi supports students' grades, but it also increases communication between generations.

In the two and a half years I have been supporting LDATs, I have never seen a project have such significant impact in such a short space of time. Social connections for families, introductions to the world and resources of libraries, improvements in student grades, a safe space for families, and lots of smiles.

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Stef Maciulaitis  
& Peter Uzande



## Peter Uzande



I'm a local - I live in Whittlesea with my partner and two children. My eldest is 20 and I've got a little one as well, who is six years old.

I've been working in various African-Australian communities since 2012 in projects such as the African Australian Communities Leadership Forum which engages government on issues affecting African-Australians.

**Stef has a great temperament – she's got that calmness. She never makes anyone feel pressured or rushed. We're on the same time zone. Any time we have problems, Stef's quick to respond. She'll call up and say, 'How's it going? Is everything running smoothly?'. She is always giving us information and support when we need it. She's got drive and is just a wonderful person to work with.**

**The African word Fundo means learn. We called it this to promote engagement in education, social connections, friendships and development of talents and interests.**



My favourite thing about the work we do is the young people turning up and stepping into that library. They have an appreciation of what they've been offered. Them wanting to participate is the biggest thing for me. Working with the ADF helps us greatly – the support we receive means a lot.

At the Fundi Homework Club, we currently have around seven volunteers who are university lecturers, university students and retirees. It's a mix of age groups, which is how we like it. The older VCE students are more than happy to help the younger kids and everyone gets involved.

The parents are very engaged. The feedback we hear is 'we've always gone past but never entered the library'. Now, they're borrowing books and using the resources.

The homework club has reduced tensions and stress at home. You find that for most of these families, the parents were not educated in Australia. They are not aware of the Australian education system and it means that they are incapacitated in terms of involvement with their children's learning.

Parents felt like they had to study to better help their children. They would think 'I don't want my child to think I'm not good enough to help them'. I know some parents would even be having a glass or two of wine because this was so traumatic. Now they can relax because they know their kids are getting help.

We also help students with online learner driver permit tests, we have guest speakers from universities, we arrange family days so families can use the time to connect and engage. We have a holistic approach to support the health and wellbeing of students. Our indoor soccer program is open to kids not in the homework club as well and we use it as a hook to get more of them in. When they come for soccer, we ask, 'How's your homework?'.

I want to help the students with the racism they experience. The Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission is coming to talk to them about what racism is and how to deal with it. Before exams, the older students will have a mental health first aid workshop on how to deal with stress and pressure. I want to arm them with relevant skills and knowledge. I hope to empower them.

*Northern Local Drug Action Team partners include Mental Health and Wellbeing Foundation, African Australian Welfare Bureau Inc., University of the Third Age, City of Whittlesea, Centre for Multicultural Youth, La Trobe University, Whittlesea Community Leadership Network and Rotary Club.*

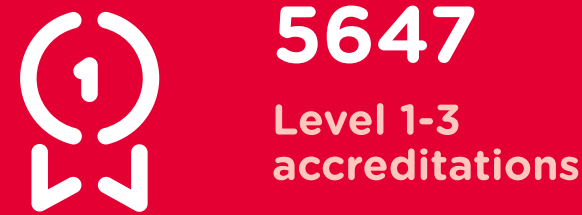




# Good Sports Program

Inspiring a healthier sporting nation

## Good Sports Clubs



The Good Sports program is Australia’s largest community sport preventive health initiative. It now helps close to 9500 clubs across the nation build healthier and more family-friendly environments.

Sporting clubs are a snapshot of society and because alcohol and other drug harms can affect any community, it can affect any sporting club.

This means clubs that adopt and role model healthy behaviours using the Good Sports program become leaders in their community and play an important role in preventing and minimising harms from alcohol and other drugs. This makes clubs more attractive to members, parents and existing or potential sponsors.

The program supports community clubs to progress through three levels of accreditation designed to build long-term cultural change. It culminates in the development of a comprehensive alcohol management policy for the club at Level 3, ensuring the policy is embedded into management and culture.

Over the last year an additional 1029 sports clubs joined the Good Sports program and nearly two thirds (5949) of all Good Sports clubs have achieved Level 3 accreditation, where the most significant alcohol and other drug-related behaviour changes are observed.

The Good Sports Junior program seeks to increase participation of children in sporting environments that role model healthy behaviours and prevent alcohol and other drug harms. This year the program continued to receive generous support from nib foundation, enabling over a thousand clubs to participate in Good Sports Junior by the end of the year.

In addition, there are now 1143 clubs in the Tackling Illegal Drugs component of Good Sports; more than twice as many compared to the same time last year. The program provides clubs with information and expert support to best prepare for potential drug-related issues.

The ADF thanks the following funders for helping us make the Good Sports program widely available around Australia: Department of Health - Australian Government, nib, TfNSW, TAC, the Department of Health and Human Services - Tasmania, Drug and Alcohol Services - SA, Queensland Health, NSW Ministry of Health and Western Australian Cricket Association.





## IN THEIR OWN WORDS

# Tim Bodman and Bill Gransbury.

### Kicking goals through sport

Tim Bodman, Community Development Officer for the Good Sports program, and Dr Bill Gransbury, Committee Member at Angaston Football Club (AFC), have been working together over recent months to build a healthier and happier sporting community.

The AFC has swiftly moved through all three levels of Good Sports accreditation, but they won't stop there. With the support of Tim, Bill is looking to affect change in the Barossa region through football.

