



# Outreach Newsletter

**March 2026**

# A note from Deputy Chief Executive Officer Jocelyn Dhu



*Wente!*

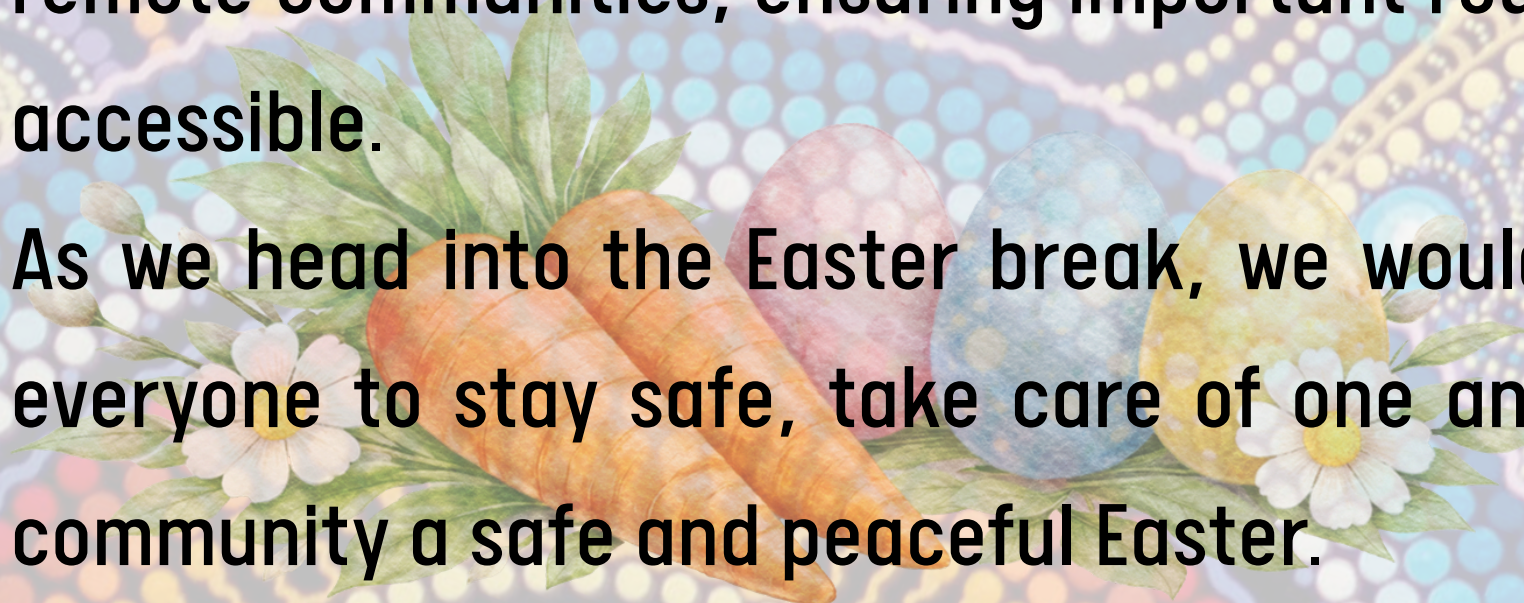
The past few months have presented many challenges for the DASA team. Following the recent flooding of Aranda House, CAAAPU kindly provided DASA with a space to continue operating and delivering our essential work. We would like to sincerely thank the CAAAPU staff and Board for their ongoing support, understanding and generosity as we continue to navigate these challenging times.

During times like these, we are reminded of the strength, resilience and commitment of our DASA staff. In the face of difficulty, the team stood together, supported one another and continued to deliver services to the community with dedication and professionalism. Their willingness to adapt and persevere speaks volumes about their passion for the work they do.

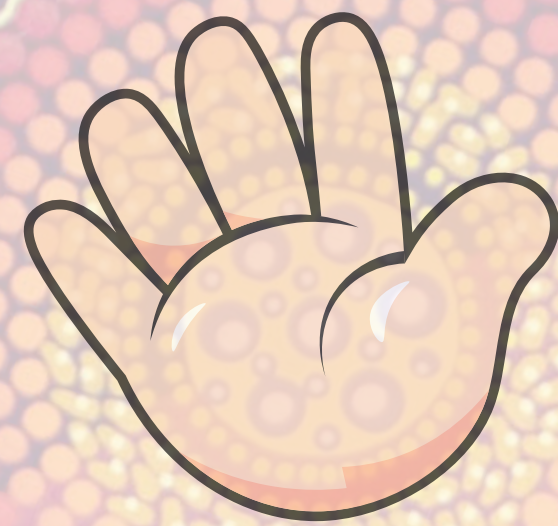
Both Outreach teams have remained extremely busy and active within the community. Recent activities have included hosting a stall at Alice Springs Hospital in partnership with ADSCA, as well as cooking and delivering a community BBQ to connect with and support community members. These activities continue to strengthen our relationships and ensure DASA remains visible, accessible and engaged with the people we work with.

