



Shelter Tas

Workforce Development Online Q&A Evaluation Report

AOD: Understanding Stigma and Person-Centred Language

11 May 2021

Evaluation

Training session:	AOD: Understanding Stigma and Person-Centred Language
Facilitator:	Laura Bajurny, Knowledge Manager for Policy and Advocacy - Alcohol and Drug Foundation (ADF)
Date:	11 May 2021
Region:	State wide
Overview:	Shelter Tas partnered with ATDC and the Alcohol & Drug Foundation to deliver a one-hour presentation unpacking the language used when working with, or communicating with individuals who currently use or have used alcohol or drugs. With a focus on learning a language framework to minimise harm and stigma, participants came away from the training with a new understanding of how to support people experiencing the complexity of homelessness and alcohol tobacco and other drug use. All participants received online resources and a desktop flip book called <i>The Power of Words</i> , which has been developed by the Alcohol and Drug Foundation as a quick reference guide to having conversations about alcohol and other drugs.
Resources:	See resource links and information below
Participants:	25
Evaluations completed:	9
Overall rating:	100% rated this training good/excellent

Summary

- The training was delivered across the state (online)
- 100% of participants who completed the survey rated the training as good or excellent
- 100% of participants who completed the survey said the session was useful

Training Overview

Shelter Tas was approached by the Alcohol Tobacco and Drug Council (ATDC) who received funding from Primary Health Network (Tasmania) to conduct ATOD anti- stigma training in Tasmania. Shelter Tas partnered with ATDC, and the Alcohol & Drug Foundation to deliver a one-hour presentation unpacking the language used when working with, or communicating with individuals who currently use or have used alcohol or drugs. Laura Bajurny, Knowledge Manager for Policy and Advocacy -

Alcohol and Drug Foundation (ADF), created and delivered an informative session which was targeted to the challenges and opportunities at the intersection of alcohol tobacco and other drug (ATOD) use and homelessness. With a focus on learning a language framework to minimise harm and stigma, participants came away from the training with a new understanding of how to support people experiencing the complexity of homelessness and ATOD use. All participants received online resources and a desktop flip book called *The Power of Words*, which has been developed by the Alcohol and Drug Foundation as a quick reference guide to having conversations about alcohol and other drugs.

Background

Workforce Development Program 2018-23

Shelter Tas has a 5-year funding agreement with the Department of Communities Tasmania (Housing Tasmania) for the Workforce Development Program (WDP) 2018-2023. The purpose of the WDP is to *facilitate specialist professional development and training activities that: continue to build workforce capacity of the housing and homelessness sector; respond to new and emerging sector issues and support Tasmanians who are experiencing, or who are at risk of homelessness.*

Shelter Tas is developing, promoting and evaluating a schedule of specialist quality training in line with the following priorities:

- Priority 1 - Increasing the skills and competencies of the SHS workforce
- Priority 2 - Increasing the accessibility of training and professional development to the whole of the sector

Comments

“Very informative session.”

“It was good timing. An hour is easy to fit into a busy schedule. Laura's presentation was well delivered in meeting key points and not trying to cover everything. Wonderful and such a good topic.”

“Great format, good conversation, thank you.”

Follow-up Recommendations:

Participants would support further sessions on harm minimisation and many requested the Master Class in Brief Intervention Training as a face2face delivered by DEN.

Q&A Summary and Resource Link:

- The Power of Words:
 - Short video: [The Power of Words](#)
 - Practical guide: https://cdn.adf.org.au/media/documents/The_Power_of_Words-Practical_Guide.pdf

- Alcohol and Other Drug Stigma: background paper:
https://cdn.adf.org.au/media/documents/ADF_Stigma_background_paper.pdf
- ATDC also recommend the best contact pathway for those working in Specialist Homelessness Services is probably Alcohol & Drug Information Service (ADIS) on **1800 811 994**, because they not only deal with consumers directly, they also provide advice to medical doctors and clinical practitioners. They have a very broad knowledge base and are open 24/7.
- The best link for a directory of service providers in Tasmania is found here:
<https://www.atdc.org.au/service-directory/>