### Tim Bodman

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I've been at the Alcohol and Drug Foundation, in the Adelaide office, for around 18 months. In early 2019, the AFC came on board to Good Sports. Bill was one of the new committee members at Angaston. Members of the club had helped to coordinate a Good Sports Tackling Illegal Drugs community forum organised by the Barossa Local Drug Action Team.

We had reached out to Angaston in the past, but the new leadership are really leading the charge and after the forum, were keen to join the program. The club quickly completed their Level 1 accreditation.

I've never had the opportunity to meet Bill in person, as the Barossa is a couple hours' drive away. We chat on the phone and email.

**Bill is an unassuming but very driven person. He's the club doctor and a recently retired GP from the local area, which means he has a standing in the community. He's part of other projects like health promotion and the local historical society. He's a very respected man.**

The AFC have something they call the 'A Team'. It's a group of about seven committee members and local stakeholders. They're changing the culture around alcohol and drugs at the club and focussing on mental health.

When Bill sends me an email, he copies in the A Team and they all reply. They all congratulate him and get involved. They're very engaged and that's a testament to Bill. Recently the A Team surveyed club members, asking for their opinions on improvements to be made.

Bill has recognised alcohol and other drug issues exist in the wider community and he's aware of the differences that these changes in the club could make even outside of it. It's a whole-of-community thing.

One great example is the after-game tradition. The players and spectators used to have a beer, right there on the ground. Now they all celebrate by downing milk. Bill's got everyone on board for the cultural change.

The club has finished their Level 3, plus Tackling Illegal Drugs accreditation. We've worked closely with AFC since the start of the year. Bill gets the policies signed and back to us quickly. He is very keen to get lots of Good Sports merch to promote the program around the club. They have a new bar manager, who really values the Good Sports alcohol management guidelines.

Bill's next step is to organise some community forums to promote Good Sports to other clubs in the Barossa. He wants Good Sports to be involved at an association level. He has a lot of influence in the area.

I've got 16-year-old twins who are into sports, and I used to play sports myself. So, I am aware of both the risks of sport but also the potential for clubs to be a good influence for kids. That's why it's so great working with people like Bill who really get it and are passionate about driving change.



Tim Bodman



## Bill Gransbury

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I'm a just-retired GP living in Angaston, SA. I started at the club in 1986 as the club doctor. I did that for two decades. My son joined the club committee a few years back, and I joined him last year. I decided to retire from my career partly because work was getting in the way of all my community projects. I thought it was good timing, I've been in medicine 47 years.

My whole family loves sport. My kids are in their 30s and I have four grandchildren. My son used to be a state basketballer and of course played footy. My daughter played tennis and netball when she was younger. My wife Trish was a netballer too, and a hurdler.

The AFC wasn't part of the Good Sports program, even though it's been smoke-free for 20 years. It was never formalised and when I joined the committee last year, I saw we had a gap.

**It's been fantastic working with Tim as our Good Sports contact. He's very proactive and follows things through, even when we at the club have our busy times. He'll call me up to ask, 'How's your policy going?'.**

As a doctor, I've seen the benefits of sport. It's about giving young people opportunities for exercise, but it's also connection. They can keep an eye out for their mates and check they're going ok around mental health. Especially in rural areas, these issues can be tough.

A highlight for me since working with Good Sports has been the Tackling Illegal Drugs community forum, which educated our members about drug issues. We had local services on board as facilitators. We made it compulsory attendance and I think it had a big impact. We got great feedback from the families who went.

Late October we have another forum coming up that's organised by the Barossa LDAT. This one will be focussing on mental health, as our community has been closely affected by suicide recently. It's important to talk to young people about it.

It's been great making small changes to club culture, such as not downing a drink as a prize for the player who's won mark of the day. We want a family friendly sort of club where everyone can be comfortable.

The A Team's next step is upgrading the canteen, there's too many kilos of chips going through there on a home game! We want to have more healthy options. We're also planning extensions to the club rooms, so it can be a place to hang out for the community - more than just a football club.

It's important to have the support of Tim to help myself and the A Team advance Good Sports. It needs someone in the club to drive it but it's about everyone being on board and working towards the same outcome. I like getting people together like that. You can't do it all by yourself.



Bill Gransbury



# Community Engagement and Action Program.

A community drug action pioneer that continues to innovate

**The NSW Government-funded Community Engagement and Action Program (CEAP) has been working to foster an effective local response to some of the problems associated with alcohol and other drug use for almost 20 years.**

Through CEAP, the ADF works with local communities to establish volunteer-led Community Drug Action Teams (CDATs) who work with, and within, the local community to prevent and reduce harm from alcohol and other drugs.

There are currently more than 70 NSW-based CDATs working hand-in-hand with ADF staff who assist with planning, resourcing and evaluating programs to help CDATs achieve the best outcomes.

Networking is a key aspect of the CDAT program with a series of regular regional Forums staged by the ADF to enable volunteers across CDATs to get together to upskill, share successes and make connections. In 2018-19, five Forums were held in Greater Sydney, New England, Northern NSW, Lower Hunter and Taree.

Expanding and maintaining the CDAT volunteer base is an ongoing challenge. To help address this, the ADF created a Facebook campaign to recruit new members for CDAT committees. The campaign ran from September – November 2018, reaching 27,950 people in NSW and generating 50 potential volunteer leads.

The ADF also provides CDATs with access to a range of evidence-based toolkits and other support resources to assist them with developing programs and building partnerships.