We are also continuing to deliver the Drink Driver Course both in town and across remote communities, ensuring important road safety education remains available and accessible.

As we head into the Easter break, we would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone to stay safe, take care of one another and drive responsibly. We wish our community a safe and peaceful Easter.



# Say Hello to the Team...



## ABORIGINAL OUTREACH



**BRIAN MCDONALD**



**MICHELLE DHU**



**KATHY GOODA**

## METHAMPHETAMINE OUTREACH



**WAHID BRANDSO**



**HARRY REUBEN**



**KARL HAPKE**

Our teams are here to help. Call our friendly staff on 08 8950 5000, email [intake@dasa.org.au](mailto:intake@dasa.org.au) or visit us at 4 Schwarz Cres, Alice Springs to make a referral for yourself or a loved one.

# Saltbush Enterprise

The Aboriginal Outreach Team visited Saltbush Enterprises on Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> February 2026 to speak with Foundation to Future Mentor Hazel Noble, who provided valuable insight into the programs delivered to community members and showed us around the site. Outreach Workers Brian McDonald and Kathy Gooda were also formally introduced.

Specific discussion was about the Foundation to Future Program, a 6-week, 2-week-off course run consecutively throughout the year. The block commenced on Jan 27<sup>th</sup>, and the Graduation is on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March. Outreach Worker Michelle Dhu was happy to discuss her clients who have commenced the program. They are performing well and learning new skills that will shape future employment pathways.

Saltbush Enterprises is eager to collaborate with DASA and Outreach Teams to deliver a session on DASA Programs and AOD as part of their industry-specific orientation. It was truly remarkable to see so many people engaged in the program and supported by a dedicated, driven team, which opened avenues for future joint initiatives.

We are both looking forward to more collaborations and networking, which will strengthen our community efforts and make everyone feel part of ongoing positive change.

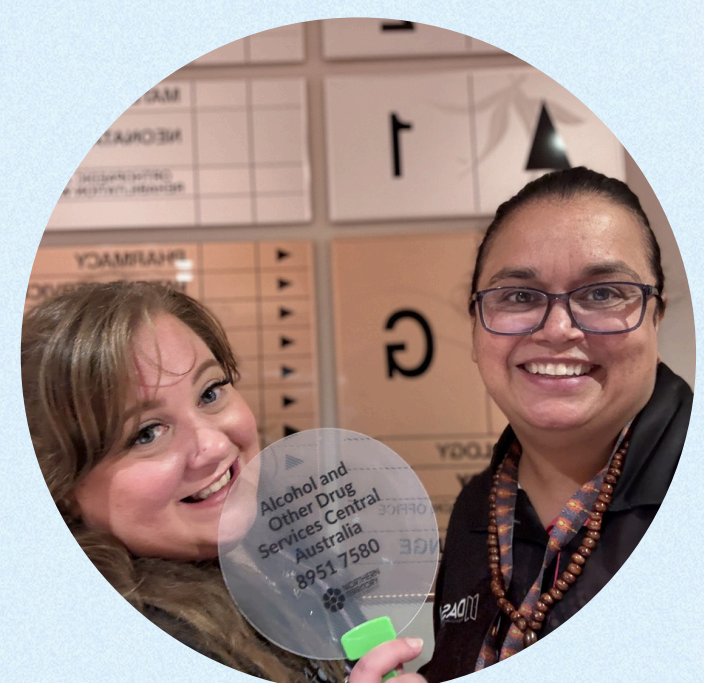
*-Michelle Dhu*



# INTERNATIONAL FAMILY DRUG SUPPORT DAY



International Family Drug Support Day is observed every year on the 24th of February, aiming to raise awareness about the critical role of families impacted by alcohol and other substance use. The theme for the year 2026 is "See the Person, Not the Drug," which encourages us to transcend labels, biases, and stereotypes, urging society to appreciate families and their loved ones for their true identities. On Tuesday, February 24, 2026, DASA collaborated with ADSCA and MHAOD staff to host an event at the Alice Springs Hospital, dedicated to promoting awareness and providing support for families who care for loved ones grappling with drug use. This significant event underscores the persistent necessity for families facing addiction and emphasizes the importance of establishing support networks within every community.





