



**DASA**  
Drug and Alcohol Services Australia

# Outreach Newsletter

## December 2025

# **A note from Deputy Chief Executive Officer Jocelyn Dhu**



## *Werte!*

As another year comes to a close, we take a moment to reflect on the incredible journey we've shared. This year has been one of growth, connection, and celebration for DASA. We came together for the DASA Christmas Party, spreading joy and generosity by donating gifts to children at the Alice Springs Hospital. Our Outreach BBQ events brought people together, strengthening community ties and support.

The Aboriginal Outreach team delivered the Safe and Smart Program delivering targeted alcohol and drug education sessions to men and women in the prison, supporting informed choices and healthier futures. Our Aboriginal Outreach Team won an award, receiving the ATCA First Nations First Partnership and Innovation Award - a recognition of their cultural leadership, guidance and unwavering support for staff and residents. This year marked 40 years of DASA, a proud celebration of our history and the impact we have had in the community. We also ventured beyond borders with an unforgettable trip to New Zealand, a journey of healing, learning, and cultural exchange through shared stories and site visits. Our team attended and presented at the ATCA Conference, showcasing our work and learning from others in the sector. These experiences continue to inspire innovation and excellence in everything we do.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to building stronger communities, fostering partnerships and creating opportunities for healing and growth. Thank you to everyone who has been part of this journey - your support makes all the difference.

# Alice Springs Children's Ward Visit

Christmas is a time of giving and for us at DASA we like to give back to the community. In 2024 Brian McDonald, local Arrernte man and AOT Worker came up with the idea to donate presents to local organisations. This year our donation went to those in need at the Alice Springs Children's ward. The team met with Ward Clerk Sharon Burnie alongside Acting Unit Manager Lynne Little and her staff to explain how DASA and the Outreach Teams play a vital role in supporting the community by providing proactive, coordinated services to individuals and families in need. We extend our sincere gratitude to everyone on the ward for affording us the opportunity to share in the Christmas spirit.

If you require assistance from our Aboriginal Outreach team, please call Brian, Michelle or Kathy on 8950 5000 or email [outreach@dasa.org.au](mailto:outreach@dasa.org.au)



# 2025 ATCA Conference

**E Tū Kahikatea - Standing Strong: Navigating Change & Building Resilience**  
**25 - 27 November 2025**

AOT Worker Michelle Dhu and MOT Case Manager Wahid Brandso successfully applied to attend the 2025 ATCA Conference held in Tāmaki Makaurau, Aotearoa (Auckland, New Zealand.) Also in attendance were DASA CEO Eloise Cole, Deputy CEO Jocelyn Dhu, Executive Assistant Administration Leanne Maloney and Anindilyakwa Healing Centre Case Manager Darren O'Keefe.

During their trip, staff had the pleasure of visiting the Ngā Pou Tohutohu Auckland South Drug Treatment Program at Auckland South Corrections Facility, Orakei Marae, Auckland City Mission, Wings Trust Manu Wairua, Higher Ground Papa Taumata & Odyssey Auckland.

CEO Eloise Cole said, “what a powerful experience we had with the Māori and Pasifika peoples along with the Pakeha New Zealanders for so generously sharing their culture and ways of working in the AOD sector with us.”

## Congratulations!

Our Aboriginal Outreach team were the recipients of the First Nation Innovation and Partnership Award during the awards ceremony. Our team works tirelessly within the community and provides much needed support to our clients. Well done team; this acknowledgement is greatly deserved.



# Drink Driver Education

DASA facilitates the Back on Track/Drink Driver Education courses in the Central and Barkly regions of the Northern Territory. Dates for 2026 classes in Alice Springs were released in early December 2025.

## Course Dates:

*held every third Wednesday of the month*

21st Jan	15th July
18th Feb	19th Aug
18th Mar	16th Sept
15th Apr	21st Oct
20th May	18th Nov
17th June	16th Dec



**Course Location:** 4 Schwarz Cres, Head Office

## Course Duration:

Unit 1 - 9:00am to 2:00pm (approx)  
Unit 1 & 2 - 9:00am to 3:30pm (approx)



## Course Cost:

Unit 1 - \$325  
Unit 1 & 2 - \$425

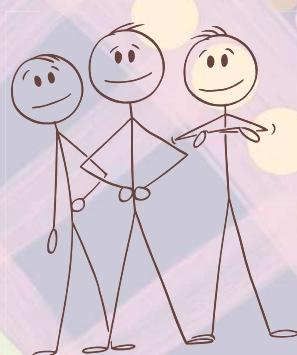
Tennant Creek classes are scheduled quarterly and generally held in February, May, August and November. Please keep an eye out on our website and socials for planned dates.

For all remote communities, please register your interest via email on [outreachdde@dasa.org.au](mailto:outreachdde@dasa.org.au)

Please note all dates are subject to change.

For all DDE enquiries, please call our friendly Intake & Assessment team on 8950 5000 - press 3 or alternatively visit <https://www.dasa.org.au/drink-driver-course> for further information or to enrol.