This year, recognising that many CDATs are working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, the ADF and the Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations (ACCHO) commenced the development of ‘Creating Partnerships’ – a guide to support CDATs and ACCHOs to make connections and work together to improve local alcohol and other drug outcomes. The resource will be launched early in the new financial year.





## IN THEIR OWN WORDS

# Denni Scott-Davis & Steve Montgomery.

## Creating pathways for youth

Denni Scott-Davis, Senior Community Development Officer with the Community Drug Action Team program (CDAT) and Steve Montgomery, Chair of the Nambucca Valley CDAT and Program Manager of Nambucca Valley Youth Services, have teamed up to improve outcomes for disadvantaged young people.

The Nambucca Valley CDAT is providing funding for youth services and educating local students about alcohol and other drugs.

### Denni Scott-Davis

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I started with the ADF in March 2014. I'm a remote worker in communities or at my home office on the sunny North Coast of NSW.

Nambucca Valley Youth Services is very community driven. It ran purely on volunteers for three years before the CDAT began. The program is community owned and so has lots of buy-in from locals. The youth services provide mentoring and career guidance, support school retention and provide referrals for young people who are experiencing bullying, mental health issues, AOD dependence and other challenges. They also help young people in finding alternative educational pathways.

The area has a high Aboriginal population, with alcohol and other drug harms impacting on young people in the community. In 2017, there was an opportunity to reactivate the CDATs in the Valley. I contacted Nambucca Valley Youth Services, knowing they are a leader in their field.

Steve was a volunteer there at the time. We decided to get together and start up a CDAT with local stakeholders. The community had wanted to do something for a while but the CEAP platform and funding gave them the impetus to formalise it.

**Steve is like the calm in the eye of the storm. Sometimes there are people who look productive but aren't - Steve is not one of them. He quietly works away. He is a very steady person who has created a pivot point for people in the local community to gather to.**

After they had begun work, I helped the CDAT identity further funding. They applied for the Community Safety Fund NSW and received \$100,000. It's a grant providing funding for community safety initiatives. Steve personally thanked me and ADF afterwards, it was fantastic to be able to support them in that.

Within the CDAT, there is such a feeling of equity. The local TAFE joined, and then the schools. They are sharing skills and programs. I work across 16 communities and I know that it can be very hard to get high schools involved because they're time-poor. So, it's a testament to Steve and Naj that they have such engaged stakeholders around the table.

More recently, the CDAT paid for a teacher to train in the 'Preventure' program. It's an evidence-based alcohol and other drug prevention program for young people. Nambucca High School are now delivering it and other schools are interested.

What I love about my job is being able to do what we say we will do. We can offer support and capacity build. We have funding and we can use that to create self-efficacy and social cohesion. I want to use the platform of the ADF to achieve our vision of healthy, strong communities.

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## Steve Montgomery

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I am the co-program manager for Nambucca Valley Youth Services with Naj Hadzic. We work together and oversee the CDAT as well as our Community Safety Fund, which is a NSW Government initiative. I work part-time in this capacity as well as other roles such as teaching, and contract work for Regional Development Australia Mid North Coast as a pathways officer working on youth employment.

I moved to Nambucca Heads about eight years ago. I'm married and we have a couple of cattle dogs who we absolutely love. My background is in teaching and my work has always been with young people.

Youth services here was mostly run by volunteers for a while, and I got involved in that capacity in 2017. I connected with Denni at that point.

**Denni is a really good egg. We are a very grassroots organisation and she gets that. Denni understands the struggles and challenges and what our needs are. I really like that about her. She is open and collaborative, willing to listen, very passionate and genuine.**

The youth services has been grappling for a while with money, as our area and surrounds are highly disadvantaged. The Nambucca area has some of the highest youth unemployment and homeless rates, high rates of young, single mothers, use of alcohol and other drugs, domestic violence.

We are trying to implement an evidence-based approach and genuinely invest in people with skills, who are qualified. Our volunteers are genuine champions in the community. We are doing the best with what we've got. We appreciate all the support we have from the ADF, as being time-poor and not having a lot of funding is a real challenge. Denni is always looking out for us in terms of further funding opportunities.

It's got be community-owned if anything is to change. You have to invest for the long term, which is what is great about the CDAT model. Naj and I want our process to respond to community needs, to come from the ground up. Denni really gets it.

The ADF has provided great access to information through conferences and online forums. That's just gold. Denni feeds back information to us about the various programs such as Preventure, Planet Youth and Climate Schools. Knowing about these evidence-based programs is helpful and guides our practice within the local schools and TAFE.

We've got a phenomenal CDAT group. It's about the power of collaboration with others. We're at the start of a journey with some awesome partners committed, quietly doing amazing 'local hero' stuff.

Nambucca Heads High School Principal and Deputy Principal host the meetings and that's significant for local stakeholder buy-in. There's an Aboriginal Liaison Officer who sits in and contributes, she knows a lot about working with young people.

The partners in the community are willing to work together around a common goal – improved outcomes for young people, and Denni is our support for all of that.



Denni Scott-Davis  
& Steve Montgomery



## Connecting Diversity.

### Broadening understanding in culturally and linguistically diverse communities

This two-year, VicHealth-funded program concluded at the end of the financial year. The purpose of the project was to understand perceptions of alcohol within the Indian and Chin communities in Melbourne's Western suburbs, lift awareness and understanding of alcohol-related harms and, with this knowledge, build capability within these communities to develop prevention strategies to reduce alcohol-related harms.