# THE POWER OF



## HEALTH AND WELLBEING DAY LARAPINTA CHILD & FAMILY CENTRE



DASA, MOT & AOT staff  
AOD Stall

1

### EMOTIONAL CONNECTION:

An extraordinary day dedicated to families and children, allowing them to interact with local organisations based in Mparntwe.



Tangentyere Families -  
Veronica Campbell &  
Keshia Buzzacott with  
AOT Michelle Dhu

2

### ECONOMIC BENEFITS:

Community health initiatives elevate workplace culture and boost productivity.



LCFC - Deanne Cook &  
AOT Michelle Dhu

3

### CULTURAL EXCHANGE:

A respectful collaboration where organisations and communities share traditions and health practices to enhance wellbeing.



LCFC - Kahlia Preece &  
AOT Michelle Dhu

4

### SOCIAL CONNECTIONS:

Social connection involves the bonds and interactions people share with family, friends, and the community.



MHACA Staff



Catholic Care Staff



# *A Poem written by Akesa*

## *Faingaanuku*

*Intake & Assessment Coordinator*



When the rain came down on Alice Springs, and the skies turned wild and grey,

Aranda House stood in the storm, but DASA led the way.  
With steady hands and urgent hearts, the overnight crew moved fast,  
getting every fella out to safety, shielded from the storm's hard blast.

Head Office opened doors wide, a haven in the rain,  
while chaos tried to shake the ground, compassion broke the strain.

Service managers, staff on deck - all hands, all hearts aligned,  
reassuring voices in the dark, strength of the strongest kind.

Behind the scenes the wheels turned on, phones rang, plans were made,  
quiet heroes in the background, ensured no one was afraid. Outreach  
teams arrived with care, ready, calm, and strong, walking side by side  
with purpose, where every one belongs.

Leadership rose to meet the test, with safety as the guide,  
protecting every DASA soul, standing firm with pride.

ATC case managers too, planning steps ahead,  
looking out for staff and residents, making sure all were fed,  
with hope, with strength, with certainty, with courage deeply spread.

Tired eyes but determined hearts, united in the storm,  
a team that chose compassion as their truest working form.  
It wasn't just response we saw it was courage, care, and trust.  
It was people showing up for people, doing what they must.

Today was more than rainfall. More than winds that roar.

It was proof that DASA stands stronger than before.  
So here's to every staff and resident, every steady hand -  
you showed what real community looks like in this land.

Proud to stand among you. proud to wear this name.  
When storms roll in, DASA rises, together, we remain.

Go Team DASA.

**AADANT**  
**CONFERENCE2026**  
JUNE 3-4



## **On Country, In Community**

*The Way We Work*

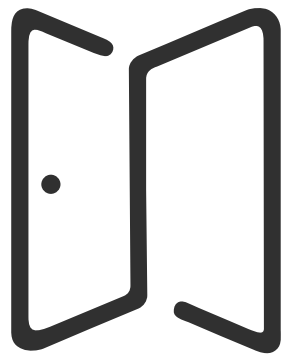
*Bringing together diverse voices, shared experiences and local knowledge  
to strengthen AOD practice across the Territory.*

## **AADANT Conference 2026: On Country, In Community: The Way We Work**

AADANT is proud to host the AADANT Conference 2026, bringing the sector together under this year's theme: On Country, In Community: The Way We Work. The 2026 conference centres people, place and practice and what these mean for alcohol and other drug (AOD) service delivery across the Northern Territory. Over two days, practitioners, researchers, policymakers, peer workers and community leaders will come together to share innovation, strengthen collaboration and explore solutions grounded in the lived realities of NT communities. With a strong focus on access, equity and evidence, the program recognises that lasting AOD outcomes are built through culturally responsive, community-informed and system-aware approaches. The conference provides space to elevate diverse voices, learn from practice on the ground, and reflect on how we work together across urban, regional and remote contexts.

For more information on abstract submissions, sponsorships and registration,  
visit the AADANT Conference webpage:

<https://www.aadant.org.au/Aadantconference2026>



**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.