# Out & About with DASA



*Teamwork makes the dream work*

# From Our Team...

As we step into 2026, I want to express my deep gratitude to all our incredible clients and the power of our community agencies, who make our work meaningful every day. You are the reason we do what we do. Thank you for your trust and for being an essential part of our journey. I look forward to another year of great collaboration, helping our clients achieve their boldest goals, and a year filled with growth and new opportunities. Let's make this our best year yet!

Believe in yourself and all that you are. Know that there is something inside you that is greater than any obstacle." - Michelle Dhu - Aboriginal Outreach Worker

"Thank you to our members and supporters for your continued encouragement and involvement. We truly appreciate your support and wish you all the very best for 2026." - Leanne Maloney, Executive Assistant

Administration

"For those who are working in recovery a word or wisdom to remember is steadfastness. Steadfastness in recovery. The word steadfast is an old word originally used in battle to hold your ground unwaveringly. We need Steadfastness to hold your ground to protect your fortress of recovery against the onslaught of temptations, trials, tribulations, and tests. To be steadfast we need remembrance, so you don't waiver from your goal. For remembrance we need to take account of our actions daily and for this we need truth." - Wahid Brandso, Methamphetamine Outreach Case Manager

"As we move into 2026, I want to recognise the critical role our Outreach Teams play in the work we do across DASA. While residential services may seem to dominate in the area of supporting people with their alcohol or other drug concerns, the Outreach Teams quietly, respectfully and consistently show up for all DASA clients - before, during, after or instead of residential treatment. They visit our clients and meet them where they are at both physically and within their change journey. They reach into to prison, community, town camps and out bush. They walk alongside our clients through their journey to a better quality of life, often unrecognised, yet so essential to the ongoing recovery of many people. They bring culturally safe, judgement free support to the table.

I thank the Outreach Teams (Aboriginal & Methamphetamine) for their work in 2025 and know they will be there for our community in 2026. To our service providers and members, I remind you to reach out if you need support or know someone who does. Our doors are open. Wishing everyone a happy, safe & healthy 2026." - Eloise Cole, CEO

"Please remember, it takes a very uncomfortable and one tiny step at a time, to walk a great distance. Be kind to yourself. Working in unity, builds community." - Harry Reuben, Methamphetamine Outreach Case Manager

"As we step into a new year, we want to take a moment to acknowledge the incredible strength and resilience within our community. Every day, we see stories of courage, people taking steps toward recovery, families offering unwavering support and services working together to create hope and healing. At DASA, we believe that recovery is possible for everyone. It's not just about overcoming challenges, it's about building a future filled with purpose, connection and wellbeing. We are proud to stand alongside you, our clients, partnering agencies and community as we continue this journey together. Thank you for your trust, collaboration and commitment. Together, we are making a difference." - Jocelyn Dhu, Deputy CEO

LET'S  
DO  
this!





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## DRUG AND ALCOHOL SERVICES AUSTRALIA (COMPANY) - MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND CONSENT FORM

I, the individual whose full name and address are set out below, consent to become a member of the Company and agree to be bound by its constitution.

Family Name: ..... Given Names: .....

Residential Address: ..... Postcode: .....

Postal Address (*if different from above*): ..... Postcode: .....

Tel: BH ..... AH.....

Fax: BH ..... AH.....

Email: .....

### DECLARATION

*I hereby declare that I do not derive all or part of my income directly or indirectly from the sale or promotion of alcoholic beverages or tobacco products.*

My interest in joining DASA is

.....

Signature: .....

Date: .....

Applications for membership must be proposed and seconded by a current DASA Member

Proposed by (print name):	Signature:	Date:
Seconded by (print name):	Signature:	Date:
<i>Board use only</i>		
Membership approved / not approved	Date considered by Board:	
Board President name:	Signature:	
Board secretary name:	Signature:	
Date added to membership register:	Date member notified:	

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## 5. Member liability and guarantee

- 5.1 The liability of each Member is limited to the amount specified in clause 5.2.
- 5.2 Each Member undertakes to contribute a maximum of \$10.00 to the Company if it is wound up:
  - 5.2.1 while the Member is a Member; or
  - 5.2.2 within one year after that Member ceases to be a Member,  
for:
    - 5.2.3 the debts and liabilities of the Company contracted before that Member ceases to be a Member; and
    - 5.2.4 the costs, charges and expenses of winding up.

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## 7.4 Applying for membership as a General Member

- 7.4.1 Each applicant for membership as a General Member must apply in the form and manner determined by the Board from time to time and must provide a signed consent to comply with this Constitution.
- 7.4.2 The application to the Board must state whether the General Member derives all or part of their income directly from the sale or promotion of alcoholic beverages or tobacco products. This may include but is not limited to:
  - (a) having shares in an alcohol or tobacco company; or
  - (b) being on a board of an alcohol or tobacco company.
- 7.4.3 The Board must consider each application for membership and determine whether to accept or reject the application.
- 7.4.4 The Board does not need to give any reason for rejecting an application.
- 7.4.5 If the Board approves the application, as soon as practicable thereafter, the secretary will notify the applicant and enter their name in the Register. The applicant becomes a Member when their name is entered in the Register.
- 7.4.6 If the Board rejects the application, as soon as practicable thereafter the secretary will notify the applicant.