An iterative and collaborative approach to testing engagement and education strategies resulted in alignment of shared purpose, strengthened partnerships and increased receptiveness to act.

Sustainable community-led action was achieved in two Indian communities and one Chin community through the development of Community Action Plans. In total, the project resourced 79 organisations involved in multicultural community action on alcohol harm; developed three community co-designed alcohol awareness videos (available in seven languages) as well as a community resilience video.

Connecting Diversity was successful in increasing knowledge in 44,686 stakeholders; increasing receptiveness to act in 81,935 stakeholders and had a total reach of 4,292,527 stakeholders.

Through consultations with the Indian and Chin communities over the course of the project, key themes about alcohol emerged that provided insights into the role that alcohol plays in these communities and ways that health promotion organisations may successfully engage with refugee and migrant communities for the prevention of alcohol-related harms.

A model for engaging multicultural communities in alcohol harm prevention, based on the evidence around what works, and the 'on-the-ground' experiences of the Connecting Diversity project have been captured in the 'Guide to Engaging Multicultural Communities' resource, produced at the conclusion of the project.



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**We have not always been listened to when we partnered with mainstream organisations, but this was a good partnership...we felt truly heard.**

Community Leader

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# Goal 2 – Increasing Awareness.

Outcome: Strengthening the community’s capacity to minimise and prevent alcohol and other drug harms

We work to reduce the misinformation and stigma about alcohol and other drugs. We are proudly independent and evidence-based.

## Information Services



**3724**  
DrugInfo contacts  
(phone and email)



**12,271**  
Text the Effects



**4,083,689**  
ADF site web  
sessions

## Australian Drug Information Network



**80,393**  
Web sessions

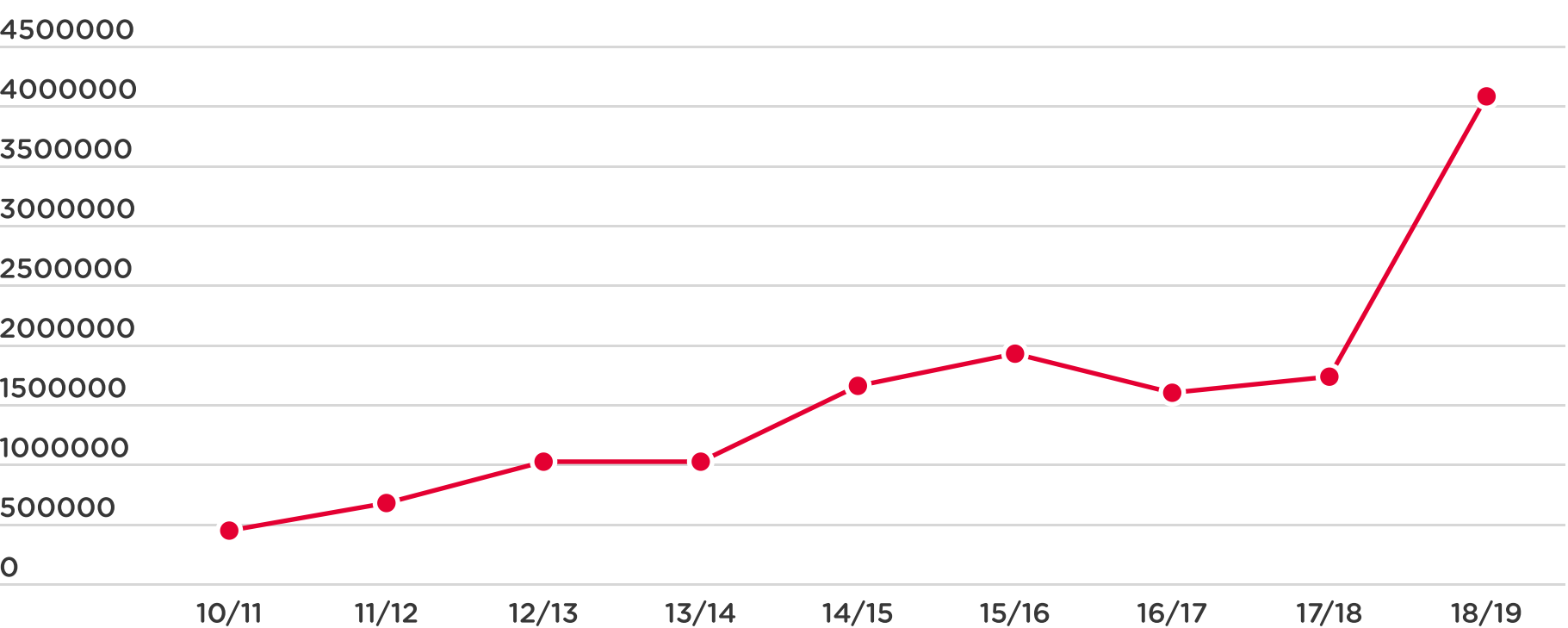


**17,686**  
Searches

## Information Services is a core ADF program.

ADIN is funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health and all other Information Services activities are funded by the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services. Through this program, the ADF continued to provide up-to-date, evidence-based information services online, face-to-face and via print publications in 2018–19.

Drug Information Sessions



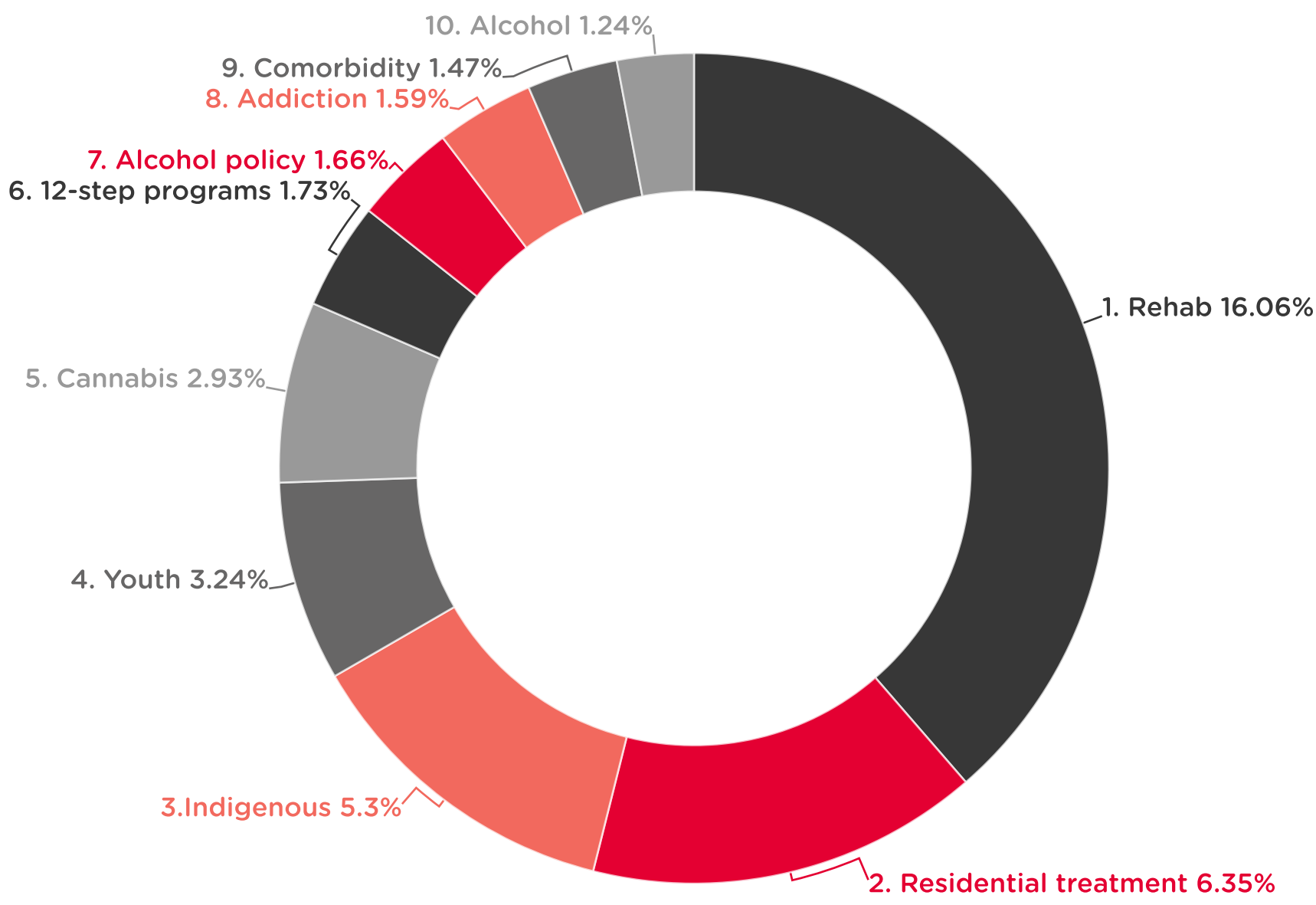


# Australian Drug Information Network (ADIN).

A much-consulted reference continues to be the Australian Drug Information Network (ADIN), Australia’s leading alcohol and other drug search directory, funded by the Australian Government and managed by the ADF. Towards the end of the 2018-19 financial year, ADIN was redeveloped and incorporated as the Drug Information Directory and Help and Support Services information was integrated into the ADF website, rather than continuing to be a stand-alone site.

Through the directory, health workers can find reliable information on alcohol, other drugs and mental health, with links to treatment services, research, statistics, guidelines, journals, policy, campaigns, events, curriculum, professional development opportunities and more. For over a decade, the ADF has been reviewing comprehensive and relevant alcohol and drug information to keep the directory up-to-date, relevant and reliable. All websites and applications in the directory are quality reviewed to ensure the best search results.

The 10 most popular search terms for ADIN in Jan-Jun 2019 included:



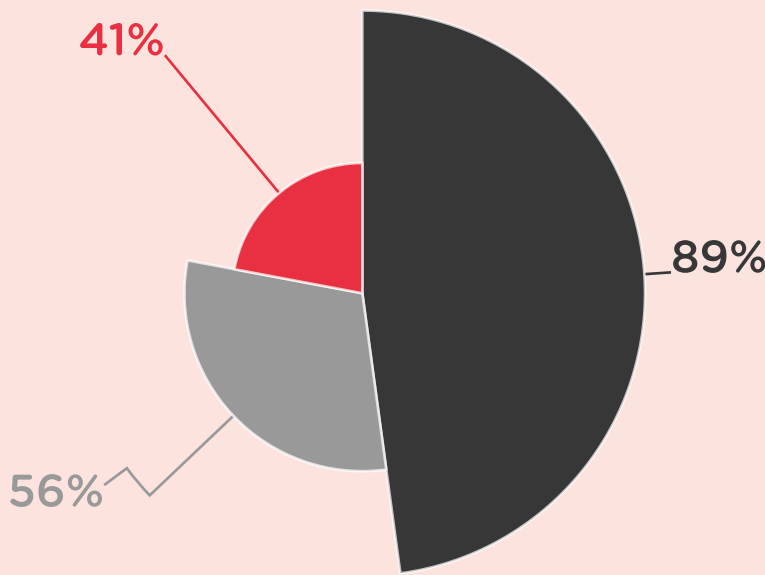
## Understanding our audience

Evaluation of ADIN in 2019 provided insight into the reasons people use the directory.

Overall, 41% of survey respondents indicated they use ADIN for personal reasons. This reflects access by two of the platform’s target audience groups: people who use alcohol and other drugs, and their family and friends. The next largest groups of people accessing ADIN are those in the health and welfare sector (33%) and in the alcohol and other drug sector (22%).

## Top reasons for using ADIN

- 1. To find alcohol and other drug information and resources
- 2. Work-related research
- 3. To stay up-to-date with the latest alcohol and other drug information





## DrugInfo

DrugInfo is the primary alcohol and other drug information service for Victoria, providing accessible information, advice and drug facts to the community.

The DrugInfo line is a free and confidential phone and email service that answers questions about drugs, their effects and measures that can reduce their harms. In 2018-19, 3724 calls and emails were responded to by this service, demonstrating the value the DrugInfo service provides to the community.

The ADF uses DrugInfo enquiries as an opportunity to gain insight into trending queries, such as parents enquiring about drug testing their children.

These insights enable us to be responsive as community information needs change, helping inform the development and distribution of appropriate resources and information.

## Txt the Effects

Txt the Effects is a confidential SMS service for the community. People can text a drug name to this dedicated phone line and receive an instant SMS reply with the effects of the drug, as well as links to further information and help. The service provides flexible access to inform decision making and action anywhere, at any time.

During the 2018-19 financial year, 12,271 text messages were responded to via this service, up from 9323 the previous year.

## ADF Library

**ADF Library is the largest and most up-to-date alcohol and other drugs (AOD) library in Australia, providing free access to more than one million resources including full text articles from 4000+ journals. It assists AOD workers, health workers, other professionals and individuals to access the latest research on alcohol and other drugs.**

The library experienced a 53% increase in searches during 2018-19, with ADF Library full text downloads up 8%. Membership numbers also increased steadily. During the year, 431 new members joined, compared with just 174 for the year prior. This sustained growth reinforces the value of the library as a reliable resource for health workers who are the most common library members accounting for half of all memberships. There are 2908 members in total, 69% of whom are from Victoria.

The top 5 accessed journals through the ADF Library



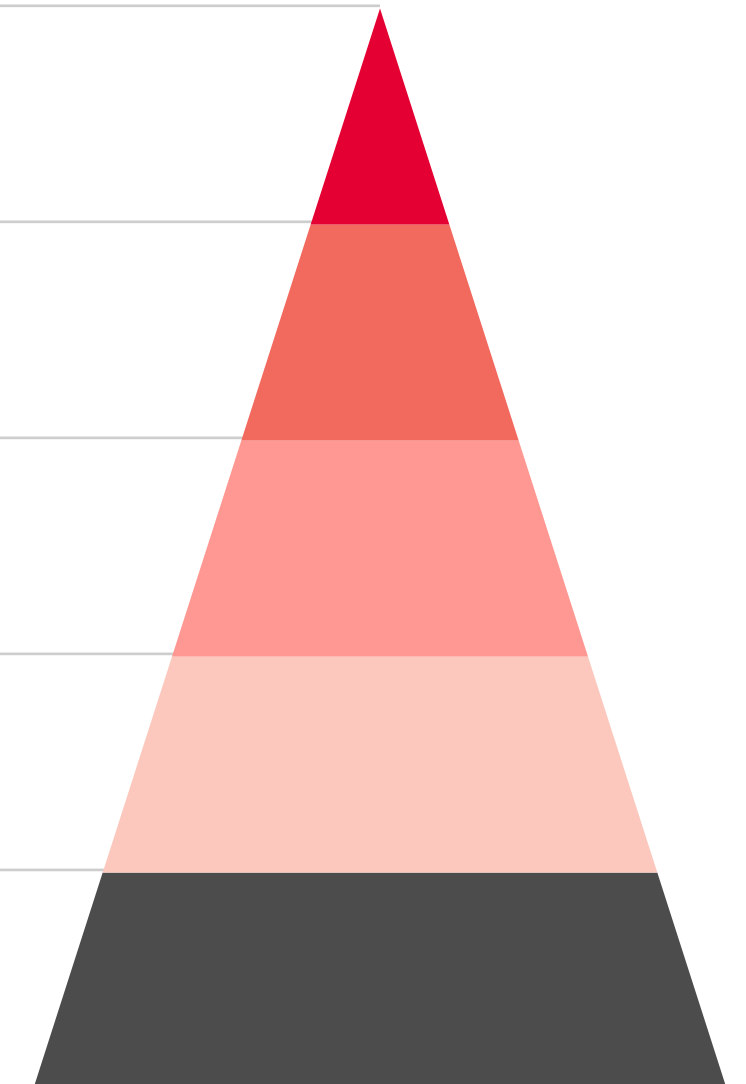
1. Addictive Behaviors

2. Drug and Alcohol Review

3. Addiction

4. Drug and Alcohol Dependence

5. International Journal of Drug Policy





# Goal 3 – Extending influence. Influencing policy, regulation and funding through strategic advocacy.

Outcome: Change that puts the needs of community first

Supported by the latest evidence, we advocate for change in policy and practice within government, society and business.

## Impacting policy and securing funding

This year, the ADF secured program funding and effectively advocated key goals, while navigating a federal election and a changing alcohol and other drug policy environment.

The ADF's expertise was highly valued among its alcohol and other drug partners and coalitions such as the Alcohol Policy Coalition and Fair Treatment Campaign.

The ADF successfully secured a two-year extension of LDAT funding in the April 2019 Federal Budget; was regularly interviewed by media; appeared before parliamentary committees; lodged over 20 submissions to federal and state inquiries; and, regularly briefed Ministers, their staff and departments.

## Notable ADF submissions included:

- Federal Budget
- Western Australian Parliamentary Inquiry into Illicit Drug Use
- New South Wales Special Commission of Inquiry into Ice
- Australian Capital Territory Personal Cannabis Use Bill
- Queensland Productivity Commission Inquiry into Imprisonment and Recidivism
- Northern Territory Draft Liquor Bill (Exposure Draft)
- South Australian Youth Treatment Orders Bill
- Joint Submission to the Federal Productivity Commission Inquiry into Mental Health, led by VicHealth and Prevention United
- Joint Select Committee on Sydney's Night Time Economy.

## Influencing debate

The ADF completed a range of evidence-based position papers during this reporting period, focussing on key topics such as pill testing, decriminalisation, alcohol advertising, real time prescription monitoring and drug education. These were developed into public documents which were shared with partners in the AOD sector, as well as Ministers' offices. The organisation also co-hosted a demonstration of a pill testing machine at the Victorian Parliament.

## Highlighting prevention

The June visit of Iceland's Planet Youth team to introduce its prevention model to Australia was used effectively to also reinforce the need for investment in comparable evidence-based programs such as LDAT and Good Sports. The ADF and Planet Youth met Ministers' offices and Departmental officials across Australia and appeared with the CEO on national media including ABC television's News Breakfast. Through its engagement with decision makers, the ADF identified further funding opportunities in prevention.



# Goal 4 – Enabling Impact.

Outcome: An organisation equipped to maximise the impact of our work

## Investing in our people

Investment in our people continues to be a priority. Our annual engagement survey results showed significant improvement through our key focus areas of Alignment and Communication, with more work planned over the coming year that focusses on Leadership and Engagement.

Our internal staff training has been overhauled with the introduction of a learning framework that identifies business-wide needs and individual development opportunities. The new online Learning Management System (LMS) was rolled out to support new starter induction and offers numerous training modules for staff, with some of these modules also available to support Good Sports clubs and Local Drug Action Teams (LDATs) with alcohol awareness and tackling illegal drugs.

The performance planning process is now embedded in our practice, ensuring all staff have at least one development opportunity every year. Work continues on our diversity and inclusion initiative, and a new interactive wellbeing support program has been launched to provide staff with preventative resilience training, as well as counselling. This is supported by the establishment of a Health, Safety and Wellbeing Committee.

## Strategic review

Work has commenced on our 2025 strategic plan and how best to achieve our mission over the coming five years. The plan will look to build on the ADF's existing organisational strengths, and continue to reflect our strong commitment to evidence-based, contemporary practice.

## Reconciliation Action Plan

Development of the ADF Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) and associated activities has progressed, with Reconciliation Australia conditionally endorsing our plan (subject to final design).

## Efficiencies

Several initiatives have been undertaken internally throughout the year to improve our efficiencies through process improvements and leveraging our technology platforms, which have seen flow on benefits to our Good Sports clubs and LDATs.

ADF national staff workshop





# Financial Report.

Investing in our future.

## Our revenue streams

Revenue streams for the ADF's program, public engagement and advocacy work have remained largely steady through the financial year. The exception being the Local Drug Action Team program, which increased the number of Local Drug Action Teams (LDATs) by over 40%, from 172 to 244 LDATs across Australia.

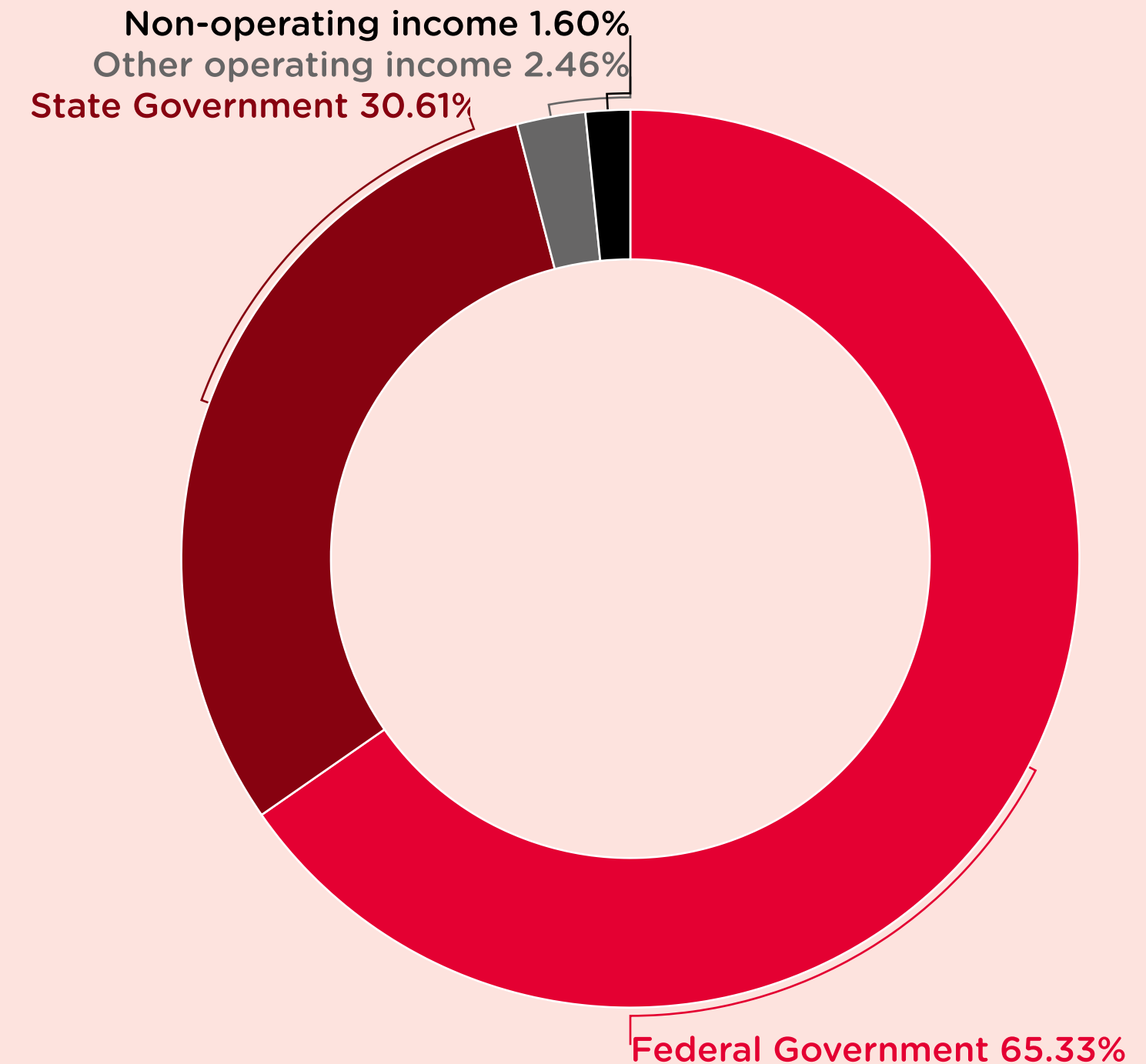
This growth in the number of LDATs contributed to a lift in small grant funding to our Drug Action Teams: taking it from \$2.25m in FY17-18, to \$3.0m in FY18-19.

While extending our work to prevent and minimise alcohol and other drug-related harm in the short term, the ADF has also been aware of the need to continue to build our reserves to ensure sustainability and the long-term future of our programs and other work in the years to come.

For a full list of all our major funders and other supporters who have made our work possible, please turn to the final section of this report.

To view the ADF's full financial report for the year ended 30 June 2019, visit [www.adf/org.au/annualreport2018-19](http://www.adf/org.au/annualreport2018-19)

## Where the money came from



Other operating income includes corporate grants, donations and resource contributions.  
Non-operating income includes earnings on surplus funds.



# Thank you.

## Our funding partners

**Australian Government:** Department of Health  
**Victoria:** Department of Health and Human Services, Transport Accident Commission, VicHealth  
**New South Wales:** NSW Health and Transport for NSW  
**Queensland:** Queensland Health  
**South Australia:** Drug and Alcohol Services South Australia (SA Health) and Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (previously Motor Accident Commission)  
**Tasmania:** Department of Health and Human Services and Department of Premier and Cabinet  
**Western Australia:** Western Australian Cricket Association

## Corporates, trusts and foundations

nib foundation  
Joe White Bequest  
Mary Simpson Trust Account  
Perpetual Foundation

We would also like to thank our other donors and supporters for their volunteer and financial contributions.

## Past and present patrons (including Trustees)

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Sir George Coles Emeritus  
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Sir Alexander Fitzgerald  
Hon. Justice Alastair Nicholson AO RFD QC  
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Mr Tony Trimingham OAM  
Associate Prof. David Wells OAM  
Prof. Greg Whelan AM  
Dr Rick Woods





# Leaving a gift in your will.

The Alcohol and Drug Foundation has a long and proud history of working to prevent and minimise the harm caused by alcohol and other drugs in Australia.

Leaving a gift to the ADF in your will has the power to continue this work for future generations of Australians.

**“Providing the resources and support that empower local communities is essential if we are to effectively prevent and minimise the harm caused by alcohol and other drugs in Australia.”**

Dr Erin Lalor CEO  
Alcohol and Drug Foundation

We are extremely grateful to all those that have supported our mission over the last year. A gift in your will is a unique opportunity to express your values and continue these beyond your lifetime.



## Gifts in Wills – Quick Information

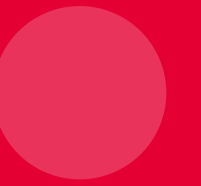
**Legal Name:** Alcohol and Drug Foundation Incorporated ABN: 66 057 731 192

**Registered Address:** Level 12/607 Bourke Street Melbourne VIC 3000

**Do you need wording for your will or have any other questions?**

Please contact the Gifts in Wills Team on 03 9611 6105.





[adf.com.au](https://adf.com.au)